

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

On behalf of the Board of Directors I present this 2009 Report for Western Suburbs League Club (Campbelltown) Ltd.

Throughout the year the Club has continued to strive in challenging times to provide the members with improved facilities and customer service. I hope that since our membership numbers have increased by almost 10,000 during 2009 that this is an indication that we are exceeding the expectations of those in the community.

For the year in review the Club made a profit of \$3,564,041 (2008: \$7,382,229). Whilst this comparison looks negative, when one extracts the loss at Narellan Properties (Camden Valley Country Rugby League Golf Resort) of \$1,647,931 and the prior year's impairment losses and amalgamation gains from the Southern District Tennis Club, a true comparison reveals a post tax operating profit of \$5,327,125 (2008: \$2,855,548).

The Bambu extension provided a wonderful lounge area for members, which during 2009 enabled the old lounge area to be converted into a rather impressive bistro overflow area. This has addressed the complaints we were receiving about not having enough seats for diners. Throughout the year catering revenue increased a mammoth 40%. Our success has been based upon the fact that the vast majority of our bistro meals are cook to order and patrons can taste the difference. Not just the old lounge area but most of the main floor of the Club has been refurbished. We thank the members for their patience and hope that the new and improved facilities are up to your expectations.

More recently the Club has contracted out the Restaurant in Bambu. If you have not tried Chilli Chilli Thai Restaurant I encourage you to do so. I do however suggest that you make a booking if you intend to eat there on a Friday or Saturday night.

All of the teething and transitional issues regarding the amalgamation with the Tennis Club have been resolved and I hope that all members are happy with the outcome. The Leagues Club has certainly fulfilled all promises made during initial negotiations to amalgamate and all seems to be going well. From a financial perspective the Tennis Club now operates at a small profit and thus is not a drain on the Club's finances. For those who still have not frequented that facility I highly recommend the Chinese meals. *It has to be the best value for money in town!*

By the end of 2009 the Club had purchased all ten adjacent units for future development. Whilst we are in no hurry to commence construction, we thought it prudent to secure the site. In the mean time, many units offer commercial returns.

Throughout the year, the Board approved financial support to numerous sporting and community bodies. This is in line with our catch cry which is Home of Sport. The Club provided over \$500,000 to local groups in 2009 and we are proud to help in making sport affordable to particularly the children in our community.

Most members would know Mike Semchyshyn has moved to Port Macquarie. Mike felt the distance prevented him from giving 100% and resigned in November 2009. Mike was the Club's original Secretary and a Board member for 9 years; he is also a Life Member of the Club. Mike's contribution to the Sports & Building Committees as well as his tireless efforts on the Board will be greatly missed. For me personally, he has been a positive member on our Board, he is hard working and loyal and I will miss his presence at our meetings. Thanks Mike.

Stephen Stewart has been appointed by the Board to fill the vacancy until the next AGM. From 2002 Steve spent five years as President of the Sports Council and then stepped down to Vice President when he became a member of the Sports Management Committee in 2005.

I would like to thank all the Directors for their professional contribution, dedication and support. All of our Directors serve on several Committees, which can be very time consuming. I would like to thank the Director's wives for their understanding, support and patience.

Congratulations to Tony Mathew our General Manager, Daniel Grady our Operations and Gaming Manager, Andrew Patterson our Financial Controller, Karen Hansen our Executive Secretary, Marc Edwards our Catering Manager, Mel Papallo our Maintenance Manager, Dave McMillan our Cellar Manager and new appointee Lisa Petrie being our HR and Marketing Manager and the entire staff for an outstanding job in 2009. I hear many favourable comments from members about our staff and I would like to thank them again for all for their efforts throughout the year.

The success of any Club depends on its members. To the member's of Western Suburbs League Club (Campbelltown) Ltd, I thank you for your support and patronage. I wish you all every success in 2010 and look forward to seeing you at our Club.

ROY WARBY
CHAIRMAN