



LEADING THE WAY

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

SPONSORSHIP REVENUE

↑ **24%**

growth as we renewed a number of major partners and welcomed several new brands to the game

PARTICIPATION



62,009

Registered club players
- male & female

FEMALE

29% growth with 7459 registered club players

VOLUNTEERS

24% growth

18,914 accredited coaches and volunteers who form the backbone of rugby league in Queensland

INTRUST SUPER CUP

1.4M

CUMULATIVE AUDIENCE



Two additional broadcasts on FOX Sports this year was the primary driver of an 8% increase in viewership

GRAND FINAL SELLOUT - ATTENDANCE 7784

MEMBERSHIP

17,078

MAROON MEMBERS

DIGITAL

40% growth in page impressions to

 **15.8 MILLION**

HOLDEN WOMEN'S STATE OF ORIGIN



1.4 MILLION

Australians tuned in



ATTENDANCE 10,300

(North Sydney Oval, sell out)



9.5 MILLION

Australians tuned in
across the series



ATTENDANCE 194,171

(Game I, II & III)

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CONTENTS

OUR LEADERS	5	Maroon Members	42
Message from the Chairman	5	Brand & Marketing	43
Board of Directors	7	Events	45
Managing Director Report	9	South East	46
		Central	47
		Northern	48
DEVELOPING OUR GAME	11	OUR COMMUNITY	49
Financial Snapshot	13	Community Initiatives	51
Strategy	14	Volunteers	52
Pathways & Performance	15	Wellbeing & Education	53
Government Partnerships	16	QRL History Committee	54
PLAYING OUR GAME	17	STATE PRIDE - OUR REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS	55
Holden Women's State of Origin	19	Queensland Maroons	57
Holden State of Origin Series	21	Harvey Norman Queensland Maroons	59
Intrust Super Cup	23	Queensland U20	61
Hastings Deering Colts	25	Queensland U18 (Female)	62
Auswide Bank Mal Meninga Cup	26	Queensland U18 (Male)	63
Participation	27	Queensland U16 City v Country	65
Carnivals & Championships	28	XXXX Queensland Residents	67
Match Officials	29	XXXX Queensland Rangers	68
Awards	31	Queensland Murri U16	69
Milestones	32		
Retiring Class	33		
QRL Senior Premiers	34		
Vale	35		
DELIVERING OUR GAME	37	GOVERNANCE & FINANCIALS	72
Partners	39		
Digital	40		
Media & Communications	41		

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

I am delighted to share this report following a successful 2019 season.

Our relationship with the Australian Rugby League Commission has progressed extremely well, with their financial support enhancing the QRL's ability to provide wider and better services to our stakeholders.

We would like to acknowledge the leadership of Peter Beattie during his time as Chairman of the ARLC; and wish his successor, Peter V'Landys, a successful and progressive tenure.

Our gratitude extends to NRL Chief Executive Officer, Todd Greenberg, and his management team for their support and encouragement throughout the year.

MAROONS MAKE US PROUD

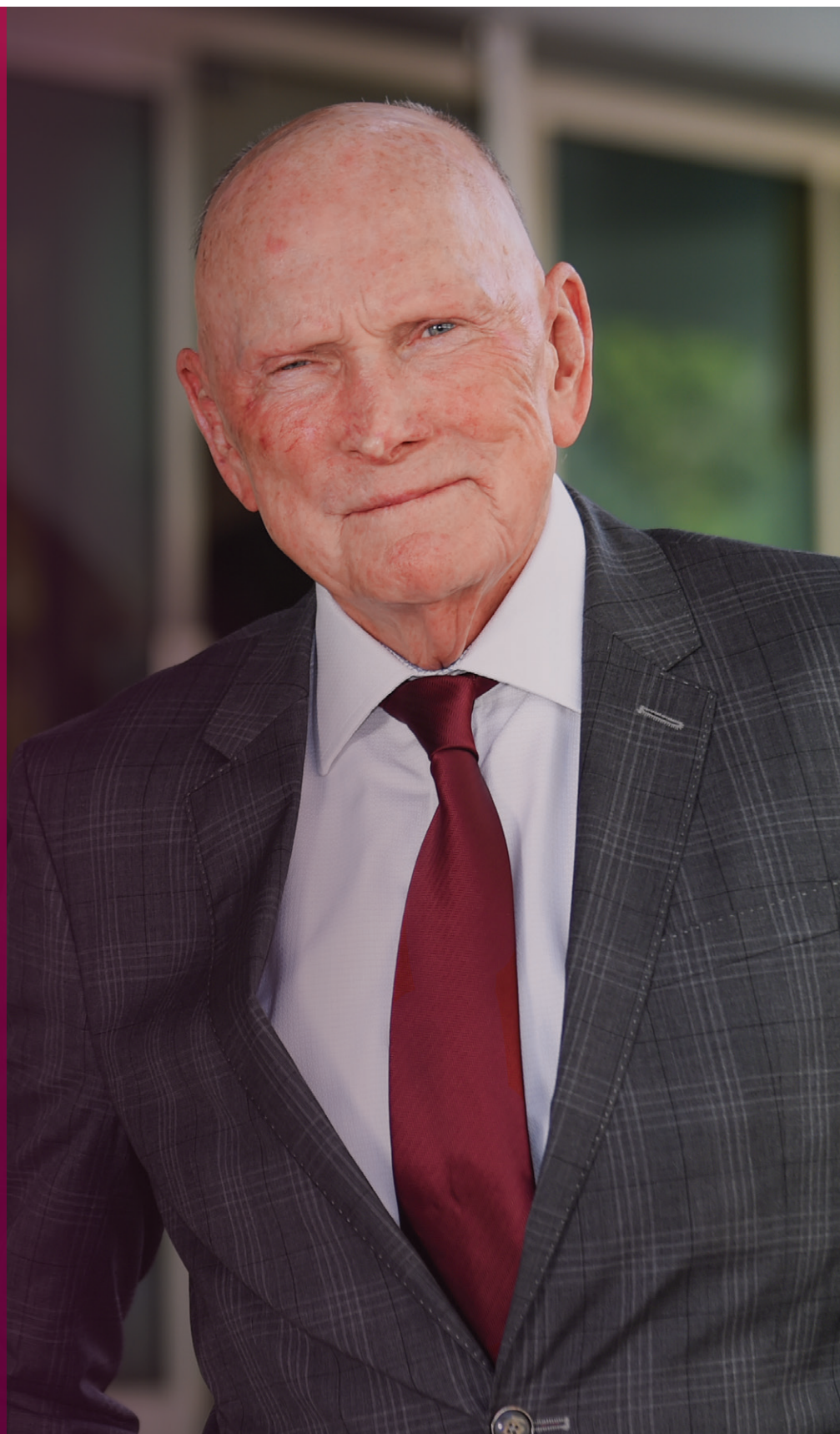
Our much-loved Queensland team enjoyed a magnificent start to the 2019 Holden State of Origin series with a courageous Game I victory before New South Wales responded in Perth.

Utilising the home ground advantage in the decider, the Blues scored a late try against the run of play to snatch the series, but our gallant Maroons lost no admirers in defeat.

We thank all of the players for their contribution this year and we look forward to the 2020 series under the guidance of Kevin Walters and his staff.

Like our men's team, the Harvey Norman Queensland Maroons put everything into their Origin match against NSW.

It was a privilege to watch the tenacity of our leading female athletes who will enjoy the opportunity to showcase their skills in front of our home fans in 2020.



PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST

This year we acknowledged the outstanding contributions of Eddie Ward and John Topp, who have led the referees' program with distinction for many years.

Both men leave a wonderful legacy and their skills and devotion to their craft will be missed.

The rugby league community also came together to celebrate the contribution of retiring administrator Michael Pease, who devoted more than 30 years of service to the game.

Recent additions to our Leadership Team, Chief Operating Officer Rohan Sawyer and Senior Pathways and Performance Manager Brett Jones, are making a positive difference to how we deliver our services to the game's participants.

On behalf of the QRL Board, I would like to thank Managing Director Robert Moore, his management team and all of the staff who provide the necessary leadership to make the QRL such an effective organisation.

I would also like to acknowledge the professional efforts, legal guidance and general wisdom of Independent Director Bruce Prescott, who retires from the Board this year.

REGIONS DRIVE GROWTH

Our three QRL Regions have worked collaboratively to foster community competitions and programs in 2019.

These leagues provide the pathway through to the QRL Statewide Competitions, National Rugby League and higher representative honours.

We are committed to the growth of community leagues, along with our performance and pathway programs, as we strive to work smarter and more efficiently for the benefit of the thousands of men, women, boys and girls who love the game.

Ultimately, it is our vision for all participants to develop their football and leadership skills; and to appreciate the lessons of teamwork which will make them better citizens of the future.

PARTNERS ADD PUNCH

The professionalism in our game and the enhanced services we provide are made possible by the quality of the support we receive each year from our partners.

In particular, we would like to thank and acknowledge our Major Partners:

- Lion (XXXX)
- Auswide Bank
- ISC Sport
- Intrust Super

We would also like to thank our suppliers and service providers for their reliability and support during the year.

A GLANCE TO THE FUTURE

Rugby league is in a healthy state, but we are conscious of the significant challenges that lie ahead, including player welfare, participation and the perception of rugby league.

With this in mind, we have constructed a plan with both game and community-related strategies to take us forward.

The effective delivery of three forms of the game - touch, tag and contact rugby league - is critical to these plans, which are further supported by the strong alignment between management and Board.

Our fabulous Maroons, both male and female, have provided a magnificent legacy for our fans across Queensland.

As an organisation, we will continue to strive to deliver a legacy of success.

Often, there is very little between winning and losing, a success or a failure - but we must remember that despite our best efforts, sometimes we can fall short.

Nobody likes to lose, but sportsmanship, competitiveness, character, and resilience will always be important in who we are.

We look forward to a successful 2020 on and off the field through the work and passion of our staff, management, directors and volunteers.

» The rugby league community also came together to celebrate the contribution of retiring administrator Michael Pease, who devoted more than 30 years of service to the game.

Bruce Hatcher | QRL Chairman

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



BACK (LEFT TO RIGHT): Leigh Anderson, Darryl Van de Velde, Renita Garard, Danny McGuire, Bruce Hatcher, Brad Tallon, Ben Ikin
FRONT: Bruce Prescott, Robert Moore

MANAGING DIRECTOR REPORT

The 2019 season delivered strong results on and off the field for our game in Queensland.

I am honoured to share many of our achievements in this report, and throughout these pages, as we reflect on a memorable 12 months.

Our front cover featuring Belinda Sharpe sums up everything that is good about the game and the exciting progress we are making.

It is well documented that Belinda became the first female to referee a top grade National Rugby League match, an achievement that led to her being named as the Queensland Sport Officiator of the Year at the QSport Awards.

Belinda's journey to the NRL provides a glowing example of the pathways available for our referees, coaches and players.

From refereeing her first junior match in Rockhampton, to senior footy in Ipswich and the Intrust Super Cup via the referees' high performance program, Belinda has excelled on and off the field.

INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE

Our investment in QRL Regions increased significantly in 2019 through grassroots-funded programs. We were also proud to increase our investment into our people and existing programs.

By making decisive changes with our structure, systems and processes, we feel we have raised our efficiency and ultimately our service to the rugby league community.

These vast improvements have been recognised at a national level, with the QRL proud to be named as a finalist at the Australian Human Resources Institute (AHRI) Awards in 2019.

STRATEGIC APPROACH SHAPES SUCCESS

The QRL will approach 2020 and beyond with confidence after identifying four strategic priorities – people, the female game, financial sustainability and participation.

To further complement these overarching priorities, the QRL has engaged with its stakeholders to develop four separate game and community related strategies – Pathways & Performance, Female, Diversity & Inclusion and Reconciliation.

Internal working groups, game-wide participants and other stakeholders have come together to shape these strategies.

The feedback so far has been extremely positive; and we collectively look forward to reaching our targets and goals for the benefit of all who enjoy the game.

OFF FIELD GROWTH STRENGTHENS GAME

The QRL commercial team has set a strong platform for the future by raising the bar in 2019. Sponsorship revenue grew 24 per cent after we renewed a number of major partners and welcomed several new brands.

We further explored ways to generate non-traditional revenue as well, launching our own e-commerce business (Maroons Shop) to help sustain the organisation into the future.

Users of our QRL Digital platforms grew by eight per cent; and significant advancements were made with our Maroon Membership program.

Importantly, we maintained healthy ties with the Queensland Government, which continued its support of Country Week and other community programs and initiatives.

HIGH STANDARD THRILLS FANS

On the field, our male and female athletes entertained and inspired fans. Six players made their debuts in the men's Holden State of Origin series, while three players donned maroon for the first time in the women's match.

While the desired result eluded both teams, their respective performances have set the platform for future success.

The QRL remains committed to strengthening its performance and pathways, in particular our men's and women's high performance programs, as well as statewide competitions.

This year, we announced the teams to be involved in the inaugural 2020 open-aged women's competition, following funding approval from the Australian Rugby League Commission.

This competition will further strengthen female pathways for aspirational players, providing players and coaches with exposure to a strong statewide format.

Our vision is for it to mirror the Intrust Super Cup, our premier statewide male competition which this year went from strength to strength on and off the field.

We worked hard to raise the professionalism of the league with new wellbeing protocols as well as salary cap and contract compliance improvements.

The on field action was breathtaking, with the new top eight format producing some brilliant and unpredictable rugby league.

One of my highlights was the annual Country Week Round, which not only lifted the spirits of regional and remote communities, but generated more than \$70,000 in profit for local clubs.



VOLUNTEERS LEAD THE WAY

On behalf of the QRL, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed to another memorable year of rugby league in Queensland.

A special mention must go to our volunteers, who each week ensured junior and senior games were run smoothly right across the state.

We are fortunate to have a hard-working and talented team at the QRL, supported by a progressive Senior Leadership Team and QRL Board of Directors.

As custodians of the game, it is immensely rewarding to see our organisation moving forward, by living our beliefs of being positive, united, inclusive and disciplined.

» Belinda's journey to the NRL provides a glowing example of the pathways available for our referees, coaches and players.

Robert Moore | Managing Director



**DEVELOPING
OUR GAME**

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

The QRL, with support from the Australian Rugby League Commission, made a significant new investment into community rugby league in 2019.

This investment paved the way for new programs to be delivered within two important sectors of our game – regional and remote areas, and women's and girls' programs.

With more than \$458,000 committed to regional and remote areas, rugby league in Cape York and Torres Strait received a substantial boost with new resourcing allocated to both areas.

More children were able to engage with rugby league throughout these areas, with the introduction of the Cape and Torres junior development camps.

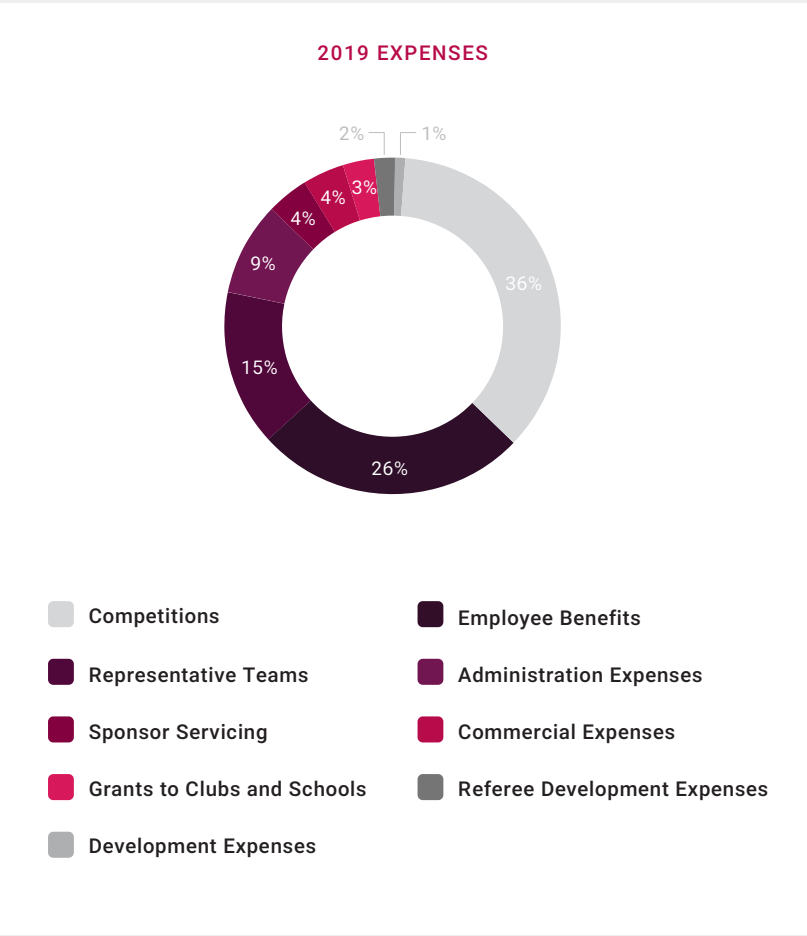
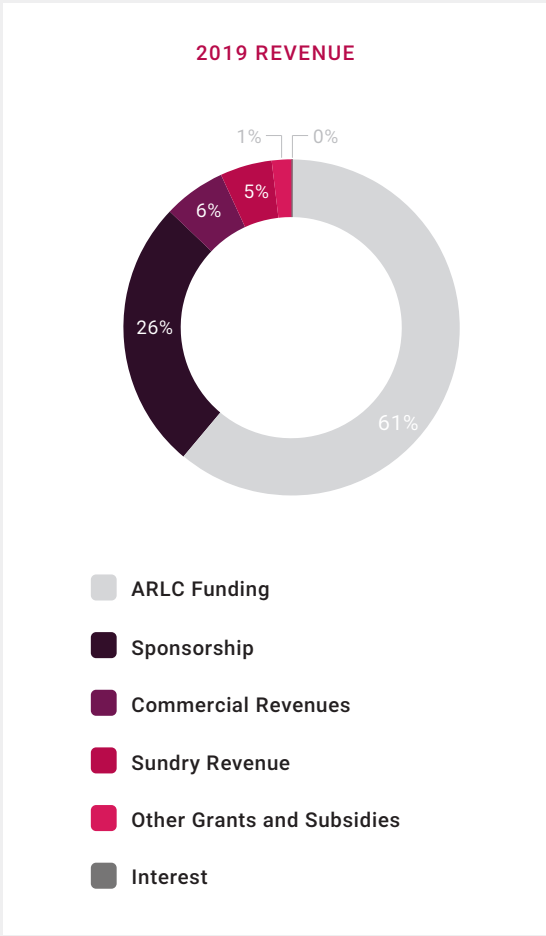
In addition, the QRL funded a cost equalisation program to address the cost for participants from regional and remote areas to attend the State Junior Carnival.

The game's fastest growing participation sector – female rugby league – benefited from an increased injection of funding into women's and girls' programs.

This funding bolstered local support for women's competitions and elevated female Country, Outback, Emerging and High-Performance programs to new heights.

In addition to the commitment made to regional and remote areas, and to women's and girls' programs, the QRL was pleased to continue its investment into elite pathways via the QRL Statewide Competitions.

» As we approach the start of the new season, we believe the game is well placed to prosper following an increase in investment of \$1,767,320 into community rugby league and statewide pathways.



STRATEGY

This year, the QRL raised its commitment to the game by building a 'Key Strategic Focus' document to lead us into 2020 and beyond.

Four QRL priorities were determined following an extensive process led by the Senior Leadership Team, which canvassed the thoughts and ideas of the broader leadership group.

The Senior Leadership Team shared these priorities with QRL Head Office and Regional staff at the 'Excellence Through Change' Conference in December:

These were:

- People
- Female game
- Financial sustainability
- Participation

A crucial component of 'People' focused on QRL staff – and the significant steps taken to modernise the work environment and 'the way we do things'.

We set about making these improvements to ultimately improve QRL efficiency and our service to the rugby league community.

To further complement these overarching priorities, the QRL has engaged with its stakeholders to develop four separate game and community related strategies – Pathways & Performance, Female, Diversity & Inclusion and Reconciliation.

PATHWAYS & PERFORMANCE STRATEGY

To increase the number of Queensland eligible players, coaches and referees within national competitions, we are putting steps in place to establish an integrated and collaborative statewide performance system that lifts the capabilities of participants.

FEMALE STRATEGY

This work formally documents the QRL's commitment to equality for females in rugby league with the overarching goal to increase participation by 10 per cent by 2022.

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

Providing a safe, welcoming environment for everyone who chooses to be part of the rugby league community is at the heart of this strategy, which reinforces the principles of equality, fairness, social justice and community values.

RECONCILIATION

The Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) is fundamentally about making a difference across the country in workplaces and community organisations. The RAP framework encourages relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, communities, organisations and the broader Australian community.



PATHWAYS & PERFORMANCE

110 THE NUMBER OF FEMALE ATHLETES EXPOSED TO EDUCATION, DEVELOPMENT, CORE SKILLS AND GAME-INTENSITY SCENARIOS IN REPRESENTATIVE PROGRAMS.

QRL invested heavily in its pathway and performance programs in 2019 in a concerted approach to increase the number of Queensland eligible players, coaches and referees within national male and female competitions.

This is an ongoing investment, ultimately driven by key strategic pillars – evidence-based decision making, growth of our people, quality program management and best practice elite programs.

There were many success stories to emerge from this year's programs, including that of rising 18-year-old talent Xavier Coates.

In the space of a few months, Coates moved from the Auswide Bank Mal Meninga Cup into the senior ranks of the Intrust Super Cup, before making his NRL debut for the Brisbane Broncos.

Along the way, he played for Tweed Seagulls in the National Under 18 finals, as well as the Queensland Under 18 team.

He was named player of the match for

the Queensland team; and in September was announced as the XXXX Queensland Representative Player of the Year.

Coates was one of 27 Under 18 players who took part in a pre-season camp supported by the Queensland Academy of Sport.

These camps provide emerging athletes with exposure to high-level coaching and development opportunities.

Importantly, the QRL has expanded its female programs for both youth and senior participants as well, with 110 athletes taking part in representative camps this year.

XAVIER COATES IN FOCUS 2019

- XXXX Queensland Representative Player of the Year
- Starred for Tweed Seagulls in their Auswide Bank Mal Meninga Cup grand final win
- Scored two tries in Tweed's National Final victory against Illawarra Steelers

- Received player of the match honours for Queensland Under 18 team v New South Wales
- Crossed for two tries on debut in the Intrust Super Cup
- Impressed in his first National Rugby League appearance for the Brisbane Broncos

QUEENSLAND MAROONS DEBUTANTS

- Moses Mbye – FOG 198
- Joe Ofahengaue – FOG 199
- David Fifita – FOG 200
- Corey Norman – FOG 201
- Christian Welch – FOG 202
- Ethan Lowe – FOG 203

HARVEY NORMAN QUEENSLAND MAROONS DEBUTANTS

- Steph Mooka – QRP 130
- Amber Pilley – QRP 131
- Jessika Elliston – QRP 132



Queensland Government

GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIPS

With the support of the Queensland Government, the QRL delivered many programs and initiatives in 2019.

From raising the profile of the Queensland Women's team to the delivery of new facilities throughout the state, this partnership enabled the game to prosper at community, statewide and elite levels.

One of the highlights occurred at Suncorp Stadium, the home of rugby league in Queensland, when Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk and Minister Kate Jones officially announced the new name of the state's premier female representative team.

In endorsing the QRL's move to formally identify the team as the Harvey Norman Queensland Maroons, the Premier spoke about the importance of equality in women's sport and the significance of the "milestone moment" for the game.

The impact of the QRL's partnership with the Queensland Government was felt many hundreds of kilometres away from Suncorp Stadium as well, with numerous regional and remote

communities benefiting from initiatives like 'Get in the Game' Country Week.

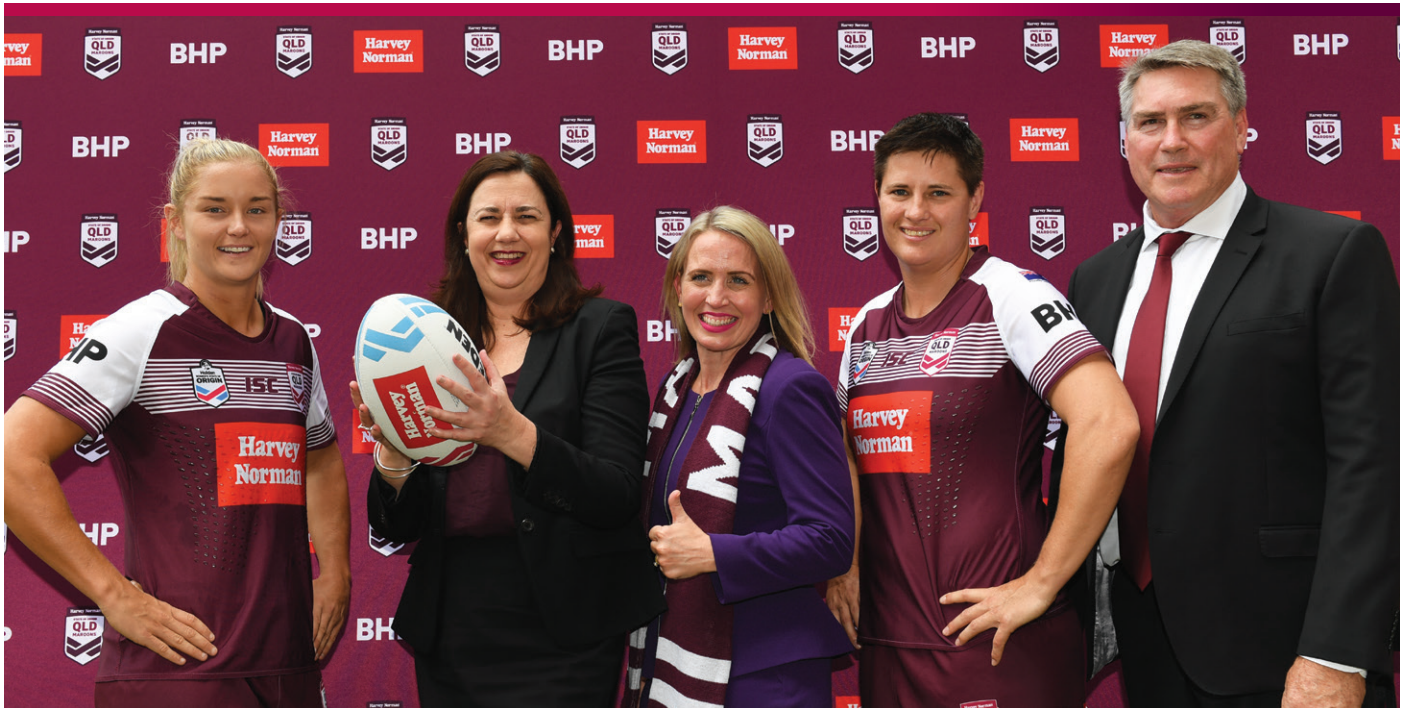
In Far North Queensland, the coastal town of Cooktown celebrated the opening of the new John Street Oval change rooms, a development that came about after the staging of a Country Week fixture at the ground in 2018.

Minister for Sport Mick de Brenni was on hand to officially open the new facility, yet another example of the Government's ongoing commitment to improve infrastructure.

The Queensland Government supported numerous other major rugby league events, including Country Week and the Maroons Fan Day in Charleville where Minister Steven Miles met with local business and community leaders.

During the year, the QRL worked closely with the Local Government Association of Queensland, as well as Queensland Sport and Recreation, to facilitate many positive outcomes for local clubs and leagues.

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PLAYING OUR GAME



HOLDEN WOMEN'S STATE OF ORIGIN



1.4 MILLION
Australians tuned in



10,300 ATTENDANCE
(North Sydney Oval, sell out)

At the ground itself, more than 10,000 fans packed into North Sydney Oval to watch Queensland and New South Wales vie for interstate supremacy.

The numbers confirm what we already know – women's rugby league is booming.

The sight of hundreds of girls wearing footy jerseys and swarming over their heroes post-match was further proof of its surging popularity.

With the 2020 clash to be played on the Sunshine Coast, young Queensland girls will finally get the opportunity to watch their idols in Maroon from close range.

It promises to be one of the most entertaining nights on the 2020 rugby league calendar, with Queensland desperate to turn the tables on NSW following their second-straight Origin triumph.

New South Wales won this year's match 14-4, despite conceding the first try of the game against a fired-up Maroons.

Queensland led 4-0 at half-time after second-rower Tazmin Gray scored the only try of a fast and furious first term in the 25th minute. Both teams completed the majority of their sets but a 5-1 penalty count and some poor last-tackle options by NSW enabled the Maroons to dominate field position;

and coach Jason Hetherington would have been disappointed not to have had a bigger lead.

A 40:30 kick by halfback Jenni-Sue Hoepper gave Queensland the ascendancy in the 11th minute and only a desperate tackle by Hannah Southwell prevented veteran prop Heather Ballinger from scoring.

Maroons five-eighth and captain Ali Briginshaw forced a repeat set with a perfectly weighted grubber into the NSW in-goal to pile more pressure on the home team.

However, Queensland were unable to capitalise after a pass from Briginshaw to prop Tallisha Harden was ruled forward as she crashed over the line.

Brittany Breayley threw a scare into the Maroons camp when she suffered a leg injury, but the 2018 Dally M medallist recovered quickly to earn a play-the-ball penalty as she raced out of dummy half to put Queensland in a good attacking position.

Eventually the weight of possession took its toll on the NSW defence, and Gray scored five minutes before half-time when she dummied and stepped inside centre Isabelle Kelly to cross for the first try of the game.

However, it was a different story in the second

half as the Blues took control and piled on three unanswered tries.

NSW winger Jessica Sergis levelled the score at 4-4 in the 39th minute after a long pass from Kirra Dibb created space for her out wide; and a 40:30 kick by the NSW five-eighth put her side within striking distance again.

Shakiah Tungai scored in the 44th minute after halfback Maddie Studdon feigned to kick and linked with Kelly who put the winger over in the corner.

The NSW halfback then ensured the win when she dummied and stepped her way over the try line six minutes later.

» It promises to be one of the most entertaining nights on the 2020 rugby league calendar, with Queensland desperate to turn the tables on the confident Blues following their second-straight Origin triumph.





HOLDEN STATE OF ORIGIN SERIES



**9.5
MILLION**

Australians tuned in



**194,171
ATTENDANCE**

(GAME I, II & III)

More than 9.5 million viewers watched the three-match Holden State of Origin series on television, with fans from both sides of the border treated to an epic climax.

With the series locked at 1-1 and with a gallant Queensland looming large, it took a piece of final-minute brilliance from the Blues to deny the Maroons in front of 82,000 fans at ANZ Stadium.

James Tedesco scrambled over for the match-winner, not only breaking the 20-20 scoreline, but the hearts of all Queenslanders.

The 2-1 series victory was the second-straight series triumph for the Blues and the first time they had gone back-to-back since 2005.

Queensland players and coach Kevin Walters could certainly be proud of their efforts, particularly after slipping behind by 12 points midway through the second-half of the decider.

In true Queensland fashion, the Maroons rallied late as tries to Josh McGuire and Josh Papalii set up a grandstand finish.

Maroons debutant Ethan Lowe typified the fighting Queensland spirit with a sensational 80 minute performance in the middle.

Lowe even took on the goal-kicking responsibilities in his first match, successfully converting the two late tries to level proceedings.

While the Maroons were left to rue a near miss, there was a lot to like about the team's 2019 campaign.

Walters once again blooded a host of young talent following the retirement of some of the game's biggest stars, including inspirational captain Greg Inglis.

Despite having to navigate a tricky transitional period, Queensland drew first blood in Game I with an 18-14 victory at Suncorp Stadium.

The victory set the series up nicely for the Maroons, however the Blues responded in Game II with a convincing 38-6 win at Perth's Optus Stadium.

Close to 60,000 fans attended the historic encounter, with the Maroons drawing massive support in the west.

The Maroons conducted a number of community events while in Perth, including a Fan Day and visits to local hospitals, shopping centres and schools.

» Queensland players and coach Kevin Walters could certainly be proud of their efforts, particularly after slipping behind by 12 points midway through the second-half of the decider.



INTRUST SUPER CUP



The Intrust Super Cup entered a new era following a number of significant developments.

Key advancements were made both on and off the field, with club delegates and the governing body working together to raise the professional standards of the competition.

Major off-field changes this year included the improvements made to player wellbeing via the new Concussion Management protocols, as well as the introduction of a Salary Cap and contract compliance model.

CONCUSSION MANAGEMENT PROTOCOLS

To support this developing area in the game, the QRL introduced a new education component for all doctors in the statewide competitions, encompassing the Intrust Super Cup, Hastings Deering Colts and Auswide Bank Mal Meninga Cup.

There was also the addition of two new concussion database management systems.

They were implemented into the competitions and education was provided to all club doctors earlier this year, with the sessions introducing the two key programs; CSX Systems (an app-based head injury assessment tool) and Cognigram (a medical cognitive testing program for doctors).

SALARY CAP & CONTRACT COMPLIANCE

The 2019 season was the first season in which the Intrust Super Cup clubs had to comply with the Salary Cap process and guidelines to allow management of the QRL Open Age (Intrust Super Cup) and Under 20s (Hastings Deering Colts) competitions.

On the field, the action was once again electric with the Burleigh Bears winning the Intrust Super Cup premiership following a comprehensive victory over the Wynnum Manly Seagulls.

The grand final was played at the refurbished Dolphin Stadium, with the switch from Suncorp Stadium to the Redcliffe venue proving to be an instant hit with rugby league supporters.

The event was an official sell out, with 7784 fans utilising all vantage points around the ground.

This generated a superb atmosphere, further enhancing the quality of the live broadcast on Channel Nine.

A cumulative audience of 1.4 million watched the Intrust Super Cup this year, with two additional broadcasts on FOX Sports the primary driver of an eight per cent increase in viewership.

The regular season produced many memorable moments, as the Sunshine Coast Falcons powered their way to the minor premiership with 21 wins and one draw.

Incredibly, the Falcons dropped just one game in the regular season to emerge as the premiership front runner.

However, the Falcons fell one game short after running into a red-hot Bears, who backed that performance up with another clinical display to beat the Seagulls 28-10 in the decider.

Burleigh's win booked a passage through to the national final in Sydney on NRL grand final day, where they suffered a heart-breaking loss to the Newtown Jets in the final minute of the game.

Everyone involved in the Bears' campaign could still hold their heads high after a spirited 80 minute performance.

Burleigh finished the tightly-contested Intrust Super Cup in third position, giving them two chances under the new top eight team play-off format.

In the end, they didn't need a second chance, with wins over Wynnum Manly and the Falcons enough to put them through to the decider on the final Sunday in September.



The Intrust Super Cup clubs and the QRL maintained strong community ties in 2019, staging numerous themed rounds.

These included:

- XXXX Rivalry Round
- Red Socks Round
- ANZAC Round
- Men of League Round
- Indigenous Round
- 'Get in the Game' Country Week presented by BHP
- Harvey Norman Women in League Round
- Turn to Me Round

HASTINGS DEERING COLTS



Queensland's best Under 20 talent featured in this year's Hastings Deering Colts competition.

Following on from the success of the inaugural statewide format in 2018, this year's competition once again produced a high standard of play.

The quality and consistency of the teams was reflected by the standings at the end of the regular season, with Townsville Blackhawks, Burleigh Bears and Wynnum Manly Seagulls all finishing on 39 points.

In a stunning finish to the year, the premiership winner came from outside the top three after the Sunshine Coast Falcons played their way into the grand final on the back of wins against the Blackhawks and Bears.

The Falcons would go on to play the Seagulls in the decider at Dolphin Stadium, where the

Sunshine Coast team rallied late to clinch the premiership with a thrilling 34-28 win.

Spurred on by the Wynnum Manly faithful, the Seagulls gave the red and green fan club plenty to cheer about in the first half after opening up an 18-12 lead at the break.

However, the Falcons weren't about to surrender, with a double from Steven Borg and 64th minute try to Tyson Smoothy delivering a maiden Hastings Deering Colts trophy to the Sunshine Coast.

GRAND FINAL

SUNSHINE COAST FALCONS 34 (Steven Borg 2, Blake Wilson, Trent Loiero, Luke Murtagh, Tyson Smoothy tries; Tyson Smoothy 5 goals) def **WYNNUM MANLY SEAGULLS 28** (David Quinlin, Lachlan Perry, Dredin Sorensen-McGee, Nofoaas Malutoa tries; Shannon Gardiner 6 goals) at Dolphin Stadium.



AUSWIDE BANK MAL MENINGA CUP



Last year it was the extraordinary talents of David Fifita who grabbed the limelight in the grand final of the Under 18 statewide competition.

Fast forward 12 months, and it was rising stars Reece Walsh, Toby Sexton, Xavier Coates and Brendan Piakura who were the talk of the Auswide Bank Mal Meninga Cup.

The talented Queensland quartet played pivotal roles in Tweed's 28-24 grand final win over Wynnum Manly.

It came a week after Tweed had upset top-placed Souths Logan 24-16 in the 1 v 4 play-off.

Wynnum Manly booked their spot in the grand final with a strong 30-12 win against the Sunshine Coast Falcons.

Tweed carried their excellent finals form in the Queensland competition into the national decider against the Illawarra Steelers, downing their New South Wales opponents 48-14 at Dolphin Stadium.

It was an impressive performance by the Tweed, one of 14 teams who competed in this year's Auswide Bank Mal Meninga Cup.

GRAND FINAL

TWEED SEAGULLS 28 (Reece Walsh, Ediq Ambrosyev, Kade Hill, Xavier Coates, Solomon Torrens tries; Toby Sexton 4 goals) def **WYNNUM MANLY SEAGULLS 24** (Zaen Edmonds, Max Plath, Reece Hoffman, Braden Whittaker, Ethan Malt tries; Reece Hoffman 2 goals) at BMD Kougari Oval.



PARTICIPATION



More than 62,000 male and female players were registered across Queensland club competitions this year.

Overall, this combined figure demonstrated the game's ability to hold its own in a highly competitive sporting and social environment.

However, it also reinforced the importance of initiatives like the Player Development Framework, an ongoing project that will ultimately help shape how the game is delivered.

Four leagues – Brisbane, Gold Coast, Ipswich and Toowoomba – adopted various components of the framework this year as part of the testing phase.

All participant families were provided with the opportunity to comment on their experiences.

RESULTS INCLUDED:

- 73% reported Tag Rugby League had improved their child's confidence in rugby league
- 86% reported TackleSafe had improved their child's competence
- 77% reported their child's enjoyment of Development Competitions (non-premiership) met expectations
- 92% reported the 18th month Registration Policy had influenced their decision to remain in rugby league

REGISTERED CLUB PLAYERS:



JUNIORS

47,214

+ 0.08% growth

MALE & FEMALE

62,009

+ 0.07% growth

FEMALE

7459

+ 29% growth

IN FOCUS

Gold Coast Junior Rugby League:

5% growth

Numbers increased from 4846 in 2018 to 5087 this year.

CARNIVALS & CHAMPIONSHIPS

Throughout 2019, the QRL provided representative opportunities for a diverse range of male and female participants.

Led by our Football department and Regions, we facilitated a host of carnivals and championship events across all parts of the state.

All offered something a little bit different, from the Outback Junior Muster in Longreach, to the QRL State Carnival on the Gold Coast.

The Outback Junior Muster featured the best talent from bush rugby league, all vying for spots in Queensland Outback junior teams.

The best senior players from rural Queensland were in the thick of the action as well, when Mount Isa hosted the Outback Senior Muster in June.

From this event, a senior Queensland Outback team was chosen to play North Queensland United on Thursday Island in the Torres Strait.

The match was played as a curtain-raiser to the Country Week clash between the Northern Pride and Ipswich Jets, with the Outback team claiming an end-to-end contest 28-18 over United.

In the South East, the Gold Coast played host to the QRL State Carnival as well as the Harvey Norman Women's National Championships.

Regional bragging rights were on the line at the State Carnival, as the leading talent from the South East, Central and Northern went head to head.

The SEQ Poinsettias took out the A Grade Men's competition, while SEQ finished on top of the women's standings from Central and Northern.

On the Sunshine Coast, the state's best Under 14 and Under 16 talent produced an exceptionally high standard of play over four days.

Indigenous rugby league pathways went from strength to strength in 2019 with carnivals for junior and senior players.

With the backing of the Arthur Beetson Foundation, the senior Queensland Murri Carnival was held at Brendale in October.

In the men's division, the Purga Wagtails claimed the honours, while Brisbane Natives were the winners of the Open Women's division.

The Murri Carnival was supported by key health and education messages, with all players having to complete a health check.



MATCH OFFICIALS

1735 THE NUMBER OF ACTIVE REFEREES REGISTERED IN QUEENSLAND (3.4% INCREASE).

Queensland Rugby League referees' manager and prominent rugby league figure Eddie Ward announced his retirement this year, following close to 50 years of outstanding service to the game.

Ward, a former first grade referee who excelled on the big stage in grand finals as well as the State of Origin and international arena, devoted the past 16 years to the development of the state's emerging talent in the QRL Referees' Academy and High Performance Unit.

Ward played a significant role in revolutionising the way rugby league is officiated across the state, bringing a new era of professionalism across the game, with outstanding support from John Topp.

This ultimately led to the establishment of stronger pathways, a catalyst in many Queensland referees obtaining the skill and confidence to transition into the National Rugby League.

The High Performance Unit performed efficiently under Ward and his team this year, with preparation a key focus.

They trained two nights each week from mid-November to the end of February, and then once a week from March until the season's end with assistance from strength and conditioning coaches.

Utilising the latest in technology, interactive post-game reviews were conducted at RLCQ, while match officials had regular access to physiotherapists and dietitians.

MILESTONES

INTRUST SUPER CUP & NATIONAL RUGBY LEAGUE

- Liam Kennedy and Belinda Sharpe accepted fulltime NRL contracts
- Sharpe debuted as an assist referee in round 18 of the NRL to become the first female to achieve this honour
- Tim Rutherford refereed his 150th Intrust Super Cup game
- Tyson Brough, Jarrod Cole and Nick Pelgrave reached 100 games
- Daniel Schwass and Toby Campbell refereed their first Intrust Super Cup games

INTRUST SUPER CUP GRAND FINAL

Wynnum Manly Seagulls v Burleigh Bears

Referee – Liam Kennedy
Assist referee – Tyson Brough
Touch judges – Jarrod Cole and Jacob Whitehouse

EDDIE WARD'S REFEREEING CAREER

- Member of the Brisbane Rugby League Referees' Association for 49 years (1971-2019)
- Member of New South Wales Rugby League Referees' Association for two years (1988-1989)
- Awarded Life Membership of the Brisbane Rugby League Referees' Association in 1989
- Awarded Life Membership of the Australian Rugby League Referees' Association in 2011
- 650 First Grade Games (402 BRL, 248 NSWRL/ARL/NRL)
- Eight BRL (First Grade) grand finals
- ARL (First Grade) grand final referee
- Five State of Origin matches
- Six Interstate matches (prior to State of Origin)
- Two NSW City v Country matches
- 10 Test matches (including World Cup games) NRL Video Referee (three seasons)
- Youngest referee to control a Test match (Australia v New Zealand at 27 years of age)



Pictured: Eddie Ward and Belinda Sharpe

STATISTICS

INTRUST SUPER CUP, HASTINGS DEERING COLTS & AUSWIDE BANK MAL MENINGA CUP:

17 referees (two debutants) appointed to 170 **Intrust Super Cup** games

23 referees (eight debutants) appointed to 149 **Hastings Deering Colts** games

15 referees (10 debutants) appointed to 45 **Auswide Bank Mal Meninga Cup** games

AWARDS

Jamal Fogarty claimed the Petero Civoniceva Medal after a late season form surge propelled the Burleigh Bears halfback into esteemed company as the Intrust Super Cup's best and fairest player.

Fogarty polled 17 points in the final 10 rounds of the competition to win the prestigious award from dynamic Sunshine Coast Falcons pair Todd Murphy and Harry Grant.

Former international and Redcliffe Dolphins product Petero Civoniceva was on hand to present the classy Bears playmaker with the 2019 medal at the QRL Awards Dinner in September.

More than 400 guests gathered at Brisbane City Hall to celebrate the achievements of players, clubs, administrators and volunteers.

A former Beaudesert Kingfishers junior and XXXX Queensland Residents representative, Fogarty was the toast of the evening following his stunning personal accolade.

Fogarty polled maximum votes in five of Burleigh's final 10 regular season games to finish on 28 points, two clear of Murphy with Grant a further point back.

Fogarty was able to torment his nearest rivals as the Bears marched into the Intrust Super Cup grand final on the back of their big preliminary final win over the Falcons.

However, there was some consolation for the Falcons, with Murphy and Grant named in the Intrust Super Cup Team of the Year alongside teammates Jonathon Reuben and Chris Lewis.

On the back of the club's outstanding form throughout the regular season, first-year Falcons mentor Eric Smith was named Coach of the Year.

Emerging North Queensland talent Tom Gilbert was the Intrust Super Cup's Rookie of the Year, while the Hastings Deering Colts Player of the Year was Northern Pride star Tom McGrath.

Joshua James (Norths Devils) and Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow (Townsville Blackhawks) shared the Auswide Bank Mal Meninga Cup Player of the Year; and emerging star Xavier Coates

was named the XXXX Queensland Men's Representative Player of the Year.

Annette Brander edged out a red-hot field to claim the Harvey Norman Representative Player of the Year; while another of the game's female leaders - Sharon Hickey from the Pine Central Holy Spirit club in Brisbane – was formally announced as the recipient of the Women in League Award.

2019 QRL AWARDS DINNER PRESENTED BY STAGE & SCREEN

Queensland Rugby League Grassroots Club of the Year: Atherton Rugby League Football Club

Queensland Rugby League Volunteer of the Year: Bevan Owens (Normanton Stingers)

Queensland Rugby League Women in League Achievement Award: Sharon Hickey (Pine Central Holy Spirit)

Pedro Gallagher Intrust Super Cup Rookie of the Year – presented by the Carbine Club: Tom Gilbert (Townsville Blackhawks)

Auswide Bank Mal Meninga Cup Player of the Year: Joshua James (Norths Devils), Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow (Townsville Blackhawks)

Hastings Deering Colts Player of the Year: Tom McGrath (Northern Pride)

Harvey Norman Queensland Women's Representative Player of the Year: Annette Brander (Harvey Norman Queensland Maroons)

XXXX Queensland Men's Representative Player of the Year: Xavier Coates

Intrust Super Cup Leading Points Scorer: Todd Murphy (Sunshine Coast Falcons - 270 points)

Intrust Super Cup Leading Try Scorer: Jon Reuben (Sunshine Coast Falcons), Matt Soper-Lawler (Souths Logan Magpies), both 23 tries.

Intrust Super Cup Team of the Year presented by Stage & Screen:

Fullback: Edene Gebbie (Wynnum Manly Seagulls)

Wing: Jonathon Reuben (Sunshine Coast Falcons)

Centre: Izaia Perese (Redcliffe Dolphins)

Five-Eighth: Pat Templeman (Wynnum Manly Seagulls)

Halfback: Todd Murphy (Sunshine Coast Falcons)

Prop: Jordan Grant (Redcliffe Dolphins)

Hooker: Harry Grant (Sunshine Coast Falcons)

Second Row: Chris Lewis (Sunshine Coast Falcons)

Lock: Tom Gilbert (Townsville Blackhawks)

Intrust Super Cup Coach of the Year presented by Stage & Screen: Eric Smith (Sunshine Coast Falcons)

Petero Civoniceva Medal: Jamal Fogarty (Burleigh Bears)



MILESTONES

BEN WALKER & SHANE WALKER

Brothers Ben and Shane Walker entered the record books in the final round of the regular Intrust Super Cup season when they overtook Wayne Treleaven (Wests / Norths - 218 games) for the most games coached.

True to form, the Walker's innovative and often unorthodox methods with the Ipswich Jets added plenty of entertainment in their record-breaking match against the Sunshine Coast Falcons.

The Round 23 clash went right down to the wire, with the Jets holding the runaway competition leaders to 28-28 draw.

Ipswich produced some stunning moments, none better than Michael Purcell's long range try at the end of the first half.

It was the last match in charge of the Jets for the Walkers, whose final numbers stood at 120 wins,

eight draws and 91 losses at the end of another frantic 80 minutes of football.

But their record – which includes the 2015 Intrust Super Cup and NRL State Championship double – did not tell the full story of their overall contribution to the game.

The Walkers unique approach added flair and a degree of unpredictability to the competition, increasing media exposure and television audiences, as well as game-day attendances.

MATT GILLETT

A veteran of 200 NRL games for the Brisbane Broncos, Gillett played his 20th Origin match for the Maroons in Perth.

Former Queensland captain Cameron Smith was on hand to present Gillett with the FOGS Dick "Tosser" Turner Medal on the eve of the historic match.

It was an emotion-charged presentation, with Gillett's humble words leaving a lasting impression on his teammates.

Unfortunately for Gillett, the match turned out to be his final appearance in Maroons colours after injury ruled him out of the Origin decider in Sydney.

A Bribie Island junior, Gillett stamped himself as a player of the future with a string of consistent performances for the Norths Devils in the Intrust Super Cup.

He would go on to represent the XXXX Queensland Residents, before making his NRL debut for the Broncos in 2010.

Along with his 20 Origin games, Gillett played 12 Test matches and two games for the Prime Minister's XIII.

RETIRING CLASS

Some of rugby league's highest profile players were farewelled by the game at this year's NRL grand final.

Queensland greats Cooper Cronk, Greg Inglis and Matt Scott were among the illustrious list of players who were honoured after making the call to hang up the boots.

Less than a month later, an emotional Matt Gillett announced he was retiring from rugby league due to injury.

A veteran of 200 NRL games for the Brisbane Broncos, Gillett played his 20th and final Origin match for the Maroons in Game II of the Origin series in Perth.

Gillett was presented with the FOGS Dick "Tosser" Turner Medal on the eve of the historic match in Perth, a prestigious award that both Cronk and Scott received during their final campaigns in Maroon.

Fittingly, Cronk went out a winner after steering the Sydney Roosters to back-to-back premierships.

While injury and a health scare restricted Scott in his final season with the Cowboys, the former Test enforcer will be remembered as one of the club's most influential players.

He played in North Queensland's stunning grand final win in 2015, the year after Inglis spearheaded his South Sydney Rabbitohs to a convincing grand final victory over the Bulldogs.

Inglis represented his state on 32 occasions, including two as captain in 2018 following the retirement of Cameron Smith.

The following Intrust Super Cup players were recognised as the official 'retiring class' of 2019:

- Aaron Whitchurch (Redcliffe Dolphins)
- Josh Seage (Ipswich Jets)
- Brendon Gibb (Souths Logan Magpies)
- Jared Allen (Northern Pride)
- David Murphy (Northern Pride)
- William Bugden (Northern Pride)
- Jarrod McNally (Easts Tigers)
- Jake Foster (Easts Tigers)
- Shane Neumann (Easts Tigers)
- Dan Beasley (Townsville Blackhawks)
- John Te Reo (Wynnum Manly Seagulls)
- Luke George (Central Queensland Capras)
- Dave Taylor (Central Queensland Capras)
- Zach Strasser (Norths Devils)
- Tom Hancock (Northern Pride)

» Gillett was presented with the FOGS Dick "Tosser" Turner Medal on the eve of the historic match in Perth, a prestigious award that both Cronk and Scott received during their final campaigns in Maroon.



QRL SENIOR PREMIERS

GRAND FINALS

Intrust Super Cup
Burleigh 28 def Wynnum Manly 10

Brisbane Rugby League – In Safe Hands Cup
Seagulls 22 def Valleys 20

SEQ Senior Women's – Division 1
Wests 20 def Burleigh 8

Rugby League Ipswich
Brothers 35 def Swifts 10

Rugby League Gold Coast – Q Top A Grade
Burleigh 30 def Southport 12

Toowoomba Rugby League – Hutchies A Grade Cup
Valleys 24 def Warwick 16

Roma & District Rugby League
Cities 30 def Red Bulls 10

Central West Rugby League
Blackall 18 def Winton 0

Central Highlands Rugby League – Purcell's Engineering Men's Competition
Dysart 55 def Bluff 12

Central Highlands Allied Pickfords Women's Competition
Blackwater 26 def Emerald 12

Sunshine Coast Rugby League – Vantage Homes Division 1 Cup
Stanley River 28 def Caboolture 16

Sunshine Coast Women's – Maudsley Excavations Cup
Maroochydore 16 def Gympie 12

South Burnett Rugby League
Murgon 30 def Cherbourg 14

Central Burnett
Gayndah 32 def Mundubbera 26

Northern Districts Rugby League
Avondale 56 def South Kolan 16

Bundaberg Rugby League – 4bu/Hitz Fm A Grade Competition
Brothers 32 def Waves Tigers 28

Bundaberg / Gladstone Intercity Women's
Tannum 8 def Brothers 0

Rockhampton Rugby League
Yeppoon 28 def Norths 18

Rockhampton Inter City Women's
Brothers 14 def Yeppoon 4

Mackay District Rugby League
Whitsunday 38 def Wests 4

Mackay Airport Women's Competition
Brothers 18 def Moranbah 16

Townsville & District Mendi Group A Grade
Brothers 42 def Herbert River 10

Townsville & District Women's
Western Lions 16 def Brothers 12

Mount Isa
Town 32 def Brothers 16

Cairns District Rugby League A Grade
Mossman Port Douglas 30 def Innisfail Brothers 24

Cape York
Lockhart River 32 def Napranum 24



VALE



JOHN PAYNE

John Payne was chosen for Australia on the back of hugely impressive performances for Queensland against New South Wales in the 1975 interstate series.

Payne, who died aged 74 after a long battle with Parkinson's Disease, was a fiery red headed forward, who knew no fear, but instilled fear in his opponents.

Born in northern NSW, Payne played his first senior football for Wests in Brisbane, and went on to also play first grade for Valleys, Easts and Norths in the Brisbane Rugby League, as well as having stints with Norths, Parramatta and Manly in the Sydney premiership.

He played six matches for Queensland – five against NSW and one against champion English club St Helens.

In the 1976 BRL grand final, Payne scored Easts' only point – a field goal – in their 16-1 loss to Wests at Lang Park, in front of a crowd of 37,000.

In 1975, he was part of a Queensland side which took a 1-0 lead in the interstate series, with a 14-8 win at Lang Park.



BRIAN SMART

The Eastern Suburbs Tigers this year mourned the passing of club patron Brian Smart.

Raised in the heart of Tiger country, Smart spent his youth in Sword Street, Buranda.

Smart played his junior football with the Tigers through to Under 18s, before moving into the senior ranks.

A standout performer at his preferred position of fullback, Smart was a gifted goal kicker and a strong and courageous player.

While he will forever be held in high regard for his on-field exploits, it was Smart's off-field contribution as a coach and administrator which will leave a mark with the club.

Smart was the club's honorary secretary from 1974 to 1993, before becoming the Tigers' first chief executive officer in 1994, a position he held for 11 years.

In total, Smart held the club's secretary position for a remarkable 31 seasons.

A founding director of the Eastern Suburbs Leagues Club, Smart was a director of the Leagues Club Board from 1974 to 2004.



TED WEBER

Edward 'Ted' Weber OAM, a stalwart of rugby league in the Wide Bay district, passed away this year aged 86.

Based in Maryborough, Weber was a life member of Queensland Rugby League and still served the game he loved, long after he stepped down as a QRL director in 1998.

In 1989, Weber was appointed manager of the Queensland Residents team for a four-match tour of France.

He managed Australian Test sides coached by Bob Fulton – the World Cup final win over Great Britain at Wembley in 1992 his biggest highlight.

In 1994, Weber joined Dick 'Tosser' Turner and Keith Welsh on the management team of the Queensland State of Origin side.

Weber received his Order of Australia Medal in 2007, for his services to rugby league.

His involvement with rugby league began as a member of the Rovers' club in 1948, when he was part of the undefeated third grade side.

He was Rovers' first aid officer in 1970, and then a strapper, before climbing through the ranks, until he became chairman of the Wide Bay Division; a QRL Board member, and a director of the South Queensland Crushers in the ARL competition.



HUGH O'DOHERTY

Former Queensland hooker Hugh O'Doherty, an iconic personality of Brisbane Rugby League in the 1970s, passed away this year aged 71.

Ipswich product O'Doherty won BRL premierships with Valleys in 1970, '71, '73 and '74, and also played in the 1972 grand final, which Easts won 16-15.

He came to Brisbane from Ipswich Railways, which later became Norths, the same club which produced legendary halfback Allan Langer.

O'Doherty was known as 'The Ferret', because of his ability to win the ball in the scrum, and to steal possession from opposition attacking players, a skill Langer also perfected.

In his interstate debut, O'Doherty won the scrums 17-13 against New South Wales Test rake Elwyn Walters; and was one of Queensland's best in open play during a 32-15 loss at the Newcastle Sports Ground.

The youthful John Lang and experienced Country hooker Brian Fitzsimmons were O'Doherty's chief rivals for the Queensland hooking job, with Fitzsimmons already having represented Australia, while Lang would achieve national honours in 1973.

Despite the competition, O'Doherty played two more matches for Queensland in 1971, with his signature darts from dummy half just as effective as his ball-winning capabilities.



JEFF FYFE

The Queensland rugby league community mourned the loss of Jeff Fyfe, the man who decided the 1972 grand final regarded as one of the greatest rugby league games played in Queensland.

One kick of the football was all it took to make Jeff Fyfe a Brisbane rugby league legend.

Fyfe, who died in Brisbane aged 70 in July after battling illness, had never kicked a field goal before the decider that made him famous.

With the score locked 15-15 a few seconds from full-time in the 1972 Brisbane grand final, Fyfe looked left and right before slotting the wobbly one-pointer that brought the house down.

It enabled Easts to beat Valleys 16-15 in a match which former chief Courier-Mail writer Jack Reardon rated the greatest decider he ever saw.

Another Courier-Mail chief football writer, Steve Ricketts, was that day part of a Lang Park crowd so big that 2000 people spilt onto the edges of the playing field.

"In a decade of sold out grand finals, Jeff Fyfe's match-winning field goal is the iconic moment of the sizzling 70s," Ricketts said.



PETER LEIS

Formidable on the field yet touted as 'one of the nicest blokes you'd meet' off it, Dolphin Peter Leis left behind an incredible legacy which will be honoured by the Redcliffe Dolphins for generations to come.

Hailing from Dayboro, Leis made his first grade debut for Redcliffe against Souths in July 1966. He went on to play 261 first grade games between 1966 and 1981 and is the all-time leading try scorer in first grade with 129 tries to his name.

Leis represented Queensland several times including in 1975, when he scored a crucial try for Queensland in what was to be the last victory over New South Wales before the advent of State of Origin in 1980.

The Dolphins annual Player of the Year Award was named after Leis in 2000 and Peter and his wife Nerida attend the awards evening every year to present the Peter Leis Medal.

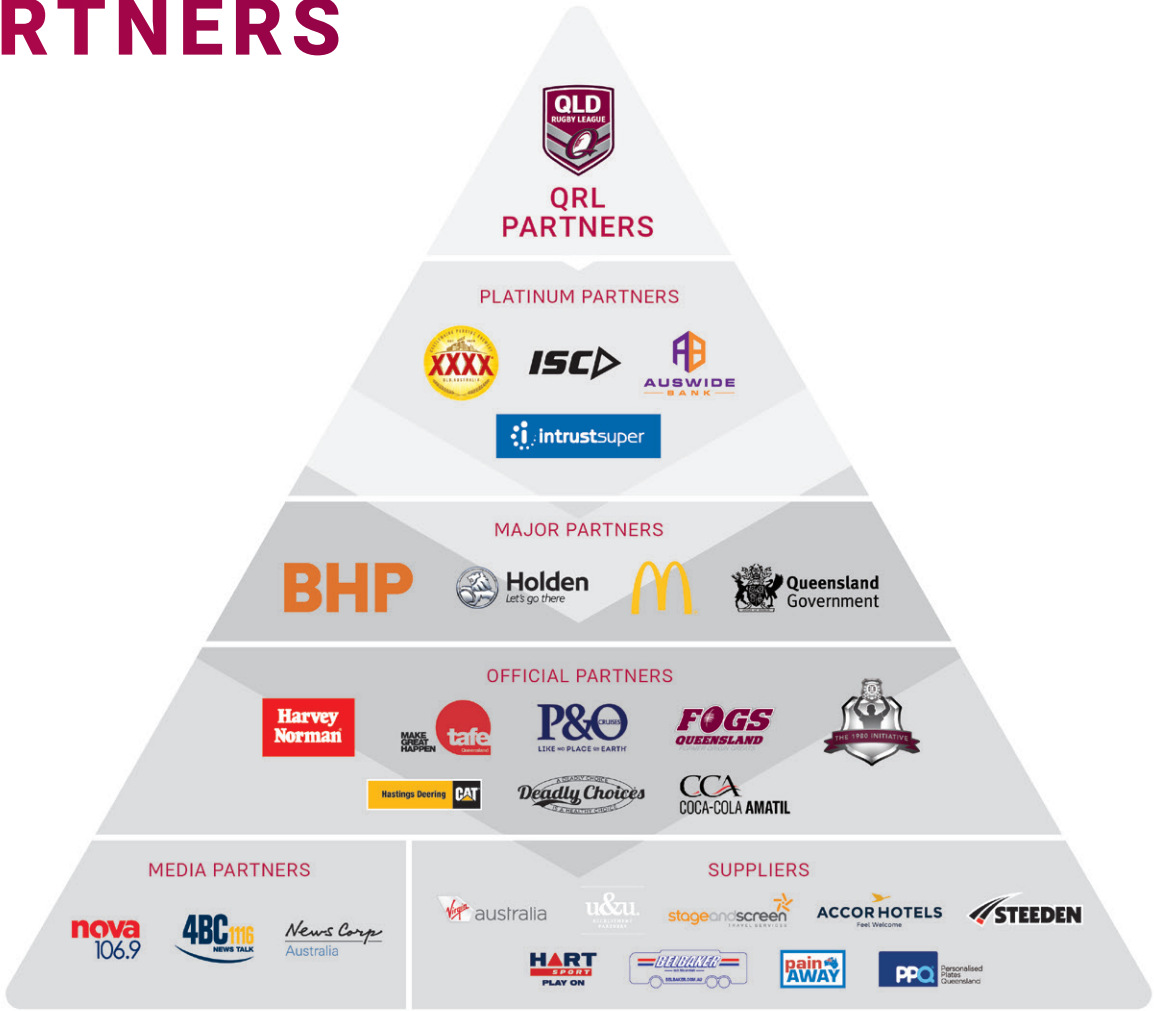
Leis' status as one of the greats was confirmed in 2008 when he was named at centre in the 'Greatest Dolphins' line up.

Following his passing, tributes flooded in from the rugby league community, including some from fans who labelled Leis their childhood hero.



**DELIVERING
OUR GAME**

PARTNERS



In 2019, sponsorship revenue grew 24 per cent as we renewed a number of major partners and welcomed several new brands to the game.

Throughout the year, a greater number of corporate partners were able to access and utilise the QRL Digital networks to communicate their messages.

Next year promises to be extremely exciting with the introduction of the new Women's Statewide competition, as well as the launch of QRL social strategies as we strive to provide corporates with a fully integrated partnership.

2019 SNAPSHOT

- We announced a community partnership with leading global resources company BHP in February. A focus on social inclusion matters, including gender and Indigenous, is at the forefront of the partnership, with QRL Wellbeing & Education officers tasked with onsite engagements, and developing local community activities.

- In March, we launched a partnership with P&O Cruises, aligned with the Queensland Maroons Membership program. A large contingent of Members experienced our first Members Cruise in 2019, while next year our most dedicated fans will have the opportunity to travel to Origin II.
- Deadly Choices teamed up with the QRL in May this year, with both organisations aligning to create messages of healthy and active lifestyles in remote and Indigenous communities. The partnership will take further steps in 2020, with the launch of healthy eating recipes and engagement opportunities via State of Origin.
- In August, we launched a strategic partnership with TAFE Queensland, which saw the launch of the Maroons Academy. Available to all, the course provides opportunities to upskill current rugby league staff, officials, coaches and volunteers to further their careers and lead the future of the game in Queensland.

- In addition to this, further partnerships have been developed in 2019 with numerous organisations who provide fantastic services and align with the QRL values. We thank and formally acknowledge Belbaker Buses, Hart Sport, Pain Away, 4BC and The Courier-Mail.
- As we head into 2020, we have also extended existing arrangements with McDonalds for a further three years. This extension will see McDonalds expand their association to the Harvey Norman Queensland Maroons team, with the delivery of a range of community and club engagement initiatives. Additionally, we were able to announce a further three-year extension with Hastings Deering, who will maintain their partnership across the Hastings Deering Colts as well as their association with the Intrust Super Cup player of the match award.

DIGITAL

QRL Digital took significant steps forward in 2019, launching new and improved products for fans who engaged with our platforms in record numbers.

In summary, digital highlights included:

No. 1 ranked products in NRL Digital Network (users and sessions)

8% growth in users to **1.8 million**

40% growth in page impressions to **15.8 million**

31% growth in video views to **17.8 million**

Launch of **QRL match centres**, **Intrust Super Cup app** and **Intrust Super Cup tipping**

QRL Digital's content team was the leading content publisher in the NRL Digital Network, ranking No. 1 for users, sessions and page views on content.

There was 55 per cent more content published on QRL.com.au and the Intrust Super Cup app in 2019, with the team leading the way as the largest publisher of original content across the Network.

The new Intrust Super Cup app incorporated all statewide competitions, taking full advantage of new products such as the integrated match centres, the ability to select and receive notifications about their team and the latest news as it is published.

This app realignment from the previous QRL-branded product proved to be successful with 131 per cent growth in sessions, equating to nearly 20 per cent of traffic across our digital products.

Close to 19,000 fans used the Intrust Super Cup app this year and on average, opened the app 34 times which was nearly double the year prior.

Another new addition to QRL digital products was the Intrust Super Cup tipping competition built by Fan Hub.

The strategy behind the tipping platform this year was to drive deeper and longer engagement with fans of the competition.

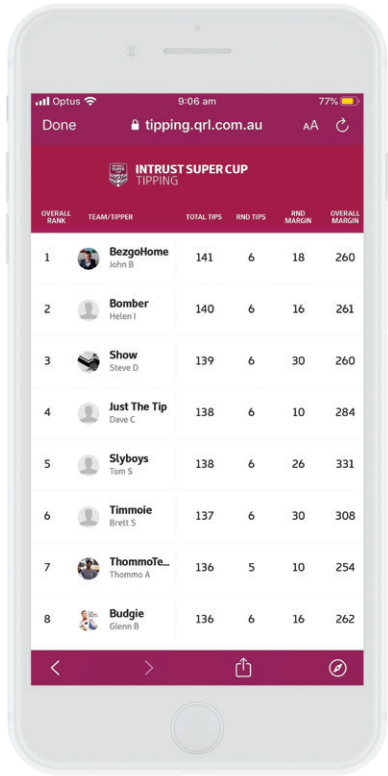
This platform created additional demand on match centres and content for the Intrust Super Cup, fitting nicely into the product suite offered to fans.

More live streaming appeared on QRL.com.au than ever before, with regional carnivals and statewide competition finals a major focus.

In total, more than 5000 minutes of community rugby league was streamed across 11 events from 16 days, while we streamed every Auswide Bank Mal Meninga Cup finals fixture as well as the Under 18 National Final.

More than 19,000 viewers tuned in to the Hastings Deering Colts premiership decider on Intrust Super Cup grand final day, the largest production of the year. Social media grew again this year, with 116,000 new followers taking the number of combined followers to 1,475,000 across Queensland Maroons, Intrust Super Cup, and QRL.

We also introduced a standalone channel for our Harvey Norman Queensland Maroons women on Instagram.



These accounts combined for 3.9 million interactions with our content, recording 39 per cent growth, largely off the back of the success of our Instagram accounts and scale of video views available on Facebook.

Commercial partners took full advantage of the attention from fans with more than 10.3 million advertisements delivered on QRL.com.au and the Intrust Super Cup app, plus another 6.7 million ads delivered across social media channels, including exposure for our Maroon Membership and Maroons Shop.

Page Impressions



Sessions



Users



*All owned-platforms combined

MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS

21,476 INTRUST SUPER CUP ONLINE NEWS MENTIONS BETWEEN JANUARY 1 AND NOVEMBER 29.

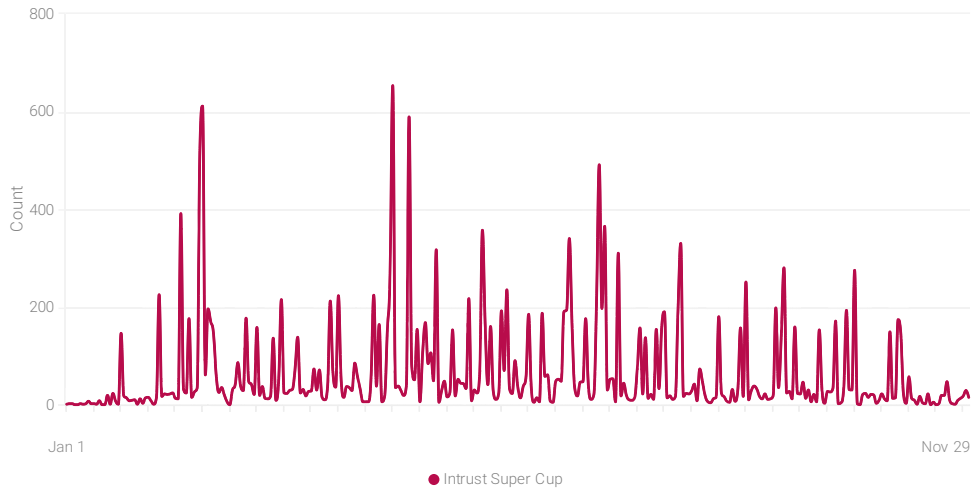


QRL Media committed time and resources to help shape and enhance the organisation's public profile through the delivery of both proactive and reactive messaging.

Throughout 2019, our department worked closely and efficiently with media organisations across the country, as well as the QRL Digital team.

MEDIA EXPOSURE

Source: Meltwater



We extend our thanks to the Media and Digital teams for the ongoing investment in our game.

In particular, we would like to acknowledge the editors, producers, reporters and photographers who shared inspirational community stories with our fans and the wider audience.

IN 2019, QRL MEDIA:

- Prepared and distributed more than 100 Media Releases and Alerts on all levels of the game, from community participation to Holden State of Origin
- Formulated multifaceted communication plans, as we welcomed a string of new partners in 2019, including P&O Cruises, BHP, FOGS and TAFE Queensland
- Provided specialist media training for participants involved in Emerging Origin programs, as well as coaches and players involved in the Intrust Super Cup
- Liaised with players, coaches and other key stakeholders to achieve significant media coverage of the 2019 Holden State of Origin series. We also worked closely with broadcasters Channel Nine and Fox Sports to deliver additional coverage of the Maroons' Origin campaign
- Worked proactively to ensure heavy promotion of the Holden Women's State of Origin match, as well as other key women's and girls' rugby league events, programs and initiatives
- Assisted metropolitan and regional media with their coverage of Queensland's premier competition, the Intrust Super Cup. Events which attracted significant media coverage included the Season Launch, Red Socks Round, 'Get in the Game' Country Week, grand final and the annual QRL Awards Dinner
- Facilitated healthy coverage of the Maroons' Fan Day in Charleville, with all commercial television networks, *The Courier-Mail*, AAP, *Sydney Morning Herald*, NRL.com and Triple M travelling with the Maroons to cover the event alongside local media

MAROON MEMBERS

Our thriving Maroon Members program brought fans from across the country together, amplifying the support for our flagship male and female Queensland teams; and provided a unique sense of belonging via numerous events and initiatives.

2019 SNAPSHOT:

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Women's Membership:**
 - Launched the inaugural Women's Membership to support the Queensland Women's representative team – the Harvey Norman Queensland Maroons.
- XXXX Membership:**
 - Introduced XXXX Membership for the second year, selling out within the first two days.
- Cowboys Dual Membership:**
 - Offered for the third year.
- Non-Ticketed Memberships:**
 - 25 per cent increase in Non-Ticketed Membership sales.
- Digital Membership:**
 - Our first Digital Membership was introduced in 2019, acquiring more than 900 new members.

Grassroots cashback initiative:

- More than 500 clubs supported through the grassroots cashback initiative, providing local clubs throughout Queensland \$10 for every Non-Ticketed Membership sold during season via PlayNRL.

Members Hub

- Launched on Maroonmember.com.au in 2019, providing members with a dedicated news portal to deliver year-round exclusive content and updates.

Interstate Support:

- 7000 members were acquired in Perth (37 per cent of 2019 members were WA residents)
- 50 per cent of members are Queensland based.

Member Survey Results:

- 97 per cent satisfaction rate
- Highest scoring areas of satisfaction (in order): Early ticket access, member communications, game-day seating, merchandise inclusions.

MEMBER EVENTS

Brisbane Game Day Members Bar

- The Members Bar moved for the first time to the Fanatics Bar inside Suncorp Stadium, providing members a space to mingle and meet Former Origin Greats pre-game and at half-time.

Members training session (competition)

- One hundred winning members were invited to attend a Maroons training session at Davies Park in West End before Game I – an opportunity for members to watch the team train in the last open session before the series kicked off.

Game Day on-field Mosh Pit (competition)

- One hundred members were given the opportunity to experience the pre-game entertainment from the field of Suncorp Stadium before Game I.

P&O PARTNERSHIP

- P&O signed as an Official Partner of the membership program

P&O Members Day Out

- Open exclusively to Maroon Members, 100 lucky supporters were flown from Brisbane to spend the day with P&O Maroon Membership ambassadors Sam Thaiday and Meg Ward, as well as current and former players. On board the Pacific Explorer, docked in Sydney's Circular Quay, winners were treated to paid flights and transfers, meet and greet opportunities and a three-course lunch hosted by P&O Cruises.

- The first P&O Members & Fans Cruise set sail in 2019. Members joined Thaiday, Ward and Allan Langer for three days filled with exclusive onboard functions including a members-only sail away cocktail party, Q&A sessions and special meet and greet opportunities.

17,078 TOTAL MAROON MEMBERS IN 2019.



BRAND & MARKETING

Supported by our talented creative team, the QRL Brand and Marketing team delivered some outstanding campaigns in 2019.



WOMEN'S BRAND UPDATE

Premier Anastacia Palaszcuk officially announced the new name of our Queensland Women's representative team – the Harvey Norman Queensland Maroons, in a milestone moment for the game.

UNITED IN MAROON

UNITED IN MAROON

In April, we introduced our theme for the upcoming representative season as "United in Maroon". The campaign was developed off the back of fan feedback where it was recognised that even after a series loss, our fans remained loyal and united.

The message was conveyed across multiple channels, including the team bus, dressing rooms, run through banners, membership campaigns and Origin highlights and news.

CAPTAINS RUN JERSEY

The 2019 series marked the first year in Queensland Maroons history that the Captain's Run jersey was released as a retail item with a limited range of 300 jerseys sold exclusively on Maroonshop.com as a collectors' item.

The jersey paid tribute to the 1919 team and the story of Duncan Thompson, who returned from injury sustained in WW1 to represent his state as captain.

INTRUST SUPER CUP GRAND FINAL

With the Intrust Super Cup grand final moving to Redcliffe's Dolphin Stadium, it was crucial the creative and marketing concepts used to promote the event made a big impact.

Using outdoor digital signage and installations on the Queensland Rail network, the "GAME ON" theme was a stand out. Overall, the multi-channel marketing campaign was a huge success, with the event attracting a sell-out crowd.

GAME ON

EVENTS

The year commenced with the QRL Statewide Competitions Season Launch at South Bank.

Hosted by Stage and Screen Travel Services, the event put the spotlight on the state's pathways with NRL players Jai Arrow and AJ Brimson sharing their experiences with more than 150 special guests.

Other major events this year included:

QRL Women in Business Breakfast

- Guests gathered at Customs House to celebrate International Women's Day in March, hearing from several prominent business and sporting leaders, including Olympic Gold Medallist Brooke Hanson OAM. The breakfast was presented by U&U Recruitment Partners

Queensland Maroons Regional Fan Day

- Country league fans travelled from afar to meet their Maroons heroes at the Charleville Showgrounds. Squad members engaged with hundreds of supporters in the morning before taking to the field for their first training session at the Showgrounds

Queensland Maroons Perth Fan Day

- A stunning Fan Day turnout greeted the Maroons at HBF Park in the lead up to Game II of the Holden State of Origin series. More than 5000 fans watched the Maroons train before having the opportunity to meet the players

Queensland Maroons Series Launch

- Howard Smith Wharves provided a stunning setting as former Maroons Sam Thaiday and Gorden Tallis hosted the 2019 Origin Series Launch. Daly Cherry-Evans was officially unveiled as the new Maroons captain as more than 400 guests heard from Petero Civoniceva, Jai Arrow, Kalyn Ponga and Darren Lockyer

Harvey Norman Queensland Maroons Fan Day

- The state's leading female players captured the hearts and minds of hundreds of young fans who attended the South Pine Sports Complex. The event included a coaching clinic for youngsters and an autograph station with the full squad, along with activations from Harvey Norman, Deadly Choices, Hart Sport, Maroon Members, Rebel and Nova

Intrust Super Cup Grand Final

- Almost 8000 fans generated an amazing atmosphere at Dolphin Stadium as the Intrust Super Cup's premier event sold out with only standing room tickets available on match day. Hospitality was exhausted inside the Leagues Club prior to the event as fans enjoyed five games of football at the refurbished stadium

QRL Awards Dinner

- Hosted by Hannah Hollis and Peter Psaltis, more than 450 guests came together at City Hall to celebrate the achievements of players, coaches, volunteers, referees and administrators. One of the highlights of the evening was the presentation of the Petero Civoniceva Medal

QRL Indigenous Breakfast

- Guests heard from Gene Miles (Artie Foundation), Justin Hodges (Beyond the Broncos) and Andrew Walker (Rising Above), as well as NRL Commissioners Dr. Chris Sarra and Professor Megan Davis OAM, to celebrate Indigenous Business and highlight pathways



SOUTH EAST



HIGHLIGHTS:

- Female participation numbers increased from 2089 to 2672 (28 per cent growth)
- This increase came on the back of the Region's successful grassroots funding request which enabled the South East to support women's competition expenses
- Funding support also paved the way for the South East to field two female teams at the State Championships for the first time
- A total of 69 teams competed in female competitions (Under 14, Under 16, Under 18, Senior) throughout Brisbane, Gold Coast and Ipswich
- The rugby league community came together to celebrate the contribution of retiring administrator Michael Pease, who devoted more than 30 years of service to the game
- The Region also acknowledged the services of Shane McNally, as it entered a new chapter with the introduction of a more streamlined administration model in Brisbane
- Seagulls won the BRL A Grade In Safe Hands Cup following a thrilling grand final win over Valleys
- Burleigh Bears won both the Intrust Super Cup and Gold Coast Rugby League, with the Bears' premier team going on to represent Queensland in the National Final
- Traditional rivals Brothers and Swifts crossed paths in the Ipswich Rugby League grand final, with the Brethren prevailing in an entertaining contest
- The SEQ Women's competition produced a high standard of play, with Wests claiming their maiden senior A Grade premiership from Burleigh



CENTRAL

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Female participation exploded in 2019 with more than 20 senior teams taking part in competitions in the Central Highlands, Rockhampton, Gladstone, Bundaberg and Sunshine Coast
- This year saw the introduction of an Under 16 Girls Outback team, which joined the Under 14 team at the City Country Exchange at Coolom
- The Region was an active community leader, with several leagues coming together to deliver 25,000 litres of water to Stanthorpe in their time of need during the drought
- Central facilitated a successful Divisional Junior Carnival in Bundaberg, where 500 sleeping bags were purchased for participants and later donated to the Salvation Army, a tradition that will continue next year and beyond
- The state's leading young talent displayed their skills at the State Junior Carnival held at Sunshine Coast Stadium, with the Central Crows winning the Under 16 Cyril Connell Shield (Boys) and the Under 16 Karyn Murphy Shield (Girls)
- Central took a proactive approach to improving the behaviour of participants and parents through the launch of the 'Not in My House' campaign
- Charleville welcomed thousands of fans to the showgrounds for the Queensland Maroons Fan Day before the first game of the Holden State of Origin series
- Earlier in the year, Charleville was buzzing with teams from Redlands, Redcliffe, Toowoomba, Caloundra, Winton and St George taking part in the popular Adrian Vowles Cup
- A host of leagues and clubs celebrated centenary milestones, including Toowoomba, Longreach, St George and Barcaldine



NORTHERN

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Female participation numbers increased from 1259 to 2004 players (59 per cent growth)
- The Northern Marlins Women's team won the State A Grade Carnival for the first time
- An Outback team made its first appearance at the North Queensland Women's selection trials
- Normanton's Bevan Owens won the QRL Community Volunteer of the Year Award and the National Volunteer Award for his dedicated work in the Gulf region, while Atherton Roosters took out the Club of the Year Award
- Mackay claimed the prestigious Foley Shield for the first time in eight years
- Lockhart River Scorpions won the Cape Peninsula competition over the Napranum Bulldogs, Coen took out the 3 Rivers league and Mornington Island clinched the Gulf Cluster competition over Normanton
- North Queensland United, featuring players from the Cape, Torres Strait and Gulf, represented their region with pride in a representative match against Queensland Outback on Thursday Island
- With NRL funding support, the Region staged three camps in the Torres Strait for more than 220 young players and volunteers
- Additional funding was invested into North Queensland Country juniors who held their inaugural carnival in Atherton with players coming from the Cape, Torres Strait, Mount Isa, Eacham and the Cassowary Coast, an amazing feat in itself



OUR COMMUNITY



COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

\$70,000 PROFIT TO LOCAL CLUBS FROM THE DELIVERY OF 'GET IN THE GAME' COUNTRY WEEK.

In 2019, the QRL continued to lead and inspire people to be the best they can.

As a game, we collectively set out to do this by providing pathways and programs for our participants to live positive, respectful and healthy lives.

We set high standards by supporting many community-based initiatives; and worked closely with organisations like the Men of League and Former Origin Greats.

Our elite male and female athletes took it upon themselves to enthusiastically engage with members of the community before and after competition.

In an incredible display of state pride, our Maroons men's team launched their campaign with a Fan Day and training session in Charleville, more than 700 kilometres west of Brisbane.

It was the first of many community engagements throughout the three-match series, with other activities including visits to hospitals, special schools, shopping centres and the Brisbane Police Watch House.

The Harvey Norman Queensland Women's team were extremely active as well, staging a successful Fan Day at Brendale before their clash against New South Wales.

Players involved in the Intrust Super Cup inspired many throughout their own communities, as well as participants and fans from rural and remote parts of the state during the popular Country Week fixtures.

In Round 5 of the Intrust Super Cup, all teams and referees wore red socks to support two-year-old Grayson Little, who has a rare condition that requires bone marrow transplants and blood transfusions.

With support from league great Mal Meninga, the "Red Socks Round" helped raise awareness about the ongoing need for blood and bone marrow donors.

Intrust Super Cup's close ties to community groups carried right through until grand final day at the end of the season, when the QRL teamed up with Drought Angels and Containers for Change to drive fundraising and awareness.

QRL staff members also threw their support behind a host of community programs, including Jersey Day and Rise Up Australia.

» It was the first of many community engagements throughout the three-match series, with other activities including visits to hospitals, special schools, shopping centres and the Brisbane Police Watch House.



VOLUNTEERS

The number of registered volunteers grew by 24 per cent this year.

In total, there were **18,914** accredited coaches and volunteers who form the backbone of rugby league in Queensland.

The game formally recognised the contribution of this dedicated volunteer network at this year's QRL Awards Dinner.

Following an extensive nomination process, the achievements of two volunteers and a community club were acknowledged.

The recipients were:

- **Volunteer of the Year** – Bevan Owens (Normanton Stingers)
- **Women in League Award** – Sharon Hickey (Pine Central Holy Spirit RLFC)
- **Club of the Year** – Atherton Roosters (Cairns District Rugby League)



ABOUT THE RECIPIENTS:

Bevan Owens is a passionate volunteer whose dedication and vision has been instrumental in rugby league's resurgence in the Gulf.

Owens is the Normanton Stingers club president and is normally the first at the ground on game day and the last to leave in the early hours, after the post-game 'disco' at all home games and cluster days.

Thanks to the commitment of Owens and his dedicated team, the Stingers are on the up and the game in the wider region is beginning to flourish once more.

Through Owens' leadership, key rugby league stakeholders and the communities of Doomadgee, Burketown, Mornington Island and Kowanyama came together to establish the Gulf Community Rugby League Cluster. With the Stingers leading the way, coordinated courses for coaches, referees and sports trainers took place, along with the upskilling of community volunteers.

In the South East, **Sharon Hickey** is a highly respected community leader whose achievements with Pine Central Holy Spirit have not gone unnoticed.

In addition to managing team logistics with the open women's and senior men's teams, Hickey leads fundraising and sponsorship initiatives across the club.

Prior to this role, Hickey was club president and was instrumental in driving the growth in the female game across the club with the introduction of open women's and junior girls' teams.

Hickey is also a director of Rugby League Brisbane, the largest community league in Queensland with more than 15,000 registered participants. In recent years, she has been a true advocate for the female game, providing the foundations for many of the club's emerging juniors to progress into the club's first open women's team.

Like Pine Central Holy Spirit, the **Atherton Roosters** are blessed with strong leadership - a key factor behind their accolade as the 2019 Club of the Year.

Nestled in one of the most picturesque regional areas of North Queensland, the Atherton Roosters celebrated 100 years in 2018 with generations of 'Tablelanders' having proudly worn the red and blue.

The inclusion of junior and female matches on game days, a strong commitment to player wellbeing, a good group of volunteers and a firm adherence to the Code of Conduct has fostered a family-friendly environment at the club.

Importantly, game days have been promoted as community events, with strong crowds always in attendance.

The club proactively tackles many issues including domestic and family violence. Players from all grades attended and supported the 2019 Domestic and Family Violence Candle Lighting Ceremony to support those affected by domestic violence.

WELLBEING & EDUCATION

In 2019, the game increased its support and resources available to participants across the state.

Led by the Queensland arm of the NRL's Wellbeing and Education team, cutting-edge programs and initiatives were delivered.

Key messages were shared at events like Semi Pro Day for players and coaches involved in statewide competitions.

Topics included:

Wellbeing

- Resilience
- Mental Health Awareness

Responsibility

- Better Choices
- Gambling
- Respectful Relationships

Personal

- Career Wise
- Education Grants
- Career Coaching

'Need to Know'

- Anti-Doping
- Vilification
- Concussion

Qualified Elite Athlete Wellbeing Managers are now entrenched in 12 statewide competitions clubs with additional appointments imminent.

'Play on Workshop', facilitated by Dave Solomona with funding support from QRL, was a new initiative in 2019 with sessions designed to assist players as they embark on the next stage in their lives.

Several clubs also initiated culture evenings into their yearly calendar, bringing together all the players and partners for an evening of food, dance, song and stories of family and upbringing from their origins and countries.

These evenings have proven to be a rewarding innovation and the cultural understanding has grown, therefore enhancing club togetherness and team morale.

Career wise and career support has also been an enormous growth aspect across the statewide competitions clubs.

This has been a direct result of clubs presenting Career Wise over the past few seasons, providing more players with the opportunity to focus on their preferred path.

In addition to this, the Vocational Education and Training Program has alerted players to the options available, apart from University courses, and highlighted the importance of trade qualifications.

2019 QUEENSLAND ACADEMIC TEAM OF THE YEAR:

- **Krys Freeman (Pictured)** (Townsville Blackhawks): Masters in Education and Bachelor of Sports & Exercise Science.
- **Daniel Beasley** (Townsville Blackhawks): Degree in Sport and Exercise Science.
- **Ed Burns** (Wynnum Manly Seagulls): Studying for his Medical Degree.
- **Richard Pandia** (Ipswich Jets): Dual Degree in Business and Sports & HR Management.
- **Blake Cullen** (Western Mustangs): Bachelor of Education.
- **John O'Brien** (Mackay Cutters): Bachelor of Exercise & Sports Science Degree.
- **Connor Broadhurst** (Norths Devils): Bachelor of Education.
- **Sam Foster** (Easts Tigers): Law Degree.
- **Tom Hancock** (Northern Pride): Law Degree.
- **Tom Rafter** (Sunshine Coast): Health & Physical Education Degree.
- **Harrison Hughes** (Tweed Seagulls): Degree in Structural Engineering.



QRL HISTORY COMMITTEE

Inaugural QRL History Committee Chairman Kevin Brasch AM retired this year after one decade of service.

It was Brasch who conceived the idea of a History Committee, after the code's centenary year in 2008, when so many great minds had come together to honour the game.

Brasch felt it would be a waste of that expertise, not to build on the work done that year, and so the History Committee came into being.

A Life Member of the Australian Rugby League, Brasch was officially farewelled by the QRL at an informal function with QRL Chairman Bruce Hatcher speaking in glowing terms of his contribution.

Former QRL Chairman Peter Betros is the newest addition to the Committee.

With the assistance of QRL Managing Director, Robert Moore, the Committee, under new Chairman Steve Ricketts, compiled the Terms of Reference for its future operation.

Matters pertaining to the game's history in Queensland will be referred to the Committee.

The Committee is to review its performance annually, ensuring it remains consistent with the Board's objectives and responsibilities.

Former Queensland State of Origin coach Michael Hagan delivered the 2019 Ross Livermore Memorial Lecture this year.

The topic was 'Australians in England', with Hagan chosen because of his experience as a player with Halifax, and given his older brother Bob played for Huddersfield.

Committee member Greg Adermann wrote and provided the 'Chronicle', with the topic: 'The History of Queensland's Home of Rugby League'.

Inaugural Queensland State of Origin hooker John Lang will deliver the 2020 lecture.

It will mark 40 years since Lang represented New South Wales, Queensland and Australia, as well as playing in a Sydney grand final, for Easts.



IN A PRODUCTIVE YEAR:

- The Committee assisted regional councils, based at St George and Charleville, with planned historical displays
- Steve Ricketts represented the Committee at a Hall of Fame meeting in Sydney, to screen contenders for new sub-categories – administration, broadcast media and print media. A short list of 30 administrators and media people was compiled
- North Queensland representative Greg Shannon worked with the curator of the Cairns Museum, to establish a rugby league history display for the region
- Paul Hayes assisted the Toowoomba Rugby League with the provision of film, to accompany the launch of a book on 100 years of the code on the Darling Downs. Steve Haddan was MC for Toowoomba Valleys' Centenary dinner
- Committee members provided jerseys, blazers, track suits, shorts and boots for the upcoming 40 year Origin celebrations
- Ricketts provided Gold Coast Titans head of performance Mal Meninga with a written history of rugby league on the Gold Coast and Northern Rivers region of New South Wales. Ricketts also provided obituaries for the QRL website on a number of former players and administrators

Chairman: Steve Ricketts

Members: Greg Adermann, Peter Betros, Steve Haddan, Paul Hayes, John McCoy, Greg Shannon



STATE PRIDE - OUR REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS



QUEENSLAND MAROONS



GAME I

- 1. Kalyn Ponga
- 2. Corey Oates
- 3. Michael Morgan
- 4. Will Chambers
- 5. Dane Gagai
- 6. Cameron Munster
- 7. Daly Cherry-Evans (c)
- 8. Jai Arrow
- 9. Ben Hunt
- 10. Josh Papalii
- 11. Felise Kaufusi
- 12. Matt Gillett
- 13. Josh McGuire

Interchange:

- 14. Moses Mbye
- 15. Joe Ofahengaue
- 16. Dylan Napa
- 17. David Fifita
- 18. Tim Glasby

QUEENSLAND MAROONS 18 (Dane Gagai 2, Corey Oates tries; Kalyn Ponga 3 goals) def **NEW SOUTH WALES 14** (Josh Morris, Jake Trbojevic tries; Nathan Cleary 3 goals) at Suncorp Stadium.

Coach: Kevin Walters
Crowd: 87,122

GAME II

- 1. Kalyn Ponga
- 2. Corey Oates
- 3. Michael Morgan
- 4. Will Chambers
- 5. Dane Gagai
- 6. Cameron Munster
- 7. Daly Cherry-Evans (c)
- 8. Dylan Napa
- 9. Ben Hunt
- 10. Josh Papalii
- 11. Felise Kaufusi
- 12. Matt Gillett
- 13. Josh McGuire

Interchange:

- 14. Moses Mbye
- 15. Jarrod Wallace
- 16. Tim Glasby
- 17. David Fifita
- 18. Christian Welch

NEW SOUTH WALES 38 (Tom Trbojevic 3, Josh Addo-Carr 2, Tyson Frizell tries; James Maloney 5, Nathan Cleary 2 goals) def **QUEENSLAND MAROONS 6** (Will Chambers try; Kayln Ponga goal) at Optus Stadium.

Coach: Kevin Walters
Crowd: 59,721

GAME III

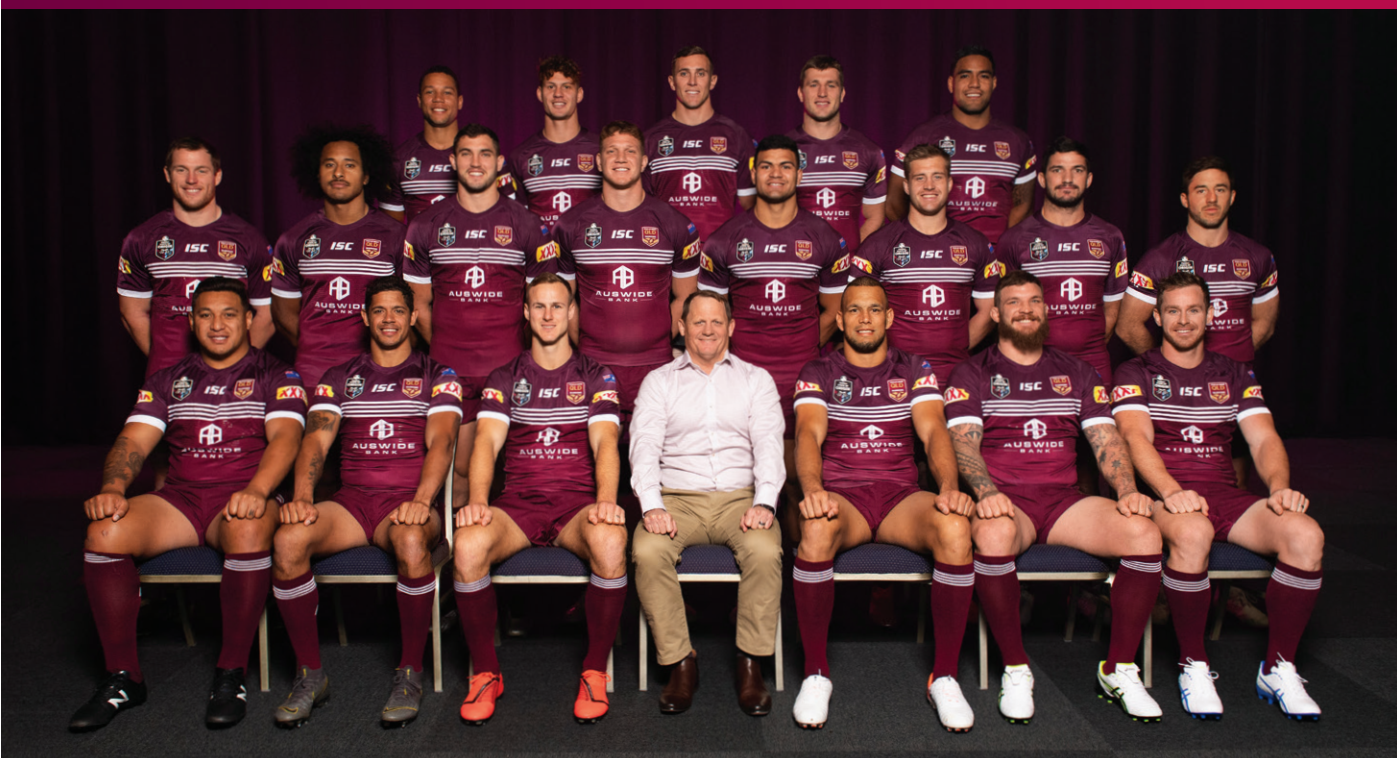
- 1. Cameron Munster
- 2. Corey Oates
- 3. Michael Morgan
- 4. Will Chambers
- 5. Dane Gagai
- 6. Corey Norman
- 7. Daly Cherry-Evans (c)
- 8. Joe Ofahengaue
- 9. Ben Hunt
- 10. Josh Papalii
- 11. Felise Kaufusi
- 18. Ethan Lowe
- 13. Josh McGuire

Interchange:

- 14. Moses Mbye
- 15. Christian Welch
- 16. Tim Glasby
- 17. David Fifita

NEW SOUTH WALES 26 (James Tedesco 2, Paul Vaughan, Damien Cook tries; James Maloney 5 goals) def **QUEENSLAND MAROONS 20** (Felise Kaufusi, Josh McGuire, Josh Papalii tries; Ethan Lowe 4 goals) at ANZ Stadium.

Coach: Kevin Walters
Crowd: 82,565



GAME I

Front: Josh Papalii, Dane Gagai, Daly Cherry-Evans (Captain), Kevin Walters (Coach), Will Chambers, Josh McGuire, Michael Morgan
Middle: Tim Glasby, Felise Kaufusi, Corey Oates, Dylan Napa, David Fifita, Cameron Munster, Matt Gillett, Ben Hunt
Back: Moses Mbye, Kalyn Ponga, Kurt Capewell, Jai Arrow, Joe Ofahengaue

HARVEY NORMAN QUEENSLAND MAROONS



TEAM LIST

- 1. Chelsea Baker
- 2. Karina Brown
- 3. Stephanie Mooka
- 4. Amber Pilley
- 5. Meg Ward
- 6. Ali Brigginsshaw (c)
- 7. Jenni-Sue Hoepper
- 8. Heather Ballinger
- 9. Brittany Breasley
- 13. Rona Peters
- 11. Tazmin Gray
- 15. Tallisha Harden
- 12. Annette Brander

Interchange:

- 10. Steph Hancock
- 14. Amy Turner
- 16. Chelsea Lenarduzzi
- 17. Jessika Elliston
- 18. Elle Stitt

NEW SOUTH WALES 18 (Jessica Sergis, Shakiah Tungai, Maddie Studdon tries; Kirra Dibb goal) def **QUEENSLAND 4** (Tazmin Gray try) at North Sydney Oval.

Coach: Jason Hetherington



Front: Trevor Gillmeister (Defensive Coach), Karina Brown, Heather Ballinger, Ali Brigginsshaw (Captain), Jason Hetherington (Coach), Steph Hancock, Brittany Breasley, Chelsea Baker, Nat Dwyer (Assistant Coach)

Middle: Robyn Tyler (Sports Trainer), Carly Jennar (Physiotherapist), Rona Peters, Elle Stitt, Tazmin Gray, Meg Ward, Jenni-Sue Hoepper, Amy Turner, Jo Barrett (Team Manager), Karyn Murphy (Assistant Coach)

Back: Colleen Edwards (Media Manager), Annette Brander, Tallisha Harden, Chelsea Lenarduzzi, Stephanie Mooka, Jessika Elliston, Amber Pilley, Kelly Penfold (Strength & Conditioner)



QUEENSLAND U20



Uncharacteristic errors at key moments cost the Queensland Under 20 side dearly in their representative match against New South Wales, with the home side claiming a 36-10 win at ANZ Stadium.

It was a strong performance across the board for the young Blues, who were well served by hooker Sam Verrills, centre Stephen Crichton and five-eighth Matt Burton.

Burton was the first to score when he chased down his own grubber kick through the line.

However, the visitors were on the board soon after thanks to fullback Ronaldo Mulitalo, one of Queensland's best on the night, who produced something out of nothing and ran down the sideline to score.

However, in a theme of the night, Queensland continually gave up penalties to gift New South Wales opportunities with the ball.

They crossed twice more before the end of the half, with Burton getting his second.

Their final try of the half came against the run of play, with Queensland having been on the attack with just over five minutes to go, after Tanah Boyd came on at hooker and produced a fantastic 40/20 kick to gain field possession.

Queensland were unable to convert that opportunity. Instead, a Verrills kick was allowed to dribble into the in-goal and a good chase from Teig Wilton saw him score in the left corner with just under two minutes to go until half-time.

Queensland needed early points in the second half but their cause wasn't helped by an injury to Cory Paix.

The young Maroons let in three second-half tries which took them out of the game; but they worked hard until the end of the match with centre Murray Taulagi crossing late.

TEAM LIST

- 1. Ronaldo Mulitalo
- 2. Treymain Spry
- 3. Fanitesi Niu
- 4. Murray Taulagi
- 5. Elijah Anderson
- 6. Braydon Trindall
- 7. Cory Paix (c)
- 8. Eddie Blacker
- 9. Koby Hetherington
- 10. Ethan Bullemor
- 11. Tino Fa'asuamaleaui
- 12. J'maine Hopgood
- 13. Tom Gilbert

Interchange:

- 14. Tanah Boyd
- 15. Ben Condon
- 16. Logan Bayliss-Brow
- 17. Nathan Barrett

NEW SOUTH WALES 36 (Matt Burton 2, Teig Wilton, Matt Croker, Ky Rodwell, Ethan Parry tries; Stephen Crichton 6 goals) def **QUEENSLAND 10** (Ronaldo Mulitalo, Murray Taulagi tries; Braydon Trindall goal) at ANZ Stadium.

Coaches: Scott Prince / Paul Dyer



Front: Graham Adams (Trainer), Braydon Trindall, Tanah Boyd, Paul Dyer (Co-Coach), Cory Paix, Thomas Gilbert, Scott Prince (Co-Coach), Fanitesi Niu, Nathan Barrett, Ben French (Physiotherapist)
Middle: Murray Stalley (Team Manager), J'maine Hopgood, Kobe Hetherington, Eddie Blacker, Tino Fa'asuamaleaui, Logan Bayliss-Brow, Murray Taulagi, Treymain Spry, Lote Tuqiri (Mentor)
Back: Brent Tate (Trainer), Elijah Anderson, Garrett Smith, Ben Condon, Ethan Bullemor, Ronaldo Mulitalo

QUEENSLAND U18



New South Wales claimed the inaugural Under 18 girls' interstate challenge following a classy 24-4 win at North Sydney Oval.

A double to Blues winger Teagan Berry and a strong Nat Dwyer Medal performance by second-rower Caitlan Johnston aided the Blues to the commanding victory.

Queensland were impressive early, with fullback China Polata reaching out to be only millimetres from the chalk.

In the next play, the Maroons looked certain to score on the right edge until Berry plucked the ball out of mid-air in an all-or-nothing play, running 95 metres to score the intercept four-pointer, the first for the night.

Seven minutes later, the Blues were in again when back-rower Olivia Kernick finished off a Johnston kick out wide to stumble over untouched.

A number of first-half mistakes didn't help the Maroon understudies with coach Ben Jeffries no doubt instructing the troops to concentrate on

completing sets after only finishing 5/8 in the opening 25 minutes.

Unfortunately, a Queensland mistake from the kick-off in the second half led to more pressure from NSW on the goal-line and Berry bagged her second of the night in the corner shortly after, extending the lead to 18 points.

A rushed pass under pressure from the Blues enabled Courtney Tamati to cross for the Maroons with nine minutes remaining, giving a glimmer of hope to the visitors.

In the final minutes, the Blues sealed victory when Johnston ran down the left edge, stepping defenders to score herself a well-earned try.

The major difference between the two sides was Queensland's error rate - only completing 12/20 sets - which in the end, proved costly in greasy conditions at North Sydney. Despite the result, Queensland co-captain Lillian Mikaio was proud of the team's history-making efforts.

TEAM LIST

- 1. China Polata
- 2. Jasmine Peters
- 3. Tyesha Mikaio
- 14. Chante Temara
- 5. Rosemary Vaimili Toelepai
- 6. Rhiannon Revell-Blair (c)
- 7. Courtney Tamati
- 8. Jessikah Reeves
- 9. Emma Manzelmann
- 10. Lillian Mikaio (c)
- 11. Keilee Joseph
- 12. Jasmon Tupou
- 13. Nakita Sao
- 15. Acacia Wulf
- 16. River Smalley
- 17. Tiamo Williams
- 18. Keisharn Hala

NEW SOUTH WALES 24 (Teagan Berry 2, Caitlan Johnston, Olivia Kernick tries; Emily Curtain 4 goals) def **QUEENSLAND 4** (Courtney Tamati try) at North Sydney Oval.

Coach: Ben Jeffries



Front: Chante Temara, Lillian Mikaio (Captain), Rhiannon Revell-Blair (Captain), Ben Jeffries (Coach), Emma Manzelmann, Tyesha Mikaio, Courtney Tamati
Middle: Jasmine Peters, Keisharn Hala, Acacia Wulf, Nakita Sao, Jessikah Reeves, Keilee Joseph, Abelee Stanley
Back: Rose Vaimili-Toelepai, Tiamo Williams, China Polata, River Smalley, Jazmon Tupou-Witchman

QUEENSLAND U18



Two tries from Tesi Niu and a strong all-round performance from Xavier Coates helped the young Maroons to a convincing 34-12 win at Suncorp Stadium.

Both Niu and Coates were involved in some eye-catching moments as the next wave of future Queensland Origin stars combined brilliantly to blast the Blues off the park.

Overall, it was an excellent display of football from both sides, but Queensland had more spark in attack and were ultimately able to defend their mistakes at key times.

Queensland had the ascendancy in the first half; and crossed for the first try of the match in only the fifth minute when hooker Jake Simpkin scored a good dummy half try.

The visitors responded five minutes later with a great try of their own, a solid effort from prop David Hollis who proved too strong when he charged over next to the posts.

The half evened out as it wore on, but it was Queensland who would finish the first period on

a roll, with Burleigh Bear Alofiana Khan-Pereira taking an excellent Brendan Piakura pass to score out on the left wing.

Niu was the next over the try line, getting his first with a strong run that was set up by an initial charge by Simpkin.

Although held up, Simpkins' charge helped the team set up to go to the right, where young Magpie Niu was able to run in hard and slam the ball down.

Queensland held an 18-6 lead at the break, but NSW had showed signs of what they could do in that half and they acted on that to score the first try after half-time when they capitalised on several Queensland errors.

For the next period, Queensland endured wave-after-wave of NSW attack, absorbing everything they could throw at them.

After holding them out – it was Queensland's turn to attack and their backs shone. Halves pairing Joshua James and Sam Walker directed the play well, with Walker especially causing headaches

with his runs to the line. However, it was a pin-point kick from James that was plucked out of the air by Coates that got the scoring started for Queensland in the second half; with no one able to match his leap.

QUEENSLAND 34 (Fanitesi Niu 2, Jake Simpkin, Alofiana Khan-Pereira, Xavier Coates, Reece Walsh tries; Joshua James 5 goals) def **NEW SOUTH WALES 12** (David Hollis, Sione Fainu tries; Jayden Sullivan goal) at Suncorp Stadium.

» However, it was a pin-point kick from James that was plucked out of the air by Xavier Coates that got the scoring started for Queensland in the second half; with no one able to match his leap.



Front: Brad Davis (Assistant Coach), Sam Walker, Toby Sexton, Josh James (Captain), Kurt Richards (Coach), Reece Walsh, Harrison Graham, Tesi Niu, Corey Parker (Mentor)
Middle: Geoff Eggert (Strength & Conditioner), Brendan Piakura, Tristan Powell, Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow, Alofiana Khan-Pereira, Jake Simpkin, Juwain Compain, Carsil Vaikai, Richard Duff (Manager)
Back: Gerald Thompson (Sports Trainer), Reece Hoffman, Jack Horwath, Trent Loiero, Xavier Coates, Jack Martin, Ben Heidenreich (Physiotherapist)



TEAM LIST

- 1. Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow
- 2. Alofiana Khan-Pereira
- 3. Reece Hoffman
- 4. Fanitesi Niu
- 5. Xavier Coates
- 6. Josh James (c)
- 7. Sam Walker
- 8. Jack Martin
- 9. Jake Simpkin
- 10. Tristan Powell
- 11. Brendan Piakura
- 12. Trent Loiero
- 13. Juwan Compain

Interchange:

- 14. Reece Walsh
- 15. Jack Howarth
- 16. Carsil Vaikai
- 17. Harrison Graham

Coach: Kurt Richards

QUEENSLAND U16 CITY V COUNTRY



Country recorded a convincing 44-4 victory over City in the Under 16 representative clash at Dolphin Stadium.

A new addition to the representative calendar, the match provided rising stars of the junior game with the opportunity to represent their regions on QRL grand final day.

City / Country boundaries applied for selection, with the City team selected from Brisbane, Ipswich and the Gold Coast; and the Country team picked from the Central and Northern regions.

Country five-eighth Keanu Wright-Dunrobin, who was part of the winning Queensland Murri team in March, was first to score just four minutes in.

Toowoomba product Brayden Paix kicked the conversion for Country to take a 6-0 lead.

John Radel was next to score under the posts eight minutes in, reaching out to beat a pack of City defenders.

Paix converted to take the score to 12-0. City then stopped two assaults on the line from Country, but Country's Ragarive Wavik crossed during their third run at the line; Paix once again converted to take the score to 18-0.

City fullback Tuvalli Khan-Pereira responded with 10 minutes to go in the first half with some handy footwork to cross the white line and get four points for City.

Halfback Harradyn Wilson's conversion attempt hit the post and the score sat at 18-4.

A barnstorming run from Xavier Chatfield-Mooka saw him cross the line just before the break to hand Country a 22-4 advantage at half-time.

Country's Jeremia Nanai crossed less than two minutes into the second half to take the score to 26-4.

The points kept coming for Country with Nanai completing a hat-trick of tries to put the finishing touches on a big victory.

Nanai was one of nine Country players later named in the Queensland Under 16 Merit team.

QUEENSLAND UNDER 16 MERIT TEAM

Tuvalli Khan-Pereira - City
Arthur Miller Stephen - Country
Ragarive Wavik - Country
Orlando Swain - City
Kaleb Ngamanu - City
Keanu Wright-Dunrobin - Country
Harradyn Wilson - City
Paul Bryan - Country
Shaun Packer - Country
John Radel - Country
Brock Priestley - Country
Jeremia Nanai - Country
Luke Jack - Country

QUEENSLAND COUNTRY 44 (Jeremia Nanai 3, John Radel 2, Xavier Chatfield-Mooka 2, Ragarive Wavik, Keanu Wright-Dunrobin tries; Brayden Paix 6 goals) def **QUEENSLAND CITY 4** (Tuvalli Khan-Pereira try) at Dolphin Stadium.



QUEENSLAND COUNTRY U16

Front: Mitchell Sargent (Trainer), Keanu Wright-Dunrobin, Jesse Page, Luke Jack, Matthew Church (Head Coach), Shaun Packer (Captain), Brayden Paix, Jai Hansen, Annan Whittington (Assistant Coach)
Middle: Liam Bartlett (Strength & Conditioner), Tyler Conroy, Brock Priestley, Arthur Miller-Stephen, Ragarive Wavik, Tyson Stevens, Ethan Cocco, Zac Alley, Angus Wright, Dan Moran (Team Manager)
Back: Ben Tanner (Physiotherapist), Jeremia Nanai, Paul Bryan, John Radel, Xavier Va'a, Xavier Chatfield-Mooka, Mal McMillan (Assistant Coach)

COUNTRY TEAM LIST

1. Ragarive Wavik
2. Arthur Miller-Stephen
3. Jesse Page
4. Xavier Chatfield-Mooka
5. Angus Wright
6. Keanu Wright-Dunrobin
7. Brayden Paix
15. Ethan Cocco
9. Shaun Packer
10. John Radel
11. Brock Priestley
12. Jeremia Nanai
13. Luke Jack

Interchange:

14. Paul Bryan
16. Tyson Stevens
17. Tyler Conroy
18. Jai Hansen

Coach: Matt Church

CITY TEAM LIST

1. Tuvalli Khan-Pereira
2. Kaleb Ngamanu
3. Orlando Swain
4. Prinston Esera
5. Jodeci Tirahi
6. Isaiah Longi
7. Harradyn Wilson
8. Brody Smitka
9. Caleb Gould-Waiariki
10. Vincent Sefo
11. Flynn Daniel
12. Kienan Tempest
13. Bailey Martin
14. Daniel Ah Chong
15. Tyler Keogh-Paladin
16. Kruz Rimene
17. Leon Te Hau

Coach: Brad Davis



QUEENSLAND CITY U16

Front: Dave Gatt (Manager), Isaiah Longi, Bailey Martin, Harradyn Wilson, Brad Davis (Coach), Caleb Gould-Waiariki, Tuvalli Khan-Pereira, Ezra Mam, Lindsay Trigar (Physiotherapist)
Middle: Steve Bretherton (Sports Trainer), Kruz Rimene, Jodeci Tiraha, Daniel Ah-Chong, Prinston Esera, Leon Te Hau, Tyler Keogh Paladin, Kienan Tempest, Jamal Esfahani (Strength & Conditioner)
Back: Terry Needham (Assistant Coach), Brody Smitka, Flynn Daniel, Vincent Sefo, Orlando Swain, Riley Hall, Kaleb Ngamanu, Michael Cahill (Assistant Coach)

XXXX QUEENSLAND RESIDENTS



The XXXX Queensland Residents claimed a dominant 42-22 win over New South Wales in the annual representative match at Dolphin Stadium.

The win was set up by a strong first half where the home side shot out to a 22-6 lead, with centre Delouise Hoeter scoring an early double.

Hoeter crossed for the first try of the game following an incision from halfback and player of the match Sam Scarlett, who combined with Zac Santo to stretch the NSW defenders.

Queensland captain Josh Cleeland then stepped up to take control, as he turned NSW around with a dominant kicking game.

A second try from Hoeter was followed by a clever try to Scarlett, with Cleeland adding two of the conversions for a 16-0 lead.

When Temone Power crossed at the 30th minute mark and Cleeland added the extras, it was 22-0 in favour of the hosts.

However, NSW regrouped with their try on the half-time buzzer breathing life into the game.

NSW opened the second half with quick-fire tries to Brian To'o and Dean Britt to close the margin to six points.

At that point, it looked as if NSW would take control of the game but their comeback hopes were dashed by the fleet-footed Cleeland, who danced around the opposition to regain the upper hand for his state.

Cleeland's four pointer was followed by Hoeter's third try of the game as the best of the 2019 Intrust Super Cup competition raced away to an unassailable 34-16 lead.

Queensland closed out the game with a late try to Corey Jensen and two more goals to Cleeland.

» Cleeland's four pointer was followed by Hoeter's third try of the game as the best of the 2019 Intrust Super Cup competition raced away to an unassailable 34-16 lead.

TEAM LIST

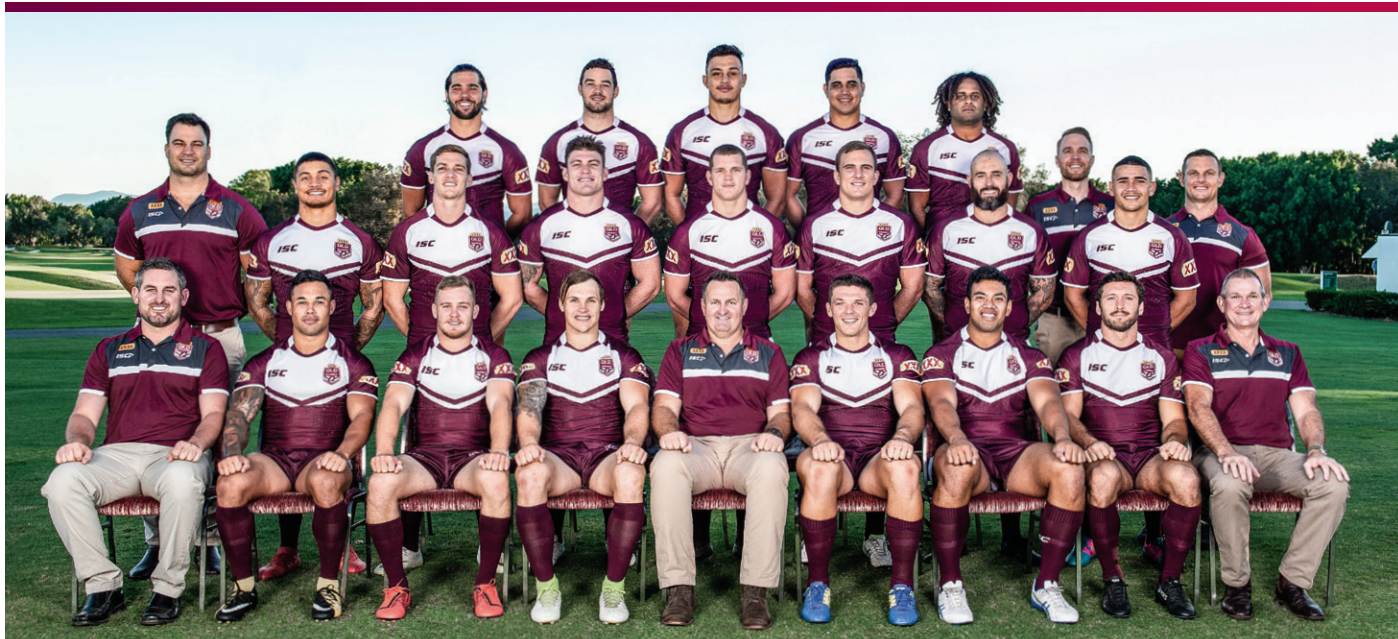
1. Zac Santo
2. Richard Kennar
3. Delouise Hoeter
4. Connor Broadhurst
5. Izaia Perese
6. Josh Cleeland (c)
7. Sam Scarlett
8. Nat Neale
9. Mitch Cronin
10. Corey Jensen
11. Keenan Palasia
12. Temone Power
13. Tom Gilbert

Interchange:

14. Christian Hazard
15. Tino Fa'asuamaleaui
16. Brett Greinke
17. Darryn Schonig

XXXX QUEENSLAND RESIDENTS 42 (Delouise Hoeter 3, Corey Jensen, Sam Scarlett, Temone Power, Josh Cleeland tries; Josh Cleeland 7 goals) def **NSW RESIDENTS 22** (Beau Fermor, Brian To'o, Dean Britt, Keaon Koloamatangi tries; Brock Lamb, Morgan Harper, Brock Lamb goals) at Dolphin Stadium.

Coach: Jon Buchanan



Front: Steve Bretherton (Sports Trainer), Christian Hazard, Sam Scarlett, Josh Cleeland (Captain), Jon Buchanan (Coach), Corey Jensen, Richard Kennar, Zac Santo, Wayne Treleaven (Assistant Coach)

Middle: David Shillington (Manager), Delouise Hoeter, Mitch Cronin, Darryn Schonig, Tom Gilbert, Nathan Watts, Nat Neale, Izaia Perese, Chris Muckert (Strength & Conditioner)

Back: Brett Greinke, Connor Broadhurst, Tino Fa'asuamaleaui, Keenan Palasia, Temone Power, Damian Cocciolone (Physiotherapist)

XXXX QUEENSLAND RANGERS



TEAM LIST

1. Jack Mackin
2. Ono So'oialo
3. Tevita Folau
4. Harlan Collins
5. Kurtis McDonald
6. Cory McGrady
7. Caleb Daunt
8. Andrew Petaia
9. Jack Miers
10. Michael Molo
11. Jesse Dee
12. Sam Elliott
13. Chippie Korostchuk
14. Tristan Hope

Interchange:

15. Stuart Mason
16. Iosua Afoa
17. Taulata Fakalelu
18. Kurtis McDonald

NSW PIONEERS 28 (Patrick Hollis, Alex Langbridge, Chad O'Donnell, Pat Mata'utia, Maliko Filino, Jarom Haines tries; Ryan Walsh 2 goals) def **XXXX QUEENSLAND RANGERS 18** (Harlan Collins, Tristan Hope, Andrew Petaia tries; Jack Miers 2, Caleb Daunt goals) at Davies Park.

Coach: Glen Dreger

The New South Wales Pioneers held off a fast finishing XXXX Queensland Rangers outfit to record an enthralling 28-18 victory at Davies Park.

The Pioneers took a 16-6 lead into half-time after a try to five-eighth Chad O'Donnell right on the buzzer, but their lead wouldn't come without a customary Queensland fight back in the second-half.

A try to Maliko Filino in the latter stages looked to have been the match sealing four-pointer, although when Rangers forward Andrew Petaia crossed shortly after it made for a heart-stopping finish.

That was until stand-in fullback Jarom Haines produced a moment of brilliance in the dying moments – a 70 metre dash against the run of play sealing a well-deserved victory.

Pioneers captain Alex Langbridge proved potent out of dummy-half with an energetic first half – laying on the first try for Pat Hollis with a deft grubber before scoring one himself with just five minutes remaining in the first half.

It took Queensland 25 minutes to find a breakthrough when Harlan Collins pounced on a loose ball to set a 6-6 scoreline.

Just moments after, Langbridge restored the lead for NSW when he buried his way over from close-range, before O'Donnell created his own luck when his grubber ricocheted back into his arms for a crucial try on the stroke of half-time.

The Rangers enjoyed a blistering start to the second half when Tristan Hope crossed in the 47th minute, with Caleb Daunt converting from in-front to reduce the deficit to four points.

Just when Queensland had momentum, a dynamic run from Fuiamamao Utai put NSW onto the attack and Pat Mata'utia crashed over for a 20-12 lead with just under 30 minutes remaining.

With the full-time siren drawing near, Jordan Remfrey produced a late offload from nowhere to send an unmarked Filino over in the left-hand corner before Haines' effort with three minutes remaining ensured a fighting victory.



Front: Matt Pacey (Sports Trainer), Cory McGrady, Ono So'oialo, Brett Kelly, Glen Dreger (Coach), Caleb Daunt, Jack Miers, Jack Mackin, Rob White (Manager)

Middle: Michael Barber (Strength & Conditioner), Tevita Folau, Michael Molo, Chippie Korostchuk, Jesse Dee (Captain), Harlan Collins, Kurtis McDonald, Sam Elliot, Tristan Hope

Back: Mark Ross (Assistant Coach), Andrew Petaia, Iosua Afoa, Stuart Mason, Taulata Fakalelu, Maddy Reimer (Physiotherapist)

QUEENSLAND MURRI U16



A second-half comeback filled with attacking flair paved the way for the Queensland Murri Under 16 team to retain the Steve 'Bear' Hall Shield.

Queensland created a number of scoring chances in the opening half, only to come up empty handed as NSW capitalised to post 14 unanswered points.

However, Queensland re-grouped and executed coach Keiron Lander's game plan to perfection, running away with a 28-20 victory at Glen Willow Oval.

Things began to immediately look up for the young Murri team when Braith Major swooped on a kick from Keanu Wright-Dunrobin to score.

They went back-to-back when Wright-Dunrobin was again in the action, running the ball before

popping the pass to Brayden Duffy who stepped out of tackles and found a flying Hubert Elu in support.

Xavier Chatfield-Mooka was unsuccessful with the conversion and the Murris trailed 14-10 at half-time.

Despite a weight of early possession, NSW posted first points in the second half to skip away to a 20-10 advantage.

Winger Kmani Levi set the wheels in motion for the start of another comeback when he crossed for Queensland's third try.

This was the beginning of a breathtaking run for the Murris, who were able to post three scintillating tries in nine minutes.

Despite a few tense moments, Wright-Dunrobin put the icing on the cake for his side when he was able to crash over the line for a 26-20 lead.

Heron Jia once again made no mistake with the conversion and Queensland held onto the shield.

QUEENSLAND MURRI 28 (Braith Major, Hubert Elu, Kmani Levi, Brayden Duffy, Keanu Wright-Dunrobin tries; Zadok Heron Jia 3, Xavier Chatfield-Mooka goals) def **NSW KOORI 20** (Tyler Moodie, Travys Downton, Michael Whitton, Jarrah McLeod tries; Fletcher Myers, Liam Browne goals) at Glen Willow Oval, Mudgee.

» This was the beginning of a breathtaking run for the Murris, who were able to post three scintillating tries in nine minutes.



Front: Zadok Heron Jia, Hurbert Elu, Kmani Levi, Brayden Duffy, Keanu Wright-Robin, Izaiah Hellmuth, Brooklyn Stanley

Middle: Jardine Bobongie (Assistant Coach), Dwayne Kangan (Sport Trainer), Jackson Warde, Tyreice Baira-Gela, Tuvalli Khan-Pereira, Jodeci Baker, Ezra Mam, Jaziah Davis, Keiron Lander (Head Coach), Gary Halliday (Manager)

Back: Ron Tasker (Head Trainer), Braith Major, Thomas McIntosh, Arthur Miller-Stephen, Nayshua Wurzbacher, Xavier Chatfield-Mooka, Leo Dynevor (Trainer / Mentor)

TEAM LIST

1. Arthur Miller-Stephen
2. Jodeci Baker
3. Xavier Chatfield-Mooka
11. Tuvalli Khan-Pereira (c)
5. Kmani Levi
6. Keanu Wright-Dunrobin
7. Zadok Heron Jia
8. Nayshua Wurzbacher
9. Brooklyn Stanley
10. Thomas McIntosh
12. Izaiah Hellmuth
16. Jackson Warde
18. Braith Major

Interchange:

4. Brayden Duffy
14. Tyreice Baira-Gela
15. Hubert Elu
17. Jaziah Davis

Coach: Keiron Lander



GOVERNANCE & FINANCIALS



DIRECTORS' REPORT

The directors present their report together with the financial report of Queensland Rugby Football League Limited ("QRL" or the "Company") for the year ended 31 October 2019 and the auditor's report thereon.

DIRECTORS NAMES

The names of the directors in office at any time during or since the end of the year are:

B.M. Hatcher	
R.W. Moore	
L.W. Anderson	
R.M. Garard	
B.A.C. Ikin	
B.D. McGuire	
W.B. Prescott	
B.A. Tallon	
D.J. Van de Velde	
P.C. Daley	(Alternate Director for B.A. Tallon)
S. Hawkins	(Alternate Director for L.W. Anderson)
P.D. Hunt	(Alternate Director for B.D. McGuire)
M. Peters	(Alternate Director for D.J. Van)

The directors have been in office since the start of the year to the date of this report.

OPERATING AND FINANCIAL REVIEW

The net loss after tax of the company for year ended 31 October 2019 was \$336,218 (2018: \$7,265). As at 31 October 2019, the company's net assets were \$6,179,358 (2018: \$6,515,576).

SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES

The QRL's short-term objectives are to increase male and female player participation numbers from junior through to elite levels of rugby league throughout Queensland, and to maintain the State of Origin team performance.

The QRL's long-term objectives are to foster, develop, extend and control rugby league from the junior through to elite levels throughout Queensland and to generally take such action as may be considered to be in the best interests of rugby league in Queensland.

To ensure the short-term objectives of the QRL are being met, the Company will:

- Promote and communicate the achievements of the QRL within Queensland communities and amongst the stakeholders of rugby league in Queensland;
- Continue to support and resource the Queensland State of Origin programs; and
- Pro-actively identify and develop future Origin players through an ongoing association with the Queensland Academy of Sport.

To ensure the long-term objectives of the QRL being met, the Company will:

- Organise, conduct, and develop competitions within Queensland from junior through to elite levels;
- Conduct player camps and be responsible for the education of coaches, first aid officers and other officials within the game's development structures and produce a range of resources to assist in this regard;
- Co-operate, with organisations controlling the game in other states of Australia and other countries, in the fostering and control of the game;

- Subscribe to, become a member of, and co-operate with any other club, association or organisation, whether incorporated or not, whose objectives are altogether or in part similar to those of the QRL;
- Enter into any arrangement with any government or authority, supreme, municipal, local or otherwise that may be conducive to any or all of the QRL's objectives;
- Regulate and control the operation of all member bodies and affiliates; and
- Make grants by way of gift and to render other financial assistance to clubs and other persons and bodies connected with the game.

The KPIs of the QRL are reviewed by the Managing Director, Senior Leadership Team and the Board of Directors on a regular basis to ensure relevance at any particular point in time.

The QRL's performance is constantly measured against:

- Demographic analysis of participation numbers, potential players, and lost players;
- Feedback from member clubs and other key stakeholders; and
- Budget.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

To carry out the Company's strategies and to achieve its short-term and long-term objectives, the Company engaged in its principal activities during the year of fostering and propagating rugby league in Queensland. There were no significant changes in the nature of these activities during the year.

INFORMATION ON DIRECTORS



B.M. HATCHER

CHAIRMAN | BCom FCA FAICD

A QRL Director for over 11 years, Bruce was appointed Chair of the QRL at the Annual General Meeting held on 27 January 2017. Bruce is a specialist family business consultant to BDO Chartered Accountants and a Director of the Brisbane Markets Ltd.



R.W. MOORE

MANAGING DIRECTOR | BHumanMovSt

A Human Movements graduate, Robert has held a number of different positions before he received his first role in rugby league administration with the London Broncos. Robert returned to Queensland where he took up a post as the QRL's Education and Development Manager and later accepted a position with the State Government as the Deputy Director-General for Sport and Recreation Services. He returned to the QRL as Managing Director in August 2011.



L.W. ANDERSON

NORTHERN REGION CHAIR

Leigh's involvement in the game dates back to the mid 1960's through his playing days as a Townsville junior. Over the last four decades, Leigh has undertaken a myriad of roles in rugby league, from club coach to club President in junior and senior clubs, as a District and Leagues Club Board member, and as Independent Finance Director for the Northern Region. A Life Member of Townsville Brothers Rugby League and Townsville & District Junior Rugby League, Leigh is currently Chair of the QRL Northern Region.



R.M. GARARD

INDEPENDENT DIRECTOR | BBus FCA GAICD

Renita Garard OAM was appointed as an Independent Director to the QRL Board in June 2017. She is a dual Olympic gold medallist, having been a member of the Australian Women's Hockey team from 1993 to 2000, while off the sporting field, she has fulfilled board roles with both the International Hockey Federation and Hockey Australia. She is currently a director with international consulting firm PricewaterhouseCoopers, Board Chair of the Port of Townsville Limited ("POTL"), and a Director of the 4 Aussie Heroes Foundation Limited. Renita is Chair of the QRL's People & Culture Committee.



B.A.C. IKIN

INDEPENDENT DIRECTOR

Co-host of NRL 360 on Fox Sports, Ben Ikin is one of the most respected voices in rugby league. Appointed to the QRL Board as an Independent Director in January 2018, Ben is a former professional rugby league footballer who first shot to prominence at 18 when he became the youngster player in State of Origin history to represent the Queensland Maroons. A Gold Coast junior, Ben went on to play 17 Origin matches for Queensland and two Tests for Australia. He played 150 top grade matches for the Gold Coast Seagulls, North Sydney Bears and Brisbane Broncos, winning the 2000 Premiership with the Broncos.

INFORMATION ON DIRECTORS (CONTINUED)



B.D. MCGUIRE

CENTRAL REGION CHAIR | DipT

As Chair of the QRL Central Region, Danny McGuire is serving his second stint on the QRL Board. He previously served on the Board from 2006-2009 and joined again in 2013. He had been Chair of the Wide Bay Region for nine years. Danny has been a coach and administrator with Sunshine Coast junior club Kawana (Life Member) and has served as Chair of the Sunshine Coast Rugby League. In 2010, he was inducted into the Sunshine Coast University Sports Hall of Fame for administrators. Danny is currently working as an IT industry consultant and also serves as Chair of the QRL Outback Committee.



W.B. PRESCOTT

INDEPENDENT DIRECTOR

A legal specialist, Bruce Prescott has been assisting the QRL for many years and was by its side during the tumultuous Super League war. Bruce has a diverse legal background and an excellent understanding of the League's constitution and rules. He has served as an Independent Director on the Board for the past five years after retiring as a partner in law firm HopgoodGanim. Bruce is Chair of the QRL's Audit & Risk Committee.



B.A. TALLON

SOUTH EAST REGION CHAIR | BEng(Civil) BCom MBA GAICD

As Chair of the QRL South East Region since 2012, Brad oversees one of the biggest participation zones in the country. He has an abundance of experience, having previously served as the South East Region's Financial Director for 10 years, with three of those years on the QRL Board prior to the introduction of independent QRL Board members. He has held volunteer administrative positions in the game since 1984, including fifteen years as Treasurer of the BRL Referees' Association, and he was inaugural secretary of the QRL Referees' Board. Brad is a member of the QRL's Audit & Risk Committee and is an Executive General Manager at Holcim Australia, Chairman of Metromix Pty Ltd and a Director of Harwood Nominees Pty Ltd.



D.J. VAN DE VELDE

STATEWIDE COMPETITIONS DIRECTOR

Through his role as the Statewide Competitions Director, Darryl Van de Velde is actively involved in the development of Queensland's premier competition – the Intrust Super Cup. A well-known and respected rugby league identity, Darryl brings a wealth of experience to the position as a former professional rugby league footballer, coach and administrator. Darryl played club football in Queensland for Easts, Souths and Redcliffe and represented his state on one occasion in 1977. He coached Castleford and Warrington in England before becoming the Chief Executive Officer of the South Queensland Crushers club.

DIRECTORS' MEETINGS

DIRECTORS	DIRECTORS' MEETINGS		AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE MEETINGS	
	Number eligible to attend	Number attended	Number eligible to attend	Number attended
B.M. Hatcher	11	10	-	-
R.W. Moore	11	10	-	-
L.W. Anderson	11	11	-	-
R.M. Garard	11	9	-	-
B.A.C. Ikin	11	10	-	-
B.D. McGuire	11	11	-	-
W.B. Prescott	11	8	5	5
B.A. Tallon ¹	11	11	5	5
D.J. Van de Velde ²	11	10	-	-

COMPANY SECRETARY

G.F. Maher

G.F. Maher has been the Company Secretary of Queensland Rugby Football League Limited for three years. He is a member of Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand and a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

MEMBERS GUARANTEE

The company is incorporated under the Corporations Act 2001 and is a company limited by guarantee. If the company is wound up, the Constitution states that each member is required to contribute to a maximum of \$20 each towards meeting any outstandings and obligations of the company. At 31 October 2019, the number of members was 9 (2018: 9). The combined total amount that members of the company are liable to contribute if the company is wound up is \$180.

AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration under section 307C of the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit for the financial year is provided with this report.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Directors.

B.M. HATCHER
Chairman

R.W. MOORE
Director

Dated this 22nd day of January 2020

¹ The April 2019 and October 2019 Board Meetings were attended by the South East Alternate Director.

² The October 2019 Board meeting was attended by the State Wide Competition Clubs Alternate Director.

The function of the Remuneration Committee was incorporated to the QRL Audit and Risk Committee during 2019 with the Remuneration review taking place at the July Audit and Risk Committee meeting.

AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION TO THE DIRECTORS OF QUEENSLAND RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE LIMITED

As lead auditor for the audit of Queensland Rugby Football League Limited for the financial year ended 31 October 2019, I declare to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- a) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit; and
- b) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

ERNST & YOUNG

MATTHEW TAYLOR
Partner
22 January 2020

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2019

	NOTES	2019 \$	2018 \$
REVENUE	4	33,129,772	29,771,199
Net loss on sale of fixed assets		-	(737)
Less: Expenses			
Employee benefits expense		(8,733,843)	(7,285,061)
Competitions		(11,973,764)	(11,021,245)
Representative teams		(5,066,683)	(4,547,698)
Grants to clubs and schools		(1,053,038)	(1,095,387)
Sponsor servicing		(1,256,351)	(859,290)
Referee development expenses		(809,328)	(843,225)
Development expenses		(457,280)	(317,740)
Commercial expenses		(1,244,844)	(972,620)
Administration expenses		(2,870,859)	(2,835,461)
Total expenses		(33,465,990)	(29,777,727)
Loss for the year		(336,218)	(7,265)
Other comprehensive income for the year		-	-
Total comprehensive loss for the year		(336,218)	(7,265)

The above statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 31 OCTOBER 2019

	NOTES	2019 \$	2018 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	6,382,350	6,918,555
Trade and other receivables	6	5,964,420	2,158,031
Inventories	7	95,252	162,531
Other assets	8	356,619	511,505
Total current assets		12,798,641	9,750,622
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	9	421,832	425,765
Intangible assets	10	207,539	41,279
Trade and other receivables		253,350	191,250
Total non-current assets		882,721	658,294
Total assets		13,681,362	10,408,916
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	11	2,201,438	2,322,608
Employee benefit liabilities	13	1,079,305	804,549
Provisions	14	295,382	256,322
Income received in advance	12	3,676,871	314,093
Total current liabilities		7,252,996	3,697,572
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Employee benefit liabilities	13	249,008	195,768
Total non current liabilities		249,008	195,768
Total liabilities		7,502,004	3,893,340
Net assets		6,179,358	6,515,576
EQUITY			
Retained earnings		6,179,358	6,515,576
Total equity		6,179,358	6,515,576

The above statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2019

	RETAINED EARNINGS	TOTAL EQUITY
	\$	\$
As at 1 November 2018	6,515,576	6,515,576
Loss for the year	(336,218)	(336,218)
Other comprehensive income	-	-
Total comprehensive loss for the year	(336,218)	(336,218)
As at 31 October 2019	6,179,358	6,179,358
As at 1 November 2017	6,522,841	6,522,841
Loss for the year	(7,265)	(7,265)
Other comprehensive income	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	(7,265)	(7,265)
As at 31 October 2018	6,515,576	6,515,576

The above statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2019

	NOTE	2019	2018
		\$	\$
OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts from customers		34,932,311	33,483,888
Payments to suppliers and employees		(35,230,217)	(35,933,594)
Interest received		105,148	198,946
Net cash flows used in operating activities	5	(192,758)	(2,250,760)
INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		-	73,042
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	9	(122,013)	(63,213)
Payment of loans to associated parties		(104,350)	(160,000)
Repayment of loans from associated clubs		64,000	66,500
Purchase of intangible assets	10	(181,084)	(41,279)
Net cash flows used in investing activities		(343,447)	(124,950)
FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Repayment of finance leases		-	(62,274)
Net cash flows used in financing activities		-	(62,274)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents		(536,205)	(2,437,984)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 November		6,918,555	9,356,539
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 October	5	6,382,350	6,918,555

The above statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2019

NOTE 1: CORPORATE INFORMATION

The financial report of Queensland Rugby Football League Limited (the “QRL” or “Company”) for the year ended 31 October 2019 was authorised for issue in accordance with a resolution of the directors on 22 January 2020.

The Company is a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee, incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

The registered office and principal place of business of the Company is Rugby League Central - Queensland, 83 Castlemaine Street, Milton, QLD 4064.

The nature of the operations and principal activities of the Company are described in the directors’ report.

NOTE 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

2.1 BASIS OF PREPARATION

The financial report is a general purpose financial report that has been prepared in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001 and Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements*, Interpretations and other applicable authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board.

The financial report covers Queensland Rugby Football League Limited as an individual entity.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis and are based on historical costs, unless otherwise stated in the notes.

The following are the significant accounting policies adopted by the Company in the preparation and presentation of the financial report. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

2.2 CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES, DISCLOSURE, STANDARDS AND INTERPRETATIONS

New and amended standards and interpretations

The Company applied *AASB 9 Financial Instruments* for the first time. The nature and effect of the changes as a result of adoption of these new accounting standards are described below.

Several other amendments and interpretations apply for the first time in 2018/2019, but do not have an impact on the financial statements of the Company.

AASB 9 Financial Instruments

AASB 9 Financial Instruments replaces *AASB 139 Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement* for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2018, bringing together all three aspects of the accounting for financial instruments: classification and measurement; and impairment; and hedge accounting.

The Company has applied AASB 9 retrospectively, with the initial application date of 1 November 2018. There was no significant impact on the classification and measurement in the financial statements, but there has been a change in the required disclosures to reflect the requirements of the new accounting standard.

Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued but not yet effective

Certain Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations have recently been issued or amended but are not yet effective and have not been adopted by the Company for the annual reporting year ended 31 October 2019. The directors have not early adopted any of these new or amended standards or interpretations. The directors are in the process of assessing the impact of the applications of *AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers*, *AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities* and *AASB 16 Leases* (all effective 1 January 2019) and its amendments to the extent relevant to the financial statements of the Company.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

2.3 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Revenue recognition

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable. Amounts disclosed as revenue are net of returns, trade allowances and amounts collected on behalf of third parties. All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (“GST”).

Sale of goods

Revenue from sale of goods is recognised when the significant risks and rewards of ownership of the goods have passed to the buyer and the costs incurred or to be incurred in respect of the transaction can be measured reliably. Risks and rewards of ownership are considered passed to the buyer at the time of delivery of the goods to the customer.

Rendering of services

Revenue from the rendering of services is recognised upon the delivery of the service to the customers.

Grant income

Grants from the Australian Rugby League Commission Limited (“ARLC”) are recognised as revenue in the period in which the ARLC funding relates to the extent that expenditure has been incurred in accordance with the terms and conditions attaching to individual program funding and grants.

Sponsorship

Sponsorship and other revenue receipts are recognised in the profit or loss when the revenue is earned or when the fee in respect of the services have been rendered.

Interest received

Interest revenue is recognised when it becomes receivable on a proportional basis taking in to account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

B) CURRENT VERSUS NON-CURRENT CLASSIFICATION

The Company presents assets and liabilities in the statement of financial position based on current/non-current classification. An asset is current when it is:

- Expected to be realised or intended to be sold or consumed in the normal operating cycle
- Held primarily for the purpose of trading
- Expected to be realised within twelve months after the reporting period, or
- Cash or cash equivalent unless restricted from being exchanged or used to settle a liability for at least twelve months after the reporting period

All other assets are classified as non-current.

A liability is current when:

- It is expected to be settled in the normal operating cycle
- It is held primarily for the purpose of trading
- It is due to be settled within twelve months after the reporting period, or
- There is no unconditional right to defer the settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting period

The Company classifies all other liabilities as non-current.

C) TAXES

Income tax

No provision for income tax has been raised as the Company is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONT.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2019

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

2.3 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Goods and services tax

Revenues, expenses and purchased assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Tax Office. In these circumstances, the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the statement of financial position are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

D) CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash and cash equivalents in the statement of financial position comprise cash at bank and on hand and short-term deposits with a maturity of three months or less, which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

E) TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

A receivable represents the Company's right to an amount of consideration that is unconditional (i.e., only the passage of time is required before payment of the consideration is due). Trade receivables, which generally have 30-60 day terms, are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate (EIR) method, less an allowance for expected credit losses (ECLs). All trade receivables held by the Company are measured at amortised cost.

Loan receivables are initially recognised at fair value, carry no interest and are repayable on demand.

For trade receivables, the Company applies a simplified approach in calculating ECLs. Therefore, the Company does not track changes in credit risk, but instead recognises a loss allowance based on lifetime ECLs at each reporting date. The company has established a provision matrix that is based on its historical credit loss experience, adjusted for forward-looking factors specific to the debtors and the economic environment.

F) INVENTORIES

Inventories held for sale are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

G) PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Each class of plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all property, plant and equipment is depreciated over their estimated useful lives commencing from the time the asset is held available for use, consistent with the estimated consumption of the economic benefits embodied in the asset.

Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

Class of fixed asset	Depreciation rates	Depreciation basis
Leasehold improvements at cost	10%	Straight-line
Plant and equipment at cost	10% - 50%	Diminishing value

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

2.3 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

H) INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Intangible assets acquired separately are measured on initial recognition at cost. Following initial recognition, intangible assets are carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses. Internally generated intangibles, excluding capitalised development costs, are not capitalised and the related expenditure is reflected in profit or loss in the period in which the expenditure is incurred.

The useful lives of intangible assets are assessed as either finite or indefinite, and amortisation is calculated accordingly once the asset has been set up and is available for use.

I) TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

Trade and other payables are initially recognised at fair value and are subsequently carried at amortised cost. Due to their short-term nature they are not discounted. They represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the Company prior to the end of the financial year that are unpaid and arise when the Company becomes obliged to make future payments in respect of the purchase of these goods and services. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

J) LEASES

Leases are classified at their inception as either operating or finance leases based on the economic substance of the agreement so as to reflect the risks and benefits incidental to ownership.

Finance leases

Leases of fixed assets, where substantially all the risks and benefits incidental to the ownership of the asset, but not the legal ownership, are transferred to the Company are classified as finance leases. Finance leases are capitalised, recording an asset and a liability equal to the fair value or, if lower, the present value of the minimum lease payments, including any guaranteed residual values. The interest expense is calculated using the interest rate implicit in the lease, if this is practicable to determine; if not, the Company's incremental borrowing rate is used. Interest expense on finance leases is included in finance costs in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income. Leased assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives where it is likely that the Company will obtain ownership of the asset, or over the term of the lease. Lease payments are allocated between the reduction of the lease liability and the lease interest expense for the period in accordance with the EIR method.

Operating leases

Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

Lease incentives received under operating leases are recognised as a liability and amortised on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease term.

K) EMPLOYEE BENEFIT LIABILITIES

Short-term employee benefit obligations

Liabilities arising in respect of wages and salaries, annual leave and any other employee benefits (other than termination benefits) expected to be settled wholly before twelve months after the end of the annual reporting period are measured at the (undiscounted) amounts based on remuneration rates which are expected to be paid when the liability is settled. The expected cost of short-term employee benefits in the form of compensated absences such as annual leave and accumulated sick leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits. All other short-term employee benefit obligations are presented as payables in the statement of financial position.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONT.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2019

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

2.3 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Long-term employee benefit obligations

The provision for other long-term employee benefits, including obligations for long service leave and annual leave, which are not expected to be settled wholly before twelve months after the end of the reporting period, are measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflow to be made in respect of the services provided by employees up to the reporting date. Expected future payments incorporate anticipated future wage and salary levels, durations of service and employee turnover, and are discounted at rates determined by reference to market yields at the end of the reporting period on high quality corporate bonds that are denominated in the currency in which the benefits will be paid, and that have terms approximating to the terms of the related obligation. For currencies in which there is no deep market in such high quality corporate bonds, the market yields (at the end of the reporting period) on government bonds denominated in that currency are used. Any remeasurements for changes in assumptions of obligations for other long-term employee benefits are recognised in profit or loss in the periods in which the change occurs.

Other long-term employee benefit obligations are presented as current liabilities in the statement of financial position if the entity does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, regardless of when the actual settlement is expected to occur. All other long-term employee benefit obligations are presented as non-current liabilities in the statement of financial position.

L) COMPARATIVE FIGURES

Where necessary, comparative figures have been reclassified to conform with changes in presentation in the current year.

3. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS

The Company evaluates estimates and judgements incorporated into the financial report based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and are based on current trends and economic data, obtained both externally and within the Company. Key estimates and judgements impacting the financial statements are as follows:

Recoverable amount of loan receivables

As at 31 October 2019, the Company had outstanding loan receivables with various rugby league clubs. As at the reporting date, management have assessed that these loans are not impaired.

2019

\$

2018

\$

NOTE 4: REVENUE

Sponsorship	8,717,640	7,019,209
ARLC funding	20,367,765	18,006,000
Other grants and subsidies	420,000	420,000
Commercial revenues	1,995,236	2,401,663
Interest received	105,148	198,946
Other revenue	1,523,983	1,725,381
	33,129,772	29,771,199

NOTE 5: CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash at bank and on hand	1,582,040	2,171,553
Short-term deposits	4,800,310	4,747,002
	6,382,350	6,918,555

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents comprise of the above.

Cash flow reconciliation

Loss after tax	(336,218)	(7,265)
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Adjustments for non-cash items:

Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	125,946	140,801
Amortisation and impairment of intangible assets	14,824	-
Net loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment	-	737
Bad debts written off	6,306	3,728
Facilities	-	(150,000)
Licensing reversal	-	(468,560)

Changes in assets and liabilities:

Increase in trade and other receivables	(3,834,445)	(222,604)
Decrease/(increase) in inventories	67,279	(122,167)
Decrease/(increase) in other assets	154,886	(268,264)
Decrease in trade and other payables	(121,170)	(1,065,528)
Increase/(decrease) in employee benefit liabilities	327,996	(10,894)
Increase in provisions	39,060	59,856
Increase/(decrease) in revenue received in advance	3,362,778	(140,600)

Net cash flows used in operating activities	(192,758)	(2,250,760)
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	2019	2018
	\$	\$

NOTE 6: TRADE & OTHER RECEIVABLES**Current**

Trade receivables at amortised cost	5,939,970	2,111,831
Allowance for expected credit losses	(17,800)	(17,800)
Loan receivables at amortised cost	42,250	64,000
	5,964,420	2,158,031

Non-current

Loan receivables at amortised cost	253,350	191,250
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Trade receivables are non-interest bearing and are usually repaid within 30 days.

NOTE 7: INVENTORIES

Merchandise for sale	95,252	162,531
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NOTE 8: OTHER ASSETS**Current**

Prepayments	356,619	511,505
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NOTE 9: PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	PLANT AND EQUIPMENT \$	LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS \$	TOTAL \$
Cost			
At 1 November 2018	898,666	250,000	1,148,666
Additions	99,504	22,509	122,013
At 31 October 2019	998,170	272,509	1,270,679

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONT.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2019

NOTE 9: PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (CONTINUED)

	PLANT AND EQUIPMENT \$	LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS \$	TOTAL \$
Accumulated depreciation			
At 1 November 2018	660,401	62,500	722,901
Depreciation charge for the year	99,755	26,191	125,946
At 31 October 2019	760,156	88,691	848,847
Net book value			
At 31 October 2019	238,014	183,818	421,832
At 31 October 2018	238,265	187,500	425,765

NOTE 10: INTANGIBLE ASSETS

	SOFTWARE \$	TOTAL \$
Cost		
At 1 November 2018	41,279	41,279
Additions	181,084	181,084
At 31 October 2019	222,363	222,363
Accumulated amortisation		
At 1 November 2018	-	-
Amortisation	14,824	14,824
At 31 October 2019	14,824	14,824
Net book value		
At 31 October 2019	207,539	207,539
At 31 October 2018	41,279	41,279

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONT.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2019

2019 2018

\$ \$

NOTE 11: TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

Current

Trade creditors	407,969	976,028
Sundry creditors and accruals	1,219,947	1,143,451
GST payable	573,522	203,129
	2,201,438	2,322,608

NOTE 12: INCOME RECEIVED IN ADVANCE

Current

Income received in advance	3,676,871	314,093
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Income received in advance is comprised of income received from/invoiced to sponsors and partners of the Queensland Rugby Football League Limited prior to 31 October 2019 which relates to the financial year ending 31 October 2020.

NOTE 13: EMPLOYEE BENEFIT LIABILITIES

Current

Annual leave	810,548	582,729
Long service leave	268,757	221,820
	1,079,305	804,549

Non-current

Long service leave	249,008	195,768
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NOTE 14: PROVISIONS

Current

Lease straight-lining	295,382	256,322
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NOTE 15: PROVISIONS (CONTINUED)

LEASE
STRAIGHT-LINING
\$

At 1 November 2017	196,466
Arising during the year	59,856
At 31 October 2018	256,322
Arising during the year	39,060
At 31 October 2019	295,382

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONT.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2019

	2019	2018
	\$	\$

NOTE 15: RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL COMPENSATION

Compensation paid to key management personnel	1,589,382	1,730,215
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The following were key management personnel of the Company at any time during the reporting period, and unless otherwise indicated were key management personnel for the entire period:

Name	Appointment/resignation details
Directors	
B.M. Hatcher	Chair
R.W. Moore	Managing Director
L.W. Anderson	QRL Northern Region Chair
R.M. Garard	Independent Director
B.A.C. Ikin	Independent Director
B.D. McGuire	QRL Central Region Chair
W.B. Prescott	Independent Director
B.A. Tallon	QRL South East Region Chair
D.J. Van de Velde	Statewide Competitions Director
Senior Leadership	
G.F. Maher	Chief Financial Officer & Company Secretary
G.F. Ottaway	Regional General Manager
R. Sawyer	Chief Operating Officer
J.L. Shand	Chief Human Resources Manager

The amount disclosed in the table are the amounts recognised as an expense during the reporting period related to key management personnel.

2019	2018
\$	\$

NOTE 16: COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Operating lease commitments

Non-cancellable operating leases contracted for but not capitalised in the financial statements:

Payable		
- not later than one year	922,979	777,551
- later than one year and not later than five years	3,017,183	2,788,943
- later than five years	1,016,826	1,741,589
	4,956,988	5,308,083

Contingencies

The directors are not aware of any contingent assets or contingent liabilities that have arisen in respect of the Company during the year (2018: \$nil).

NOTE 17: ECONOMIC DEPENDENCY

The Company is dependent upon the Australian Rugby League Commission Limited ("ARLC") providing funding which is used in fostering and further developing the game of rugby league in Queensland.

NOTE 18: MEMBERS' GUARANTEE

The Company is incorporated under the *Corporations Act 2001* and is a Company limited by guarantee. If the Company is wound up, the Constitution states that each member is required to contribute to a maximum of \$20 each towards meeting any outstanding and obligations of the Company. At 31 October 2019, the number of members was 9 (2018:9). The combined total amount that members of the Company are liable to contribute if the Company is wound up is \$180 (2018: \$180).

NOTE 19: EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD

There has been no matter of circumstance, which has arisen since 31 October 2019 that has significantly affected or may significantly affect:

- a) the operations, in financial years subsequent to 31 October 2019, of the Company, or
- b) the result of those operations, or
- c) the state of affairs, in financial years subsequent to 31 October 2019, of the Company.

DIRECTORS' DECLARATION

In accordance with a resolution of the directors of Queensland Rugby Football League Limited, I state that:

In the opinion of the directors:

- (a) the financial statements and notes of Queensland Rugby Football League Limited for the financial year ended 31 October 2019 are in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:
 - (i) giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 31 October 2019 and its performance for the year ended on that date; and
 - (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*; and
- (b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

On behalf of the Board of Directors



B.M. HATCHER
Chairman



R.W. MOORE
Director

Dated this 22 day of January 2020

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF QUEENSLAND RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE LIMITED

OPINION

We have audited the financial report of Queensland Rugby Football League Limited (the Company) which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 October 2019, the statement of profit and loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Company is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:

- a) giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 31 October 2019 and of its financial performance for the year ended on that date; and
- b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

INFORMATION OTHER THAN THE FINANCIAL REPORT AND AUDITOR'S REPORT THEREON

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information is the annual report accompanying the financial report, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DIRECTORS FOR THE FINANCIAL REPORT

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the *Corporations Act 2001* and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF QUEENSLAND RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE LIMITED (CONTINUED)

AUDITOR’S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor’s report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company’s internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors’ use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company’s ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor’s report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor’s report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Ernst & Young
ERNST & YOUNG

Matthew Taylor

MATTHEW TAYLOR
Partner
22 January 2020







ABN 65 009 878 013