

# ANNUAL REPORT 2025



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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As I look back on the 2025 netball season, I can't help but feel an overwhelming sense of pride, joy, and gratitude. This year was about more than just netball – it was about connection, community, and celebrating the heart that beats through every part of our Wildcats family.

From the very first training session to the last game of the season, the courts were alive with laughter, encouragement, and that unmistakable Wildcats roar. Our players showed heart, determination, and sportsmanship every single week. Watching our juniors grow in confidence, skill, and friendship has been such a privilege, and our senior players continue to inspire through their commitment and leadership.

Behind every player are the people who make it all possible – and I want to take a moment to recognise them. To our committee, thank you for your tireless efforts, creativity, and care. You've kept this club running with heart and purpose. To our coaches and managers, your passion and dedication shine in every player's smile and every moment of growth on court. And to our families – the ones who bring kids to training,

wash uniforms, cheer from the sidelines, and show up rain, hail or shine – you are the lifeblood of this club. The Wildcats wouldn't be who we are without you.

## Club Spirit and New Additions

This year, our pride grew even louder and brighter!

We also made a big and exciting change this season – moving our training sessions to the Frensham Indoor Sports Complex. This move has completely transformed the training experience for our Wildcats. No more cancelled sessions or wet-weather worries – rain or shine, our players now train in a bright, safe, and professional space that truly lifts the spirit. Having access to toilets, indoor facilities, and a comfortable viewing area for parents has made a huge difference to the flow and energy of our sessions. The atmosphere is electric every week – the sound of sneakers on the court, the laughter between drills, and the shared buzz of improvement and connection. It's more than just a venue; it's become a second home for our club – a place where our players, coaches, and families come together to grow, play, and thrive.

We unveiled our brand-new large teardrop banner, proudly flying at Wildcats events and game days – a beacon of green and gold that reminds everyone who we are and what we stand for.

And one of the most exciting moments this year was bringing our very own Wildcats mascot to life. After months of dreaming, we finally introduced Whiskers – a fun, cheeky, and full-of-heart addition to our Pride! Seeing the kids' faces light up when Whiskers appeared was something truly special. Whiskers has already become a favourite at our events, and I know this big ball of Wildcats energy will bring smiles and joy to our club for many, many years to come.

## Events and Community Highlights

We continued to strengthen our connection both on and off the court this season:

- Super Netball Excursion (June) – 35 members attended the Swifts vs Giants game at Ken Rosewall Arena, cheering louder than anyone else in the stands! The excitement and inspiration our players took away from seeing elite netball up close was incredible.
- Holiday Training Clinic (April) – 30 of our Wildcats joined together for a fun and skill-packed school holiday training session. The energy, enthusiasm, and teamwork from our players were amazing to see.

- Player Wellness Talk (May) – Thanks to Invigorate Health and Performance, our players learned valuable tips about injury prevention, recovery, and caring for their bodies – helping them play stronger and smarter.
- Our Presentation Day was the perfect finale to an incredible season – a true celebration of everything that makes the Wildcats who we are. The courts came alive with colour, laughter, and community as families gathered to enjoy jumping castles, popcorn, fairy floss, and endless smiles. It was more than just an end-of-year event – it was a day that reflected our heart as a club. Watching players, parents, siblings, and friends come together, sharing stories and joy, reminded us why we do what we do. It was a day filled with fun, pride, and connection – the kind of magic that only happens when the whole Wildcats family comes together. 

## A Season to Remember

Every week this year brought something to be proud of. From players giving their all on court, to our coaches leading with compassion, to our parents bringing community spirit to every Saturday – it's been an unforgettable year.

The Wildcats are more than just a club – we're a community built on love, encouragement, and pride. Whether it's our youngest players finding their feet or our older teams competing with fierce determination, the sense of unity that runs through every corner of our club is something truly special.

## In Gratitude

To our entire Wildcats family – thank you. Thank you for showing up, for helping out, for cheering loudly, for believing in what we do. Together, we've built something extraordinary – a club that not only plays netball, but embodies heart, belonging, and joy.

Here's to another year of growth, laughter, and roaring together. Hear us roar, Wildcats – always.

 Liz Stokes

# REGISTRAR'S REPORT

## Registration Numbers

This year saw 86 players register with Mittagong Netball Club. This was a very similar number to last year. Of these, 40 were new players to the club. We were able to form 9 teams (two U9s, two U10s, one U11s, one U12s, one Intermediates, and two Cadets). Unfortunately, we did not receive enough players to make an Opens team so 4 of the registered players were transferred to Moss Vale and Bowral to play for those clubs. This season also saw 4 other (non-Opens) players transfer to other clubs. We also saw 2 girls withdraw due to conflicts with other commitments. Pleasingly we had 11 players transfer into our club from other clubs.

## Registration Costs

2025 Registration costs were as follows:

- Netta (5-7 years): \$180 (Early Bird pricing), \$190 (Regular pricing)
- Juniors (8-17 years): \$190 (Early Bird pricing), \$200 (Regular pricing)
- Seniors (18+ years): \$205 (Early Bird pricing), \$215 (Regular pricing)

As a comparison, Moss Vale Dragonflies registration prices were \$180/\$180/\$200, and Bowral Butterflies registration prices were \$170/\$185/\$200 for the 3 age groups.

## Registration Period

The Registration period was as follows:

- Registrations opened - 14 January
- Early Bird pricing ended - 7 February
- Registrations officially closed - 8 March
- Last registration received - 2 June

The timing of registrations was as follows: January 19%, February 53%, March 14% (half before official close date and half after) and April/May/June 14%

## Recommendations for 2026

- The introduction of Early Bird pricing this year had some success. 35% of overall registrations were made in the Early Bird pricing period. Offer it again.

 Suzie Novak

# SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Secretary role went smoothly this year. Emails were responded to quickly and support was provided to other club committee members as required. All documents and correspondence was written from the Club's Google account ensuring transparency and a full set of records regarding decisions. We had a roster for committee members to attend monthly SHNA meetings as MNC delegates which worked well. We sought nominations for our annual awards from all members of the club, giving everyone a chance to be part of this process. I had the assistance of Amelia Feetham taking the meeting minutes when she was available.

I am standing down from my role next year but before I left I wanted to ensure all club gear was much better organised at our warehouse. Everything is now in crates and labelled ready for 2026!



## Recommendations for 2026

- Keep our gear as organised as possible to save unnecessary costs buying items we already have (but can't be found)

♥ Suzie Novak

# TREASURER'S REPORT

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS	15/11/2024 - 15/10/2025		
Opening Balance 15/11/2024		\$ 5,641.26	cr
<b>Receipts</b>			
Events - EOY Ticket Sales	\$ 682.32		
Events - NSW Swifts Game	\$ 951.97		
Fundraising Income - BBQ	\$ 2,657.53		
Fundraising Income - Raffle Tickets	\$ 3,529.96		
Grants - Mittagong RSL	\$ 3,000.00		
Grants - Moss Vale Services Club	\$ 1,000.00		
Grants - Veolia Mulwaree Trust	\$ 1,000.00		
Member Rego / Dress Hire - PlayHQ	\$ 6,433.16		
Merchandise - Sundry	\$33.81		
Sponsorship - Bronze	\$ 1,000.00		
Sponsorship - Gold	\$ 3,000.00		
Sponsorship - Silver	\$ 3,000.00		
Uniform - Sales	\$ 867.85		
	\$ 27,156.60	cr	
<b>Payments</b>			
Bonding - Join the Wildcats	-\$ 157.60		
Bonding - Teams	-\$ 1,675.78		
Coaching Accreditation	-\$ 251.00		

Committee EOY Dinner	-\$ 407.03	
Court Hire - Frensham	-\$ 4,920.00	
DropBox	-\$ 184.67	
Equipment Purchases	-\$ 1517.88	
Events - EOY Celebrations	-\$ 1,493.70	
Events - EOY Gifts	-\$ 600.00	
Events - EOY Hall Hire Fee	-\$ 206.78	
Events - EOY Jumping Castle	-\$ 1,900.00	
Events - EOY Trophies	-\$ 986.10	
Events - Guest Speakers	-\$ 80.00	
Events - NSW Swifts Game	-\$ 945.00	
First Aid Supplies	-\$ 80.78	
Fundraising Expenses - BBQ	-\$ 1,792.17	
Fundraising Expenses - Raffle Tickets	-\$ 256.22	
International Transaction Fee	-\$ 5.54	
Meeting Expenses	-\$ 117.31	
Merchandise - Coaches Shirts	-\$ 431.84	
Merchandise - Tote Bags	-\$ 1433.47	
Merchandise - Visors	-\$ 382.00	
Signage	-\$ 264.31	
Stationery	-\$ 471.38	
Umpiring	-\$ 1,590.00	
Uniform - Cleaning	-\$ 50.00	

Uniform - Purchases	-\$ 1975.68		
Wildcat Mascot	-\$ 177.97		
Wordpress	-\$ 97.90		
	-\$ 24,221.00	dr	
<b>Closing Balance 15/10/2025</b>	<b>\$ 9,174.10</b>		<b>cr</b>

# TEAM CONVENOR'S REPORT

This season saw a consistent level of player participation across all age groups. We welcomed several new members, reflecting the club's growing reputation in the community. Team attendance at training sessions and matches remained high, contributing to a strong team spirit and camaraderie.

Our teams competed well in the SHNA Winter competition, achieving commendable results.

- U8 – No team in this division with limited numbers from registrations, these players were placed in the U9 teams.
- U9 – Two teams – Lynx were minor premiers and won their grand final! The Leopards came 4th and lost their semifinal in great spirit.
- U10 – Two teams - Jaguars placed 2<sup>nd</sup> and lost the grand final in an exciting game. The Cheetahs placed 5th. Both teams played well, learnt and developed their netball skills.
- U11 – One team – Tigers placed 5<sup>th</sup> lots of development over the season with this team.
- U12 – One team – Pumas placed 4<sup>th</sup> lost their semifinal in a nail-biting exciting game.
- INTERMEDIATES – One team. After this division was allocated by SHNA from the Cadets division, the inter team placed 3<sup>rd</sup>. Unfortunately they had to play first place in the final however should be proud of their effort this year.
- CADETS – Two teams – Panthers placed 3<sup>rd</sup> great game in their final, however not winners this year. Lionesses placed 5<sup>th</sup>. Both these teams were very strong and played beautiful netball over the season.
- OPENS – No Opens teams this year however the players that were registered were transferred to play with Moss Vale. Thank you to Moss Vale for accommodating the Mittagong players.

For 2025 Mittagong only had 8 double registered players which shows great management for placement of players within our teams.

The club's teams have shown great determination and progress this season. With continued support and focus on development, we are well positioned for further success in the coming year.

 Gayle Hicks

# COACH COORDINATOR'S REPORT

## Coach Line Up

This year we had 9 coaches and 4 assistant coaches who were instrumental in delivering a wonderful season of netball across our 9 teams. Of these 13 coaching staff, 5 returned from 2024 while 9 were new to the club. 8 of our 13 coaches held Foundation Accreditations, including 3 who completed the course during 2025.

TEAM	COACHES
U9 Lynx	Liz Stokes (Coach) & Emily Stokes (Assistant Coach)
U9 Leopards	Amy James (Coach) & Trish McCann (Assistant Coach)
U10 Jaguars	Emilia Medcalf
U10 Cheetahs	Mackenzie Neville
U11 Tigers	Charlotte Mitchell-Knight
U12 Pumas	Sofia Novak (Coach) & Mali Stewart (Assistant Coach)
Intermediates Lions	Gayle Hicks (Coach) & Christine Murray (Assistant Coach)
Cadets Lionesses	Lilly Tasker
Cadets Panthers	Abbey Bowden-Grimes

## Coaches Handbook

To equip our coaches to perform their roles effectively, I developed a comprehensive Coaches Handbook. I compiled this resource using information from Netball NSW and the Foundation Coaching Course, with valuable input from Gayle Hicks and 2024 Coach Coordinator Liv Warwick. The handbook included essential information covering expectations, protocols, and procedures, along with an appendix of practical resources such as training templates and injury report forms. Each coach received both a printed copy in a folder and a digital version via email to ensure accessibility.

## Coaches Meeting

To introduce our coaches to MNC and familiarise them with their roles, we held a coaches meeting at Mittaging Hotel on 3rd March. During this meeting, Liz and I walked through

the Coaches Handbook and discussed the plans and expectations for the year ahead. This proved to be an excellent way to start the season, particularly for our new coaches.

## Coaches Shirts

To present a unified and professional coaching team, we designed, ordered, and distributed coaches shirts to be worn throughout the year at training and games. These shirts were invaluable in identifying coaches on court during Saturday games and demonstrated both the professionalism of MNC and the cohesion of our coaching body.

## U11 & U12 Footwork Session with Kate Bow

SHNA identified poor footwork as an issue in the U11 and U12 divisions during Saturday games. To address this, we invited Kate Bow to conduct a specialized footwork session for our U11 Tigers and U12 Pumas. This session served a dual purpose: improving player skills, while equipping coaches with drills and techniques to continue developing footwork throughout the season. All three attending coaches—Sofia, Mali, and Charlotte—found the session extremely beneficial for both their players and their own coaching development.

## Team Managers

In 2025, the committee agreed that all teams should have a dedicated team manager to support both the team and the coach. The following team managers played a vital role in facilitating club communication and ensuring the positive functioning of their teams.

TEAM	MANAGER
U9 Lynx	Lauren Hogan
U9 Leopards	Trish McCann
U10 Jaguars	Kylie Medcalf
U10 Cheetahs	Raylene Neville
U11 Tigers	Cherie Crosdale
U12 Pumas	Katie Stewart
Intermediates Lions	Megan Hicks
Cadets Lionesses	Katie Stewart
Cadets Panthers	Jecca Blake

## Communications

This year all MNC group chats were on WhatsApp for consistency and ease of use, benefiting both the club and Wildcat parents. This platform proved highly effective for our communication needs. To ensure consistent messaging across all teams, information was first sent to the 'Coaches and Managers' group chat, typically by Liz or myself, and then copied into individual team chats by team managers or coaches. This streamlined approach was extremely beneficial, ensuring all teams received the same information simultaneously and reduced confusion among coaches, team managers, and particularly parents.

## Team Bonding

The club continued its tradition of paying for each team to have a team bonding event during the season. 7 out of 9 teams did this with those teams reporting the benefit that their activity had on team camaraderie and spirit. Examples of activities were pizza nights, Flip out sessions and floral bouquet making.

## Overall

The club is extremely grateful to all who volunteered in coaching or team manager roles within MNC this year. Their dedication and commitment made this season possible, and we look forward to welcoming both returning and new coaches to what promises to be another excellent season in 2026.

## Recommendations for 2026

- Strongly encourage all coaches to obtain their Foundation Accreditation (which the club pays for)
- Continue having a Coaches Meeting pre-season as it provides both new and returning coaches with a clear foundation for the season.
- Continue having a Team Managers Meeting at the start of the season with a handout that explains their responsibilities.
- Provide Coaches shirts to all Assistant Coaches as well as Coaches
- Should footwork deficiencies be identified in the future, or if coaches require support in this area, invite Kate Bow (SHNA) to conduct another session.
- Continue with a similar communication structure.
- Encourage all teams to have their team bonding events early in the season.

 Sofia Novak

# EQUIPMENT COORDINATOR'S REPORT

This year we purchased:

- Gilbert Spectra T500 balls for matches
- Hart Team Trainer netballs for training
- Hart Candy Goals netballs for mascot balls
- Kmart tennis balls for training
- Kmart squeezy whistles for training
- Silver Fern electric ball pump for training (unfortunately this was stolen)
- Printed Wildcats bag tags for coaches bags
- First aid kit for training
- Crates and racking for storage of Wildcats gear at warehouse
- Coaches shirts

We were also generously donated 10 bottles of Nivea Sunscreen by Mittagong Day and Night Pharmacy for sun protection on Saturdays.

## Recommendations for 2026

- Our equipment should be stored in a locked shed at Frensham to avoid our equipment being used, strewn about and stolen by other clubs/schools.
- A replacement ball pump will need to be purchased.

 Sofia Novak

# UMPIRE COORDINATOR'S REPORT

The 2025 netball season was challenging from an Umpires' perspective. We hit a hiccup at the beginning of the year, with payments however, it was easily corrected once an audit had been completed.

We continued using the Whatsapp group that had been set up, with both parents and our young umpires included.

We utilised 41 umpires across all clubs within the association: 17 from Mittagong, 13 from Bowral, 9 from Moss Vale, and 2 from a school. A huge thank you needs to go out to all clubs to thank them for assisting in filling in spots for us during this season.

We had difficulties filling the umpire duties for our Inters and Cadets teams, as most of our senior umpires played at the 1:30pm or 3pm time slot for the Cadets, as well as a couple of players transferring to Moss Vale to play in the ladies. Chevalier's netball also impacted our umpires availability as several of them were away with school sport.

It is also a requirement of Rep that all rep players umpire one game through the season.

There was a uniform issue during the semis for our umpire's, white clothing is very hard to find last minute in the Highlands.

Lastly, all our 2025 Umpires did a great job this season.

## Recommendations for 2026

- Suggest that all umpires are included on the Umpires Whatsapp group and encourage them to be the main communicator with parents supervising (to give our young umpires control over their umpiring commitments). May depend on the new restrictions coming in with the use of social media of children U16.
- Suggest rep duties are done at the beginning of the season prior to other netball commitments (ie. school sport).
- Encourage our U12's, Inters plus Cadets to umpire. I'm not sure if this means we run more club umpiring sessions per age group as the current lack of interest may be more of a confidence issue as opposed to a knowledge issue.
- Consider purchasing white hoodies and having our emblem screen printed for us to lend to our umpires during the season.

 Kylie Medcalf

# UNIFORM COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Nothing was done without the generous help of Suzie!

- Uniforms were washed and dried at Tumble Club in Mittagong.
- Uniforms were organised into sizes.
- Additional orders were made for stock that was low.
- As players registered, they hired a dress for the season, they also had the opportunity to order additional items of MNC clothing.
- This year MNC introduced a visor to the range.
- At the first training sessions dresses were handed out to registered players along with any additional items that had been ordered.
- Dresses were recorded on a spreadsheet with a number and corresponding name. If dresses were swapped for another size, this was reflected on the spreadsheet.
- Additional orders for MNC merchandise were fulfilled throughout the season.
- Teams were provided with a list and a bag with each player's name asked to return their dresses after their last game in their corresponding bag.
- Returned dresses were matched to the spreadsheet to confirm the player had returned the dress they were issued at the beginning of the season.
- Outstanding dresses were returned on presentation day.
- Dresses were washed and dried, put into tubs and stored at Finesse Autobody in Mittagong.

What worked well:

- Handing out the dresses and extra uniform items on training days.
- Collection at the end of the season was easier.

## Recommendations for 2026

- Dress collection was better streamlined this year but there was still a bit of chasing up to get all the dresses back.
- Consider introducing a financial penalty for dresses that are not returned. This could be indicated at the hiring step of registration.

 Jecca Blake

# FUNDRAISING REPORT

Fundraising activities this year included:

ACTIVITY	TIMING	PROFIT
Bunnings BBQ	AUGUST	\$865*
Online raffle	AUGUST	\$3273
<b>TOTAL INCOME FROM FUNDRAISING:</b>		<b>\$4138</b>

## Bunnings BBQ (10 August)

This event was largely organised and manned by the committee with minimal parent volunteers. It was considered a worthwhile fundraising event and also promoted our club. Note that the costs incurred for the BBQ (that affected the overall profit) were high, however, we did have enough sausages and drinks left over for Presentation Day.

## Online Raffle

The success of the raffle far exceeded our expectations in terms of fundraising. Raffle prizes were generously donated by Hello World Bowral, Highlands Health Club, The Hidden Hare, Finesse Autobody, Flip Out, Beam Me Up Laser & Skin, The Palms Golf Studio, Mittagong Betta, Little Scent Boutique, Colosseum Pizza & Ribs, Lil Floral Cove, Tasker Constructions, Skyryl, and The Bencun family. A detailed analysis of the raffle is contained in a separate document (*Raffle 2025 Analysis*).

## Recommendations for 2026

- Bunnings BBQ
  - August timing worked well as the weather is starting to warm up.
  - Bunnings raffle spots fill quickly when they are announced so the committee needs to be quick to act to secure their desired date.
- Raffle
  - Platform - Would definitely do an online raffle using RaffleTix again.
  - Tracking URLs - Consider if having the highest sales competition is worth it for the effort involved in distributing the Tracking URLs to families.
  - Advertising - Push the raffle on the Team Chats at the end of the sales period as well. Ask other clubs to share on their socials as well.

# SPONSORSHIP COORDINATOR'S REPORT

2025 saw 4 of our 2024 sponsors continuing with their sponsorship, and 3 new sponsors came on board. Our 2025 sponsors were as follows:

BUSINESS	LEVEL	Fee
Tasker Constructions	GOLD	\$1500
Mittagong Hotel	GOLD	\$1500
Mittagong Betta	SILVER	\$1000
Finesse AutoBody (NEW)	SILVER	\$1000
Invigorate Health and Performance (NEW)	SILVER	\$1000
Ray White Mittagong	BRONZE	\$500
Colosseum Pizza & Ribs (NEW)	BRONZE	\$500
<b>TOTAL INCOME FROM SPONSORS:</b>		<b>\$7000</b>

To meet our Gold and Silver sponsorship obligation of providing the business logo on some MNC merch, we had tote bags made by Flashbay which we provided to every player and Team Manager. These bags were well used by the players at training and on game day.



♥ Suzie Novak

# GRANT COORDINATOR'S REPORT

This year we applied for, and were successful in receiving 3 grants:

GRANT	FOR	AMOUNT
Mittagong RSL	Better training facilities Coach handbooks, shirts, accreditation, bags	\$3000
Moss Vale Services Club	Storage solutions for warehouse including shelving and crates	\$1000
Veolia Mulwaree Trust	Match and mascot balls, training first aid kit, training equipment	\$1000
<b>TOTAL INCOME FROM GRANTS:</b>		<b>\$5000</b>

## Recommendations for 2026

We could seek grant funding for programs and uniforms such as:

- An Umpire Development Program - To cover the cost of Umpire accreditation costs, production of MNC Umpires Handbooks, equipment (whistles, bands/scrunchies), mentors courtside, inhouse training sessions, dedicated umpire shirts
- Training shirts - To replace the old training shirts that had sponsors on them. These new training shirts can be ordered from OZTJ Sports and should not have sponsors on so that they last indefinitely. Grant could co-fund the shirts to make them cheaper for parents.
- Player skill and development - To get a professional to come and do a training clinic for our players
- Dresses - To purchase additional dresses in our most popular youth sizes.

 Suzie Novak

# CANTEEN COORDINATOR'S REPORT

## Rostering

Once the Canteen roster was shared by SHNA, a roster was created for Mittagong Netball Club that pre-allocated names to spots that suited game times so that parents/carers didn't miss seeing the games. ie. if a Team was playing at 10.30am - parents would be rostered on from 9-10.30am or 12-1.30pm. Pre-allocating parents to spots was done using the registration list and done using the Volunteer Sign-up platform.

Pre-allocating is essential to ensure we are not asking for volunteers every week. But it's also essential to use Volunteer Sign-up if we do need to drum up volunteers/share link.

If a team's game is cancelled/forfeited they still have to do their canteen spot unless new volunteers can be organised promptly.

## Communication

Once the roster was finalised I sent out a link of volunteer-sign up to WhatsApp chats reminding all it's their responsibility to do their spots and/or fill it if they can't.

Early each week I would send a reminder of who was on for Managers to then check all was well.

## Finals

I could only finalise the canteen roster for finals once we knew who was on the finals.

## Recommendations for 2026

- Would be ideal for Team Managers to take responsibility to check all is ok with their Teams roster.
- Remember - Only those over 14 allowed in the canteen.

Camilla Tame