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PRESIDENTS REPORT 2020

2020 marked the start of a new chapter for our organisation as we completed our rebranding to Powerchair Sports Victoria. It has been a transformation that will drive our future.

The goal of our organisation from the very beginning still rings true today. That is to provide sport and recreational activities to those in the community who use powerchairs for daily mobility.

I'm honoured and proud to have had the chance to lead our organisation over the last few years but there is no doubt that these past 12 months have been unprecedented. I would like to thank the committee, our volunteers, partners, sponsors, donors and members for all of their support over the past year. All of that support does not go unnoticed and I want to acknowledge that without you, we would not be able to achieve all of what we do.

My main goal over the past year has been to help lead the committee into the next chapter of our organisation, that being Powerchair Sports Victoria. It has been an exciting and wonderful experience seeing all of the passion and new ideas that have come from it.

Our vision as an organisation is to offer new and improved programs and supports that the players find most important. We look forward to working alongside you, amplifying your voices, and delivering more than we have ever done, we are ready for the challenge. We are also looking forward to forging new partnerships to bring powerchair sports to more people around Victoria.

Participation numbers and our competitions have continued to grow, including the second season of our Victorian Powerchair League. Players in our highly respected powerchair hockey competition continued strong representation in the Australian team, with Jules North-Coombes getting his first call up during the inaugural Club Championships last November. Both Melbourne teams competed well against other clubs from Australia and Canada, with the Melbourne Ducks coming in second place for the competition.

South Melbourne Powerchair Football Club represented Victoria at the fifth Australian Powerchair Football Club Championships in January and fought valiantly against very tough opposition. We continue to develop our programs and pathways for success at a National level.

We were provided opportunities from our partners to reach a bigger audience through the Disability Sport & Recreation Festival and GESAC All-Abilities Day. While we also hosted a weekend training camp in Caroline Springs for players in Victoria and South Australia. Our ambition is to reach more and more people and provide new and exciting opportunities for our players and members.



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I would like to thank Craig Kilby who stepped down from the committee earlier this year for his significant achievements and contribution to the organisation over the past few years as Vice-President. We also welcomed Skip Fulton to the committee last year and he has provided valuable guidance and support.

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought a lot of challenges for our community. Our players have not been able to access the community or participate in the sports they love since March. I feel for everyone but rest assured that we have been working hard behind the scenes to make our next season the biggest and best one yet. We invite everyone to join us as we continue to grow, adapt.

Thank you for being a part of our community.

Luke David

L. David

President 2019/20

