

# **Adelaide University Touch Club Annual Report 2014**

2014 has been a very successful year for the club. With growth in numbers and student membership Adelaide Uni Touch has enjoyed a strong season of rebuilding club camaraderie and competitive sport. Additionally, the club has found a new home with the opening of the Grads Clubhouse in September. With a growth of student membership and retention of coaches and experienced players the club has potential to reach great heights in the coming years.

The club started the year strongly with the 2013/2014 Waite season, which continues to remain a popular competition in Adelaide. With 39 teams entering this year, competition was both a high standard and enjoyable for people of all ages and skill levels. The committee started positively with a shared workload in making sure Waite ran smoothly with everyone contributing to desk sitting, refereeing and coaching. Waite continues to be a substantial success for the club and proves to be a flourishing source of revenue. In terms of competition the Adelaide Uni team, AUTC Athena took the honours of winning the C/D grade for the season.

2014 began with O'week to kick off the start of University. With the help of the new committee the club was very successful in recruiting new interested members. And AUTC even won most appealing stall for O'week. The use of the target practice coupled with our friendly committee, who volunteered their time at the stall, attracted many new members. This success continued into the autumn season where AUTC was able to field 4 teams in the city touch competition. The club also grew from strength to strength with a few club members stepping up into coaching roles for these new teams. The club still maintained a competitive edge with autumn team AUTC Americano playing strongly and moving up into the A grade for the season.

Another large success for the club has been regular training for the year. With special thanks to long-time coaches Ninh Duong and Bec Harper, the club has provided a consistent and enjoyable training every week to teach new players and retain the interest of returning members. Secondly, a few club members have also had the opportunity to participate in running trainings under coaching guidance, which has proved a massive benefit to the club for years to come. Most importantly, regular training has kept members coming and has proven to be a fantastic way to maintain club culture.

AUTC successfully hosted several social events, which have proven to be popular amongst members. The annual pub-crawl was held in May and was massively popular this year. Attendance was the largest seen in recent years and continues to serve as one of the clubs most anticipated events. More recently, the club also hosted mid-season drinks for the winter season, which once again attracted a great turnout. As a low-key catch up at the Queen's Head the evening resulted in a vibrant get-together enjoyed by the large number who attended.

AUTC was also strong in fielding teams for Southern Unigames. For the first time the club

sent two teams away to Wodonga in July. Amongst strong competition Adelaide University Touch fared well finishing in the middle of the table amongst an ever-growing competition. Much thanks to all players, managers and coaches who took the time to prepare for the big week. Unigames has proven to be a large recruitment engine for the club and maintains club strength in both a social and competitive sense. Through Unigames the club has created a lively tradition and brought the opportunity for the club to integrate with Adelaide Uni Sports and also build relations with other sports.

AUTC also fielded four mixed teams and a women's team for the winter season at City Touch. With players of every skill level, the club has provided teams ranging from the A grade to D grade. Once again, experienced members stepped up into coaching roles to guide the newer players into competitive touch. As the season approaches finals it has been an enjoyable competition, and coupled with weekly training, the club teams have stayed close socially compared to recent years. Good luck to all teams as we head into finals in the coming weeks.

2014 has been a great year for the club. AUTC has rebuilt into a proud organisation with an influx of student membership. On top of this, the committee this year consisted largely of students, which helped attract more players and ensured AUTC maintained a strong social program and camaraderie. It has been pleasing to see amongst the new members a mix of completely fresh players and students originating from backgrounds in State Touch and NTL representation. Heading into 2015 the club has sky-high potential and will look forward to feeding into strong teams in the Touch Football SA League competition.