



Presidents Reports

I would like to formally welcome our Life Members, Executive and General Committee Members, Sponsors, Coaches, Members, and families.

Firstly, I extend my sincere thanks to all Board members for their ongoing support, contributions, and their willingness to challenge one another as we continue to guide and strategically develop the Association.

As a Board, we remain committed to identifying opportunities to grow, develop, and enhance our Association to ensure long-term sustainability. Our goal is to continue providing opportunities for everyone to enjoy basketball at all levels.

This year presented several challenges, particularly due to reduced Board numbers following the completion of terms for several long-standing members. Despite these vacancies, the Board has continued to push forward and build on the solid foundations already established.

Financial

I would like to extend appreciation to Andrew Rohde, who took on the Treasurer role during the reporting period. Unfortunately, Andrew stepped down due to other commitments, and following Julie's departure in March 2026, maintaining financial records has required a shared effort.

I would particularly like to acknowledge the significant contributions of Nick Prior, Narelle, Nicole Galea, and myself in ensuring financial operations have continued, albeit with challenges. Securing suitable replacements in key financial roles remains a priority moving forward.

As highlighted in the financial report, overall revenue increased marginally, while expenses rose significantly. A key factor was the appointment of Nick Prior as Program Manager—a role previously identified as critical to the Association's sustainability, particularly in addressing volunteer workload and fatigue.

Nick has embraced this role with enthusiasm, and we expect to see the full impact of this position during the 2026 year.

Governance

Governance continues to be a priority for the Association. With the appointment of a dedicated Program Manager focusing on operations, the Board is now better positioned to concentrate on governance, strategic planning, and building upon the significant progress made in recent years.

We continue to seek additional members to strengthen our governance structure and support future growth.

Competitions

Competitions remain the primary contributor to the Association's financial position and participation base. Our domestic competition continues to grow and operates across three days—Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

Court availability remains an ongoing challenge. However, through our continued engagement with the Stadium and utilisation of the newly constructed PCYC facility, we are maximising available court time while balancing competition, training, and development needs.

Development

Our partnership with PCYC has enabled us to expand development programs such as Aussie Hoops and Intro to Basketball. Participation numbers are recovering following a decline in previous years.

With the support of our American imports, local coaches including Howard Marzan and Paul Norrie, and under Nick Prior's leadership, we have significantly increased school participation through Sporting Schools and coaching programs. This growth is expected to translate into stronger competition numbers in 2026.

Holiday camps continue to be offered and remain well attended, with new opportunities introduced each school holiday period.

Representative

At a junior level, Port Macquarie Basketball entered 13 teams across the North Eastern Junior League (NEJL), Northern Junior League, and Junior Premier League, ranging from Under 12s through to Under 18s.

Notable achievements include:

Under 14 Boys crowned NEJL Champions

Under 14 Boys runners-up at the John Martin Country Tournament

Importantly, all teams demonstrated strong development, competitiveness, and represented the Association with pride throughout the season.

At a senior level, the Association fielded three teams in the Waratah League in 2025:

Men's Team

Women's Team

Youth (U23) Team (first year)

Both the Men's and Women's teams narrowly missed progressing further into finals, while the Youth team gained invaluable experience as one of the youngest squads in the competition.

Individual achievements included:

Lucas Scott – Youth Rookie of the Year and All-Star Five

Tiffany Reynolds – Women's All-Star Five

Ruby Erin – Women's All-Star Five

Our representative pathway continues to strengthen and plays a vital role in the long-term development of our players.

I would like to thank Nicole Galea (Representative Delegate) for her tireless work, along with all team managers, coaches, and assistant coaches. A special mention to Nick Prior in his roles as coach and Coaching Director, and to all coaches who generously give their time to develop our players.

Technical

Our competitions would not be possible without our officials. Debbie Burghardt has been instrumental in developing pathways and support for referees at all levels.

We have seen continued growth in referee numbers at both domestic and representative levels during 2025. Debbie's contribution to this space has been exceptional.

Debbie has transitioned responsibilities to Zac Smith and Maddie Prowse for 2026, though she remains an important source of information for Zac and Maddie. We thank Debbie for her dedication and ongoing support.

To all referees—your contribution, often under challenging circumstances, is greatly appreciated.

Conclusion

As a Board, we are committed to ensuring all participants have a positive and enjoyable experience. I am proud of the progress we continue to make and the direction in which our Association is heading.

Basketball is experiencing significant growth, and we remain focused on harnessing this momentum by enhancing our programs, improving our systems, and continuing to develop a more professional and sustainable organisation.

I am incredibly proud that our Association has been able to invest in its future, building the right structures to meet increasing demand. None of this would be possible without our dedicated volunteers and a committed Board working to ensure a safe and enjoyable environment for all.

Finally, I would like to thank each and every one of you for your ongoing support and contribution toward making this one of our best years yet.