

**MINUTES OF THE 184th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
MELBOURNE CRICKET CLUB
HELD VIA ONLINE PLATFORM
ON WEDNESDAY 28 JULY, 2021 AT 7:30PM**

1. WELCOME

Club Manager Mr. Mark Anderson welcomed members to the 184th Annual General Meeting of the Melbourne Cricket Club, and advised that he would be going through some house-keeping matters. He noted that due to the Covid-19 pandemic, tonight's meeting was being held via the Lumi platform which allows Members to participate remotely. He also informed Members that this is a private meeting of the MCC for its Committee and Members. He advised that as per Club rules, while all members are welcome to attend the meeting, only Full Members can vote on matters of the meeting. He then explained how Full Members could cast their votes when prompted and how all Members could ask questions when invited. He also provided information on how Members can receive technical assistance throughout the meeting if needed. Mr. Anderson then turned the time over to the Chairman and MCC President, Mr. Michael Happell to conduct the meeting.

The Chairman formally declared the meeting open, advising that the required number to form a quorum had been met. He then acknowledged the traditional owners of the land the meeting was being broadcast from, namely the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation and paid his respects to their Elders past, present and emerging. He also extended that acknowledgement to the traditional owners of all lands on which Members are joining the meeting from and to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples joining the meeting.

The Chairman noted that the meeting had been due to be held in a hybrid format, with Members able to attend the meeting either in person or online. However the recent Covid-19 outbreak in Victoria meant that meeting was once again being held in a solely virtual format. He thanked all Members for their attendance, particularly when the Olympics were on television and extended his congratulations to member Jessica Morrison for winning a gold medal in the Womens Rowing Fours. He also congratulated members Matthew Temple and Alexander Graham for their Bronze medals in the Mens 4 x 200 metre freestyle relay and Mixed 4 x 100 metre medley relay respectively. He also reiterated that the meeting is a private meeting for the members.

He then advised that apologies had been received from Life Members Mr. Bruce Church and Mr. David Jones, as well as recently retired Vice-President Ms. Karen Wood and former Committee Members Mr. Charles Sitch and Mr. Ted Yencken. He welcomed Life Members Mr. Bob Lloyd, Mr. David Meiklejohn and Mr. Paul Sheahan, as well as former office bearers, Mr. Stephen Spargo, Mr. Steven Smith and Mr. David Crow, along with former Committee Member Mr. Peter Dakin. He then noted that Mr. Bernie Szentirmay and Mr. Adam Dodd from KPMG, the Club's auditors, were also in attendance, as well as Mr. Grant Rowlands from Ashurst, legal advisors to the Club. He also welcomed representatives from the Club's Sporting Sections and Special Interest Groups.

Introductions were given to Committee members (with their photographs displayed on a slide as all were joining from home)- Mr. Christian Johnston (Vice-President), Ms. Sally Macindoe (Vice President), Mr. Fred Oldfield (Vice-President), Mr. Geoff Roberts (Treasurer), Mr. Adrian Anderson, Mr. Ted Baillieu, Mr. James Bennett, Ms. Annabel Brebner, Mrs. Clare Cannon, Ms. Paula Dwyer, Mr. Peter King and Ms. Kalpana Ramani.

Next, he introduced CEO Mr. Stuart Fox and members of the Executive Leadership Team (with their photographs displayed on a slide)- Mr. Clive Driscoll (General Manager - Finance and Business Development), Ms. Donna Price, (General Manager- People & Culture), Ms. Jennifer Watt (General Manager- Commercial Operations & Partnerships), Mr. Josh Eltringham (General Manager- Venue & Event Services), Mr. Peter Wearne (General Manager- Facilities), Mr. Rey Sumaru (General Manager- IT & Innovation) and Ms. Tanya Gallina (General Manager- Club Services & Heritage).

The Chairman noted that the minutes of the 2020 AGM have been signed as a true and correct record and advised that all matters raised were addressed either in the meeting or followed up directly with members afterwards.

The Chairman advised that the meeting would be conducted in 3 parts as follows-

- President's Report, CEO Report, Treasurers Report
- Outcome of Elections
- General Business, including a Life Membership Nomination.

2. PRESIDENT's REPORT

The President commenced his report by noting that when he spoke at the 2020 AGM, the Club was in the midst of a very significant crisis due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Whilst he has communicated with Members via newsletters on many occasions during the ensuing 12 months, he felt it would be an opportune time to reflect at a high level on how the Club has navigated through the pandemic, noting the following-

- Last year's AGM fell in the midst of a very long lockdown period, with AFL games not being played in Victoria and the cricket season being in some doubt. On top of this, MCG Tours, the Australian Sports Museum (ASM), Member non-game day facilities and the Club's sporting sections were all in a long period of hibernation.
- At the 2020 meeting, the financial impact on the Club was uncertain, but was forecasted to be around \$17 million, a result some \$23 million below the budget originally set for the year.
- Sadly, no AFL finals matches were played at the Ground. Although it was difficult to see the Grand Final take place away from the MCG, the AFL and the Queensland Government are to be congratulated for keeping the season afloat and hosting a successful Grand Final.
- After this time, things did start to move in a positive direction with Victoria beginning to open up again. The Club was then able to execute its plans to resume Club activities and match day content at the Ground, thereby bringing all Club facilities out of hibernation. This was a very complex project, and Stuart Fox and the whole MCC team, (including staff, contractors and volunteers for MCG Tours, the ASM and the Club's Sporting Sections) are to be congratulated for the way this was executed, particularly in circumstances where the rules were changing daily.
- Boxing Day 2020 was a great day for the Club, with Members able to watch live sport at the Ground again. While there were crowd limits and Covid protocols dictated by the Government that needed to be navigated, there was a fantastic atmosphere.
- AFL 2021 commenced very successfully in March, with crowd limits and Covid restrictions being further eased.
- By the end of the financial year on 31 March 2021, things were getting back on track with all operations back up and running and attendances at AFL matches on the rise. Coupled with a successful Cricket season, this all resulted in the financial result for the year being better than originally forecasted at last year's AGM, with a consolidated net loss for the year of around \$9 million.

- Things continued to track well through April and into May. Unfortunately the roller-coaster ride that the pandemic is then took another sharp downward dip with the Delta strain seeing the state flipping in and out of lockdowns since late May.
- While the state is now emerging from lockdown, Members will be disappointed that crowds are still not permitted at sporting events. The Club is in constant contact with the AFL and State Government on this and while nothing in the current climate is certain, there is hope that so long as there are not further significant outbreaks in the community that there will be a return of crowds in time for the AFL finals. Hopefully the pandemic does not affect what promises to be a very exciting summer of Cricket, with the Boxing Day Test against the old enemy being the obvious highlight.
- Recently, the Committee again faced the difficult task of setting membership subscriptions for the upcoming year in very challenging circumstances. As previously communicated, the Committee sought to balance the future sustainability of the Club and its role as MCG Ground Manager with the interruption to member amenity experienced during the pandemic. Therefore it was decided that a 30% discount for all categories (excluding 50 year members) struck the best balance.

The President also highlighted the following-

- The MCC Foundation continues to do great work. While it is a sporting charitable foundation separate to the operations of the Club from a legal and accounting perspective, given the support the Foundation gives to Club activities, some of the Foundations activities have once again been showcased in the Annual Report. Aside from the Club's Sporting Sections, the Foundation has continued to advance sporting opportunities to others through its community partnerships with the Bachar Houli Foundation, Special Olympics Australia, the Sports Excellence Scholarship Fund and the grassing of the red-dirt oval in the Northern Territory Town of Santa Teresa.
- Last September, Members were informed of the sad passing of two great Members, namely Dean Jones AM (the most capped MCC Test Cricketer) and Mark Smith, former Committee member. Both men were extraordinary and had a significant impact on the Club. The Annual Report contained a special tribute to Dean, recognising his unique contribution to the cricketing world.

The President concluded his marks with votes of thanks on behalf of all Members to the following individuals/groups-

- Former Committee Vice President Karen Wood and Former Committee Member Russel Howcroft, who both retired from the Committee in March.
- Fellow Committee members for their great service to the Club during very challenging times.
- MCC CEO Stuart Fox and the Management team who have worked tirelessly and relentlessly over the past 12 months.
- MCG Trust, led by Steve Bracks, who the Committee has worked very closely with during the pandemic. Their responsiveness and support in their role of overseeing the ground on behalf of the Government has been very much appreciated.

Finally the President thanked all Members for their support during such a challenging 12 months. The Committee and Management are fully aware of the significant compromises to member experience, both in terms of the number of football matches available to attend and the nature of the Covid safe environment in the Reserve on match days. He noted that he continues to be touched by the number of members who have contacted him to express their support for the Club and their gratitude for the role that the Committee and Management have played in meeting the challenges faced by the Club during the pandemic.

The Chairman then handed the time over to Mr. Stuart Fox, CEO, to give his report.

3. CEO's REPORT

The CEO thanked the Chairman and commenced his report by showing a video depicting the last 12 months for the Club and the Ground. He commented that it had been a rollercoaster year and it was quite emotional watching the video and remembering the tough decisions made and disappointment of losing matches. However, he also felt immense pride in watching the team build an industry leading return to crowds plan and the joy of seeing Members arrive for the Boxing Day Test. He noted that he was incredibly proud of the collective work across all stakeholders, partners and staff who showed true resilience in ensuring the Club's recovery from the pandemic.

In further reflecting on the past year, the CEO highlighted the following-

- 8 March, 2020 saw the Ground play host to the amazing spectacle of the T20 Womens World Cup Final. Held on International Womens Day, 86,174 spectators witnessed an amazing victory by the Australian team.
- No-one could have imagined that just two weeks later, the Ground would be hosting AFL Round 1 matches without crowds, followed by a subsequent suspension of the season due to the Victorian lockdown. When the AFL season did recommence in June, just 7 games were played at the Ground, all without crowds. It quickly became obvious that games are not the same without crowds.
- By the start of April, all operations at the MCG were suspended, along with the seasons of all the Club's Sporting Sections. The majority of the Club's workforce were asked to work from home.
- For the best part of 18 months, Club operations have had to be adapted week by week. In fact, during the past month, it has been a day by day proposition.
- The Committee and Management put in place a number of initiatives to support and protect staff, however the Club was not immune to the pain experienced by so many organisations during the pandemic. A small reduction to the workforce was made and 80% of staff were partially stood down during the lockdown period.
- The very sudden and unforeseeable changes to the MCG's normally reliable content schedule, drastically changed operations and the expected benefits to Members.
- Leading into Round 1 of the 2020 AFL season, the Ground was fully stocked with food and beverages. When it became clear that this stock would not be used, the Club, in conjunction with catering partner Epicure, donated the more than 12,000 food and beverage units to Second Bite, a leading national food rescue organisation.
- The pandemic resulted in the postponement of the Mens T20 2020 World Cup to October/November 2022, with the Ground set to host 7 matches and the Final.
- While the Ground laid empty, the Club explored new ways to engage with Members and the broader community. As part of this effort, two new online content series were introduced, hosted by respected media personalities Nat Edwards and Anthony "Huddo" Hudson, involving interviews with some of Australia's great athletes. The Club also continues to produce a podcast exclusive to Members, also hosted by "Huddo".
- The Club maintains a strong appetite to play a major leadership role throughout the recovery from the pandemic. The CEO noted he had joined his peers on the Australian Live Entertainment Industry Forum to support the reintroduction of events with crowds. General Manager of Facilities, Peter Wearne was added to the global taskforce, WELL Advisory on Sports and Entertainment Venues, to learn from other likeminded organisations.

- In preparation for a COVID-safe reopening, Management consulted with venues throughout Australia who had already been hosting events. These discussions were particularly useful as the Ground got ready to host the Boxing Day Test.
- During the quieter periods in 2020, the Club took the opportunity to make some improvements to the infrastructure at the Ground. This included the installation of 220 solar panels along the roofline of the Northern Stand in collaboration with partner, Energy Australia. These panels are now used to help power the stadium's innovative water recycling facility located in Yarra Park.
- Throughout the pandemic, the Club worked closely with the main venue hirers, namely the AFL and Cricket Australia to understand their challenges and requirements for events to once again be hosted at the Ground. Despite the challenges, the strong relationships forged positive outcomes for the Ground.
- While it was gut wrenching to lose the opportunity to host the 2020 AFL Grand Final, the Club was pleased to see an additional Grand Final added to the current agreement, which also included two extra games to be played at the Ground in 2022 and 2023.
- In late October 2020, Cricket Australia and the Melbourne Cricket Club announced a new three-year venue hire agreement for the Ground which began with the hosting of the 31st consecutive Boxing Day Test. The agreement sees the Ground confirmed to host both international and domestic cricket until at least the 2022/23 season.
- The Ground hosted a successful Boxing Day Test between Australia and India before the Big Bash League season began in January 2021. Whilst crowd capacity was reduced for the Cricket season, it was just so pleasing to see the stadium come back to life.
- As depicted in the video, during the period where the Ground was dormant, weeds popped up, the seating bowl was incredibly dusty and even some animals took up residence at the Ground. With only Security and Arenas staff there during this time, it was a ghost town. It was the first time in its lifetime that the Ground had been essentially turned off. When it came time to switch it back on in the lead up to the Boxing Day Test, it was quite a large undertaking- every inch of the stadium had to be cleaned, all weeds removed, every appliance tested and all lights checked.
- In a stark contrast to the months the MCG lay unused during the height of lockdown, one of the most pleasing sights in 2020 was when the seven gates of the stadium reopened on Boxing Day morning. It was a moment the whole team worked tirelessly to achieve, from pulling together various iterations of COVIDSafe event plans to organising the cleaning roster to communicating all of the new protocols. The CEO noted he is extremely proud of the team's dedicated and hard work to set the Ground up for a successful Boxing Day Test, BBL season and start of the 2021 AFL Premiership Season.
- The much loved Club life has also looked very different. Popular member functions such as the Norm Smith Oration, Bradman Lunch, Grand Final Lunch, Brownlow Medal Dinner, Grand Final Lunch, Boxing Day Test Breakfast and the Women in Cricket Day 2 Breakfast were all unfortunately cancelled. The Club's Special Interest Groups were impacted in the same manner with many being unable to hold their marquee events and important social gatherings. The disruption to community sport was also felt with all Sporting Sections unable to participate and interact in their normal manner.
- There has been much disruption and changes to the operations of the Members Reserve over the past 18 months, including a fully ticketed reserve with no walk-ups, no paper tickets, constant changes to capacity, cashless transactions, no dwelling in bars, reduced dining capacities in restaurants and the introduction of consumption of alcohol in seats. While the Committee and Management understand that there are mixed views on many of these changes, several were a requirement of the Victorian Government's Department of Health to allow crowds to return to the Ground. None of these changes are set in stone and the Committee and Management will continue to review them as the environment evolves.

- Prior to the start of the pandemic, the Club had spent the good part of 12 months building the new 5 year Strategic Plan and it was due to be launched in April 2020. However this was delayed due to the Covid environment and the impacts on the business. Following extensive reviews, the Plan was launched instead in April of this year (the start of the financial year) and it will run through until April 2026. All Members are encouraged to go online and view a summary of the Plan on the Club's website.

The CEO then commented that through the many challenges and adversities faced in recent times, he had been continuously buoyed on by the strength of its people and the acts of leadership shown by those around the Club.

He then offered his thanks to the following for their support-

- To MCC President Michael Happell and the Committee
- Steve Bracks and MCG Trust
- Icon partners
- Cricket Australia, Cricket Victoria and the ICC
- AFL
- The 343 volunteers across the Library, Museum and Tours
- Importantly to the Executive Management Team and staff. The CEO commented that he was very proud of them all as they have persevered through the constant disruption of the pandemic. He observed that there had been some exceptional displays of commitment to this great club during times of adversity.
- Finally, to the members and visitors who have returned in recent months, whether it had been to enjoy the Boxing Day Test, watch a game of footy or visit the Australian Sports Museum. For staff there is nothing better than seeing people, and particularly the Members, enjoying the Ground.

The CEO then concluded by noting that while his report had reflected on many of the unfortunate circumstances and challenges of the past 18 months, it was important to remain positive. He noted that the Club is 184 years old, with 140,000 loyal members and 215,000 people waiting to become a member. Whilst the current disruptions has been annoyingly painful, the Club will not let a global pandemic beat it. He then stated that as the closing scene of the video depicted, "greatness will return and we will return to greatness". He then handed back to the Chairman.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Fox for his remarks and advised that the Club's financial statements for the year would now be presented. He advised that members who had specific questions relating solely to the finance report could submit these throughout the presentation and that these would be answered at the conclusion of the Treasurer's Report.

He proposed the motion that the 2020/21 Annual Report and Financial Statements be approved.

He then introduced the Treasurer, Mr. Geoff Roberts, to second the motion and present the Treasurer's Report.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer commenced his report by observing that Members had experienced a very interesting year, as had the Club. With respect to the financial performance of the Club, it materially affected by having no crowds in the calendar year 2020 and capped crowds for the international Cricket season and the early rounds of the 2021 AFL season. The normal AFL and

cricket content would see over 3.3 million patrons through the gates, compared to just 355,000 for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The Treasurer reported that in summary, the Club's revenue reduced by approximately \$60 million and expenses by approximately \$40 million resulting in the profit reported last year of just under \$11 million reducing approximately \$20 million to a loss this year of just under \$9 million. However, the Club remains in a strong financial position thanks to both the support of the Members and the prompt action taken by Management to limit discretionary spending under the leadership of CEO Stuart Fox. Cash has remained relatively consistent at \$25 million even after paying down nearly \$16 million of loans and necessary, but reduced capital expenditure of \$6 million.

The Treasurer then advised that he would explain the finances in further detail through 3 waterfall charts which show the key movements from the 2020 to 2021 year.

Chart 1- Revenue

The Treasurer noted that revenue had reduced from \$162.8 million in 2020 to \$102.1 million in 2021 for the following main reasons;

- Event revenue, due to content loss reduced by \$28.9 million split fairly evenly between gate revenue and catering revenue.
- Commercial revenue reduced \$23.5 million due to loss of advertising rent on the ground and scoreboard, corporate suites and other sponsors.
- Membership revenue reduced \$8.8 million primarily due to the 30% discount on membership fees.
- AFL revenue for the contribution and licence fee reduced by \$6.6 million
- Other reductions are as itemised in the waterfall chart but are due primarily to lower attendances.
- These reductions were partially offset by a JobKeeper grant of \$15.5 million which was fully passed onto our employees; \$11.1 million to casual event staff and \$4.4 million to permanent staff.

Chart 2- Expenditure

Expenses reduced from \$152.2 million in 2020 to \$111 million in 2021 with the major contributors to the decrease being;

- Member's contribution to the gate reduced by \$15.5 million as members could not attend most games.
- Similarly contributions to AFL clubs reduced by \$11.6 million due to reduced content.
- Therefore combined the above two items which total \$27.1 million offset most of the above \$28.8 million loss of event revenue.
- The majority of the other expense categories itemised in the waterfall chart reduced due to a concerted effort from management to reduce expenditure and defer contracts where possible.
- Event and security expenses would have reduced by \$7 million but as JobKeeper for casual event staff of \$11.1 million flowed in and out of the MCC, expenses increased \$4 million.
- Depreciation increased by \$2.5 million because of the \$60 million of capital additions in the previous year now being depreciated.

Chart 3- Movement of cash

The Treasurer remarked that cash has remained quite consistent increasing by \$856,000 from \$24.757 million to \$25.613 million;

- Receipts included receipts from customers of \$78 million with members making up the majority of this amount plus receipts of \$15 million from JobKeeper as discussed and Contributions of \$7 million.
- Payments included all expense of \$67 million plus interest of \$10 million, a loan repayment of \$15 million (leaving a remaining loan balance of \$93 million) and capital expenditure of \$6 million.

The Treasurer concluded by remarking that although the Club has been heavily impacted by the pandemic, Management had reacted swiftly and effectively to keep the Club in a strong financial position.

The Treasurer seconded the motion that the 2020/21 Annual Report and Financial Statements be approved. He then referred back to the Chairman to facilitate any member questions on his report.

Mr. Graeme Macmillan (Member no. 24015) asked if the Treasurer would consider consolidating the Melbourne Cricket Club Foundation into the next Club accounts, considering the Foundation contains significant assets sourced from Member income that has been progressively transferred to the Foundation over many years.

The Treasurer responded that the MCC Foundation is a separate organisation with a separate Board that promotes participation in sport and philanthropic endeavours in the community. Under the Foundation's Constitution, there is no right to influence the returns from the Foundation. Even in the very unlikely event of a wind-up, there is no certainty of any returns to the MCC as returns may go to a like entity. Consequently with this separate governance model and no ability to influence returns, the Foundation is not controlled and therefore cannot be consolidated. The Chairman added that as mentioned in his remarks at last year's AGM, the Club can ask the Foundation for support if there was some difficulty or if needed for a particular project. The two act side by side working together but it is not appropriate under the rules for it to be consolidated.

With no further questions related specifically to the Financial Statements forthcoming, the motion to accept the 2020/21 Annual Report and Financial Statements was put to a vote, with 231 Full Members (95.85%) voting in the affirmative. Therefore, the Chairman declared the Annual Report and Financial Statements approved.

5. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Chairman handed over to Mr. Geoff Roberts, Treasurer, for the first appointment.

5.1 Election of President

The Treasurer announced that Mr. Michael Happell had been re-elected un-opposed as President. He congratulated Mr. Happell on his re-appointment and handed the meeting back to him.

5.2 Vice President/Treasurer

The Chairman announced that Ms. Sally Macindoe has been re-elected un-opposed as Vice President and Mr. Geoff Roberts had been re-elected un-opposed as Treasurer.

5.3 Committee

The Chairman advised that the only nominations for the 2 Committee positions up for election were from the 2 retiring members. Therefore, Mr. Ted Baillieu and Mr. James Bennett were re-elected to the Committee un-opposed.

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

6.1 Honorary Life Membership

The Chairman advised that in accordance with rule 5.3, the Committee had resolved to nominate Mr. Steven Smith for Honorary Life Membership of the Club. He then provided some information on Mr. Smith's stellar career at the Club, highlighting that he was President from 2015-2019, having joined the Committee in 1998 and serving as a Vice President from 2011- 2015. During this time, he served on and chaired several different sub-committees. Prior to this time, Mr. Smith was also a key position player with the Melbourne Football Club, playing 203 games for the Demons and winning the Best and Fairest award in 1981. Some key highlights during Mr. Smith's tenure as President included securing hosting rights of the AFL Grand Final until 2057, the introduction of new categories of Membership and the Club receiving numerous event management, environmental and customer service awards.

The Chairman then invited Full Members to cast their vote. The Chairman subsequently advised that the vote was overwhelmingly in favour and he took great pleasure in announcing that Steven Smith had officially been named as an Honorary Life Member of the Club. He then invited Mr. Smith (who was joining the meeting remotely) to say a few words in response.

Mr. Smith thanked the Chairman, the Committee and Members for the honour, noting he was genuinely humbled and moved to receive Life Membership. He spoke of the privilege he has had to have both the Melbourne Football Club and the Melbourne Cricket Club play such a big part in his life, and how special it is to be part of a Club that means so much to so many people. He noted how fortunate he had been to have worked with so many great people on the Committee and thanked them all for their guidance and support. He then paid tribute to former MCC CEO Stephen Gough and the current CEO Stuart Fox and their Management teams for the work they have done to ensure that the Club is the benchmark, not just nationally but internationally for how to run a 100,000 capacity sporting stadium. He concluded by thanking his family and in particular his wife Ange for their support and remarked again that he was incredibly grateful for the honour.

6.2 Appointment of Auditor

The Chairman advised that KPMG had been re-appointed as Club auditors for the next 12 months and thanked them for their hard work and support over the past year.

6.3 Questions

The Chairman the invited Members to submit any questions, advising that questions with similar themes may be grouped together and answered as one. Any questions not answered in the meeting will be followed up with the member afterwards.

Several members asked how confident the Club was that AFL Finals would take place at the Ground this year and if they do, how ticketing would work in light of Covid restrictions.

Mr. Fox answered that it's important to stay positive and that the Club is working with the AFL and the Victorian Government to hopefully re-introduce crowds for the last 2 rounds of the Home & Away season and then escalate from there. However it is all dependent on the pandemic easing and on Government decisions. In relation to ticketing for the finals, full details are still being worked through and will be communicated to Members in due course. The Club will work on similar principles of being fair and equitable to all as it has done in previous years and will need to take into account any capacity restrictions.

Several members also asked how the Committee and Management determined that the 30% discount for membership subscriptions was the appropriate amount and if there was a reason why it was not higher.

The President answered that the Committee deliberated for some time on this amount for both the 2020/21 and 2021/22 membership seasons, noting that it was in effect a 60% discount when combined. This decision was communicated in some detail via a President's update earlier this month. In summary, the President noted that in setting this amount, there was the need to balance the long term sustainability of the Club, including in its role as Ground Manager (which Members are the beneficiary of) with a recognition that Members have missed out on significant content. When the amounts were set for both of the years, it was unknown how long lockdowns would go on for, with Members still having some content in both years. The Committee and Management will wait and see what transpires in the ensuing months before looking at whether discounts are needed for the next Membership season.

Mr. Steven Kambouris (Member no. 52334) asked how many members have taken up the MCCFlexipay option.

The President replied that approximately 11,000 members have elected to pay their subscriptions via MCCFlexipay.

Several members asked if there had been any changes to the Club's COVIDsafe plan as a result of the recent outbreak in the Members Reserve.

Mr. Fox answered that the Club is currently working on updates to the plan. As reported in the media this may include staggered arrival and departure times, changes to the seating plan and the wearing of masks in seats. This is all being worked through in conjunction with the Department of Health and the AFL and any changes will be communicated in due course.

Mr. Cheng Vuong (Member no. 305820) asked if the Club intends to conduct welcome events for new MCC Members who have been admitted to membership over the past 2 years, once the Covid-19 situation permits.

The President replied that without question, once able the Club will be looking at ways to welcome all new members. It is yet to be determined what the format will be but the desire will be to have new Members come to the Ground rather than receive an online induction.

Mr. Thomas Hickie (Member no. 58641) observed that the Great Southern Stand is now nearly 30 years old and asked about its future.

Mr. Fox answered that the Stand has served its purpose very well but there is a need to consider its future as it is an ageing asset. The Committee, MCG Trust and State Government have had discussions about the Stand over the past year with the Club's ultimate goal to have the stand rebuilt. It would be at a significant cost but will be explored in further detail over the next 2-3 years and is included in the Club's Strategic Plan.

Mr. Curtis Sutton (Member no. 119808) asked whether the Club would consider establishing a new restaurant similar to the Jim Stynes Grill.

Mr. Fox replied that there is a strong appetite to increase the number of dining options available in the Members Reserve, with the Club looking to add two new restaurants over the next few years. The Club is also about to embark upon a large refurbishment of the Hugh Trumble Café with the aim being to launch it prior to this year's Cricket season.

Ms. Rosalie Bushnell (Member no. 89563) enquired as to whether an AGM vote will be required to allow for the consumption of alcohol in seats to continue post the pandemic.

The President answered that it would not require a vote but that the Committee will undertake significant canvassing of member views on the subject when determining if this practice would continue once the pandemic ceases.

Mr. Gary Stainton (Member no. 224807) asked whether the Club has commenced discussions with Rugby Australia regarding the MCG potentially hosting the final of the 2027 Rugby World Cup, should Australia be awarded the tournament.

Mr. Fox answered that there have been discussions and that the Ground would love to host other matches from the tournament as well. There is an exciting pipeline of special events coming up once restrictions are eased, including special sporting events such as the Rugby World Cup. He observed that there is no better stadium to hold such a big sporting event.

Mr. Dennis Abramson (Member no. 60374) enquired if once crowds resume, whether the shuttle buses that are able to accommodate wheelchairs will finally be available.

Mr. Fox answered that the "G Train" service will indeed resume when crowds return. This service has been very popular for patrons who are mobility impaired and require a lift to their cars, taxi service or public transport.

Mr. Ronald Issko (Member no. 262206) asked if there were plans to allow Provisional Members to attend blockbuster games (excluding ANZAC Day), given that the Reserve always has seats available.

Mr. Fox answered that it is always a juggling act as when the Provisional category was introduced, a commitment was made that it would not impact on the availability of seats for Full and Restricted Members. The intention is to fill the Reserve for every game and Provisional members have received access to more mid-tier games this year. In relation to blockbuster matches, this is more problematic and spare seats are often a result of no-shows, including ANZAC Day this year which was a sell-out but had some members not attend.

Mr. Jason Williams (Member no. 262936) asked what the likelihood was of there being crowds at upcoming Sheffield Shield matches.

The President answered that this would be subject to restrictions at the time, therefore if crowds are able to attend sport, they will be able to attend these matches at the Ground.

Mr. Nicholas Turner (Member no. 198853) asked if the current Covid environment had had an impact on the number of people aged 35 and under taking up their offer of membership.

The President answered that there does not seem to have been any declines and that acceptance rates for membership are currently very similar to last year.

Mr. Ryan Hoiberg (Member no. 173053) enquired as to whether the Club can comment on work done around apps regarding wait times at hospitality venues, as this would be very helpful in the current environment.

Mr. Fox advised that Wait Time technology is currently available via the MCG app and on screens in various parts of the stadium, including in the Members Reserve. This technology will be expanded to other stands in the future.

Mr. Andrew Rechtman (Member no. 101454) asked whether there is a possibility of the Ground securing some Olympic events for the 2032 Games (such as some soccer matches like in 2000).

The President answered that it was a possibility and that the Club will look to get on the front foot and commence discussions on this shortly.

Mr. Norman Wills (Member no. 36238) asked what changes are planned for the 50 year member category.

The President answered that he has flagged at several Member functions that the Club is currently undertaking a large scale review of the membership offering. This review has taken a little longer due to the pandemic and is looking at a raft of areas including aspects of the 50 year membership category, such as the subscription fee. The annual fee of \$15 was set back in the 1960's and was not indexed so is very disproportionate to the current Full member fee, especially since the Club pays the AFL around \$300.00 per 50 year member who attends the Grand Final. Any recommendations from the Review around these matters will be fully canvassed with members before any final decisions are made.

Mr. Adam Thrussell (Member no. 247722) asked whether the MCC is looking at alternative revenue streams such as music concerts.

Mr. Fox replied that Management is in constant talks with promoters with an aim to bring 1-2 major concerts to the Ground each year, along with significant international sporting events.

Mr. Anthony McNamara (Member no. 133365) asked how many Full Members have opted to waive the 30% subscription discount and paid the amount in full.

The President replied that it is too early to give numbers for this year as renewal notices have only just gone out. Last year, approximately 1500 members opted to pay the subscription amount in full. The President observed that the amount was very similar to the number of members who applied for the hardship provision so therefore the amount paid helped fellow members in their time of need.

Mr. Barry Nugent (Member no. 85225) asked if the Club is looking at in-seat food and beverage ordering (or delivery) integrated with restaurants.

Mr. Fox replied that this option is being considered, although it has proved to be problematic at other stadiums. Click and collect appears to be a more suitable option and the Club will look to implement this in the next couple of years.

Mr. Stuart Knight (Member no. 118121) thanked the Committee for the meeting and asked if there was any thought to permanently extend the outdoor areas of Blazer and Stumps Bars beyond their current perimeter to cater for more patrons as they are very popular due to the fact that they face north.

Mr. Fox answered that as previously advised, the Club is looking at the introduction of more dining facilities, including a new member restaurant slated to be completed next year as well as a refurbishment of the Hugh Trumble Café. Management will look at expanding those outdoor areas, however there is a lease line prohibiting the restaurants from going too far out onto the concourse.

Mr. John Kavanagh (Member no. 84572) noted that the current prices for MCC visitor tickets at AFL games are \$12.00 for a child and \$51.00 for an adult, and asked if there was any thought being given to introducing a Pensioner Concession visitor ticket, at say \$25.00.

Mr. Fox answered that it would be premature to comment on ticket pricing at present as it is currently being explored as part of the Membership Review.

Mr. Michael de George (Member no. 100283) asked if the Club can continue to hold the AGM via the Lumi platform so that all members can attend regardless of their circumstances.

The President replied that as mentioned earlier, this year's AGM was to be held in a hybrid format where members can chose whether to attend online or in person. Unfortunately lockdown prevented this from occurring, but the intention is to use hybrid format next year to allow as many members to attend in whatever way they wish.

Mr. Robert Woolley (Member no. 55672) asked whether there has been any thought given to establishing any more special interest groups to be better increase member engagement and increase the "Club" feel.

The President answered that the Club currently has 5 Special Interest Groups which are very successful. Adding more groups was discussed at a recent meeting and there was an appetite to create an additional one over the next year and to keep looking at this as member demographics and needs evolve over time.

Mr. Donald Hill (Member no. 135907) asked how much of the member subscriptions go to the MCG Trust.

The President answered that no member subscriptions go to the MCG Trust. In relation to the running of the Club, the MCC Committee is the ultimate governing body. In terms of the Club's role as Ground Manager, it reports to the Trust who act on behalf of the State Government. This is because the Government owns the land on which the Ground sits. Each year, the Club pays a significant lease fee to the Trust in respect to this land and the Trust uses this payment to cover any costs it incurs. Any amount not used is put back in to the Club.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked Members for their attendance and wished everyone the best in this challenging times. He encouraged all members to do their part to stop the spread of the pandemic so that Members can enjoy watching the finals and an exciting summer of cricket at the Ground.

He then declared the meeting closed.

SIGNED..... CHAIRMAN

DATE

A.G.M. APOLOGIES - 2021

Surname	Christian Name	Membership No.
Beattie	Jane	107291
Church	Bruce	3817
Church	Mary	231076
Gordon	James	80296
Greenwood	Len	37895
Jones	David	19250
Naidu	Kanuparthi (Jaya)	158219
Scott	Rhonda	109874
Sitch	Charles	18638
Walker	Michael	64607
Wood	Karen	12595
Yencken	Ted	20886