



Adelaide University Touch Club Annual Report 2011/12

The 2011/12 year has seen the club continue to gain numbers and compete strongly in the local social touch competitions. AUTC continues to provide pathways for players into the State Cup and TFSA League through Eastern Stingrays. Thank you to all our members for being part of this awesome club. In particular, a big thank you to our hard working committee members who keep it all going with their enthusiasm and dedication to the sport.

Committee 2011/12

President: Jo Waugh

Secretary: Ash Johnson

Treasurer: John Haeusler

Social Coordinator: Cassie Smith

Asst Social Coordinator: Tess Leahy

General Committee Members: Belinda Gibson; Cat Murphy; Mel Johnson; Chrissi Thompson

Players

The club recruited 15 new student members this year and has retained them through the autumn and winter season. Non-student members account for 60% of the club's membership, although many of these are Adelaide Uni alumni. Non-student members were also recruited and this has kept club numbers strong as we lose members to family and work commitments at the other end.

At O-week next year the club will seek more members and new ways of attracting students into touch football. It is hoped that more students will join the committee to add the student perspective to our planning.

In March this year 12 of our members were selected in SA Heat teams headed for the National Touch League in Port Macquarie. Additionally, Mark Jones and Shane Marshall were coaches and Sarah Swift the team manager for the Mixed Open team.

Mel Johnson

Maddie McGinty

Christine Thompson

Ninh Duong

Ashley Johnson

Owen Teakle

Joanne Waugh
Rebecca Harper
Mel Ralph
Darrren Jones
Roxanne Betros
Ricki Irons

It is so valuable for the club to have these players in our social teams, providing mentoring and support to newer members as they progress along the touch pathways.

Additionally, some of AUTC's junior members were selected into the SA Heat teams for the National Youth Champs:

Boys Under 18s

Scott Gear
Henry Fairfield
Tom Litchfield
Noah Sadler

Boys Under 15s

Nick Litchfield
Kaleb Joppich

Girls Under 15s

Jacqueline Henrie

It is really important for touch in SA to get juniors involved in the National Youth Champs so we can eventually compete against our eastern states neighbours and beat em! AUTC supports its state representative players, coaches and referees with a \$50 playing grant.

Coaches

Shane Marshall (Kiwi) has continued coaching this year and become a very valuable member of the club, running the winter training sessions and passing on his enthusiasm to everyone he meets. Ricki Irons has also taken his first steps into coaching this year and we're looking forward to seeing him develop as a coach.

Referees

The club has funded several referee courses this year and we hope to see them all out on the Waite fields this summer. Matt Tyre has become a very enthusiastic referee, moving right up refereeing for AUTA at the 2012 State Cup! Chrissi Thompson has also received her Level 2 while Ruth Shaw and Dave Slater have completed the Level 1. This summer season at Waite Anton van Rensburg will again be Referee Coach and looking to upgrade anyone who is keen. The purpose of the Referee Coach is to ensure a high quality of refereeing at the Waite competition and provide pathways for those who enjoy refereeing to get recognised. It is hoped that this will result in better referee retention in coming year.

Competition participation

UniGames 2012



Top row - John Haeusler, Victor Wen-Sweeney, Ben Murphy, Matt Varvounis, Jimmy Ha, Henry House. Bottom row - Chatu Wickramartne, Ruth Shaw, Jemma Naumann, Kathleen Wright, Kere Kobayashi

The 2012 UniGames team trained hard in the 4 weeks leading up to UniGames with Kathleen and Shane working out a plan to cram defensive and offensive policies into their heads. Although the team was on the receiving end of a few tough games, they did win their wooden spoon match against La Trobe University 12-2. Facebook photos would suggest that the team had a great time off the field too!

Beach Touch

The beach touch competition was organised by Chrissi Thompson early in 2012. After some initial hiccups due to some awful weather the competition got underway and was well attended.

State Cup 2011

The competition between City Touch and AUTA was fierce again in 2011 with AUTA defending its State Champions trophy. Unfortunately the trophy got away from us, but we'll be back to try and take it back in 2012!

Waite Competition

The 2011/12 Waite competition was a fantastic season from an administrative point of view. The club had more nominations from external teams than ever before and was turning teams away after we reached capacity. The new junior division achieved great success with 5 teams participating, including an AUTC Junior team coached by Miss Laura Teakle.

It will be several years before we can track the progress of these juniors in touch, but our hope is that they will stick with the sport and be competing in the National Youth Champs in coming years. And by the time they reach uni they'll be touch superstars for our UniGames team!

Our aim to have 2 referees on each field for every time slot was not quite reached, but we did increase the referee presence. Several referee upgrades were achieved with the assistance of the Referee Coach, Anton van Rensburg.

Steve Spurling did a great job wrangling the referees each week and keeping track of who did what. The same difficulties arise each year with our referees: absenteeism due to illness/injury and vacations; late arrival to the field; late notification of unavailability. However, the 2011/12 season saw far less tardiness and most games started on time and ran for the full 40 minutes.

Finances

The club is still in a strong position financially (see Appendix A). This is in large part due to the Waite Competition which enables the club to fund referee and coaching courses; purchase equipment; pay coaches; subsidise social events and subsidise representative players, coaches and referees.

The Club One grant received this year was a fantastic boost and enabled the club to purchase new equipment. Many types of grants are available at a state and federal level and club committee keeps an eye on the opportunities for both the club and individual players.

Administration of the club finances has become much less onerous over the past 2 years with the introduction of the UniOne payment system. All payments are now recorded electronically and easily traced back to the products purchased. Waite payments have also been streamlined with only a deposit and final payment accepted rather than cash payments from individuals within teams external to AUTC. The new system has not only made the Treasurer's life much easier, but also ensures the club doesn't miss out on revenue.

A further advancement has been the opening of the new club bank account with Bank West. This move from BankSA has enabled us to make payments online whilst retaining the dual signatory safeguard. Writing cheques was a quaint experience!

Club Awards



AUTC member Darren Jones was honoured by the Adelaide Uni Sports Association in late 2011 with a Service to University Sport Award. This is for those who have given an outstanding and highly commendable contribution to Adelaide University Sport and DJ certainly fits that description!

Other AUTC members honoured with Club Letters for service or

competition included:

Ryan Causby
Rebecca Knights
Catriona Murphy
Chris Sainsbury
Latchman Singh
Anton Van Rensburg
Joanne Waugh

At the 2011 End of Season Dinner the following awards were given:

Best Club Person: Matt Jacques
Best Coach: Shane Marshall
Most Promising Male and Female: Garth Caulder and Tess Leahy



Belinda Gibson was honoured at the TFSA Awards in November 2011 with the TFSA Volunteer of the Year awards for her years of work keeping the Waite Competition running.

AUTC Life Membership was awarded to Jeffrey Dutschke and Belinda Gibson at the Summer End of Season party. Both Jeff and Belinda have been heavy contributors to the club. Jeff was President for 3 years and a committee member before then. His innovative ideas kept the club moving forward. Belinda's strong management at Waite have rebuilt the competition into the biggest in South Australia.

These two join the likes of DJ, Ninh and Henna in Life Membership of AUTC.

What's next?

The 2012/13 Waite season will start in late October. Following Belinda's resignation from the Coordinator role the club has Jo Waugh, Andrea Rieger and Claire Thomas stepping up to run things, with the assistance of 5 or 6 desk sitters. Belinda did a great job handling the role alone, but the club will now seek to distribute the load more evenly between several people each year.

Moving forward for Waite, the competition is at capacity now and the only way to make it larger would be to erect a couple of new light posts on the Waite playing fields. This major work would come at considerable cost to the club and would need to be done in consultation with the university other clubs that use the area. This potential project remains in the back of the committee's mind for future years.

In 2012/13 we would like to see more numbers at training and will think about ways this can be achieved. IN addition, the club will focus on the social aspect of touch and look for more fun way for members to interact.

Administratively, the club will be making some changes in the coming year. The website will be moved to a new host and will have a slightly different look. DJ is working with the committee on

that. Following this, the club will assess the way we communicate news and make some changes in that regard.

An online shared drive for storing club documents has been created and the shift towards using that will begin in 2012/13. This will mean that once a committee member leaves the committee the club won't lose all the documents and information that may be stored on personal computers or in their inbox.

As usual, come O-week 2013 we will be seeking new student members to boost our ranks. Any innovative recruitment ideas are welcomed.

2013 marks the 30th anniversary of the AUTC. The committee will plan a big celebration because after all this time we are still the biggest and best touch club in SA. Be proud!

APPENDIX A

Profit and Loss Statement 2011/12. See over page.