

GRACE PARK HAWTHORN CLUB

Minutes of the GPHC Annual General Meeting and Special General Meeting held on Monday 1st December 2025 at 6.30pm

1. OPENING AND WELCOME

Jane Nathan OAM opened the meeting at 6:31pm and welcomed all members to the meeting and confirmed a quorum was in attendance.

Jane recognised the Past Presidents in attendance:

- Austen Diggle
- Colin Davis
- David Barrie
- Bill Hunt

Apologies were noted from:

- Adam Gough
- Cleo Nanni
- David Allison
- Steven Cuff
- Terry and Sandra Stone

2. PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

The 2024 AGM meeting minutes were presented with no questions. The minutes were moved by Bill Hunt as a true and accurate record and seconded by Cherie Leatham and the motion was carried.

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Jane spoke to her eight years on the Club Committee and seven years as President. It has been an eventful and demanding time for the club with multiple challenges. Key project included navigating COVID-19 rules and lockdowns, installation of LED lights, changes to the club operational structure, the refurbishment of courts 6 and 7, and transition from Terry and Sandra Stone to Hubble Tennis.

While over the last 12 months the club has continued to evolve with the Bendigo Bank partnership enabling the installation of a very popular pickleball court. Multiple popular member events, headlined by our annual quiz night which raised almost \$8k for club operations.

Jane acknowledged the wonderful staff she has worked with. The business partners who contribute so much to the club community. The support of the committee members over the years. The support of former Presidents who have always been willing to provide insight or advice.

Jane said she is very proud of the position the club is in now. Set up for a new phase of growth under Angus Henderson.

Jane wished everyone a wonderful Christmas and happy, healthy 2026.

The President's Report was moved by Barry Durham and seconded by Rebecca Xuereb

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

Gaurav summarised the 2024-25 financial year for GPHC.

Generally, the club had a satisfactory financial performance. Revenue was flat around A\$1m comprised roughly one third memberships and two thirds functions, events and sporting participation fees.

Expenses were broadly flat year on year, comprising employee costs, operational costs and cost of sales.

Whilst the operating result was a deficit, as per previous years, this included non-cash depreciation expense. From a cash viewpoint, the club delivered a positive operational result of \$66k.

Gaurav noted the club is in a stable financial position at the time of the meeting.

Mandy D'Angelo asked what caused the reduced membership revenue. Gaurav responded that it was deemed to be due primarily to an increase in fees the previous year, that we have already seen an improvement this year and expect it to stabilise.

The Treasurer's Report was moved by Gaurav Gupta and seconded by Jane Nathan

5. SPECIAL RESOLUTION

Club Secretary Jimmy Boyle spoke to the Special Resolution that was sent to Members.

The Club Rules will be updated as described below:

- A. The creation of a new Youth Membership Category to cater for members aged between 18 and 25 years old as of 1st August on the renewal year. This will allow the club to have an intermediate category between junior and full adult which is causing membership drop off,
- B. In accordance with creating Youth Membership above, that the Junior Membership Category be clarified as those younger than 18 years old,
- C. Clarification that the legacy Seniors Membership group, a discretionary lower fee subset of the Full Adult membership category which was created to retain members who retire, be clarified to include only members aged 70 years or older as of 1st August on the renewal year, who have 10+ years of prior continuous full adult membership with the club, and
- D. Clarification that the requirement for automatic Life Membership Category (known as Veteran) is 35 years consecutive years as a Full Adult category member.

Matt Birch enquired as to the expected impact on churn. Jimmy responded that we hope the new category can be used to help retain junior members.

David Barry asked about the impact on revenue. Jimmy noted we expect to price the category at a price to retain as many youth members as possible, and also attract new young adults at a lower rate and joining fee. He also noted that the formalisation of the Seniors category should assist in retaining some older members.

The meeting agreed to vote on the updates concurrently.

The special resolution was passed by unanimous vote.

6. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

Jane Nathan advised the following results:

- President: one nomination from Angus Henderson who is duly elected
- Secretary: one nomination from Jimmy Boyle who is duly elected
- Treasurer: one nomination from Gaurav Gupta who is duly elected
- General Committee: two nominations from Geoff Sanders, Luke Wrigley who are both duly elected.

Jane vacated the Chair and invited the new President Angus Henderson to continue the meeting.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

Wes Neylon asked about who is responsible for the tennis scholarships, and does the club have a strategy around high performance tennis. We noted he had sent a letter which was not responded to promptly. Angus Henderson responded that the first approach should be to the Tennis Convenor, and then to Tennis Committee, and lastly the Club Committee if no response or unsatisfactory response is received. Angus also noted that the club is keen to promote the highest level of both tennis and squash and welcomes ideas.

Tennis Convenor Carla Smarrelli responded that yes scholarships were a Tennis Committee matter with criteria and that the committee would follow up in relation to the correspondence.

David Barry thanked Jane Nathan for her service as President and congratulated her on passing on the baton with the club in good heart.

Deb Walsh raised what had happened to naming Squash Court 1 after "Boots" Harrold which had been proposed after his passing. Jane Nathan responded that the children of the deceased member were offered the naming rights however at the time they declined. It was agreed to follow it up again.

Austin Diggle thanked Jane Nathan for work as President and noted the achievements of the club during her tenure as President, including getting through Covid 19 Pandemic.

Matt Birch asked about the possibility of the club installing a sauna as this is one gap in service versus similar clubs in Melbourne. Angus responded that yes this would be considered if finances allow and there is demonstrable member support, we would also welcome member contributions and fundraising towards a discretionary item such as this.

Angus Henderson spoke about his time on the committee with Jane Nathan. Angus noted the strong leadership provided and significant achievements during a time of significant change. Angus proposed a formal vote of thanks which was seconded by David Barry and Austen Diggle and was passed with applause. A small gift and flowers were presented to Jane.

8. MEETING CLOSE

Angus Henderson thanked everyone for attending the meeting and the meeting was closed at 7:22pm.