



October 2020

Dear FOWRF Member

RE: FRIENDS OF WARRINGAH RUGBY FOUNDATION – 2020 ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

I am writing to you to update you on the progress of the Friends of Warringah Rugby Foundation (“FOWRF”) for the 2020 year. Before I do this, I would like to thank you for your membership of the FOWRF. Your membership of the FOWRF is highly valued and your annual financial contribution helps contribute to the ongoing success of the Rats.

It is pretty obvious to say that 2020 was like no year that we have ever seen before. It proved to be a difficult year, both on and off the field, but your support of the FOWRF during this difficult period was greatly appreciated.

Unfortunately, we were unable to proceed with our usual social events in 2020 i.e.

- Dinner with First Grade
- FOWRF Community Lunch; and
- The annual FOWRF Dinner.

Obviously, we are hopeful of having these events in 2021.

Friends of Warringah Rugby Foundation Limited

As you are aware, the FOWRF was reformed in mid-2010. As of October 2020, we have over 50 contributors (the names of each of the FOWRF contributors can be found on the FOWRF website – www.friendsofwarringah.com) and in the last nine years we have raised over \$500,000. As a reminder:

- The assets of the FOWRF are kept separate from those of the WRC;
- The decision as to the expenditure of the contributions is made independently by the FOWRF Committee and,
- All FOWRF members are welcome to review the financial records, attend any Committee meetings or provide any input or suggestions for future projects or fundraising activities.

In 2019, the Friends of Warringah decided to establish the Friends of Warringah Rugby Foundation Limited ACN 119 353 650 (the “Foundation”) and become a fundraising partner of the Australian Sports Foundation (“ASF”).

The Foundation is registered with and conducted under the charter of the ASF. The ASF was established by the Australian Government to raise funds through public and corporate donations for the development of sport in Australia. The ASF’s listing in the Income Tax Assessment Act (1977) means donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible. Registration with the ASF allows donations to the ASF in support of the Foundation to attract tax deduction.



What has your FOWRF membership contributed in 2020?

The major expenditure for 2020 has been as follows:

- In March 2020 we paid for the gym at the Rats to be “deep cleaned” before the lockdown reduce the risk of COVID-19 infections;
- Sponsored the Rats 7s program for 2020;
- Sponsored the Club’s trial matches/training weekend at Scone in March;
- Contributed to the cost of game day video services for use by the Coaches and players;
- Funded Rats First Grade front rower, Sam Needs and Rory O’Connor, and First Grade Colts Coach Sailosi Tagicakibau to provide specialised coaching sessions throughout the season for our Junior Clubs and Warringah Representative sides. Unfortunately, this program was curtailed due to COVID-19 but it is our intention to re-introduce in 2021;
- Contributed to the Richard Tombs fundraising lunch at Mona Vale Golf Club;
- Purchased additional GPS machines and training App for use by the trainers and players;
- Paid for ground hire at the Narrabeen Sports Academy in February 2020 to enable pre-season training to continue;
- Funded the Warringah Junior representative teams to undergo the Sandhill Warriors training at Palm Beach;
- Paid for First Grade to attend the C42 gym and complete a boxing class as part of the pre-season training;
- Funded the production of the weekly newsletter “Rats Tales” by former News Limited gun reporter, Jon Geddes (a big thank you to Luke Holmes and Karen Watson for assisting in the production of Rats Tales); and
- Financial assistance to relocate some of the interstate players.



It is our continued intention to prioritise our projects in accordance with what we see as providing the most benefit to WRC across the spectrum from Schools to Juniors to Colts to Grade. We will be happy to receive your suggestions for consideration.



2020 FOWRF Player of the Year

This year we had joint winners of the 2020 FOWRF Player of the Year...they were Sam Ward and Ben Marr.

The FOWRF members voted for 11 different individual players which illustrates the wide range of opinions. Sam and Ben were rewarded for their fantastic seasons with a cheque for \$500 each to be spent on work/educational/rugby expenses.



Congratulations to both Sam and Ben on a fantastic 2020 and we look forward to seeing Ben at Rat Park again next year and wish club legend, Sam, well for his retirement!!!





2020 FOWRF Community Lunch

Unfortunately, COVID-19 meant that we were unable to have our annual FOWRF Community Lunch. We are hopeful of having our lunch in 2021.

VALE – Peter MacDermott

IT was with sadness that during 2020 the Friends of Warringah Rugby Foundation lost one of our own...long-time FOWRF member, Peter MacDermott.

Peter loved nothing better than sitting in the Spencers Creek Box with his mates watching the Mighty Rats win at Rat Park. Peter was a warm, friendly and generous man and will be missed by all at Rat Park.



Peter is closest to camera.

FOWRF Box at Rat Park

As you are probably aware, the FOWRF have a corporate box at Rat Park which you are able to utilise. It is envisaged that this will continue for season 2021. The FOWRF box proven to be very popular with FOWRF members and their guests.

New Members

Season 2021 is a very important year for the Rats as the Club looks to continue to build on the recent successes. It would be great if we could continue to expand the FOWRF membership further. If you are aware of any friends, other Rats supporters or colleagues that might be interested in joining the FOWRF, please let us know or have them contact one of the FOWRF committee.

Contacts

If you have questions about this newsletter or the operation of the FOWRF, please do not hesitate to contact any of the FOWRF Directors:

Stephen Crawford
Stephen Doyle

John Heffernan
Brendan Paddison

Paul Schober
Bob Buckingham

Keep an eye on the FOWRF website for news and updates: www.friendsofwarringah.com. Look forward to seeing you at Rat Park in 2021!!!



Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Stephen Crawford'.

STEPHEN CRAWFORD
Chairman
Friends of Warringah Rugby Foundation
0419 798 056

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Brendan Paddison'.

BRENDAN PADDISON
Secretary
Friends of Warringah Rugby Foundation
0419 693 848