

Annual Report
Glen Iris District Basketball Club
November 2024

Executive Summary

The “Scorpions” basketball club has had a positive and productive twelve months since the 2023 Annual General Meeting (“AGM”), including:

- the welcomed addition of many new players and supportive families;
- strong competition results on the courts;
- continued player development and coach accreditations;
- improved communications and relationships with partners and suppliers; and
- a solid year-end cash/financial position.

Our club continues to enjoy a good reputation throughout the league and particularly with our colleagues at the Waverley Basketball Association. We appreciate all parents, coaches and players who set a good example in this regard and respect the Scorpions, Waverley and Basketball Victoria Codes-of-Conduct.

2023-2024 Results

With only 34 teams and 220+ players - the Scorpions teams acquitted themselves admirably this past year, in both Winter and Summer seasons. On average, half of our teams made the finals and a few also won their Grand Final games. Congratulations to all players and coaches on this achievement.

Financial Position

The Club continues to operate on a stable financial platform. Our positive cash balance is relatively unchanged (< 5%) over the past few seasons which allows the committee to approve and cover court hire and league registration fees – plus nominal payments for our younger, school-aged coaches, special events (e.g. pre-season Welcome Player Shootout/Family BBQ, “Stingers” program), and end-of-season trophies for the players.

The extra revenue from sponsorships has been a modest bonus for the Club going into the 2024-25 season. Our current sponsors are: Jellis Craig, Neumode and Equilibrium Sports & Spinal Clinic. All sponsorship agreements are due for review and/or renewal in 2025.

As always, we strive to keep player registration fees to a minimum. Due to the increase in court hire costs last season, the Club increased the standard fee by \$20 to \$335 per player. The registration fees help cover the cost of Waverley team entry fees, court hire and weekly game fees. The sponsorship revenue helps offset training fees.

(The Club appreciates the work of Tristan Schmidt, Treasurer, for administering the accounts, official tax reporting and financial transfers to ensure a proper, ongoing operation of the Club.)

UPDATES

Committee roles

The 2023-24 committee included:

Executive

President:	Alex Goldhagen
Vice President:	Richard Franc
Secretary:	Lisa Pearce
Treasurer:	Tristan Schmidt

Other Key Roles:

Registrar:	Kylie Brown
Coaching Coordinators:	Sam Turcinovic / Grant Pearce
Uniforms Coordinator:	Flip Connell
Team Manager Coordinator:	Justin Brown
Social Media/Website Manager:	Genevieve Boyd
Child Welfare Officer:	Brooke Graham

Retiring members as of the November 2024 AGM:

- Alex Goldhagen – President
- Richard Franc – VP/Sponsorships Manager
- Lisa Pearce – Secretary
- Sam Turcinovic – Coaches Coordinator
- Brooke Graham – Child Welfare Officer
- Sherren Comensoli – General Member
- Jane O'Dwyer – General Member
- Anna Scullie – General Member

Committee Membership for 2024-25

While all committee roles become vacant at the time of each AGM, many of our current committee members have indicated that they are eager to continue next season. Constitutionally, this requires the endorsement by Club members at the AGM.

The following Club members have volunteered for Committee roles in 2024-25, subject to endorsement at the AGM, in the event other members would like to volunteer for any of these roles.

Executive

President:	Alison Sim
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Vice President: Lucas Carmody
Secretary: Kristy Dennis
Treasurer: Tristan Schmidt

Other Key Roles:

Registrar: Kylie Brown
Coaching Coordinators: Grant Pearce + TBC
Uniforms Coordinator: Flip Connell
Team Manager Coordinator: Justin Brown
Social Media/Website Manager: Genevieve Boyd
Child Welfare Officer: TBC

At the time of this report, there are two confirmed vacancies:

1. Coaches Co-Coordinator, and
2. Child Welfare Officer.

The Club is actively recruiting to fill these vacancies.

Website / Social Media

Our website (<https://www.glenirisscorpions.com>) continues to be the primary, static source of information about the Club.

The Club is also active on Instagram and on Facebook. Here we share our successes and team photos, as well as reminders and alerts for important club milestones and events, such as registrations and AGMs. Members of our club are encouraged to share information and photos throughout the season: glenirisdistrict@gmail.com .

(Genevieve Boyd, Kristy Dennis and Anna Scullie invested a lot of time last season updating all of the Club's online presence. We appreciate their time, effort and new ideas.)

There has also been a noticeable shift from traditional email messaging to the WhatsApp platform for daily/weekly communications. Most teams are using this now as their primary means of communication. Likewise, some Committee members (Coaches, Team Managers, etc.) have also set up groups recently which appears to be a widely-accepted improvement for Club members.

Achievements for 2023-24

Stated objectives for last season, and positive outcomes included:

- Familiarisation and consolidation of new committee roles and systems
 - *See above re Sponsorships and Coaches Coordinator/Player Development*

- Further provision of support to coaches through coaching courses, in house sessions and mentoring
 - *Engaged external coaches, player development experts to run these sessions. Coach Accreditation courses: 11 of 37 coaches have received Basketball Victoria accreditation. (Thanks to Grant and Sam for leading/supporting this initiative.)*
- Provision of player development sessions periodically throughout the season
 - *Same as above.*
- Increasing club communication through Youtube, social media and newsletters.
 - *Work-in-progress. Online channels are being improved regularly. See above re Website / Social Media.*

Additionally, although not a stated objective, the Club has improved its relationship with our Uniforms supplier, First Ever, and we have noticed a significantly shorter turn-around time for the delivery of official gameday uniforms, particularly for new players. *(Special thanks to Flip Connell for taking over this role, introducing a better, more systematic process for ordering uniforms, organising loaner uniforms, and for his work in improving the Club's commercial relationship with First Ever. Well done, Flip... a much-appreciated improvement.)*

Objectives for Season 2024-25:

- Early confirmation of all Committee roles.
- Increased club (player) membership; currently 237 players.
- No formal complaints against any Scorpions player, coach, parent or attendee, or BV Tribunal hearings as a consequence.
- Improved weekly game results reporting for all Scorpions teams. *(Refer PlayHQ on the Waverley website.)*
- Ensuring that Finals games are not scheduled during school holidays *(this was an issue last season as it meant that several of our players were not able to participate in Finals games).*
- Confirmation of sponsorship with current sponsors and/or other interested parties.
- Investigation of Government Grants opportunities.
- Using email for official messages to all club members; using WhatsApp for specific groups, teams, etc.

Summer 2024-25 Season

At the time of this report, we have confirmed 38 new players joining our club for upcoming season. This gives us 240+ players and 37 teams.

The Summer season starts with five grading rounds, followed by twelve regular-season games and two rounds of finals (in late-March 2025). *(Most clubs, including ours, in the league have requested that the schedule be revised to avoid Grand Finals being played during school holidays.) We are currently negotiating this with Waverley.* More details are available on the [Waverley Basketball Association website](#).

Proposed Committee Meeting Dates for 2024-25

The Club Committee meets at least eight times per calendar year. Most meetings are held from 7:30pm to 9:00pm. Tentative dates for Committee meetings for Summer 2024-2025 are:

- Monday, 9th December 2024
- Monday, 3rd February 2025
(School starts Thursday 30th January)
- Monday, 3rd March 2025
(School holidays 28th March – 14th April)
- Monday, 12th May 2025
- Monday, 16th June 2025
(School holidays 28th June – 14th July)
- Monday, 14th July 2025
- Monday, 8th September 2025
(School holidays 20 September - 6 October)
- **Monday, 27th October 2025 – Annual General Meeting**
(School holidays 20th December – 29th January)

A Final, Personal Note:

Code of Conduct

The Club continues to communicate and reinforce the message to all Club members that the league [Code of Conduct](#) should be reviewed, understood, agreed to and always respected as a condition of Club membership.

The Club maintains a “zero-tolerance” policy regarding any form of abuse – racial, physical, verbal, psychological – before, during or after any game.

Furthermore, we continue to encourage players, coaches, parents and other spectators to respect the league referees and their calls; and not to try to influence their decisions, particularly during a game. *(We agree that this is a competition, but our primary focus should be on having fun and ensuring the wellbeing of the players... and not purely on winning games.)*

To parents and adult members of the club: please lead by example.

With the support of the Committee, I hope that these will continue to be recurring messages to all members of the Club.

Once again, and on behalf of all members of the Committee, I appreciate your ongoing involvement in - and support of - our club. Best wishes to all players, teams and families for the

2024-25 seasons and beyond. And, as always, please feel free to contact us at any time through the Scorpions website.

Although already mentioned above, both Lisa Pearce and Sam Turcinovic will be stepping down from their executive committee roles after years of involvement with the Club, in a variety of roles. Both have taken on more responsibility than would normally be expected of any volunteer. Both are respected and admired within the Club... and both will be missed. (*Thank you, Lisa and Sam... ours is a better club because of you.*)

I have enjoyed executing my role over the past three years, on many levels. Mostly, I love the kids and their families... and I thank you, sincerely, for the opportunity to serve the Club.

Alex Goldhagen,
President
October 2021 - Present