

QUIDDITCH AUSTRALIA

MID-YEAR UPDATE



President's Report

Quidditch Australia is immensely proud of the work completed thus far in 2016, having achieved record membership and participation rates, and are incredibly excited for the months and years to come and the opportunities they bring for continued growth and expansion.

On a national level, membership has grown to over 600 people, a 40% increase from last year, helped in large part by the continued expansion in new states and establishment of many new teams. Membership in all five member states has grown significantly, with the highest attendance in Australian quidditch history present at the annual start of season workshop and development camp - QuidCamp. This number is expected to grow even more in 2017 with an increased focus on the player experience and training.

2016 saw the introduction of the first state level quidditch teams - representing the two largest member states in quidditch - who have competed against each other in two thrilling and high intensity State of Origin tournaments. The Victorian Leadbeaters came away victorious in the first, the New South Wales Blue Tongue Wizards in the second, setting themselves up for an action-packed finale later this year. With interest for more high intensity state level quidditch increasing around the country, Quidditch Australia is looking forward to the opportunity to collaborate with state organisations in the creation of a national league.

Australia's own national team - The Dropbears - showed the world the quality and sportspersonship of Australian quidditch, becoming the first country to defeat the United States and take out the gold at the 2016 IQA Quidditch World Cup. The Dropbears are sincerely thankful for the support they received from everyone in Australia, having launched the most successful crowdfunding campaign in quidditch history. The campaign, which included extensive national media coverage and contributions from over 15 countries, raised just over \$17,000.

Having already achieved so much, and with the last clash of State of Origin, as well as the Australian Quidditch Championships still to go, 2016 is set to be an exceptional year for quidditch in Australia. Quidditch Australia is confident in its ability to continue delivering, fostering, and growing extraordinary quidditch and welcomes the opportunities to come.

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Treasurer's Report

Quidditch Australia started this year with \$22981.46 in the bank, and after around \$47,000 flowing in and out of the account, we've ended this half-year with a net profit of \$717.78.

The expenses faced this year were Quidcamp (\$19269.35), the World Cup (around \$20000, covered by the crowd funding campaign, players and support crew), outstanding payments from QUAFL 2015 (\$4180.30), conventions such as Supanova and Oz Comic Con (\$2117.50, which will be reimbursed by the state associations running the events), field hire for various events (\$340.00) and website expenses (\$41.70).

These expenses were counteracted by the streams of income such as Quidcamp fees (\$17070.00), membership fees (\$7040.00), team fees (\$610.00) and the \$4.05 gained in interest.

Looking into the future, the key expenses we will face in the next half-year are the insurance renewal (~\$15000) and QUAFL, but these expenses are likely to be balanced by the huge influx of membership renewals.

QAI are also in the process of creating a PayPal account to make receiving and sending payments more convenient, enabling credit card payments to be done online.

Gameplay Report

Quidditch Australia have been attempting to reform referee administration and training in Australia as well as create new resources to assist training. This process has by necessity been slow as our main goal has been to create a more decentralised system that will last in spite of changes to administrations unlike previous attempts.

Our goal is to work with State organisations to make the training of referees a local league obligation while continuing to provide assistance and oversight as necessary to ensure consistency and uniformity across the country. This process will not be completed in the short term, as these kinds of things never are but taking the time to create a lasting system is our top priority.