

**President’s Message**

*January 2023*

Dear Players, Members, Families, and Partners,

I am excited to be so close to the new Hornets Lacrosse season. Our board and membership have made some amazing strides towards supporting a season that will be great for our kids, families, and new members.

The challenge we have faced at a club level since the shutdowns and pandemic has been the loss of many of our families and players. We are seeing some of those numbers start to come back through our programs with our partners. This will continue to be one of the most important goals we have as a club, in the short and long term.

Re-introduction of lacrosse to people plus debuting how great the sport is to new families is a passion that we are focused on. The benefits to our club by getting better enrolment numbers has a direct affect on *everyone* in our association. It allows us to invest into refined programs for our kids, it helps to stabilize our forecasted budget, it helps to bring down the costs to our families individually and it allows us to provide a world class experience for non-profit sport.

The Hornets have always had the strategic intent to provide an environment for our families of inclusivity, cost certainty and respect. By expanding our membership and introducing our awesome game to others, it will provide us the opportunity to accomplish all these goals.

**My ask to you, leading up to the season, is to help us by spreading the word.**

Tell others we want them. Tell school mates and friends that there is a place for them in our organization. Tell Teammates in other sports that Lacrosse is a sport where they can meet great people and get a level of exercise they have not seen before. Tell them it is a sport that will not break the bank like other popular games and TELL them it is FUN.

I have been reminded about all these reasons over the past few weeks during our Winter Camp (spots still available). I have also been reminded of the speed of our game, talent level of our players and how out of breath a coach can get when running drills (personal details).

Please direct anyone interested of with questions about getting involved in lacrosse or with our association to our executive director Debbie Goodfellow at [executivedirector@hornetslacrosse.com](mailto:executivedirector@hornetslacrosse.com) or to myself Owen Jones at [president@hornetslacrosse.com](mailto:president@hornetslacrosse.com) .

Lastly, I wanted to provide a quick update on our Board. We have some of the best people involved with our Board and our association. We have been very fortunate to have a spectrum of talent and knowledge within the Board of Directors that drive change for the collective benefits of our Hornets Family. Within the Board we have one open position that we would love to fill with a great person. It is a role that has great support and will help with the momentum we have for our teams. If you or anyone you know would be interested in helping us as the **Coach Director**, we would love to hear from you. The role has some great directives plus great support. Please let us know if you can help.

Best of luck with the upcoming season.

“Proud to be a Hornet.”

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Owen Jones

President of Hornets Lacrosse.