



Wombat Cricket Club (CIO) – Charity No. 1187872

Trustees' Annual Report for the period from:

01st February 2023 – 31st January 2024

Wombat Cricket Club CIO
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Objectives

For the public benefit, the promotion of community participation in healthy recreation by the provision of facilities for playing cricket.

To promote community participation in sport by the provision of facilities for playing cricket and to maintain the Wombat Cricket Club and ground sustainably to ensure cricket is played at the facility in perpetuity.

Charitable Trustees

Re elected 12 February 2024

Mr Jeff Burbidge
Mr Nathan Welch

Mr Graham Byers
Mr Paul York-Smith

Mr Alan Ranger

Newly elected 18 March 2024

Dr Jane Hamlin (Chair)

Resigned 12 February 2024

Mr David Balch
Mr Malcolm Pressly-Smith

Mr Jon Bendle

Mr Raymond Osmond

Activities

Provides a sporting opportunity in cricket for young people and adults, which promotes health and wellbeing and social cohesion. The activities include providing opportunities for people with disabilities.

Wombat Cricket Club fields an adult men's cricket team with mixed abilities and plays 30-40 friendly cricket matches on Wednesdays and Sundays throughout the playing season. Our team has several new members and is continuing to prosper.

In 2023 an adult women's cricket team was formed. This is a team with mixed abilities and plays 15-20 friendly softball cricket matches throughout the playing season. They have also entered a softball knockout cup competition and hosted a women's cricket softball festival. The team has integrated women from previous softball cricket taster sessions with several new members and has been an enormous success. The Women's section is well supported, and we are confident that the team will continue to prosper and potentially develop to include a women's hardball team in the future.

In 2023 our junior coaching programme continued. We ran the ECB All Stars cricket coaching program for 5- to 8-year-old children. This involved hosting and coaching thirty-five junior members and their families who attended the club on Friday nights for 9 weeks. Alongside All Stars we also ran two ECB Dynamos cricket coaching programs on Friday nights for 9 weeks. One of these was specific to boys aged 8-11 years and had thirty-eight participants and the other was specific to girls of the same age and had fifteen participants.

Wombat CC purchased some Junior, hardball, cricketing equipment in 2023 and subsequently provided four 'Introduction to hardball' sessions with a view to creating a junior hardball provision in 2024. These were keenly attended by twelve older children (boys and girls) from the Dynamos groups.

Wombat CC again hosted and provided facilities for representative cricket teams on the Somerset CCC Pathway Programme (Under 10s – Under 17s). Our volunteers prepare and facilitate the match day experience for both players and their families, and we continue to receive positive feedback from all users of the ground.

To support our objectives, we continue to provide both a training and match venue for Somerset Visually Impaired Cricket Club and are a Disability Cricket Champion club adhering to the standards proposed by the Somerset Cricket Foundation.

All activities and sessions are provided and staffed by unpaid volunteers who also gain from the experience by contributing to their local community.

Extensive work continued to improve the pitch and outfield. Players and spectators continue to comment on these improvements and how impressive the facility looks and plays.

This year we continued with the major internal refurbishment and extension to our clubhouse. The previous toilets and showers were outdated and did not provide sufficient welfare facilities for our growing user base. The changing rooms were linked by two electric showers at the rear. We now have separated the changing rooms so that each team has a separate space which comprises of a private changing area, two modern showers within cubicles and a toilet. Within the bar and club room area we have updated the toilet facilities also. Previously, this comprised of a single ladies and men's toilet and some outdated men's urinals. We have cleverly used this space and previous storage space to create a large entrance into an area with hand washing facilities and two unisex toilets on the right and a disabled wet room on the left which has disabled toilet and shower facilities doubling up as an Umpire and Officials changing area with baby changing facilities. To protect our main asset, we have added a new security roller shutter to the inside of the club house doors and added new plastic fascia boards and guttering.

Volunteers

Our club is run entirely by volunteers, has no paid members of staff and the charity does not provide any financial grants.

Our volunteers perform many tasks including:

- Charity and club administration.
- Organising net practice, fixtures, teams prior to and on match days.
- Pitch and outfield maintenance.
- Training and coaching children and the coaching courses required.
- Machinery maintenance and servicing.
- Staffing the clubhouse and ancillary facilities on match days.
- Opening, closing, and staffing the facility when hosting other teams.
- Cleaning the facility.
- Administration required for capital projects and the time required to manage these projects.

Finance

We have run the club in such a way over the last year so that, with playing membership subscriptions and sponsorship contributions, we have made a small profit and not had to use any of the clubs' long-term savings.

We have invested any profit from activities back into improving the quality of the infrastructure of the club, the pitch and outfield. We wish to maintain this momentum and have re-assessed our immediate and future needs.

We continue to hold at least one year of running costs as a reserve in our savings account. This would cover insurance, utility bills, pitch, and ground renovation costs, building maintenance and machinery servicing. We were particularly conscious of this given the Covid-19 pandemic, and if we were to experience future seasons where cricket is unable to be played or has a reduced playing capacity, then revenue into the charity will be limited.

Our revenue comes from the following sources:

- Subscriptions from playing & social membership.
- Sponsorship from local businesses.
- Subscription from junior coaching sessions.
- Bar and BBQ supporting on field activities
- Ground hire.
- Match Day clubhouse income.
- Fund-raising activities e.g., quiz nights.
- Grants from cricket and public sector organisations.

Currently the club is in a positive financial position and has plans for future development of ground and cricket related items such as a new scoreboard, underground water supply to the square and junior & women's cricket hardball equipment.

Independent Examiners Report – Available on request

With the completion of the major one-off capital projects (New Garage, Club House extension and refurbishment) which were mainly funded by crowd funding, grants and sponsorship, income fell below £25,000 for the year and is also expected to below £25,000 for Year End to January 2025. Only for a yearly income over £25,000, is an Independent Examiners Report a statutory requirement.

Despite income falling below £25,000, the trustees decided to continue with obtaining Independent Examiners Reports. These will be made available where needed but not published as part of these annual reports unless income goes above £25,000 again in the future.

Wombat Cricket Club CIO – Verified Financial Statements on 31st January 2024

Income & Expenditure Detail:

to January 2024						to January 2023		
Sum of Value Income/ Expense			Both accounts			Both accounts		
Category	What		General	Restricted	Total	General	Restricted	Total
Income	Playing Activities	Bar	7,826	0	7,826	6,391	0	6,391
		Game & Nets	2,893	0	2,893	3,628	0	3,628
		Subs	1,530	0	1,530	1,090	0	1,090
		AllStars & Dynamos	2,098	0	2,098	1,894	0	1,894
		Annual Dinner	1,553	0	1,553	433	0	433
	Playing Activities Total		15,901	0	15,901	13,434	0	13,434
	Ground Assets	Ground Assets	550	0	550	0	0	0
	Ground Assets Total		550	0	550	0	0	0
	Grants/Sponsors/ Fundraising	Quiz Night	1,217	0	1,217	0	0	0
		Sponsorship	2,220	0	2,220	2,012	0	2,012
		Small Grants	-	500	500	0	1,000	1,000
	Grants/Sponsors/ Fundraising Total		3,437	500	3,937	2,012	1,000	3,012
	Projects	Club House Project - Grants	-	0	-	0	15,000	15,000
		Club House Project - Crowd Funding	-	2,800	2,800	0	0	0
	Projects Total		-	2,800	2,800	-	15,000	15,000
Income Total			19,887	3,300	23,187	15,446	16,000	31,446
Expense	Playing Activities	Bar	(4,461)	0	(4,461)	(2,511)	0	(2,511)
		Game & Nets	(1,157)	0	(1,157)	(945)	0	(945)
		AllStars & Dynamos	(132)	0	(132)	(244)	0	(244)
		Defib	(389)	0	(389)	0	0	0
		Annual Dinner	(1,206)	0	(1,206)	0	0	0
	Playing Activities Total		(7,346)	0	(7,346)	(3,700)	0	(3,700)
	Maintenance	Building Maint (incl Insurance)	(1,541)	0	(1,541)	(1,326)	0	(1,326)
		Machinery Maintenance (incl Fuel)	(1,218)	0	(1,218)	(1,047)	0	(1,047)
		Pitch Work	(2,996)	0	(2,996)	(2,831)	0	(2,831)
	Maintenance Total		(5,755)	0	(5,755)	(5,204)	0	(5,204)
	Maintenance - Utilities	Electric	(976)	0	(976)	(41)	0	(41)
		Water	(398)	0	(398)	(413)	0	(413)
Maintenance - Utilities Total		(1,374)	0	(1,374)	(455)	0	(455)	

Sum of Value			Both accounts		
Income/ Expense	Category	What	General	Restricted	Total
Expense	Grants/Sponsors/ Fundraising	Quiz Night	(307)	0	(307)
		EWCT Grant 2022	-	(429)	(429)
		Sponsorship	(132)	0	(132)
	Grants/Sponsors/ Fundraising Total		(439)	(429)	(868)
	Projects	Club House project	-	(4,147)	(4,147)
		Projects Total		-	(4,147)
	Ground Assets	Ground Assets	(753)	0	(753)
		Ground Assets Total		(753)	0
Expense Total			(15,666)	(4,576)	(20,242)
Grand Total			4,221	(1,276)	2,945

Both accounts		
General	Restricted	Total
0	0	0
0	0	0
0	0	0
0	0	0
0	(74,925)	(74,925)
0	(74,925)	(74,925)
(450)	0	(450)
(450)	0	(450)
(9,808)	(74,925)	(84,734)
5,638	(58,925)	(53,288)

	Current	Savings	
Bank Opening	13,184	8,725	
Bank Close	12,250	12,605	
Net Income/(Expense)	(934)	3,880	2,946
			(1)

Current	Savings	
6,546	68,650	
13,184	8,725	
6,638	(59,925)	(53,288)
		0

Wombat Cricket Club CIO – Balance Sheet on 31st January 2024

Simple Wombat Balance Sheet @ 31.01.2024				
			Jan 2024	Jan 2023
Property			64,513.74	64,513.74
	<i>Being</i>	<i>Ground Purchase</i>	<i>56,800.00</i>	<i>56,800.00</i>
		<i>Fees</i>	<i>7,713.74</i>	<i>7,713.74</i>
Assets			15,042.00	15,042.00
<i>(Items > £1000)</i>	<i>Being</i>	<i>Tractor & Cutting Deck</i>	<i>15,042.00</i>	<i>15,042.00</i>
Cash & Cash Equivalents				
	Current Account		12,249.74	13,183.95
	<i>Including</i>	<i>General Running profit</i>		
	Cash			
	Savings Account		12,604.67	8,724.59
	<i>Being</i>	Unrestricted		
		<i>Pre Trust Reserves</i>	<i>3,210.00</i>	<i>3,210.00</i>
		<i>Covid Funding</i>	<i>4,235.67</i>	<i>5,514.59</i>
		<i>Sponsorship/fund raising/23 Subs</i>	<i>4,659.00</i>	
			12,104.67	8,724.59
		Restricted		
		<i>Disability Grant</i>	<i>500.00</i>	
			500.00	

Risks

The club sees two main risks for the future but feel that we are in a strong position compared to other clubs in our sector, these being:

- 1) Financial risk of maintaining the facility is always a challenge but we have successfully managed this since taking on the facility in 2016.
- 2) Competition of leisure time and dwindling interest in community sport and recreation is also a risk. We are not seeing this at present with our thriving membership and junior cricket provision.

Currently there are no uncertainties about the charity's continuation, and we believe we still have a strong club with a good volunteer base and momentum to drive the charity forward.

Future Objectives

We will continue to invest in the facility to try to maintain a ground and clubhouse that is functional for all users. We will modernise our sporting facility and keep it to the highest standard possible to encourage future sport and recreation and achieve our goals.

We will develop and expand our junior cricket offer to the community to engage and inspire more young people to enjoy the sport and nurture their interests in the game. In addition, we recognise cricket should be a sport for all, and we aim to both progress our disability cricket offer and explore a female playing opportunity. We will continue our strong existing relationship with the Somerset Cricket Foundation and seek to collaborate with them in developing all our future cricketing activities.

The Trustees of Wombat Cricket Club (CIO) have followed all guidance issued by the Charity Commission and feel that the range of activities highlighted above demonstrate our ability and commitment to deliver public benefit to our local community.

Trustees report approved by Board.

Authorised signatory:



David Balch BVSc MRCVS.

Mr David Balch BVSc MRCVS
Chair of The Board of Trustees – Wombat Cricket Club CIO