

Friends

Another off-season has come and gone (well almost!). And as usual, the off-season has seen work around our game continuing at Club, Association and at Zone level. I am pleased to be able to report that **planning** for the **2024/25 season** at Zone level, is progressing extremely well. No doubt planning at Association and Club level across the Zone, is also progressing well.

As Zone President, this is my first communication to you for this season. Again this season I plan to distribute regular messages via email in an attempt to keep all those in Zone cricket land, informed of significant Zone information and happenings. Below you will find information relevant at this point in time.

1. **AGM**

As most readers will know, the DD&SWQ Cricket Inc. AGM was conducted on Saturday 15 June. **Thank you** to Association delegates, as well as observers, for making the time to participate in this meeting. The **Management Committee** was elected as follows: President- Col Geiger; Senior President and Senior Portfolio Manager- Lance Pollock; Junior President and Junior Portfolio Manager- Darryl Langton; Secretary- Greg Grant; Treasurer- vacant. Attached you will find the reports from the President, Junior President and Senior President, which were presented at the meeting.

Please note that the position of **Treasurer** is yet to be filled. Further information is available from, and/or expressions of interest in this position can be directed to Col (DD&SWQ Cricket Inc. President) at col.geiger@outlook.com

2. **DD&SWQ Cricket Inc. Strategic Plan**

Attached you will find a copy of the DD&SWQ Cricket Inc. Strategic Plan 2022-25. In a nutshell, the Plan is our roadmap into the future, it provides a common direction, it is the way ahead.

Apart from the Objectives and Operational Actions, of special significance are the statements of **Purpose** and **Vision**, and our **Organisation Values**. In particular, it goes without saying that all that we do emanates from the **Statement of Purpose- To promote, administer and grow cricket ensuring Darling Downs & South West Queenslanders can play, participate in and enjoy the game.**

3. **Zone Calendar**

This year DD&SWQ Cricket Inc. will continue to use the 'Zone Calendar' as a tool for making the planning of cricket activities across the Zone (and beyond) more streamlined and efficient. Please note:

- This year's draft calendar is now in the public domain and may be accessed via this link <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0?cid=dDNrY2hzcjk5ajFoMGc5dXUzMGtjazFmbmdAZ3JvdXAuY2FsZW5kYXluZ29vZ2xlMnNvbQ>
Obviously, the calendar not only contains, but is the point of truth for key Zone activities and dates.
- The plan is for our calendar to be inclusive of the entire Zone. Therefore, if affiliate Associations/Clubs would like to have their activities included, please email your request to Rick (Zone Administrator) RCA_DDSWQ@outlook.com
- The calendar will be updated periodically, however the dates of major activities will be changed only in extremely extenuating circumstances.
- The Zone expects that Associations/Clubs will now be able to plan their activities around key Zone dates.

4. Zone Organisational Chart

Work is continuing on finalising our 2022/23 Zone Organisational Chart (that's our 'who's who in the zoo').

Attached you will find the draft to date. Please note that vacancies still exist. Further information is available from, and/or expressions of interest in these position can be directed to Rick (Zone Administrator) at RCA_DDSWQ@outlook.com

5. Junior Winter Academy

Our **junior male** and **female squads** have been participating in the Winter Academy program for some weeks now, under the leadership of the Pathways Coordinator, Dylan, and with the help of coaches from across and also outside of the Zone. Feedback from players, parents and coaches has been extremely positive to say the least.

Please note:

- **The next Winter Academy session will be conducted on Sunday 11 August (this coming Sunday), for both male and female players.** Further information is available from Rick (Zone Administrator) at RCA_DDSWQ@outlook.com, Dylan (Zone Pathways Coordinator) at dylansherriff94@hotmail.com, Linda (QC Coaching and Talent Specialist) at Linda.Bayfield@qldcricket.com.au
- At the conclusion of the Winter Academy sessions, **all DD&SWQ junior male and female teams for the 24/25 season will be named (U12 – U16 male; U13 and 15 female)**. There will be no further selection activities.
- Players who are **unfinancial** from last season ie have outstanding fees from last season/previous seasons, ***will not be eligible for selection***. Unfortunately, there are a number of senior and junior, male and female players in this situation. Players wanting to check on their financial status should contact the Zone Administrator (Rick)RCA_DDSWQ@outlook.com

6. Senior Representative Teams

- **Female**
*Recently expressions of interest were invited for selection in the **South Queensland Open Women's team**. Details were emailed to all Associations. Expressions of interest can be registered here <https://forms.office.com/r/FnDpR7pigT>
- **Male**
*Recently expressions of interest were invited for selection in the **DD&SWQ senior male representative teams** (Open Bulls Masters, Open Schaeffer Shield; U18). Details were emailed to all Associations and registered players. Expressions of interest can be registered here <https://forms.office.com/r/kswdYnFVCM>
*There is **no SQ U21 competition** this season.
*This season there is a **player fee** for the Open Bulls Masters and Schaeffer Shield Teams, as well as the U18 team. This decision was made by Affiliates' Delegates at the recent Ordinary General Meeting (following a motion proposed the TCI Delegate), and brings DD&SWQ in line with other Zones (although other Zones have a larger player levy).
*Also this season, and in keeping with the Zone's intention to include players from across the Zone in the selection process, **Associations and Clubs are invited to nominate players** whom they feel are worthy of consideration for

selection. Players are still invited to self-nominate.

- **Players who are unfinancial from last season ie have outstanding fees from last season/previous seasons, *will not be eligible for selection*.** Unfortunately, there are a number of senior and junior, male and female players in this situation. Players wanting to check on their financial status should contact the Zone Administrator (Rick) RCA_DDSWQ@outlook.com

7. Operational Role Appointments

Some time ago, **expressions of interest** were invited for Zone Operational Role positions, including team coach and manager positions. The Junior and Senior Portfolios' Managers and their teams have been busy processing the applications in recent weeks. As this communication is being distributed, successful applicants are being advised by personal email, of their appointments. Accompanying the appointment letters are other essential documents including the relevant **Position Description** and **Code of Behaviour**, and for Coaches and Managers a **Team Preparation template**.

Thank you to the many volunteers from across the Zone for taking on these positions!

No doubt we are all looking forward to the rewards (and challenges) that will accompany the new season- best wishes to all!

Col

Col Geiger (Justice of the Peace)

President

Darling Downs & South West Queensland Cricket Inc.

Ph: 0428376097 Email: col.geiger@outlook.com