

***BALMAIN JUNIOR  
TOUCH  
ASSOCIATION  
ANNUAL REPORT  
2021***





## OUR VALUED SPONSORS



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ATHLETE'S  
COLLECTIVE





# OUR VALUED FAMILY





# OUR VALUED MEMORIES





## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT 30 June 2021**

I am pleased to present my 12th President's Report for BJTA.

Back in 2009, a far-reaching decision was made by a few people to form a separate Junior Touch organisation at Balmain to enhance the future prospects and achievements of the outstanding talent among our juniors. Many people since then have made that decision a reality and we enjoyed many successes since that time, although we did not know what the future would bring.

We did not foresee the quality people that would join our association to help make success a reality, we did not foresee our people receiving multiple NSWTA awards for their efforts, 5 Administrators of the Year, 6 Blues & Distinguish Service Awards, Affiliate of the Year awards 4 years in a row, and the high esteem & respect BJTA is now held in the Touch Community. Finally, to round off the awards, I was awarded the Rod Wise Medal – NSWTA Volunteer of the Year & joint winner of Sport NSW Community Sports Awards Volunteer Director of the Year.

I accepted these awards on behalf of you all, as I would not have even been in the running except for the hard work by many people over many years that achieved all this! They were a recognition of BJTA as an organisation going places.

However we now embark on a new challenge – finally we will again be one Balmain Touch Association which will bring together the combined strengths of the Junior & Senior Associations (subject to members agreement). I am personally excited for our future. There are currently many dedicated quality people & volunteers at both associations and the joining of these officials moving in one direction will again keep us at a high level of achievement.

I am always so proud to see ex & current players who have represented us giving something back by helping to coach & mentor our next generation. I congratulate these outstanding young people, all ex or current players, coaches or assistants - Sophie Gobran, Alec Fitzgerald-Muir, Flynn & Kyle Leaver & Cameron Bilich, Sam Zammit, Max Barnett and Dane Ryan and welcome their involvement. We have always prided ourselves as being a family at BJTA.

After many years of planning & lobbying, (started in 2017!!) the building of the new Timbrell Park amenities is due to start in July 2021. By the time you read this, the old buildings should have been demolished!! I would like to thank Richard Stone, Wayne Calleja & Ben Jones who have been involved in liaising with Council for the last year now, on our amenities requirements and on the outfitting & infrastructure. What a way to start a new association with a brand-new building!

We attended 2021 JSC South at Wagga with 10 teams (U8s & Dev teams not invited) where again one of our teams reached the Grand Final. Our U10 Girls were only the 6<sup>th</sup> BJTA team to reach a JSC GF.

7 teams reached the Qtr Finals, & 4 reached the Semi Finals. Against huge opposition we ran 6<sup>th</sup> in the Club Championship.

Unfortunately due to the Covid pandemic, the numbers were severely affected with limited spectators, 1 parent plus play and leave restrictions. As JSC North was abandoned half way through their weekend, the State Championships were again cancelled for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row, denying our teams a chance at competing in the tournament.

We again fielded 3 Youth teams in the 2020 Vawdon Cup. The 2 Girls teams acquitted themselves admirably as usual with congratulations to our Boys Youth team narrowly losing the Div 2 Grand Final. Most of our players are young and VC is a great way to develop our younger players. Proud of you all!

Thanks to the team officials and referees who represented Balmain at VC 2020.

I'd here also like to thank and welcome our new Coaches and Managers who joined us this year. We have attracted many exceptional people new to BJTA and it is very heartening for our future to have these people with us. We all hope they continue with us.

Reports attached from our Secretary, Treasurer, Coaching & Referee Directors will list our individual achievements both on & off the field and highlight the work and efforts of those who make us successful, but I would like to mention a few here:

Our congratulations to three very special people - Wayne Calleja, Jo Joe & Terry Joe for representing NSW at the recent State of Origin games. JoJo was also rewarded as Player of the Series in W45s! These 3 are outstanding coaches of our JSC & VC teams and have shown what dedication is by still finding the time to mentor & share their knowledge with our young players and coaches.

To our Sponsors:

Club Five Dock RSL (being supporting us since day1), Conti Property Group, Imagination Graphics (main Sponsors) Budget (also supplying JSC transport) TIME Realty Five Dock, Athletes Collective (swim-bags & cooling towels), RSM Australia Partners (water bottles) & Horizon Homes (Field marker flags). We thank you for your commitment & support in providing our service to the kids.

It would be remiss of me if I did not mention my fellow Executive - Alan, Richard, Frank, Tony & Steve - As well as new-comers Emma as Secretary & Tanya as Asst Secretary. These 2 volunteered for the positions and have been a couple of dynamos in achieving results. As a group, this year presented many challenges having to make decisions on our future, dealing with Covid, Council & residents re new building, and for possible amalgamation, new Constitution, new By-Laws, new Logo, selecting rep gear for new association and meetings with Senior's Exec.

As you all know, these people carry out other duties for us as well as Exec. The majority of their work behind the scenes is unseen.

I would here also like to congratulate the Senior's committee on their successful 1<sup>st</sup> year achievements and their hard work in getting the amalgamation to this point. Great to see so many juniors playing in Seniors competitions. Thanks Wayne, Ben, Richard, Dilani & Sharlene.

Finally, to all you parents who give up your time driving your children around to all their sporting events and training, we would not survive without you.

Hope to see you all again this year!

**Yours in Sport,**

***J. Dougall***

**Joseph Dougall  
President**





## **SECRETARY'S REPORT 30 June 2021**

This being my first season as Secretary there was a lot to learn and take on board especially following in the footsteps of the amazing Katrina Kyneur. I soon realised I had nothing to worry about as the support of this amazing club soon taught me what I needed to do. Special mention to Joe and Richard for showing me the ropes so well and keeping me on the straight and narrow. I can't forget my offsider also Tanya Ryan who was and is the best assistant I could ever have.

2020-2021 was another extremely difficult year with Covid putting lots of barriers in place. In true Balmain fashion though we rose to the occasion and rallied as a club to get through. Special mention to Michelle Moore, our First Aid Officer, for taking on a massive extra new role as the new Covid Safety Officer - we couldn't have done it without you!

Our Monday night competition was severely affected due to football codes finishing later in the year and Covid restrictions. In consequence, our player numbers dropped from 1700 to around 1500 and teams from 189 to 147 from 2019 season. Due to the loss of some fields, we had to play games over two nights for the first time. The Canteen continued to plough on with the dream team led by the amazing Frank Dunne. Our biggest hiccup was what to charge for the mustard!

The new online registration system "My sideline" brought lots of headaches to all who were involved. A huge thanks to Mel Quinn and Courtney Locane for persisting and registering all our players for the season.

The Representative season was in strong force for another year with a new component gaining momentum which was the "Balmain Touch Academy" designed to develop players skills. This was thanks to the lead of Tony Bignold, Coaching Director and his team. The children gained a lot of knowledge but were restricted due to covid of what galas etc they could participate in.

Congratulations to all the coaches. Managers and players that were selected to represent Balmain Junior Touch at State Cup in Wagga Wagga. Special mention to players that were selected for METS and in particular Ellie Barnett and Claudia Meaker chosen in the NSW merit team. Amazing achievements!

Congratulations to the following also:

### **10 Year Officials Long Service Awards**

1. Sophie Gobran – 9 yrs player & now Asst Coach
2. Alec Fitzgerald-Muir – player, Referee & Coach JSC & VC
3. Andrew Phillips – VC & JSC Coach, grounds set-up etc
4. Frank Dunne – Long-time JSC Coach, Canteen Mgr & VP

### **7 Year Player Long Service Awards:**

- |                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| 1. Darby Crowley VC & JSC | 4. Katie Kyneur VC & JSC                    |
| 2. Kyle Leaver VC & JSC   | 5. Lily Doyle VC & JSC                      |
| 3. Ellie Barnett VC & JSC | 6. Cale Edmed JSC (3 <sup>rd</sup> Brother) |

**Sydney METS - Balmain Representative Players:**

**U12 Boys** - Zac Bechara, Marcus Cesaro, Taj Locane, James Reilly, Sunny Steyn

**U12 Girls** – Eloise Howard, Julia Meaker, Majella Murphy, Chloe Quinn, Kiara Stanley

**U14 Boys** – Amram Paita-Pepo, Oliver Quinn,

**U14 Girls** – Ellie Barnett, Rhiannon Bonner, Ava Diaz, Amelie Fehir, Bronte Locane, Claudia Meaker

**U16 Girls** – Tynise Bowrey, Makalita Zammit

**U18 Girls** – Jodie Carroll, Lily Doyle, Madeleine Griffin, Georgina Kyneur, Charlotte Riley

**BJTA Annual Awards:**

**President's Commitment Award** – Andrew Phillips

**Manager of the Year** – Tanya Ryan

**Coach of the Year** – Tony Bignold

**Referee of the Year** – Craig Carmody

**BJTA Competition - Grand Final Winners:**

**Girls:**

Unicorns (8/9), Pink Panthers (10/11), Gazelles (12/13-1), Flying Foxes (12/13-2), Hot Steppers (14/15-1), SSC Strikers (14/15-2), Strikers (U18)

**Boys/M:**

Wolf Pack (8/9-1), Dragons (8/9-2), Devils (10/11-1), Wanderers (10/11-2), Dirty Reds (12/13-1), SPC Boys (12/13-2), Hawks (14/15-1), Dominators (14/15-2) Flyers (U18-1) Gunners (U18-2)

I personally want to thank the Executive committee for the amazing job you all do to make this club what it is today especially Joe who works tirelessly behind the scenes. I look forward to the exciting season ahead amalgamating and moving into our new building.

***E. Broadbent***

**Emma Broadbent  
Secretary**







## **FINANCE & TREASURER'S REPORT 30 June 2021**

It is my pleasure to present the Treasurer's Report for BJTA for the 2020/2021 year. Tabled below is the comparative Statement of Profit and Loss for the period under review.

Following many years of continuous growth in registrations in the Monday park comp, 2020 saw a reduction in player numbers, falling from 1,700 to 1,500. Gross income was able to be maintained from the prior year due to an increase in registration fees in 2020, which was the first increase in fees in 5 years. The increase also covered the additional cost of purchasing reversible playing singlets which will alleviate costs in the future as these playing tops will be used for a number of years in the future.

Despite the challenges of Covid regulations, we were once again very lucky to have Frank Dunne and his band of volunteers running the outdoor Canteen each Monday night which resulted in gross receipts of \$14k.

Additional expenses were incurred in purchasing the reversible singlets, many of which are held in stock for use in the following seasons. Similarly, additional JSC merchandise was acquired during the year, some of which is being held in stock and will be sold in future periods.

Whilst we suffered from reduced grant funding from Club Five Dock RSL we were fortunate to receive continued support from our corporate sponsors as well as new contributions from Imagination Graphics and an increased commitment from Conti Strata for 2021/22.

***R.Stone***  
**RICHARD STONE**  
Treasurer





## **COACHING DIRECTOR REPORT 30 June 2021**

On behalf of Alan Hill and myself we are pleased to provide the 2021 Coaching Directors' report.

This season commenced with the challenge of a pandemic, lock down and stringent guidelines on training sessions. Balmain Junior Touch were represented in season 2020 by 3 Vawdon Cup teams, and in 2021 by 3 Academy/Development teams and 10 Junior State Cup teams.

### **Vawdon Cup 2020**

We had 2 Girls Youth teams and 1 Boys Youth team that represented the club admirably and all teams strengthened their skills and fitness, with this competition providing the ideal platform to springboard all players into JSC with great confidence. We thank all players and coaching staff for their commitment and commend all 3 teams on their performances. Special mention to the Boys' team who made the Grand Final and ended the competition as runners up.

**Youth Girls Team (1)** Coach: Alec Fitzgerald –Muir Assistant Coach: Savanagh  
Abood Manager: Jodi Dennehy

**Youth Girls Team (2)** Coach : Dilani Blundell Assistant Coach: Richard Stone Manager:  
Shannon Watts

**Youth Boys Team:** Coach: Wayne Calleja Assistant Coach: Alan Hill Manager:  
Emma Broadbent

### **Junior State Cup 2021**

We commenced our campaign with 12 teams for the JSC and after the decision that under 8's and development teams would not be competing, 10 teams represented Balmain Junior Touch in Wagga Wagga. Considering the new Covid implementations that all teams had to follow we were delighted with the preparations and the club's performances across all our teams. We had 9 teams secure positions on Sunday's finals day with our Under 12 Girls and Boys making the semi-finals and our mighty Under 10 Girls finishing runners up, (their only loss of the weekend in the GF).

On behalf of the club we take this opportunity to thank all coaching staff and managers for their commitment, effort and professionalism in taking on these roles and for the conduct on and off the field from all teams.

We would also like to acknowledge the following who assisted with the coaching with the Development/Academy teams: Paul Broadbent, Michael Fitzpatrick, Nick Hood, Adam Krass, Dilani Blundell, Richard Stone and Phil Howlett. Special mention to Tanya Ryan for all her managerial expertise and efforts. These development teams were afforded the invaluable opportunity of training sessions and competition at trial days, your efforts are thoroughly valued by all members of the club.

#### **Under 8 Girls:**

**Coach:** Adam Krass

**Assistant Coach:** Vern Robertson

#### **Under 10 Girls:**

**Coach:** Scott Ryall

**Assistant Coach:** Savanagh Abood

**Manager:** Roseanne Reid

#### **Under 12 Girls:**

**Coach:** Andrew Phillips

**Assistant Coach:** Sophie Gobran

**Manager:** Lindy LeRoux

**Under 14 Girls:**

**Coach:** Joanne Joe  
**Manager:** Courtney Locane

**Assistant Coach:** Alec Fitzgerald- Muir  
**Trainer –** Karlos Kelly

**Under 16 Girls:**

**Coach:** Pat Digiglio  
**Manager:** Victoria Walsh

**Assistant Coach:** Phil Howlett

**Under 18 Girls:**

**Coach:** Dilani Blundell  
**Manager:** Esther Carroll

**Assistant Coach:** Richard Stone

**Under 10 Boys:**

**Coach:** Sharlene Wong  
**Manager:** Emma Broadbent

**Assistant Coach:** Akapon Sae-Lieo

**Under 12 Boys:**

**Coach:** Dane Ryan  
**Manager:** Tanya Ryan

**Assistant Coach:** Emmanuel Buhagiar

**Under 14 Boys:**

**Coach:** Terry Joe  
**Manager:** Melissa Quinn

**Assistant Coaches:** Cameron Bilich & Flynn Leaver

**Under 16 Boys:**

**Coach:** Wayne Calleja  
**Manager:** Noble Haddad

**Assistant Coaches:** Matthew DePalo, Alex Lorenzilli

**Under 18 Boys:**

**Coaches:** Max Barnett, Samuel Zammit & Jeremy Barnett  
**Manager:** Maria Leaver

We again take this opportunity to thank all the Coaching staff on their tremendous efforts and importantly for their contributions for Balmain Junior Touch both on and off the field.

In addition we congratulate all teams and players for their representation and we are extremely eager for a successful season ahead with our entire coaching staff throughout the club.

***A.Hill***      ***A.Bignold***  
**ALAN HILL & TONY BIGNOLD**  
**Coaching Directors**





## **REFEREE DIRECTOR REPORT 30 June 2021**

### **2020 Summer Season overview -**

- Summer Season we had +55 referees officiate at Balmain Junior Touch
- Across 8 time slots – Mondays / Tuesdays over 10 rounds + finals
- Referee of the Year - Craig Carmody

### **Representative Success –**

- 11 referees represented BJTA at JSC in Wagga Feb 2021
  - Craig Carmody
  - Trevor Crowley
  - Bill Calleja
  - Angus Pratt
  - Bailey Crowley
  - Tony O'Reilly
  - Jayden Merhi
  - Corey Griffin
  - Jacob Hogan
  - James Hill
  - Steve Pratt
- State Cup 2020
  - Craig Carmody
  - Trevor Crowley
  - Steve Pratt
  - Bailey Crowley
- Vawdon Cup 2020
  - Craig Carmody
  - Corey Griffin
  - Trevor Crowley
  - Charlotte Pratt
  - Steve Pratt
- National Touch League 2020/21 (Coffs Harbour)
  - Steve Pratt 2020/21
  - Craig Carmody 2020/21
  - Bill Calleja 2021

### **Referee Upgrades –**

- Level 2
  - Jayden Merhi [JSC Wagga]
  - Max Barnett [JSC Wagga]
  - Jacob Hogan [State Cup Port Macquarie]
  - James Hill [JSC Wagga]
- Level 3
  - Corey Griffin [JSC Wagga]
  - Charlotte Pratt [JSC Wagga]
- Level 5

- Craig Carmody [NTL Coffs Harbour] 2021
- Bill Calleja [NTL Coffs Harbour] 2021
- Level 6
  - Steve Pratt [NTL Coffs Harbour] 2020

#### **Strategic Alliance –**

- Ongoing alliance with Norths Touch and Ryde Eastwood Touch
  - Share coaching, mentoring and training assets
  - Cross pollination of refereeing talent across both associations

#### **Big WINS 2020/21 –**

- Harmonisation for referee talent and availability between Balmain Juniors and Balmain Senior competitions.
- Tiered payment structure for referees
- Focus on attracting more adult referees (who do not play, manage or coach a representative touch team) to Balmain Junior Touch
- 2 level 1 courses with over 24 new referees
- Building a succession plan for the next Referees Director in 2022.

#### ***S.Pratt***

#### **Steven Pratt**

**Director of Referees BJTA & BTFA**

