GGWAS Chair report of the Society’s activities during 2022.

Eight years old, and the GGWAS continue to punch well above its age/weight as we mature into a club known for its friendly attitude and well-trained members. As a society, we are recognised at the top level within Archery New Zealand as naturing a friendly club that has fun, takes part and produces high quality archers.

Like 2021, this has been a difficult year, the impact of the on-going COVID-19 pandemic with its lockdowns and traffic lights has halted the GGWAS from completing all that was planned for the year. But overall, the GGWAS has weathered the storm of COVID OK so far.

Talking about weather, we have only lost a single shooting day this year due to the field being flooded. In 2021 we lost 5 days shooting due to the weather, not including those lost to COVID.

**On the Competition Field**

Over the year the society has seen some continued success on the Shooting field by a growing group of existing and upcoming Archers.

Some of these are from memory, so please correct me if I’m wrong or missed somebody.

* 2021 The Hamilton Shield (Delayed to March 2022 COVID) – Won for the second time by the society with what is the highest score (2368) so far by a club in the competition. Our 2022 score is even higher (2378), so let’s pray for 3 in a row to equal Mountain Green.
* Jan Mainland Muster – Podiums for Julia (G), Maria (B) and Tony(G) started the year well.
* Jan Rookie Invasion – Gold for Russell, Silver Adelaide in the Development Recurve and Silver for Saahil in the Development Compound.
* Chingford Star (Feb) – Tony (1st) Men’s 50+ Compound, Maria (1st), Melody (2nd) Senior women’s Recurve
* Royal Hutton 2022(Feb) – Had 7 GGWAS Archers took part, with Maria (G) and Julia (S) Tori (8th) Open women’s Recurve. Melody (G) Masters women’s Recurve, John (B) Masters men’s Barebow and Tony (4th) and Colin (6th) in the Master men’s Compound.
* Kenny Rogers (March) Tony (G) Men’s 50+ Compound, Russell (G) Men’s Development Recurve, Maria (S) and Melody (B) Women’s Open Recurve
* Ultimate Qualifier (April) – Melody (5th) Women’s Recurve
* Oceania Challenge 2022 (June) – NZ Ranking/ Oceania Rankings – Men’s Open Compound Tony (6th/49th), Colin (9th/76th), Men’s Open Recurve Russell (13th/92nd), Women’s Open Recurve Julia (1st/3rd), Maria (2nd/5th Losing out on 4th place on gold difference), Victoria (9th/28th) and Melody (10th/29th)
* While the SIDAA Outdoors and Indoors fell due to COVID. The ANZ Indoors did go ahead with the family Tucker together with Tony taking part. Lauren the star, with a goal of not coming last (as she has not shot for 18 months) placing 3rd in the Senior Women’s Compound Target, and 2nd in the Matchplay. Maria shot well to be placed 4th in the match play, missing Bronze in a single arrow shoot out to Rebecca Jones. (No full results available)
* Neroli Fairhall (Oct) – Tony (G) Men’s 50+ Compound, Julia (G) and Maria (S) Women’s Open Recurve.
* Rookie Invasion (Oct) – Saahil (G) Development 45m compound, Russell (G), Eshan (S) Adelaide (B) with Rex(4rd) Development 45m Recurve. Hannah (G) and Ian in Silver in the 35m Novice recurve. Aida (G) Development Traditional/Barebow 35m, Dean (S) Novice Traditional/Barebow 25m
* Graeme Marett (Nov) – Tony (B) Men’s +50 Compound, Julia (G) and Maria (S) Women’s Open Recurve
* Julia is doing well with her goal to shoot Internally in 2023 and Maria is still in with an outside chance.

**Club Membership**

At the end of December in 2021, we had a membership of 37 on the books, with 13 Juniors and 24 seniors. At the end of 2022, we have lost a few members over the year and only held a single beginners course to bring in new archers. Our current membership as at the 30th of November has increased to 41, made up of 16 juniors and 25 seniors.

We have just completed a further beginner course and have a number of those joining in the New Year to build up our numbers further.

One good marker is number of archers turning up each week to shoot, something we have been recording since 2020. In 2020 on average each week the GGWAS had 14 archers, in 2021 this had dropped to 13, but in 2022 this had grown to 18, with some weeks reaching into the high twenties.

With only minor changes in our club members over the 3 years, this is a good indicator that we are doing better, but still not good enough and something to look at in 2023. This is a better result than other clubs and is continuing to rise each month a sign that we are providing a good atmosphere within the Society as a whole.

**Coaching**

Over the past 12 months we have held 2 beginners courses, the first ending in May in which we picked up 10 out of the 18 that took part, 2 have since left (the family moved overseas). The second that ended in November that had 14 beginners looks like we will add 7 of 8 at least to our numbers.

At entry level competitions such as the Rookie Invasion tournaments, we have been commended on not just the quality of the archers that are entering, but the all-round knowledge of what to do with a score sheet, how to score etc. This shows that our method of coaching and continual improvement that we do week on week as well as the coverage of skills we cover in all areas is of a high quality.

On improving the level from Development onwards we need to look at this in 2023, the morning is just not long enough to provide the level of coaching to you all. The coaching team is fully aware of this and please speak up if you feel you have not been looked after. Help will always be provided to those that ask for it.

During the winter months several improvement workshops for those wishing to improve in competitive archery at all levels were held. With 8 archers starting on this journey, and the sessions went down well for those that attended (some via Zoom). These sessions covered Goal Setting, Sports Psychology, Shooting with muscle control, What’s in your kit bag and what’s it for. What to look for when things go wrong and putting it all together. This had people thinking about the road to take on their archery journey, a play list of happy songs (Gnomes!), their favourite place to be and lots more. These will be repeated in 2023, but a commitment to improve and become competitive archers is needed.

The club has a waiting list for beginners courses that we need to address, a trial to increase the time each session but reduce the number of sessions was run for the last beginners course with mixed results. This will be refined over the next 2 courses. While it is good to run several beginners courses each year as these are a good source of income, the goal of the GGWAS Coaches it to run high quality courses that will increase the numbers and diversity of our membership. Not have people waiting more than 6 months on the waiting list and ensure that the new members are supported and integrate well into the Society.

**Club Equipment**

5 new target butts (with several replacement centre’s/cores) have been purchased over the year with 2 new stands built by Tony. This brings our wheeled targets up to 12, with 3 spare butts and 5 large foam targets in total. That the limit in the container.

5 locally sourced cores for these targets have been trialled but the glue used has proved to be an issue and not as user friendly as the cores that come form the manufactured of the targets.

The club has purchased more quivers for general use, plus a set of chest guards and finger tabs to help in finding the correct size needed (these are not for general use). The club has a small range of arrows pullers for sale. The club is on the lookout for several cheap (maybe 2nd hand) release aids to help the compounds decide what ‘type’ is best for them.

Due to the untimely death of one of our members, the club has inherited a set of archery gear to be used/past on at our discretion. We will need to define what this means to the club and how this equipment will be used sometime in the future.

Only one working bee was held in 2022 to rotate the targets on the stands and to set up the new stands.

As ever, the Society owes a big thank you to Maria as the owner of MC Archery. As you know, it is Maria who lends the society all the Bows, Arrows and all the little finger tabs, bracers and bit’s and bob’s that some of you see on the field each week. 2022 has not been kind to some of these equipment and GGWAS has provided 3 doz replacement arrows and 5 stands to MC Archery as thanks.

**Club Diversity**

We continue to have a Society that is inclusive in more ways than one. All types of bow are welcome at the GGWAS, however I am yet to see a cross bow on our field (but I’m working on this).

We have archers that shoot multiple bow types and can shoot these to a high standard, especially in cross over between Olympic Recurve and Barebow as proved nu our Hamilton shield archers.

We have members that come from a range of backgrounds and from the 4 corners of the world, I think we need some south American now to complete the set, and maybe an Australian (if we have to). I hope that we make you all feel welcome. If not let us know what we need to change, and how we can do so.

**Issues over the year**

GGWAS is monitoring what is happening with regards to the ‘ground’ the container sits on, but this is a school concern that we have no control over, even if it moves it will still be on the field. We are also keeping an eye on the planned movement of Marion College School and what this might mean to the benefit of the society.

The Christchurch club has more pressing needs, they will me moving to McLeans Island maybe during 2023. I ask all society continues to be supportive to the Christchurch club in what must be a very difficult time for them and what may also have a big impact on our own society.

The Society elected not to become a registered club with Archery New Zealand at an EGM held in August, as no perceived benefit to the club come be seen from the information provided. This will need to be monitored over the year and future meeting(s) held each year in August to review this.

Safety issues, the society has had 3 lapses in it’s safety protocol over the year, all have been with regards to calling archers to the line. It is the responsibility of all to ensure the field is safe and, in any doubt, to call a stop to shooting without the fear of reprisal. Only to resume shooting once the issue has been confirmed as safe, with an all clear given by a senior member of the club. If 2 shooting lines in operation a minimum gap of 20 meters must be enforced between the edge of the targets and be in a separate roped off area.

**Looking forward to 2023**

I hope that we can bring more GGWAS members to “Competitive” readiness in 2023, so that others will see the growth and standard of the archers at the GGWAS. We still have the most prominent club shirt on the shooting line and would like to see more of them.

In January 2023, Colin will be holding a bow tuning workshop down at the club field, for those wishing to learn about bow set up and how to make it shoot better.

We will continue to look at range of Interclub-Social type competitions such as Darts (with the Christchurch club) and maybe running a few short distance Major competitions with limited entry.

The WEB site is slowly catching up and becoming more active and this will continue to evolve.

The role of running the club in 2022 was expanded to include more people and this will continue 2023. James gets a special mention here as he has shown that he can support Colin on a Sunday morning to assist with Coaching and this will help the society in supporting it’s archers to progress

**Thankyou’s**

To Close I need to say a few Thanks you’ s to some of the members of the Society for their help and support over the year.

Maria (Both as the owner of MC Archery as well as the Societies Secretary) - the club could not function without the loan of equipment. For the handling of club E-mails and requests over the year, the printing of score sheets and documents needed that make the society function.

Victoria (Treasure and Membership) – Collecting and recording the monies each week freeing up Colin and Maria and providing details to the secretary of membership each month. At the start of the year, she was also our COVID check representative ensuring that the society could run under the COVID restrictions.

To our Coaches, (Maria, John, Julia, Victoria, Sophie and Janes together with Tony). Excellent job team, just keep doing what you are, and the society will continue to prosper.

To Tony and John, who continue to look after our club’s equipment.

To John and Tony and all the others, for being down at the club early with Maria each Sunday helping to get the field ready for shooting to start on time

But most of all to you as Society members for making the GGWAS what it is, the friendliest Archery club in New Zealand.

I’m sure to have missed a thank you, or to someone that has won an award over the year, for that I’ ask for forgiveness and will amend this report if needed before storing with the club’s records and now on the WEB site once formatted a little better!

Please accept this summary of the societies activities over 2022.

Colin Tucker

Society President 2022

Presented 11/12/2022