



# SUMMER HILL LAKERS NETBALL CLUB

# ANNUAL REPORT 2024

## 2024 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### PRESIDENT

Melanie Stewart

### SECRETARY

Kate Graham

### REGISTRAR

Julie McBride

### TREASURER

Sandy Fesq and Mark Ney

### COACHING CONVENER

Madeleine Hampson

### EQUIPMENT OFFICER

Ros Endicott

### UNIFORM COORDINATOR

Ros Endicott

### LIFE MEMBERS

Therri Ellison & Denyse Wicks

### COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

MaryAnne Fesq and Suzy Small

### UMPIRE CONVENER

Liz Leonard

## Executive Summary

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2024 was a very successful year for the Club. The Club won the Inner West Netball Association Club Championship with 14 of its 23 teams making finals. At time of writing the club has strong registrations for summer competition and is working on repositioning its finances.

The start of the season was affected by several very wet weekends, resulting in the Association cancelling many rounds at the season start. As the rainy Saturdays continued, the most impacted teams were the modified grass courts teams. Two gala days were held for the modified teams to ensure game time and make up for lost playing time due to rain. For the Junior, Cadet and Senior teams, several split rounds were in the latter half of the season to ensure the competition could be completed.

Overall, Winter 2024 saw the Club's stabilise with more registrations than last year making up one less team than last year:

**2024**

**Total registrations: 214 players**

**Total teams: 23**

**2023**

**Total registrations: 208 players**

**Total teams 24**

Following last year's strong mini magpie registration of 12, we had another strong year with 11 minis registering in 2024.

The Club was extremely proud of the record 5 grand final winners in 2024:

**Goannas Premiers 10/2 Division**



**Crocodiles Premiers 13/4 Division**

**Sugar Gliders Premiers 12/3 Division**



**Robins Joint Premiers 14/3 Division**



**Possums Premiers A3 Division**



So much effort goes into every week and to make it through to the Grand Final, and then win, is a fantastic achievement. The teams should be very proud of themselves, as we are of them!

Well done to the two teams who were runners up in their competitions: Cadet 4 Taipans and 12/3 Koalas. The Club would also like to congratulate the other 7 teams who made the Finals:

SHLNC Bullants	B3
SHLNC Honeyeaters	12 Div 4
SHLNC Joeys	15 Div 1
SHLNC Lorikeets	13 Div 1
SHLNC Wallabies	11 Div 1
SHLNC Platypus	12 Div 4
SHLNC Stingrays	B1

Thank all the people that contribute to keeping the club going each week. Managers and parents and carers who take their players to training and games and generally support the club. The Lakers sideline support this year was outstanding and particularly noticeable in the finals season, as each team had a great turn out of family and friends who came along to cheer our players on. The club would like to acknowledge & thank everyone who keeps our players playing and our club running. Seeing everyone learn new skills, be active, develop new friendships and have fun is what it is all about.

## Registrations

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Registrations this year were completed using Play HQ. Issues with the portal from previous years has settled and it now works very well.

This year we registered 214 players.

11 Mini Magpies

19 players in Modified 8 and 9 competition (2 teams)

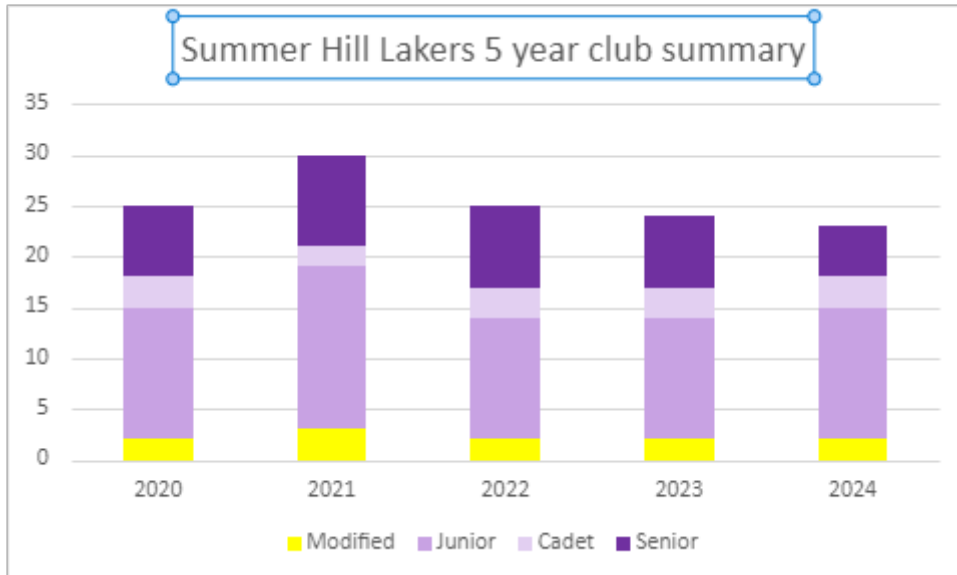
108 players Junior ( 2 teams in 10 years, 2 in 11 years, 4 in 12 years, 3 in 13 years, 1 in 14 years, 1 in 15 years)

24 players Cadets (3 teams)

46 players Seniors (5 teams)

We had a decrease registrations from 2023 and formed two less team. The biggest reduction was in the senior cohort with only fielding 5 teams this year. This reduction was offset by 3 teams in the 13s and 4 in the 12s with two each in the 10 years and 11 years and modified ages. We plan to continue to target friendship groups and bringing teams into the competition at primary school age and keeping them through the high school years.

In our junior teams we saw two teams entered into each age group one in a high division and one in a lower division. In the 12 years age group we ended up with two teams in two of the divisions, rather than one team spread across each of the divisions which was our intention.



The club thanks Julie McBride for fulfilling our registrar role in 2024 and for her tireless efforts especially in Jan-Feb when registrations, grading and team collation is a chaotic business. Julie is retiring as Registrar this year and we thank her so much for her tireless efforts and support for the Executive and club this year and the many previous ones.

## Grading

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As a grading club we held a grading day on Saturday 19 February. The club would like to extend its thanks

to Therri Ellison, Becky Flint and Madeleine Hampson for their assistance with grading players on the day. We would also like to thank Liz Leonard, Julie McBride, Ros Endicott, Sandy Fesq for their assistance with the running of the day. It was a notably hot day and was difficult for the players as well as the administrators. The conditions this year has contributed to the Club's decision to seek an indoor venue for grading in 2025.

As per club policy, teams are graded in age groups from competition age (10) where there are multiple teams in the age group. The purpose of grading is to ensure that the players with the right fit of age and skill are placed in the correct divisions to get the most out of their netball throughout the season.

The club's submission to Inner West recommended a different division for each of our junior teams, which was especially important in the 12 years group as we had four teams. As is sometimes the case Association's grading assessment was different for some of our teams and we ended up with 4 teams being graded differently to our recommendations. We appealed 2 of those decisions, with both appeals rejected.

The success of our grading program has enabled us to enter division 1 teams in the 11, 13, 15 and cadet age groups in 2024.

With a strong representation of teams in our junior age groups, the Club aims to grow our junior teams in 2025. With 4 teams in the 12s and 3 in the 13s our aim is to keep those age groups engaged over the coming years. With two teams in the 10 and 11 age groups we are aiming to grow registrations in those age groups.

## Secretary

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### Court bookings

The booking process went smoothly, we completed our EOI and (as usual) were granted the courts that we asked for. We decided to stick with the older courts as there are only three new courts (we require 4) and the toilets are across the canal from the new courts.

A code to turn on the lights is given to 3 people from the club, currently Madeleine, Melanie and Liz.

### Council communications

Our council contact is Heather Palmisani. She is the point of contact for court bookings and any other issues (eg lights).

### Photos

We had netball photos this year on 1 June, but was rained out and a second session was held at training later. Thanks to our photographer Charlie and the managers for organising their teams.

## Coaching

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This year saw a continuation of our coaching development and payment policy. Due to financial constraints and the availability of coaching tips and content online we cancelled the coaching subscription this year. We continued to provide coaching mentoring for our junior coaches and maintain a requirement for all new coaches to attend the IWNA coaching course at the start of the year. This resource was also attended by several of our returning foundation level coaches.

This year we had 18 coaches across 20 junior, modified and mini magpies teams. One senior team continued to be coached. Our coaches are a group made up of parents and players.

The club welcomed a number of new coaches & would like to extend its thanks to the following people; Eliza Brake, Lucy McCormick, Ivy Thompson, Ashlee Cronin, Madeleine Brake, our junior coaches who all stepped in to the challenge of coaching independently for the first time this year. A big thank you also goes to our continuing junior coaches Edie Hynes, Hannah Rose, Claudia Cox, Alice Swinburn and Athena Nikolakopoulos who continue to bring their considerable netball skills to the junior teams at the club. Our junior coaches are key to the ongoing success and development of the culture and spirit of the Club as our older players provide ongoing example and skill development for our younger cohorts.

The club would also like to make a special mention of the coaches who took on more than one team and took on a mentoring role providing support and guidance to all our coaches;

- Becky Flint
- Liz Leonard
- Hannah Rose
- Annie Goodman

We are extremely grateful to all our coaches, for their dedication, enthusiasm and the time that they devote to developing the players & netball at our club.

The club acknowledges and thanks Madeleine Hampson for her role as coaching convener.

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## Umpiring

In 2024, SHLNC had a cohort of 28 regular umpires, including 15 experienced umpires, badged before the season. Thirteen umpires commenced training in 2024, of whom, seven umpires received a Club Badge. One umpire received an Association Badge, and four umpires received their National Badge during the season. All badged umpires received at least one training session with a National badged umpire during the season.

All trainee umpires attended the Inner West Beginner Umpiring Course before the season. Twelve trainee umpires attended this 3-hour face-to-face training session. Two SHLNC National Badged Umpires facilitated the session and incorporated theoretical and practical content. After attending the course, trainee umpires were provided weekly courtside training, support, and feedback from mainly National umpires throughout the season.

Informal feedback from trainee umpires was positive. They felt the training program was well-structured and allowed them to practice their skills, whilst receiving support and constructive feedback.

Several SHLNC umpires umpired in the 2024 representative program, participating in Inner West representative carnivals and games. Jacinta Fletcher and Lauren Walford umpired at State Titles and Jacinta also umpired at Metro and Summer Series.

## Uniforms and Merchandise

This year saw the second year of our relationship with Unify for uniforms. There were continued challenges this year with the lead times for players needing to order directly many weeks in advance and the club's supply of uniforms was needed in order to ensure that all players could take the court on Game 1 with a Lakers uniform. In addition there remained sizing issues and confusion for players when ordering uniforms resulting a significant amount of executive time being dedicated to managing uniforms. The club will explore other uniform providers next year in order to try and find a more responsive and flexible provider that can better the needs of our players.

We have now registered a shorts and singlet option to meet our goal of being an inclusive club. A big thank you to Ros for going above and beyond to stocktake the uniform supplies we had and providing an ongoing uniform shop on Tuesdays at training throughout the season. As a result we were able to raise money from the old stock and clear it out.

## Equipment

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This year each team was provided with the following:

1. Coaches bag; sports bag for game ball and any other necessary equipment
2. Training kit; net bags with balls and other training equipment such as ladders, cones etc
3. Managers kit: backpack with game bibs, player folders, first aid kits

For 2025, there's enough equipment to accommodate 23 teams, only purchasing a new game ball each. We expect an order of SHLNC branded game balls later in 2024. Any additional registrations beyond 23 teams next year will require the purchase of additional equipment.

We have cancelled the rented storage facility to keep the equipment and we will ask team managers and coaches to keep their bags until next year. The extra equipment for BBQs etc is being stored at the houses of Executive members, until we are able to ensure sufficient ongoing revenue to incur storage costs.

The club extends its thanks to Ros Endicott for all her efforts with the club in her first year. She has done an amazing job organizing equipment and uniforms for the whole club.

## Communications

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Throughout 2022 we have continued to use MailChimp email and Facebook as our primary communication tools. We also use Instagram to increase our reach. The website continues to be hosted by Wix.com and sits on our domain, shlnc.com.au. This domain came through our purchase a number of years back of our targeted email addresses: president@, registrar@ and uniforms@shlnc.com.au

The Summer Hill Lakers Facebook account now has a total of 565 followers, and 176 Instagram followers. We encourage all Lakers players and parents to subscribe to their social media of choice.

Website: [www.shlnc.com.au](http://www.shlnc.com.au)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SHLakersNetballClub/>

Instagram: @shlakersnc92

Twitter: [www.twitter.com/lakersnetball](http://www.twitter.com/lakersnetball)

The clubs other major resource for communications is our team managers. Team managers are the key link for the club to the teams and they do a great job in organising and mobilising parents. Many teams took to using WhatsApp as the preferred tool to communicate amongst the team and we have had lots of positive feedback so will encourage future/further use of this app. The club would like to acknowledge & extend its thanks to all those that took on a team manager role this year.

The club thanks MaryAnne Fesq and Suzy Small who took over the reigns during the year when MaryAnne resigned from the Executive. We had an increase in the number of MailChimp emails and website updates this year, so a big thanks to Suzy for accommodating that.

## Fundraising

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### **Fundraising activities**

The BBQ was a great success and thank you to all involved, netting \$4785 to the clubs coffers. Of note the takings were a gross increase on previous years, but the nett lower. This can largely be put down to increased costs for product on the day. We may have to adjust our costs in out years, but we are also conscious of not over pricing items when everyone is feeling the pressure of the increases to the cost of living.

Thanks to Kate and all the others for organising the cake stall and lolly raffle, which contributed significantly to the final outcome of the BBQ day. The Cake Stall was a masterclass in baking and representative of what a great club we have.

## IWSNA Representative Teams

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The club is proud to have a number of players selected for the Inner Western Suburbs Netball Association representative teams.

### 12s State Team

- Charlotte Smith

### 13s Development

- Esther Doyle

### 13s State Age

- Lily Harman
- Amy Fleming
- Michaela Ibrahim

### 14s State Age

- Arianna Mousamas

## IWSNA Metro League

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The club is also proud to have members involved in metro league netball. Recognition is awarded to the following people for the roles they play in the metro league:

### Coach

- Therri Ellison



## Executive retirements

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The Summer Hill Lakers Netball Club is run by volunteers. We acknowledge the effort of the executive committee for their time, dedication experience and general can-do attitude to run the club and provide the players with the opportunity to play and have fun. As is the way in modern life there are many and varied demands on our time, so I thank all members for their contribution and sense of humour to get the job done.

This year we have three members of the executive committee retiring. The club would like to thank them for their contributions over a number of years.

1. Julie McBride – Registrar (2019-2024)
2. Suzy Small – Communications (2023-2024)
3. Madeleine Hampson– Coaching Convenor (2023-2024)

## Finances

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Attached to this report are the accounts prepared for the financial year ended 30 June 2022. The Club's financial position has changed this year due to expenditure over previous years and the implementation of our new coaching policy. We are conscious of our commitment to increasing both the size and success of the club, whilst remaining financially successful. Our spend on incentivising coaching ranks within the Club has paid off and the results on the court speak for themselves.

The club thanks Sandy Fesq for being our Treasurer and his generosity and availability in his handover to Mark Ney this year.

The Club's cash at bank has reduced significantly over the past year. This was largely due to the costs of presentation day in 2023. Hence, why we have moved to a far more modest presentation day with a focus on family and club at the heart of the Inner West Netball Family – Cintra.

To assist with keeping the budget balanced, we have focussed on trying to reduce inventory on clothing and uniforms held in stock and removed our reliance on having a storage unit. Thank you to Ros in particular for taking the lead in this endeavour and saving the Club over two and a half thousand dollars a year just in storage. We have also received donations from Club stalwarts and we thank them for their contributions to our club.

Our commitment to improving the quality of our players through great coaches has been supported by the Inner West Council and we will be receiving a grant for next year to further develop our coaches and bring new coaches on. So, if you are interested in learning how to be a coach we are here to support you

### FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Our accounts are prepared on a cash basis and do not account for stocks of uniforms and other merchandise. Opening balance at 1 July 2023 was \$42,405.18, closing balance at 30 June 2024 was \$15,564.72.

FY 2023/24 Income and Expenditure Statement	
INCOME	\$21,229.11

Player Registration	\$19,160.31
Uniform Sales	\$1,738.97
Donations	\$70.00
Bank Interest	\$190.46
EXPENDITURE	\$48,294.89
IWC Training Court Rental	\$3,766.92
Kennards Storage	\$2,292.50
Umpiring Fees	\$11,320.75
Communications	\$651.41
Account Fees	\$120.00
Coaching	\$15,630.00
Equipment	\$845.00
Fines IWNA	\$40.00
Registration Refunds	\$882.00
Presentation Day	\$8542.67
Premier Jerseys	\$2443.10
Trophies	\$1640.34
2024 Season Opener	\$120.00

