



QUEENSLAND RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE LIMITED



**A SEASON TO
CELEBRATE**

'21

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

QRL statewide competitions made a triumphant return in 2021 as all levels of the game roared back to life across the state.

Communities were able to come together at their local grounds once more, with six statewide pathway competitions thrilling fans from the coast to the far north.

Challenges came thick and fast during the year as COVID-19 health restrictions kicked in, but the rugby league family united to ensure premiership seasons reached a climax.

Some grand finals were played in the warmer days of October, a period normally reserved for sports like cricket.

But the change didn't deter players, who remained committed and struck their best form to deliver quality matches, few better than the epic Intrust Super Cup and Hastings Deering Colts grand finals.

These games were just two of many highlights throughout the year.

STATEWIDE COMPETITIONS

7264 fans generated an electric atmosphere at Moreton Daily Stadium on grand final day.

It capped off an excellent year across the statewide leagues, where **2300 players from 20 clubs and 78 teams showcased their skills.**

This group included 24 Intrust Super Cup players who stepped up to make their National Rugby League debuts.

Activate Queensland! Country Week generated enormous goodwill and entertainment for regional fans. Host leagues and clubs reported **\$66,000 in net profit.**



7624

FANS AT MORETON DAILY STADIUM ON GRAND FINAL DAY.

DIGITAL

QRL Digital headed the NRL Network for number of **users (2,977,674) and sessions (6,201,663).**

2.9+ MILLION

USERS

6.2+ MILLION

SESSIONS

HARVEY NORMAN QUEENSLAND MAROONS

In a breakthrough for aspiring females, the QRL announced a landmark pay deal for elite Queensland athletes, who can now earn up to **\$15,000 – the same amount as the men's Origin match fee.**



PATHWAYS & PERFORMANCE

QRL stepped up its commitment to support long-term player and coach development, with **1663 male and female players (13-15 years)** involved in the RISE program across 16 locations.

160 coaches completed the coach accreditation program to deliver the course.

STRATEGY & FRAMEWORK

Off the field, QRL staff worked diligently with stakeholders to deliver numerous strategic priorities.

Female participation grew by six per cent, and additional opportunities were provided to develop people by supporting females into leadership and governance roles.

In November, respected community leader **Samantha Bliss** was announced as a new independent director and chair of the QRL's participation committee.

6%

**FEMALE
PARTICIPATION
GROWTH**

COMMUNITY

QRL recorded its **highest community participation level in six years**, with **62,330 players** signing on to play club rugby league.

62,330

CLUB RUGBY LEAGUE PLAYERS



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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Rugby league surged ahead in 2021 with Queensland at the forefront of the game's revival following the tumultuous events of the previous year.

Community rugby league, statewide competitions and the elite National Rugby League and representative formats were again impacted by health restrictions put in place to safeguard participants and the public.

Lessons learnt from 2020 placed the QRL and its network of regions, leagues, clubs and volunteers in a strong position to not only keep the game afloat, but also keep it thriving for generations to come.

As we reflect on the year, we are proud to say we collectively made a difference to many communities throughout the state.

History was made with Brisbane hosting its first NRL grand final, while semi-finals were held in Rockhampton, Townsville and on the Sunshine Coast for the first time.

We congratulate the NRL for moving swiftly and efficiently to keep the competition going, and acknowledge our regions for accommodating these games and teams.

In a highly unusual year, Queensland hosted all three matches of the men's Origin series, as well as the women's match.

While it was pleasing to see fans in Townsville and on the Gold Coast lap up the Origin excitement for the first time, we do recognise the disappointment of southern supporters and trust that normal scheduling can resume in 2022.

Our Queensland Maroons endured a challenging series against a formidable New South Wales team.

Coach Paul Green maintained a high standard of leadership in extremely difficult circumstances, and we applaud his efforts, along with those of the players, for rising off the canvas to win Game Three at Cbus Super Stadium.

I also had the privilege of watching a very committed Harvey Norman Queensland Maroons team pull together to win the women's State of Origin match on the Sunshine Coast.

This was a stunning effort, and one that coach Tahnee Norris and the players must be applauded for.

The QRL is delighted to have increased its investment into the female game this year, and we expect to see further growth with Norris now having assumed a full-time role to strengthen female pathways and development.

This investment included our commitment to seeing through equal Origin remuneration for all players who represent the Maroons.

We won't rest there though, and we can share that the QRL has made a submission to the NRL for more funding to support critical areas of the women's game.

The successful return of our statewide competitions following the previous year's setback was a personal highlight.

We were fortunate to witness a brilliant Intrust Super Cup grand final at Moreton Daily Stadium, and congratulations must go to the Norths Devils who beat a gallant Wynnum Manly Seagulls to claim their first premiership since 1998.

Likewise, the BHP Premiership final between the Burleigh Bears and Valleys Diehards thrilled fans watching from the ground and via the QRL broadcast.

All clubs who competed in statewide competitions took their community responsibilities seriously, and as a result we saw many outstanding initiatives like Activate Queensland! Country Week.

With many of our clubs prospering both on and off the field, it came as no surprise that the Australian Rugby League Commission (ARLC) carefully considered a number of bids from Queensland teams to join an expanded NRL competition in 2023.

As reported extensively throughout the media, the Dolphins won this licence and we congratulate them and all of the bid teams, as well as the ARLC for their investment into Queensland.

At community league level, our competitions continued despite ongoing uncertainty and the many challenges that surfaced while attempting to keep sport going for the enjoyment of participants and the wider community, all while ensuring health and safety factors were paramount.

Pleasingly, we got the balance right, thanks to the collaboration between the Queensland Government, sporting bodies, QRL staff and volunteers from our leagues and clubs.



As we reflect on the year, we are proud to say we collectively made a difference to many communities throughout the state.

As custodians of the game in Queensland, we were fortunate to have a great leader in Rob Moore, whose calm and measured approach ensured our working groups received the best advice and direction throughout this challenging period.

Rob stood down in October this year to pursue new challenges following 15 years' service with the QRL.

The game is indebted to Rob and his work across all levels of the game and many facets of the business.

Rob's commitment to rugby league and our people has set the foundations for future success under newly-appointed Chief Executive Officer Rohan Sawyer.

Rohan has already made a major impact in his previous role as Chief Operating Officer, and we look forward to 2022 with great excitement.

Finally, I would like to thank our partners for their immense contribution to rugby league in Queensland this year.

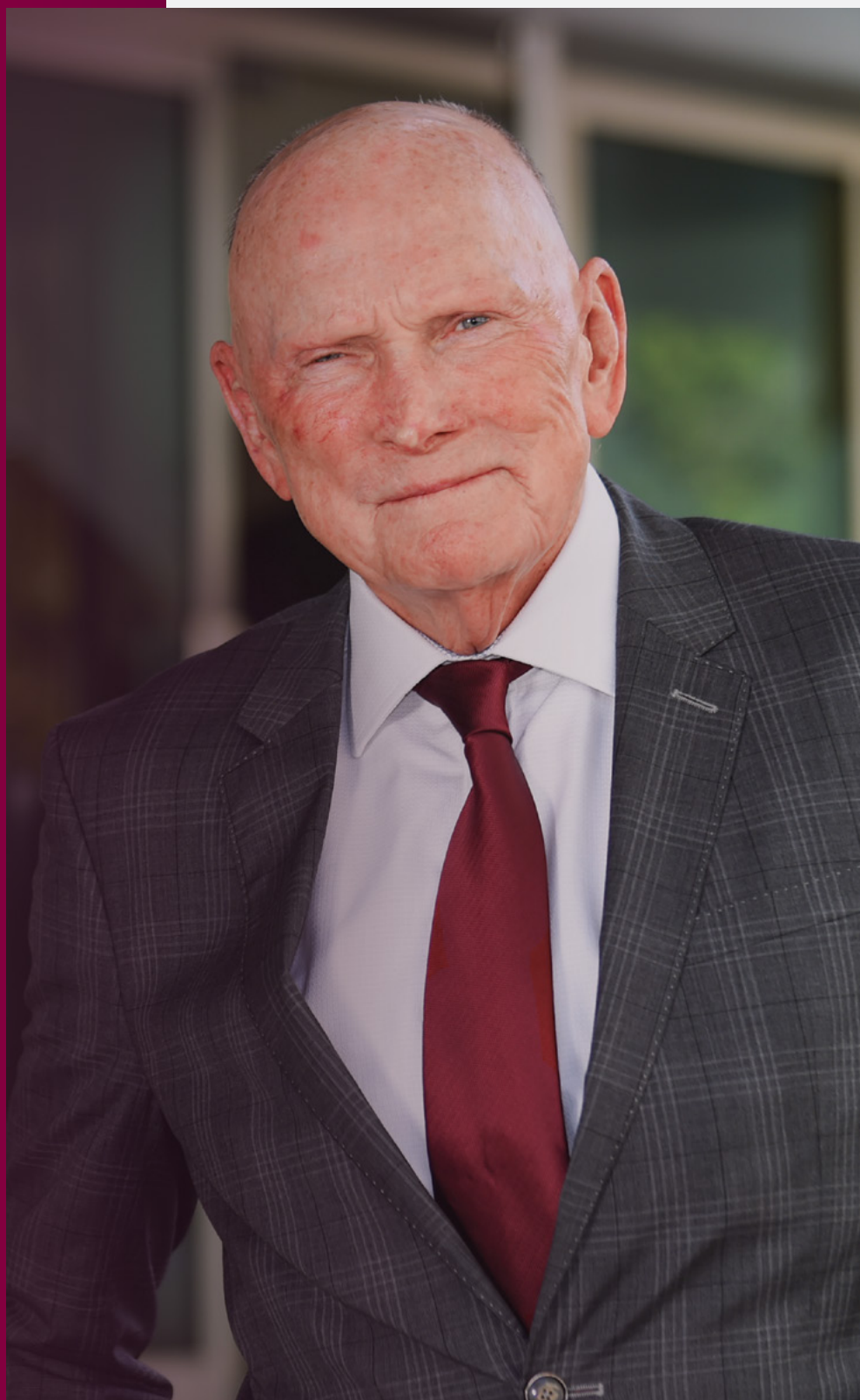
Platinum partners Auswide Bank, PUMA and XXXX were behind us every step of the way, and so too were our major partners – Queensland Government, McDonald's and Shell V-Power.

In a changing of the guard, we farewelled Brendan O'Farrell and the team at Intrust Super after a fantastic 11-year partnership, and welcomed Hostplus following its acquisition of Intrust Super.

With this team of dedicated partners behind our own new-look team, we are eager to dive into 2022 to ensure rugby league is the sport that continues to inspire and connect millions of Queenslanders.



Bruce Hatcher | QRL Chair



CEO REPORT

Rugby league brings people together like no other sport, particularly here in Queensland, where the game means so much to many people.

It is a game of endurance and skill, but most importantly it is about passion and spirit.

When we pause to reflect on 2021, it is clear that the passion and spirit we speak of is alive and well.

It is an honour to have been appointed as the CEO of the Queensland Rugby League as we continue to navigate a path through extraordinary challenges and great opportunities.

Our 2021 results, both on and off the field, provide a platform for the QRL to set the game up for future generations.

There were many heart-warming moments, success stories and triumphs throughout the year.

We witnessed history in the making when country towns Richmond, Dysart, Murgon, Chinchilla and Quilpie staged Intrust Super Cup games for the first time, we saw the raw emotion as we struck a landmark pay deal for our female Queensland Maroons, and we watched on with pride as some of our most dedicated volunteers were honoured at state and national level.

These moments are examples of key priorities for the QRL, our communities, and our people.

We have taken stock of what is important to us and that is putting in place the framework to ensure our communities thrive, while investing in building the capability of our people and supporting their wellbeing.



The Queensland Rugby League's 2022 Game Plan (page 16). is our roadmap for success.

This Game Plan outlines our delivery priorities for the final year of the QRL's 2018-2022 Strategic Plan.

One of my first tasks as CEO was to address staff at our annual conference, where we spoke about building these strategic priorities and our role in creating culture while living leadership every day.

To thrive into the future, we also need to understand and appreciate the rich history of rugby league in Queensland and the impact our sport has on communities.

Across Queensland, more than 62,000 players signed on to play club rugby league in 2021 – the QRL's highest level of community participation in six years.

Through the facilitation of the RISE program, we stepped up our commitment to providing a footprint that feeds clear pathways into statewide competitions and representative programs.

Pleasingly, more than 1600 aspiring male and female players were able to participate in inaugural regional player development programs across 16 locations, and 160 coaches completed the coach accreditation program to deliver the course.

In our male sub-elite pathway, 24 players graduated into the National Rugby League.

The skills of some of these players were on show in a brilliant spectacle for Intrust Super Cup grand final at Moreton Daily Stadium, where more than 7000 spectators packed into the ground.

Both games on grand final day were a fabulous showcase for our statewide competitions, and a fitting reward for the perseverance displayed by our staff, clubs and participants.

We have increased our investment into female pathways by aligning the QRLW Premiership to statewide competition clubs in the long term.

The move, coupled with the appointment of Harvey Norman Queensland Maroons coach Tahnee Norris into an expanded full-time role with the QRL, allows the strengthening of our pathways and development systems.

QRL Digital, external media and our broadcast partners provided excellent coverage of community leagues, statewide competitions and representative programs this year.

Across the NRL Network, QRL returned to the top-ranking position and had more 34 million video views.

In closing, I would like to personally thank Rob Moore for his exceptional service to the QRL and rugby league across Queensland.

Rob has always held a passion for development and education, and it was only fitting the QRL achieved significant progress and milestones in his final year as Managing Director.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their contribution to the game this year. Volunteers and community support are the lifeblood of our great game, thank you.

It has been a year filled with breathtaking tries, thrilling games and some wonderful stories that have raised the spirits of communities far and wide.



Rohan Sawyer | QRL Chief Executive Officer

When we pause to reflect on 2021, it is clear that the passion and spirit we speak of is alive and well.

SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

The Senior Leadership Team embraced its responsibilities as custodians of the game by setting the culture and driving the QRL's strategic priorities in 2021.

An ever willingness to ensure communities thrived was a major SLT focus, along with the continued investment into people and wellbeing for internal staff and external stakeholders.

The SLT and the wider game benefited from the calm and measured leadership of Managing Director Robert Moore, who farewelled the QRL in October after more than 15 years' service to the organisation.

Moore made a conscious effort to impart his extensive rugby league knowledge on fellow leaders, who were always empowered to back their own instincts and use their expertise.

Given his immense contribution, Moore was given a fitting send off by colleagues, who worked with QRL History Committee chair Steve Ricketts to produce a personalised book on his career, family life and achievements.

Moore was first employed by the QRL as an education and development manager, before accepting a position with the State Government as the Deputy Director-General for Sport and Recreation Services.

In 2011, Moore returned to the QRL as the late Ross Livermore's successor.

After guiding the organisation through an extraordinary decade of growth, Moore supported a leadership handover this year before signing off to pursue new challenges.

While in his role, Moore was highly respected by staff and directors, who admired his integrity and decency, as well as his overall knowledge of the game across all levels.

He played a pivotal role in guiding the QRL through the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, and worked diligently behind the scenes to ensure important changes were made to the constitution of the Australian Rugby League Commission.

With Moore and Chief Human Resources Manager Jane Shand having moved on, QRL leadership will adopt a fresh look in 2022 with Liz Graham (General Manager Commercial & Consumer Engagement), and Gemma Davidson (General Manager People and Capability) joining the team.

SLT and the wider game benefited from the calm and measured leadership of Managing Director Robert Moore, who farewelled the QRL in October after more than 15 years' service to the organisation.



SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM 2021:

- Robert Moore** | Managing Director
- Rohan Sawyer** | Chief Operating Officer
- Graham Maher** | Chief Financial Officer and Company Secretary
- Jane Shand** | Chief Human Resources Manager
- Glenn Ottaway** | General Manager – Community Rugby League





SETTING THE PLATFORM

STRATEGIES REVIEW

The Queensland Rugby League is proud to shape the delivery of the game across many areas, from upskilling coaches and volunteers, to how the game is promoted, consumed and enjoyed across the state.

In order to achieve this, the QRL has consulted with an extensive group of stakeholders and committed considerable resources to developing strategic plans that will set the framework for future growth and success.

These strategies and plans have been designed to provide each core business unit with key drivers to increase participation and engagement.

Pathways and Performance Strategy:

This strategy is built on five pillars – evidence based decision making, people and growth, quality program management, formal system structures, and best-practice elite programs.

Significant progress was made this year across the action points linked to each pillar.

In a first for the game in Queensland, a statewide performance database was introduced in line with club participation agreements that formalised the collection of fitness testing and data from coaching and player toolkits.

Coach mentor roles were also introduced to support coaches and refinements were made to the statewide talent identification system through the Cyril Connell Challenge and Harvey Norman Under 19s, as well as the RISE program.

Reconciliation Action Plan:

The QRL Reconciliation Action Plan is a formal recognition of our commitment to promote reconciliation inclusiveness on and off the field, and also encourages a deeper understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.

The first task was to establish a RAP Working Group, comprising of QRL staff, and leaders from the Indigenous community.

Several action items were completed this year, including the inaugural Indigenous Business Breakfast, NAIDOC / Reconciliation Week initiatives and RAP microsite delivered on QRL.com.au.

Diversity and Inclusion Strategy:

The QRL is committed to providing a safe, welcoming environment for everyone who chooses to be part of the rugby league community by actively promoting the principles of equality, fairness, social justice and community values.

Completed actions include the launch of the QueenslandHer campaign and the unveiling of programs that celebrate volunteers who work to promote diversity and inclusion across rugby league.

Staff attended training specifically targeted at the QRL's membership with Pride in Sport, as well as Multicultural Queensland Webinars offered across the organisation.

Female Strategy:

The QRL developed its Female Strategy to drive growth and engagement across the female game.

The six strategic pillars that underpin the strategy are education, partnerships, brand, people, resources and sustainability, and participation and pathways.

Numerous action items attached to these pillars are either completed or in progress, as this work continues to set the foundations for the game moving forward.

In 2021, there were 7892 registered participants, representing a six per cent increase on 2019 numbers.

By the end of the 2022 season, the league's aim is to have more than 8,500 registered participants, and more coaches, officials and volunteers than ever before.

A snapshot of this progress shows the scope of the work linked to this strategy, including the introduction of a Women's Coaching Conference, coach mentor roles to support Harvey Norman Under 19 and QRLW Premiership coaches, as well as initiatives like the female leadership development pathway.

These strategies and plans have been designed to provide each core business unit with key drivers to increase participation and engagement.

CORPORATE & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY COMMITTEE

Queensland Rugby League raised its commitment to communities across the state through the formation of a Corporate and Social Responsibility Committee in 2021.

The new committee has been endorsed by the QRL Board and is aligned to the QRL's strategic priority of leveraging the game's unique ability to make a difference in communities.

Chaired by independent director Naomi McCarthy, the primary objective of the group is to support the development of an overall strategy for co-ordinating and growing rugby league's community and social impact across Queensland.

Committee members include QRL director Leigh Anderson, prominent Indigenous community leader Dean Daylight and Legal Aid Queensland's Jason Garrick, who specialises in the areas of domestic violence and family law.

The committee's initial focus has been to support wellbeing and education programs, Indigenous programs, diversity and inclusion engagement and socio-cultural outcomes, including respectful relationships.

The group is also committed to establishing strong links and consulting with affiliates throughout the state, including non-affiliated rugby league-based organisations with a passion for delivering similar outcomes.



2022 GAME PLAN


















VISION

Unite, excite and inspire people to create communities that are deeply connected to the game.

PRIORITIES

- 1. Build **capacity, capability** and **engagement** across Queensland's rugby league network
- 2. Maintain a footprint that feeds **clear pathways** into **statewide competitions** and representative programs
- 3. Deliver **technology solutions** to create **efficiencies** across competition delivery, club, league and region governance and education
- 4. Leverage the game's **unique ability** to **make a difference in our community**
- 5. Build **engagement** and **partnerships** to **sustain and fund program delivery** and **create advocates** for the game

ROADMAP

DEVELOP	IMPLEMENT	EMBED
<ul style="list-style-type: none">  QRL data ecosystem & data lake  Identify Queensland eligible players performing at sub elite levels of the game  Corporate & Social Responsibility Programs  QRL Stakeholder Score – "QRL NPS"  QRL wide technology plan  Elevate RAP  Statewide facilities / grants plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  QRL Volunteer Engagement Frameworks  Community Rugby League delivery model  Use technology to support the game in Queensland  Diversity and Inclusion Framework  Female Strategy  QRL Employee Wellbeing Program  QRL Statewide Wellbeing Strategy  Positive Behaviour Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  "Clubhouse" for community rugby league and statewide clubs  Pathways and Performance Strategy

BACKBONE

WE ARE POSITIVE

Every day may not be good, but there is good in every day.

We always field a full team. One game. One purpose.

We don't litter negativity because we don't need a messy workplace.

WE ARE UNITED

Be more we.

Individual commitment to a group effort is what makes a team work.

We work together to tackle the important stuff.

WE ARE INCLUSIVE

Strength lies in our differences, not our similarities.

We don't sign up to sit on the sideline, we all play.

We celebrate and recognise all contributions that make our game great.

WE ARE DISCIPLINED

A goal without a plan is just a wish.

Our good intention is always backed up by timely & positive action.

We live above the line – we own our actions & reactions equally.







PLAYING OUR GAME

PARTICIPATION

Queensland Rugby League recorded its **highest community participation level in six years**, with **62,330 players** signing on to experience the thrill of the state's leading sport in 2021.

The largest growth in playing participation was in the 13 to 18 years age group (six per cent increase).

Senior participation (19 years and older) also increased by three per cent with 14,970 registrations this year.

This figure ranked as the QRL's second highest in the past six years, only behind the total of 15,053 in 2018.

Leagues who were early adopters of the Player Development Framework performed strongly in the five to seven years demographic.

These areas were Gold Coast (12 per cent), Toowoomba (10 per cent) and Mackay (three per cent).

Note: All growth percentage comparisons are 2021 compared to 2019. There is also an additional section of participants who are not captured in this data but play in school or diversity and inclusion events.



COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

16%

growth in **Toowoomba Senior Rugby League**

7%

the overall performance of **Rugby League Gold Coast (senior and junior)**

4%

growth in **Roma Junior Rugby League**

26%

growth in **Mount Isa Junior Rugby League**

6%

growth in **Townsville Junior Rugby League**



PATHWAYS

The Queensland Rugby League committed significant resources into player and coach pathways to provide participants with the chance to maximise their skills and enjoy their rugby league.

The QRL pathway is essentially a mix of quality environments where players and coaches can develop their personal attributes through a mixture of formal competitions, training camps and 'whole of game'-endorsed development programs.

The talent pathway commences at the under 13 age group via RISE, with aspiring players able to nominate to participate in regionalised player development programs.

From the under 16 age group, players can join clubs based across Queensland that establish a statewide footprint of senior competitions for men and women.

Queensland School Sport Rugby League (QSSRL) are key partners during a players' teenage years and provide endorsed competitions and training programs.

QRL representative programs and NRL identification opportunities are available to all players who participate in the QRL player pathway – the women's pathway and the men's pathway.

The QRL's Pathway and Performance team made extensive resources and toolkits available to its participation network through the release this year of coach development, player development, and physical performance material.

The team also facilitated numerous events with a focus on personal development, including the Queensland Coaches Network Forum.

This two-day conference saw some of Australia's greatest sporting minds, including Wayne Bennett and Mal Meninga, take to the stage to educate aspiring coaches and provide their insights into player development.

PROGRAM RESULTS

The QRL strengthened its high performance program for emerging athletes in 2021.

In a new opportunity for the future female stars of the game, two Queensland teams were selected to compete at the Under 19 Harvey Norman Women's National Championships.

In an all Queensland grand final, the Sapphires outshone the Rubys to claim the title with a 16-4 win at Moreton Daily Stadium.

The female talent on display impressed selectors who settled on a Queensland Under 19 team to play New South Wales on the Sunshine Coast in June.

The young Queenslanders impressed with Sara Sautia and Hannah Larsson crossing for tries in a high-standard match, won 16-12 by NSW.

Unfortunately, the Under 19 men's match between Queensland and NSW was cancelled due to the escalating COVID-19 situation.

In October, the QRL facilitated the inaugural Under 17 girls clash between City and Country, with Country coming away with a thrilling 22-20 victory at Moreton Daily Stadium.

City turned the tables in the Under 17s boys game, crossing for nine tries in their 52-20 win.





The program encompassed five sessions across 12 weeks, covering skills, physical education and personal wellbeing and education.

SUCCESS OF THE RISE PROGRAM

The purpose of RISE is to provide a consistent player and coach development program across Queensland to support aspirational players at the beginning of the pathway.

RISE is the foundation of the performance pathway and players can graduate into the QRL statewide competitions at the completion of the program.

Highlights:

- 1663 male and female players were involved across Queensland, aged 13-15 years.
- The program was delivered in 16 locations.
- 160 coaches completed the coach accreditation program to deliver the course.

The program encompassed five sessions across 12 weeks, covering skills, physical education and personal wellbeing and education.

RISE is a collaboration with the NRL and Griffith University, who supported the personal wellbeing components of the programs.

STATEWIDE COMPETITIONS

QRL statewide competitions made a triumphant return in 2021 with more than 2300 players from 20 clubs and 78 teams taking the field.

The sights and sounds of rugby league matches being played at local grounds once more provided a welcome lift for communities across the state following the cancellation of the 2020 season due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

This year was not without its challenges though, as restrictions put in place to safeguard the wellbeing of Queenslanders impacted various competitions.

The QRL and its clubs followed all government directives to ensure the health and safety of participants, and adapted to the unfolding situation with flexible scheduling to ensure all competitions were played.

Fans lapped up the action and players impressed with their skill, passion and enthusiasm.

For some involved in the Intrust Super Cup, it was a year of significant progression.

Twenty-four players, including the likes of Reece Walsh, Tyson Smoothy, Trent Loiero, Kobe Hetherington and Jayden Campbell, moved up from the state's premier men's competition to make their NRL debuts.

The Intrust Super Cup season reached its climax in October when the Norths Devils and Wynnum Manly Seagulls went head to head for premiership glory in front of 7,264 fans at Moreton Daily Stadium.

In an epic final, the Devils broke through in the second half to grab a six-point lead which they maintained until the final siren.

The win sent Norths fans into emotional celebrations with the Nundah club having broken through to celebrate its first top flight premiership since 1998.

Earlier in the year, the celebrations extended to the Gold Coast when the Burleigh Bears beat Valleys Diehards in a thrilling BHP Premiership women's grand final.

The hard-fought and entertaining match thrilled fans and set the scene for another engaging 2022 season, which will be known as the QRLW Premiership.

In November, the QRL confirmed the competing teams as part of an increased investment into female pathways.

A key component of the process to select the eight clubs was the QRL's strategy to align the QRLW Premiership to statewide competition clubs in the long term.

This approach resulted in the addition of two teams – Souths Logan Magpies and Wynnum Manly Seagulls, and the withdrawal of Valkyries Queensland and Valleys Diehards.

The QRLW Premiership will be underpinned by the Harvey Norman Under 19s, a competition which will expand from 13 teams to 15 next year following its success in 2021.

Male pathway competitions the Hastings Deering Colts, Auswide Bank Mal Meninga Cup and Cyril Connell Challenge also return in 2022.

These competitions produced some outstanding rugby league this year, none more notable than the enthralling Hastings Deering Colts grand final, won 17-16 by the Wynnum Manly Seagulls following an extra time field goal against the Townsville Blackhawks.

Throughout the year, the QRL and statewide competition clubs engaged with communities, partners and other key stakeholders during numerous themed rounds, including Activate Queensland! Country Week, XXXX Rivalry Round (in conjunction with Surf Life Saving Queensland) and the Harvey Norman Women in League Round.

The host Country Week venues operated by local leagues and clubs made a combined net profit of \$66,000.

The QRL invested more than \$290,000 to implement the initiative but believe the significant economic and social impact throughout each host venue is invaluable to communities who are often affected by drought and other natural disaster.

More than 6,000 spectators attended Country Week matches across the state with Murgon and Atherton each drawing 1,500 fans.

The win sent Norths fans into emotional celebrations with the Nundah club having broken through to celebrate its first top flight premiership since 1998.

2021 RESULTS



INTRUST SUPER CUP

Premiers: Norths Devils

Grand Final: Norths Devils 16
def Wynnum Manly Seagulls 10

(Competition will be known as
the Hostplus Cup in 2022)



BHP PREMIERSHIP

Premiers: Burleigh Bears

Grand Final: Burleigh Bears 24
def Valleys Diehards 20



HASTINGS DEERING COLTS

Premiers: Wynnum Manly Seagulls

Grand Final: Wynnum Manly Seagulls 17
def Townsville Blackhawks 16



HARVEY NORMAN UNDER 19S

Top standings after Round 6:

West Brisbane Panthers (14), Mackay Cutters (12),
Burleigh Bears (12)



AUSWIDE BANK MAL MENINGA CUP

Premiers: Tweed Seagulls

Grand Final: Tweed Seagulls 30
def Townsville Blackhawks 24



CYRIL CONNELL CHALLENGE

Top standings after Round 6:

Redcliffe Dolphins (10), Tweed Seagulls (10)



QUEENSLAND MAROONS

Queensland mustered all of its fighting qualities to record one of the state's most significant victories in Game III of the 2021 Ampol State of Origin series.

The thrilling 20-18 win over New South Wales ensured the Blues would not claim a rare series whitewash and quashed talk the Maroons' had lost their culture.

This was anything but a fractured group, as the Maroons overcame a disrupted preparation following the suspension of Jai Arrow to capture a memorable win in the historic match on the Gold Coast.

Hooker Ben Hunt was simply superb as he crossed for two tries and tackled everything in front of him, while debutant Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow put his mark on the game with a classy first-half try.

New South Wales surged late but it was the Maroons who finished on top in a win to savour for coach Paul Green.

Green endured a campaign like no other, with injuries to key players and multiple off-field setbacks providing unprecedented challenges in his first year as Origin coach.

However, Green and captain Daly Cherry-Evans maintained their composure under immense pressure to ensure the Maroons were ready for everything NSW would throw at them in Game III.

The return of Kalyn Ponga added a new dimension to the Maroons attack, which threatened all night behind a willing forward pack.

Green told his players in the sheds after the game that it was one of the proudest moments of his coaching career given the situation the team had found itself in after the first two games.

With order restored and a strong platform to build on in 2022, the Maroons are well placed to tackle a new era with confidence under newly-appointed head coach Billy Slater.

As one of Queensland's favourite footballing sons, Slater brings a wealth of Origin experience as a player and a fierce passion for the Maroons jersey.

Hooker Ben Hunt was simply superb as he crossed for two tries and tackled everything in front of him, while debutant Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow put his mark on the game with a classy first-half try.



TEAM LISTS

GAME I

5. Valentine Holmes
2. Xavier Coates
3. Kurt Capewell
4. Dane Gagai
5. Kyle Feldt
6. Cameron Munster
7. Daly Cherry-Evans (c)
8. Christian Welch
9. Harry Grant
10. Tino Fa'asuamaleaui
11. Felise Kaufusi
12. David Fifita
13. Jai Arrow

Interchange:

14. AJ Brimson
15. Jaydn Su'A
16. Moeaki Fotuaika
17. Joe Ofahengaue

NEW SOUTH WALES BLUES 50 (Tom Trbojevic 3, Brian To'o 2, Latrell Mitchell 2, Daniel Saifiti tries; Nathan Cleary 8, Latrell Mitchell goals) def **QUEENSLAND MAROONS 6** (Kurt Capewell try; Valentine Holmes goal) at Queensland Country Bank Stadium, Townsville

GAME II

2. Valentine Holmes
5. Kyle Feldt
3. Kurt Capewell
4. Dane Gagai
20. Xavier Coates
6. Cameron Munster
7. Daly Cherry-Evans (c)
8. Christian Welch
9. Andrew McCullough
10. Josh Papalii
11. Jai Arrow
12. Felise Kaufusi
13. Tino Fa'asuamaleaui

Interchange:

14. Ben Hunt
15. Moeaki Fotuaika
16. David Fifita
17. Francis Molo

NEW SOUTH WALES BLUES 26 (Josh Addo-Carr 2, Tom Trbojevic, Latrell Mitchell tries; Nathan Cleary 5 goals) def **QUEENSLAND MAROONS 0** at Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane

GAME III

1. Kalyn Ponga
2. Valentine Holmes
3. Dane Gagai
4. Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow
5. Xavier Coates
6. Cameron Munster
7. Daly Cherry-Evans (c)
8. Christian Welch
9. Ben Hunt
10. Josh Papalii
11. Kurt Capewell
12. Felise Kaufusi
13. Tino Fa'asuamaleaui

Interchange:

14. AJ Brimson
16. Moeaki Fotuaika
18. Francis Molo
20. Thomas Flegler

QUEENSLAND MAROONS 20 (Ben Hunt 2, Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow tries; Daly Cherry-Evans 2, Valentine Holmes 2 goals) def **NEW SOUTH WALES BLUES 18** (Latrell Mitchell, Jack Wighton, Apisai Koroisau tries; Latrell Mitchell 3 goals) at Cbus Super Stadium, Gold Coast



GAME 1 - 2021 QUEENSLAND MAROONS GAME 1 SQUAD

Front: AJ Brimson, Harry Grant, Daly Cherry-Evans (captain), Paul Green (coach), Dane Gagai, Cameron Munster, Valentine Holmes

Middle: Reed Mahoney, Kyle Feldt, Coen Hess, David Fifita, Jaydn Su'A, Moeaki Fotuaika

Back: Jai Arrow, Kurt Capewell, Xavier Coates, Christian Welch, Tino Fa'asuamaleaui, Felise Kaufusi, Joe Ofahengaue

HARVEY NORMAN QUEENSLAND MAROONS

A penalty goal with a minute remaining sealed back-to-back State of Origin titles for the Harvey Norman Queensland Maroons.

In a pulsating match played before 7138 fans at Sunshine Coast Stadium, the score was locked at 6-6 in slippery conditions.

With the game on the line, the Maroons were awarded a late penalty and Lauren Brown calmly stepped forward to kick the goal that secured the home team a determined 8-6 victory against New South Wales.

Queensland skipper Ali Brigginshaw proudly lifted the shield at the end of the fiercely contested match, which again showcased the very best of elite women's rugby league.

Maroons forward Tazmin Gray was the recipient of the Nellie Doherty Medal after an inspired performance in the middle.

Gray was well supported by a host of team mates, who staunchly defended their try line to repeatedly repel a classy Sky Blues team.

While the Sky Blues signalled their intentions from the kick-off with an immediate shift with the ball to the right edge, they struggled to complete their sets in the greasy conditions.

The visitors took advantage of a repeat set to cross first through Isabelle Kelly, but they couldn't produce any further points until a penalty goal in the second half.

Maroons coach Tahnee Norris praised her team's outstanding defence and heralded the start of a new era with the performance of young hooker Destiny Brill.

The momentum began to swing in the Maroons' favour when rookie Brill forced her way over the line, only to be held up.

Brill finished the night with 29 tackles, four tackle breaks and 64 running metres to announce herself as an Origin star for many years to come while Gray made 125 metres from 15 hit-ups.

NSW almost pulled off two miraculous efforts from Tiana Penitani and Jess Sergis but were further hampered when Hannah Southwell (ankle) left the field, only to return towards the end of the game.

Queensland took a 6-4 lead into half-time after Brill forced her way over for a well-deserved try and Brown added the conversion.

Brill's play ensured the Maroons would play from in front for the second half.

However, the Sky Blues were able to level at 6-6 after a penalty goal to Maddie Studdon in the 52nd minute.

That was to be the last time NSW troubled the scorers though, as Brown stepped up to ice the game for Queensland after an NSW error opened the door for the Maroons to go on the attack.



**TEAM LIST**

1. Tamika Upton
2. Shanae Ciesiolka
3. Lauren Brown
4. Julia Robinson
5. Karina Brown
6. Tarryn Aiken
7. Zahara Temara
8. Chelsea Lenarduzzi
9. Destiny Brill
10. Shannon Mato
11. Tazmin Gray
12. Tiana Raftstrand-Smith
13. Ali Briggingshaw (c)

Interchange:

16. Shaniah Power
17. Brianna Clark
18. Tallisha Harden
19. Rona Peters

HARVEY NORMAN QUEENSLAND MAROONS 8

(Destiny Brill try, Lauren Brown 2 goals) def

NEW SOUTH WALES 6 (Isabelle Kelly try, Maddie Studdon goal) at Sunshine Coast Stadium.

Coach: Tahnee Norris

**2021 HARVEY NORMAN QUEENSLAND MAROONS SQUAD**

Front: Tarryn Aiken, Rona Peters, Destiny Brill, Tahnee Norris (coach), Ali Briggingshaw (captain), Shaniah Power, Karina Brown
Middle: Natassja Purontakanen, Shanae Ciesiolka, Zahara Temara, Tallisha Harden, Shannon Mato, Lauren Brown, Julia Robinson
Back: Tiana Raftstrand-Smith, Tazmin Gray, Romy Teitzel, Tamika Upton, Chelsea Lenarduzzi, Brianna Clark

AWARDS

Wynnum Manly Seagulls hooker **Jayden Berrell** and North Queensland Gold Stars fullback **Romy Teitzel** were formally recognised as the best players in their respective competitions at the 2021 Queensland Rugby League Awards.

Berrell was announced as the Petero Civoniceva Medallist after his outstanding on-field exploits in the Intrust Super Cup, while Teitzel was named BHP Premiership Player of the Year.

Berrell polled 21 points to edge out Norths Devils star Jack Ahearn (20) to claim the prestigious award named after league great Civoniceva, who was on hand to present the medal to the tenacious Seagulls dummy half in front of 350 guests at Brisbane City Hall.

Like Berrell, Harvey Norman Queensland Maroons squad member Teitzel did the double after being announced as the fullback of the year as well as the competition's best player.

Teitzel impressed throughout the BHP Premiership, with her North Queensland Gold Stars team mixing it with the best teams in the competition.

The awards also celebrated the contribution of the game's coaches, with Rohan Smith (Norths Devils, Intrust Super Cup) and Scott Prince

(Valleys Diehards, BHP Premiership) recognised for their achievements.

Souths Logan's Ezra Mam was named Intrust Super Cup Rookie of the Year, while Destiny Brill claimed the same honour after an outstanding season in the BHP Premiership.

Souths Logan's Cruise Ten was the Hastings Deering Colts Player of the Year, and Wynnum Manly's Blake Moore and Shaun Packer shared

the Auswide Bank Mal Meninga Cup Player of the Year award.

Community rugby league shared the spotlight as well, with the Barcaldine Sandgoannas named XXXX Community Club of the Year; and for their efforts in delivering the domestic violence awareness round, the Murgon Mustangs were proud recipients of the Auswide Bank Community Program of the Year award.



PETERO CIVONICEVA MEDAL
Jayden Berrell, Wynnum Manly Seagulls



BHP PREMIERSHIP PLAYER OF THE YEAR
Romy Teitzel, North Queensland Gold Stars



QRL AWARDS WINNERS

PETERO CIVONICEVA MEDAL

Jayden Berrell, Wynnum Manly Seagulls

BHP PREMIERSHIP PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Romy Teitzel, North Queensland Gold Stars

INTRUST SUPER CUP COACH OF THE YEAR

Rohan Smith, Norths Devils

BHP PREMIERSHIP COACH OF THE YEAR

Scott Prince, Valleys Diehards

HASTINGS DEERING COLTS PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Cruise Ten, Souths Logan Magpies

AUSWIDE BANK MAL MENINGA CUP PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Blake Moore, Wynnum Manly Seagulls and
Shaun Packer, Wynnum Manly Seagulls

BHP PREMIERSHIP ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

Destiny Brill, Valleys Diehards

INTRUST SUPER CUP ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

Ezra Mam, Souths Logan Magpies

INTRUST SUPER CUP LEADING TRY SCORER

Jonathon Reuben, Norths Devils

INTRUST SUPER CUP LEADING POINTS SCORER

Todd Murphy, Sunshine Coast Falcons

AUSWIDE BANK COMMUNITY PROGRAM OF THE YEAR

Murgon Mustangs' domestic
violence awareness round

XXXX COMMUNITY CLUB OF THE YEAR

Barcaldine Sandgoannas

XXXX LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

Brisbane Poinsettias

SHELL V-POWER VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Neil Redfern, Northern Districts Rugby League

HARVEY NORMAN

FEMALE CONTRIBUTION AWARD

Gillian Bann, Yarrabah Junior Rugby League

BHP COMMUNITY COACH OF THE YEAR

Nathan Woods, Mossman Junior Rugby League

BHP PREMIERSHIP TEAM OF THE YEAR

FULLBACK: Romy Teitzel, North Queensland
Gold Stars

WINGER: Karina Brown, Burleigh Bears

CENTRE: Jasmine Peters, North Queensland
Gold Stars

FIVE-EIGHTH: Lauren Brown, Burleigh Bears

HALFBACK: Zahara Temara, Burleigh Bears

PROP: Millie Boyle, Burleigh Bears

HOOKER: Destiny Brill, Valleys Diehards

SECOND ROWER: Tazmin Gray, Burleigh Bears

LOCK: Georgia Hale, Tweed Seagulls

INTRUST SUPER CUP TEAM OF THE YEAR

FULLBACK: Trai Fuller, Redcliffe Dolphins

WINGER: Jonathon Reuben, Norths Devils

CENTRE: Sami Sauiluma, Burleigh Bears

FIVE-EIGHTH: Jack Campagnolo, Wynnum
Manly Seagulls

HALFBACK: Jack Ahearn, Norths Devils

PROP: Nat Neale, Ipswich Jets

HOOKER: Jayden Berrell, Wynnum Manly
Seagulls

SECOND ROWER: Joshua Stuckey, Northern
Pride

LOCK: Luke Bateman, Wynnum Manly Seagulls



MATCH OFFICIALS

The QRL High Performance Unit (HPU) performed efficiently throughout 2021, setting the benchmark for aspiring match officials across the state.

This year's HPU featured senior and junior squads, who worked closely with experienced coaches and mentors to raise their professional standards and skill sets.

Twelve HPU referees and six NRL referees officiated Intrust Super Cup matches in 2021, with promising regional referee Jeremy Meadows making his debut in Round 16.

Wyatt Raymond commenced a full-time contact with the NRL referees, while Tyson Brough made his NRL debut as a touch judge.

The recipient of the Nick Euclid Medal was Nick Pelgrave following his appointment to the Intrust Super Cup grand final between the Norths Devils and Wynnum Manly Seagulls.

Auswide Bank Mal Meninga Cup grand final referee Matt Gannon received the inaugural John Topp Medal, an award which recognised the junior representative match official of the year.

The 2022 HPU will be guided by newly-appointed state match officials manager Clayton Sharpe, a former record-breaking Cup referee.

Sharpe created history in 2015 when he was appointed to his fifth Intrust Super Cup grand final.

Wyatt Raymond commenced a full-time contact with the NRL referees, while Tyson Brough made his NRL debut as a touch judge.



HPU ACHIEVEMENTS / MILESTONES:

Intrust Super Cup Grand Final

Referee: Nick Pelgrave

Touch Judges: Nick Morel and Michael Wise

Hastings Deering Colts Grand Final

Referee: Jeremy Meadows

Touch Judges: Jordan Morel and Cody Kwik

BHP Premiership Grand Final

Referee: Glen Stewart

Touch Judges: Kailey Beattie and Tori Wilkie

Auswide Bank Mal Meninga Cup Grand Final

Referee: Matt Gannon

Touch Judges: Cody Kwik and Connor Wilson

INTRUST SUPER CUP MILESTONES

Liam Kennedy – 100 games Round 9

Belinda Sharpe – 50 games Round 10

Dan Munroe – 50 games Round 14

INAUGURAL EDDIE WARD MEDAL RECIPIENTS

(100 Cup games*)

Rob Alexander

Chris Anderson

Tim Rutherford

Tony Maksoud

Stuart Berndt

Jarrold Cole

Michael Wise

Justin Davis

Nick Kalpakidis

Shane Spicer

Clayton Sharpe

Tyson Brough

Liam Kennedy

Nick Pelgrave

Justin Eastwood

Robert Gallacher

Michael Gordon

**The milestone medal was backdated to recognise referees who achieved the milestone from the start of official records.*







DELIVERING OUR GAME

PARTNERS

Engagement opportunities across State of Origin events were limited because of the impacts of the health pandemic.

Rather than dwell on this misfortune, the QRL team accepted the challenge and focused on the opportunity to develop and create new initiatives to leverage relationships.

The team welcomed Shell V-Power, Ned Whisky and BMD to the partnership family, while Auswide Bank extended its commitment for a further year.

Other highlights included:

- The launch of the 'QueenslandHer' campaign with Health and Wellbeing Queensland, which saw the two organisations profile three key players from the Harvey Norman Queensland Maroons, promoting messages of healthy and active lifestyles.
- The first year of the QRL's QPlus broadcast platform provided unique opportunities for partners, including Shell V-Power, XXXX, McDonalds and Containers for Change, to use the service to enhance their brand awareness. Super Cheap Auto assumed the presenting rights to the broadcast.

The QRL farewelled Brendan O'Farrell and the team at Intrust Super after a fantastic 11-year partnership, and welcomed Hostplus following their acquisition of Intrust Super.

This means the premier men's statewide competition will be referred to as the Hostplus Cup in 2022.

The start of 2022 is shaping up to be an exciting period for the partnerships team with a number of announcements in the pipeline.

PLATINUM PARTNERS



MAJOR PARTNERS



OFFICIAL PARTNERS



OFFICIAL SUPPLIERS



DIGITAL

QRL's digital platforms recorded a solid 'bounce back' after a decline in 2020 relating to the cancellation of competitions.

Fans returned at levels either meeting or exceeding that of 2019, which was used as the measure for comparison in 2021.

Across the NRL Network, QRL returned to the top ranking position for the number of users and sessions.

In a clear sign of momentum, QRL.com.au received the most page impressions on record on Sunday, October 3, the weekend of the Intrust Super Cup preliminary finals.

With State of Origin returning to the traditional calendar, there was an uplift in fan engagement compared to the previous November series.

The digital team placed a key focus in 2021 on improving the accessibility, support and effective communication with community rugby league.

'The Clubhouse' was launched on QRL.com.au, as a one-stop shop for the latest community rugby league news, information and resources aimed to support administrators across the game.

In addition, live 'On the Line' seminars focused on key topics and were hosted by subject matter experts, who provided updates and training on MySideline, RISE and insurance.

Community lockdowns and the postponement of competitions during the season created opportunities for experimenting with new concepts.

The main concept produced used the QRL's production capabilities to deliver a 'Maroons Trivia' live show.

The show was hosted by Peter Psaltis and Petero Civoniceva with two prize winners as guests, competing in 30-minutes of trivia streamed live on Facebook to encourage fans to engage and play along at home.

Commercial activity and delivery continues to take steps forward.

QRL.com.au is a key gateway to commercial and participation outcomes, recording more than 60,000 clicks to advertisers, membership, e-commerce and participation platforms.

Significant commercial activity was generated through owned-platforms as well as delivery through social media.

More than eight million advertisements were delivered through QRL.com.au and the Intrust Super Cup app, and a further 13 million ads through social media.

Broadcast

In mid-2020, changes were made to the ARLC broadcast rights agreement which resulted in Nine withdrawing their commitment to producing and airing a weekly Intrust Super Cup fixture.

To ensure a minimum coverage of one weekly live game, the QRL invested in and ramped up production capabilities to deliver Intrust Super Cup content to fans.

Fox Sports Australia also invested in additional coverage of the Intrust Super Cup through their Kayo Freebies product.

The result saw more than 40 Intrust Super Cup matches broadcast live via streaming platforms.

Intrust Super Cup benefited from the NRL relocation, including the competition preliminary finals being held as curtain-raisers to the NRL Premiership grand final at Suncorp Stadium.

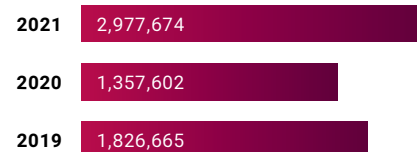
This one-off opportunity recorded the largest audience ever for an Intrust Super Cup game.

In addition to Nine's activity and the QRL's tier 1 production, the QRL also launched a tier 2 production which provided increased levels of coverage across other competitions, including the BHP Premiership, Hastings Deering Colts, Auswide Bank Mal Meninga Cup and XXXX League Championship.

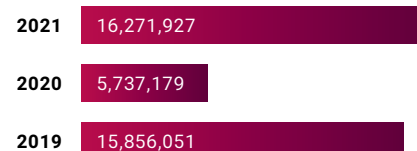
The last piece to the QRL's streaming production capability is tier 3.

This strategy leverages existing operational filming requirements and provides a scalable option to increase live streaming coverage of all levels of the game across Queensland.

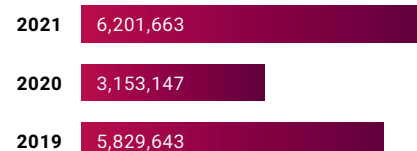
Users



Page Impressions



Sessions



Video Views



BRAND AND MARKETING

A desire to celebrate the game's rich history and position the organisation for future growth was at the heart of new branding launched ahead of the 2021 season.

This vision inspired the creation of a short video, which formally unveiled the new logo by showcasing the evolution of the QRL brand and history of the game in Queensland.

The logo features core elements from the historical logos, including the Q shape, chevrons and shield, and is further enhanced by the colour maroon.

Variations of the logo are now used across the regions with colour updates for QRL Northern, QRL Central and QRL South East.

All regions are unified and clearly identified as QRL with one logo design.

New branding was also rolled out for the QRL's male and female statewide competitions in 2021.

The QRL's internal capabilities came to the fore during the rebrand process, with key staff from the design, brand and marketing teams coming together to drive and complete the project.

The in-house team also worked collaboratively with the NRL throughout stages of the rebrand.



**QUEENSLAND
RUGBY LEAGUE**



GRAND FINAL

After a two-year hiatus, the Intrust Super Cup grand final returned to Moreton Daily Stadium.

Despite an interrupted season due to the pandemic, fans converged in big numbers to cheer for their teams following the support of a robust marketing campaign delivered through both traditional and digital avenues.

APPAREL

2021 marked the first year with PUMA as the official apparel partner of the Queensland Maroons, providing a fresh and modern range for players and fans alike.

Another milestone was achieved when the men's and women's Origin teams wore the same Captain's Run Jerseys for their final training sessions ahead of each game.

MAROONS SHOP

Maroons Shop officially expanded into a one-stop shop for rugby league fans, where merchandise, memberships, corporate hospitality, events and equipment could be shopped, all in one transaction.

Highlights included:

- Orders increased by 41% from 2020
- Visitor sessions increased by 70%
- The PUMA range was extremely well received with fans enjoying the modern touches and sleek lines of the garments.
- The 47 Range was also a hit, with the range expanding into new colour ranges and styles
- Equipment Hub launched strongly with several Cup clubs taking advantage of the discounted pricing across the available products

MEMBERSHIP

Members were uniquely treated to an all Queensland-based series in 2021.

The Queensland Maroons Membership program moved to a new, digitally-based format to better serve members and allow them to obtain their preferred merchandise from Maroons Shop.

Non-ticketed members were at an all-time high in 2021, as well as the member base being more geographically spread than previous years.

In 2022, the QRL is looking to increase the product offering on Maroons Shop to provide fans with the best supporter merchandise and our clubs with top quality equipment.

A new membership offering will be available for Game III of the upcoming series, centred around loveable mascot, Kane.

The QRL has recently selected eight junior rugby league players to meet their Queensland Maroons heroes in 2022.

This will form the basis for an aligned marketing campaign across community and elite level rugby league.

After a two-year hiatus, the Intrust Super Cup grand final returned to Moreton Daily Stadium.







OUR COMMUNITY

VOLUNTEERS

Rugby league's success begins at the grassroots and there are countless people from all walks of life who dedicate their time and effort to the game at the community level.

Through the QRL Awards and NRL Community Awards, some of these tireless workers, mentors, trailblazers, clubs and future leaders were deservedly recognised for their achievements.

The QRL was proud to announce five community award recipients in 2021.



HARVEY NORMAN FEMALE CONTRIBUTION AWARD
Gillian Bann, Yarrabah Seahawks

XXXX COMMUNITY CLUB OF THE YEAR

The XXXX Community Club of the Year recognised and rewarded a community rugby league club that has enhanced participation and enjoyment of rugby league.

This award was presented to the Barcaldine Sandgoannas, who went above and beyond to make a positive impact in their community.

Barcaldine set such a high standard in 2021 that the club took out national community award honours as well.

SHELL V-POWER VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

The Shell V-Power Volunteer of the Year recognised Neil Redfern, a rugby league volunteer with Northern Districts who displayed exceptional service to the game and made a measurable difference in his community.

Redfern's weekly tasks extend beyond standard committee duties, as he tackled everything from photography to producing video highlights.

HARVEY NORMAN FEMALE CONTRIBUTION AWARD

This award was presented to Yarrabah volunteer Gillian Bann, a descendent from the Gunggandji tribe of the Guru-Buna and Guru-Gulu clans.

Bann is a lynchpin for the club and a mother figure for so many in her local Indigenous community located 50 kilometres east of Cairns.

In a significant achievement, Bann was also announced as the recipient of the Women in League Award at the NRL Community Awards.

Through Gillian's hard work, patience and determination, eight teams played in the Far North Queensland competition in 2021, and Yarrabah Junior Rugby League club had the highest number of female registrations in the region.

AUSWIDE BANK COMMUNITY PROGRAM OF THE YEAR

The Auswide Bank Community Program of the Year celebrated excellent and innovative community programs, coordinated by clubs and leagues.

The Murgon Mustangs' domestic violence awareness and prevention round was chosen as the leading program in 2021.

BHP COMMUNITY COACH OF THE YEAR

The 2021 BHP Community Coach of the Year was Nathan Woods.

A highly-respected member of the Mossman Sharks family.

The 47-year-old's attitude, determination and dedication to unite kids together earned him this year's BHP Community Coach of the Year accolade.

GROWING AND SUPPORTING RUGBY LEAGUE IN PNG

Queensland Rugby League delivered positive outcomes to rugby league in Papua New Guinea through the launch of an exciting program in 2021.

In partnership with PacificAus Sports (Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade - DFAT), Papua New Guinea Rugby Football League and the PNG Hunters, the QRL committed its expertise and resources to the program over a three-year term.

Titled 'Growing and Supporting Rugby League in Papua New Guinea', the program is part of an Australian Government initiative connecting people, communities and organisations across the Pacific through sport.

Specifically, the objectives are to develop pathways for PNG teams to play in high-level Australian sporting competitions.

The initiative also aims to create pathways for emerging athletes to benefit from high performance coaching and training, with a focus on female athlete development, wellbeing and education, and commercial sustainability.

The program commenced in February and to date has:

- Appointed a program lead and program co-ordinator to facilitate the three-year program
- Developed annual work plans and reporting schedules
- Continued with the implementation of the emerging female athlete program for the elite women's game in PNG
- Engaged with the Optimisation Hub, a specialist provider in international athlete high performance well-being and behavioural risk management
- Engaged a high performance specialist to develop a plan for the PNGRFL and Hunters
- Program co-ordinators facilitated the relocation of the PNG Hunters to Australia to compete in the 2021 Intrust Super Cup season.

Specifically, the objectives are to develop pathways for PNG teams to play in high-level Australian sporting competitions.



SOUTH EAST REGION

South East Region focused on participation and delivering a fair, safe and enjoyable environment for young players to grow and develop.

The region was able to successfully facilitate competitions and participation development programs, including components of the national Player Development Framework.

RISE and Tackle Ready delivered many positive outcomes, while there was a strong emphasis on expanded programs and competitions, particularly for the female game.

The 2021 season was yet another challenging year for the game with the continuation of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Learnings from 2020 enabled the region to adapt and maintain its progressive and innovative approach.

Region leaders were immensely proud of the commitment displayed by South East staff and volunteers from leagues and clubs, who combined to ensure a smooth delivery of competitions and programs for participants to enjoy.

Enabled by the direction set across the three local leagues, player registrations were slightly up on 2019 numbers, with 25,754 male and female players signing up to play Queensland's premier sport.

Rugby League Brisbane (RLB), Rugby League Gold Coast (RLGC) and Rugby League Ipswich (RLI) were again led by incredibly passionate and hardworking boards.

RLB started the year with an increase in team nominations, while RLCG reported strong growth in female participation across the junior and senior age groups.

Community rugby league on the coast was again supported by the Gold Coast Titans, who helped facilitate an entertaining grand final day at Cbus Super Stadium.

In Ipswich, the Jets (in conjunction with Rosewood Roosters) entered a team into the A Grade competition for the first time, and the league welcomed Brisbane Valley back into the Volunteers Cup after several years in the wilderness.

Action through all Grades - ACS Group A Grade, Chairman's Cup Reserve Grade, Volunteers Cup and Colts Cup – was of a high standard, culminating in a successful finals series and a well-attended grand final day.

RISE and Tackle Ready delivered many positive outcomes, while there was a strong emphasis on expanded programs and competitions, particularly for the female game.



CENTRAL REGION

Central Region reported strong participation growth as community leagues rallied following a disrupted 2020 season.

Senior numbers increased by an impressive 12 per cent while junior numbers increased by two percent.

The region facilitated numerous carnivals, including the 47th Battalion in Bundaberg with Toowoomba defeating a gallant Sunshine Coast in an epic encounter.

This result paved the way for Toowoomba to move into the finals of the XXXX Challenge, where they went up against in-form Mackay team, winners of the Foley Shield.

This game was in the balance right up to the final siren with Toowoomba snatching a thrilling 28-24 victory to progress to the grand final against Brisbane Blue, who ultimately proved too strong in the decider.

The women's Western Mustangs recorded their first 47th Battalion title, defeating Central Highlands 36-4 to halt the dominance of the Sunshine Coast and Rockhampton in this competition.

The inaugural region Under 17 female championships was held on the Sunshine Coast and the standard of play was most impressive.

From this carnival, nine players were selected in the Queensland Country Under 17 side which went on to defeat City 22-20.

The highlight of the Outback program for 2021 was the introduction of a senior women's Queensland side.

This team was coached by former Queensland Maroons player John Buttigieg, who called on talent selected from the Southern Outback and Northern Outback teams following their match in Blackall.

Queensland Outback went on to defeat the Northern Remote Areas women's team in Tully.

The Outback Junior carnival was held in Cloncurry in 2021 with the community embracing the event.

Participants enjoyed their football, and were taught life skills from education sessions, while career advice was offered by Queensland Police Recruitment.

Cloncurry Shire Council formally recognised the carnival as the community event of the year.

The successful Adrian Vowles Cup held in Charleville received a similar award from the Murweh Shire Council earlier in the year in a further display of rugby league's ability to make a difference in regional communities.

Volunteers from the Central Region were also recognised on a state and national level (see Volunteers page).



Senior numbers increased by an impressive 12 per cent while junior numbers increased by two percent.



NORTHERN REGION



Rugby league in Northern Queensland flourished this year and additional growth is expected after significant off-field progress was made towards the end of 2021.

Recognising the need to implement best practice governance models throughout its leagues, the region facilitated positive change to ensure a bright future for the game in the north.

Three of the region's main leagues – Far North Queensland, Townsville and Districts and Mackay – are now operating under the nationally recognised one governance model and principles.

In November, members of the Cairns and District Rugby league seniors (CDRL) voted to wind up the league and affiliate to Far North Queensland Rugby League, a newly-established entity governing the three major leagues across the area.

FNQRL is now solely responsible for all competitions and clubs, spanning from Cardwell to Mossman and west to Ravenshoe.

Additionally, Townsville and Districts Senior and Juniors voted to dissolve both bodies and establish the new entity – Rugby League Townsville and Districts (RLTD).

These developments follow the progress made in Mackay, with Rugby League Mackay and Districts (RLMD) having gone from strength to strength following their move to adopt the streamlined governance model in 2019.

On the field, participation numbers throughout the Northern Region increased in 2021, with more than six per cent growth across the female game.

The region proudly embraced the QRL's diversity and inclusion framework through events like the inaugural all-abilities game of tag rugby league between the Townsville Blackhawks and Mackay Cutters.

This came off the back of the successful all-abilities competition that has been run in Mackay over the past five years, further demonstrating the game's commitment to providing opportunities for all.

The region also displayed its ongoing commitment to indigenous communities and reconciliation, through community events, like the clash between North Queensland United and Queensland Outback in Tully.

Remote communities were also in the spotlight in 2021, with regular camps and activities held throughout Torres Strait and Cape York to ensure children received the opportunity to participate in skills and drills sessions.

Remote communities were also in the spotlight in 2021, with regular camps and activities held throughout Torres Strait and Cape York to ensure children received the opportunity to participate in skills and drills sessions.



QRL HISTORY COMMITTEE



The 12th Annual Ross Livermore Memorial Lecture was the most viewed event in the Committee's history, despite a limited attendance because of COVID-19 restrictions.

With QRL digital live streaming the event, thousands of people across Australia and overseas were able to watch Steve Haddan's interview with rugby league immortal Wally Lewis, on the 40th anniversary of his debut as Queensland State of Origin skipper.

North Queensland committee member Greg Shannon watched the lecture from a sugar cane field in Tully, and commented on the superb quality of the vision, as well as the interesting content.

Lewis spoke about his career and passion for the Maroon cause, which brought a smile to the face of former QRL chairman John McDonald, along with his son Geoff.

McDonald was coach of the very first Origin side in 1980. Another guest was inaugural History Committee chair Kevin Brasch, a former Origin team manager during Lewis's time.

Towards the end of the lecture, the QRL learned the state was to go into lockdown again that afternoon, following the latest COVID-19 scare, and the traditional post speech morning tea had to be abandoned.

Former Jillaroo and current Harvey Norman Queensland team manager Jo Barrett has agreed to deliver the 2022 lecture.

The committee expanded from seven members to nine in 2021, with the addition of Michael Pease and Colleen Edwards, with Colleen the first female member since the committee was formed in 2009.

Colleen is a content producer and women's media manager for the QRL, and her passion for the game extends to volunteer work for the Normanby club.

Pease is a former QRL South East Region manager, and State of Origin team manager, who provided 35 years of service to the QRL.

The committee also played its part in paying tribute to QRL managing director Robert Moore, who stood down after 10 years at the helm and was presented with a 'This is Your Life' book.

Committee chair Steve Ricketts addressed the QRL Staff Conference on the Sunshine Coast on October 28, with the history of the female game the topic.

Ricketts is also collaborating with the QRL and NRL to deliver updated profiles on players to have represented Queensland at State of Origin level.

Highlights from a productive year included:

- As a result of collaboration with the Army Museum South Queensland, the Bougainville Trophy was loaned to the QRL for a three-month period from early December. The trophy, which was put on display at QRL offices, was contested by battalion teams on Bougainville in September, 1945, with Queensland winning both matches. The sides were chosen on State of Origin lines. The committee's thanks are extended to Captain Adele Catts and Trooper Nigel Cox from the Army History Unit.
- Shannon assisted the North Queensland Cowboys with plans for an historical display and mural at Queensland Country Bank Stadium in Townsville.
- Committee archivist Paul Hayes provided assistance across a wide range of topics and projects, including a planned television documentary on the Harvey Norman Queensland Women's team.

- Committee members were able to satisfy most of the numerous requests from members of the public for information about matches, players, officials and loved ones involved with the code. The committee also investigated the validity and historic value of many items, from jerseys and footballs, to photographs and trophies. Arguably the most unusual acquisition was one of the line markers from the old Lang Park, donated to the QRL by Ralph Davies, whose father was the first groundsman. Ralph also donated a line marker to Suncorp Stadium.

- The committee provided obituaries for the QRL website, following the passing of a number of prominent league people, among them former Queensland Origin manager Bob Bateman, former Queensland lock Bob Duncan and former Wynnum Manly halfback Des Lee.

The committee continues to liaise with Brisbane Broncos Old Boys, who are planning a museum at the Leagues Club which will include an area covering the old BRL competition.

Ricketts was named Queensland Men of League Foundation Volunteer of the Year at the state lunch at Brisbane City Hall on November 18. He was presented with the Steve Calder Memorial Trophy by Steve's son Brendan.

Chair: Steve Ricketts.

Members: John McCoy, Paul Hayes, Greg Shannon, Steve Haddan, Greg Adermann, Peter Betros, Michael Pease, Colleen Edwards.





GOVERNANCE & FINANCIALS

DIRECTORS' REPORT

The directors present their report together with the financial report of Queensland Rugby Football League Limited ("QRL" or the "Company") for the year ended 31 October 2021 and the auditor's report thereon.

DIRECTORS NAMES

The names of the directors in office at any time during or since the end of the year are:

B.M. Hatcher

R.W. Moore (Resigned: 29 October 2021)

L.W. Anderson

S.D. Bliss (Independent Director appointed: 15 November 2021)

B.W. Canavan (South East Region Director appointed: 12 April 2021)

C.P. Cronk (Independent Director appointed: 16 August 2021)

R.M. Garard

B.A.C. Ikin (Resigned: 25 June 2021)

N.S. McCarthy

B.D. McGuire

B.A. Tallon (Resigned: 8 April 2021)

D.J. Van De Velde

P.C. Daley (Alternate director for B.W. Canavan)

S. Hawkins (Alternate director for L.W. Anderson)

P.D. Hunt (Alternate director for B.D. McGuire)

M. Peters (Alternate director for D.J. Van de Velde)

The directors have been in office since the start of the year to the date of this report, unless otherwise stated.

REVIEW OF OPERATIONS

The net profit after tax of the Company for year ended 31 October 2021 was \$3,076,408 (2020: \$961,075).

As at 31 October 2021, the Company's net assets were \$10,009,301 (2020: \$6,932,893).

COVID-19 restrictions continued to impact the QRL throughout the year, influencing both financial and operational performances across the year. Lockdowns and travel restrictions impacted competitions administered by the QRL, including the cancellation of two rounds of the Intrust Super Cup and the Hastings Deering Colts statewide competitions, and continued to place additional pressure on community rugby league to ensure COVID-Safe plans were in place to support the continuation of local competitions across all levels of the game.

The schedule and timing of both the 2020 male and female Origin series were also impacted by COVID-19, with both series rescheduled from July to November. This rescheduling positively impacted the financial results of the QRL in 2021, with a significant portion of partnership revenue dependent on delivery of the 2020 series deferred from FY20 and recognised in FY21. At the commencement of FY21 there was considerable risk associated with the successful delivery of both the November and June Origin series, with the QRL managing it's 2021 business as usual activities as effectively as possible to mitigate this delivery risk. The upside of this approach was the significant financial surplus presented with this report.

Given the ongoing uncertainty created by COVID-19, and the potential impacts to future funding from the ARLC and the delivery of QRL owned programs, the Board has approved a policy to build the reserves of the QRL to a level which safeguards the sustainability of the organisation and the game in Queensland against such impacts. The financial results for 2021 support this policy.

During the year, there were a number of changes to the QRL Board. The retirement of Mr Rob Moore in October, and the resulting transition of the Managing Director role to that of a Chief Executive Officer, saw the QRL appoint an additional independent director, with Ms Samantha Bliss appointed to the Board in November. The resignation of Mr Ben Ikin in June, to take up a role as the Head of Football at the Brisbane Broncos, saw an independent director vacancy created and filled with the appointment of Mr Cooper Cronk to the Board in August. Finally, long-serving South East Region Chair, Mr Brad Tallon, resigned in April, with Mr Brian Canavan being appointed by the South East Region as the replacement South East Region Chair and QRL Board member.

The Board also continued to review organisational governance throughout the year and established two additional Board Committees to oversee key areas of the QRL strategy and advise the Board. In addition to the existing Audit & Risk and Pathways & Performance Committees, committees were established for both Participation (previously a non-Board Game Development committee), and Corporate & Social Responsibility. Each of the QRL Board Committees is chaired by an independent Director and includes another appointed QRL director, as well as a member of the QRL Senior Leadership Team.

OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES

The QRL's objectives are to:

- Increase male and female player participation numbers from junior through to elite levels of rugby league throughout Queensland,
- Maintain the State of Origin teams performance
- Foster, develop and extend rugby league from the junior through to elite levels throughout Queensland; and
- Take such action as may be considered to be in the best interests of rugby league in Queensland.

To ensure the objectives of the QRL are being met, the Company will:

- Promote and communicate the achievements of the QRL within Queensland communities and amongst the stakeholders of rugby league in Queensland,
- Continue to support and resource the Queensland State of Origin programs,
- Pro-actively identify and develop future Origin players.
- Organise, conduct, and develop competitions within Queensland from junior through to elite levels,
- Conduct player camps and be responsible for the education of coaches, first aid officers and other officials within the game's development structures and produce a range of resources to assist in this regard,
- Co-operate, with organisations administering the game in other states of Australia and other countries, in the fostering and development of the game,
- Subscribe to, become a member of, and co-operate with any other club, association, or organisation, whether incorporated or not, whose objectives are altogether or in part similar to those of the QRL,
- Enter into any arrangement with any government or authority, supreme, municipal, local, or otherwise that may be conducive to any or all of the QRL's objectives,
- Regulate the operation of all member bodies and affiliates; and
- Make grants by way of gift and to render other financial assistance to clubs and other persons and bodies connected with the game.

The KPIs of the QRL are reviewed by the Chief Executive Officer, Senior Leadership Team, and the Board of Directors on a regular basis to ensure relevance at any particular point in time.

The QRL's performance is constantly measured against:

- Demographic analysis of participation numbers, potential players, and lost players,
- Feedback from member clubs and other key stakeholders; and
- Budget.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

Queensland Rugby Football League Limited ("QRL") is a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee with any surplus income or property applied to promote its principal activities.

The QRL's principal activities are the promotion, development, and governance of rugby league at all levels in Queensland, from grassroots to elite.

The QRL is a member of the Australian Rugby League Commission (ARLC), the national body for rugby league in Australia, and works closely with the ARLC, National Rugby League and its officers to develop and deliver strategies to improve participation in rugby league programs.

Given the significant distances across remote and regional Queensland, the QRL's resources are located to support community rugby league and talent pathways across the state, working closely with various local and regional leagues and clubs. In recent years, the QRL has focused on building participation in the game for female athletes and athletes from diverse cultural and social backgrounds.

The QRL also continues to focus upon building the support and engagement with fans through the male and female State of Origin teams, the Maroons. This focus continues to deliver improved revenue outcomes through partnership, hospitality, membership, and e-commerce programs to fund the objectives of the QRL.

INFORMATION ON DIRECTORS



B.M. HATCHER

CHAIRMAN | BCom FCA FAICD

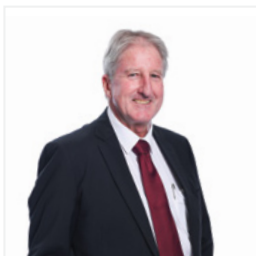
A QRL Director for over 13 years, Bruce was re-appointed as Chair of the QRL at the Annual General Meeting held on 31 January 2020. Bruce is a specialist family business consultant to BDO Chartered Accountants and a Director of the Brisbane Markets Ltd.



R.W. MOORE

MANAGING DIRECTOR | BHumanMovSt (Resigned: 29 October 2021)

A Human Movements graduate, Robert has held a number of different positions before he received his first role in rugby league administration with the London Broncos. Robert returned to Queensland where he took up a post as the QRL's Education and Development Manager and later accepted a position with the State Government as the Deputy Director-General for Sport and Recreation Services. He returned to the QRL as Managing Director in August 2011, finishing in this role on 29 October 2021.



L.W. ANDERSON

NORTHERN REGION CHAIR

Leigh's involvement in the game dates back to the mid 1960's through his playing days as a Townsville junior. Over the last four decades, Leigh has undertaken a myriad of roles in rugby league, from club coach to club President in junior and senior clubs, as a District and Leagues Club Board member, and as Independent Finance Director for the Northern Region. A Life Member of Townsville Brothers Rugby League and Townsville & District Junior Rugby League, Leigh is currently Chair of the QRL Northern Region and a member of the QRL's Corporate & Social Responsibility Committee.



S.D. BLISS

INDEPENDENT DIRECTOR | GradCertBus (Appointed: 15 November 2021)

A respected Indigenous community leader Samantha Bliss was appointed to the QRL Board as an independent director in November 2021. Having forged a career in the Queensland Police Service for close to 30 years, Bliss is a former Queensland and Australian rugby league representative who has a genuine desire to promote and develop rugby league in Queensland. A specialist in child protection and family support with senior management experience, Samantha chairs the QRL's Participation Committee and will contribute to the QRL's child safety and member protection frameworks, and work related to the QRL's Female Strategy, Diversity and Inclusion Framework and Reconciliation Action Plan.



B.W. CANAVAN

SOUTH EAST REGION CHAIR | BHumanMovSt (Appointed: 12 April 2021)

Born in Warwick Queensland, Brian was educated in schools on the Darling Downs and Brisbane, completing his tertiary studies at the University of Queensland. He played and coached in the Brisbane Rugby League competition with the Fortitude Valleys club for a period of 12 years before joining the Brisbane Broncos in their inaugural year in the national competition. Following a 10-year teaching career, Brian became involved in rugby league, working with Queensland and National Rugby League clubs, Queensland's State of Origin team and rugby league's governing bodies. His involvement in the sport has covered the areas of management, coaching, strength and conditioning and junior participation development. In recent times, Brian has held senior management positions, including NRL governing body head of football and NRL club chief operating officer, chief executive officer and director of football. Brian has recently been elected as chairperson of QRL South East Region, is a member of the QRL's Audit & Risk Committee, and currently works as a special projects consultant.



C.P. CRONK

INDEPENDENT DIRECTOR (Appointed: 16 August 2021)

A former Queensland and Australian halfback, Cooper was appointed to the QRL Board as an independent director in August 2021. As the Chair of the QRL Pathways & Performance Committee, Cronk is passionate about 'giving back' to the game and helping Queensland produce elite players of the future. Cronk played his junior rugby league with the Souths Acacia Ridge club, before going on to play with the Norths Devils in the then Queensland Cup. His talent and work ethic saw him become a dominant force at the Melbourne Storm, where he played 325 games between 2004 and 2017. Cronk capped an incredible professional career with consecutive grand final wins at the Sydney Roosters, and has since established himself as one of the most respected voices in the game through his work as a presenter with Fox Sports.



R.M. GARARD

INDEPENDENT DIRECTOR | BBus FCA GAICD

Renita Garard AM was appointed as an Independent Director to the QRL Board in June 2017. She is a dual Olympic gold medallist, having been a member of the Australian Women's Hockey team from 1993 to 2000, while off the sporting field, she has fulfilled board roles with both the International Hockey Federation and Hockey Australia. She is currently a Board Member of the Queensland Academy of Sport and Board Chair of the 4 Aussie Heroes Foundation Limited. Renita is Chair of the QRL's Audit & Risk Committee.



B.A.C. IKIN

INDEPENDENT DIRECTOR (Resigned: 25 June 2021)

Appointed to the QRL Board as an Independent Director in January 2018, Ben is a former professional rugby league footballer who first shot to prominence at 18 when he became the youngest player in State of Origin history to represent the Queensland Maroons. A Gold Coast junior, Ben went on to play 17 Origin matches for Queensland and two Tests for Australia. He played 150 top grade matches for the Gold Coast Seagulls, North Sydney Bears and Brisbane Broncos, winning the 2000 Premiership with the Broncos.

INFORMATION ON DIRECTORS CONT.



N.S. MCCARTHY

INDEPENDENT DIRECTOR | BSc

Former Australian water polo representative Naomi McCarthy OAM was appointed to the QRL Board as an Independent Director in January 2020. McCarthy represented Australia at two Olympic Games, as vice-captain of the gold medal winning team at the Sydney 2000 Olympics, and as captain of her country at the 2004 Olympics in Athens. She has remained heavily involved in sport since her retirement, previously serving as a board member of the Queensland Academy of Sport and as a director of Womensport Queensland. McCarthy is currently the Manager Sport Engagement at Griffith University, where she works closely with many professional and Olympic/Paralympic Sports and their elite athletes. Naomi is Chair of the QRL's Corporate & Social Responsibility Committee.



B.D. MCGUIRE

CENTRAL REGION CHAIR | DipT

As Chair of the QRL Central Region, Danny McGuire is serving his second stint on the QRL Board. He previously served on the Board from 2006-2009 and joined again in 2013. He had been Chair of the Wide Bay Region for nine years. Danny has been a coach and administrator with Sunshine Coast junior club Kawana (Life Member) and has served as Chair of the Sunshine Coast Rugby League. In 2010, he was inducted into the Sunshine Coast University Sports Hall of Fame for administrators. Danny is a member of the QRL's Participation Committee and also serves as Chair of the QRL Outback Committee.



B.A. TALLON

SOUTH EAST REGION CHAIR | BEng(Civil) BCom MBA GAICD (Resigned: 8 April 2021)

As Chair of the QRL South East Region since 2012, Brad oversaw one of the biggest participation zones in the country. He has an abundance of experience, having previously served as the South East Region's Financial Director for 10 years, with three of those years on the QRL Board prior to the introduction of independent QRL Board members. He has held volunteer administrative positions in the game since 1984, including fifteen years as Treasurer of the BRL Referees' Association, and he was inaugural secretary of the QRL Referees' Board. Brad is a member of the QRL's Audit & Risk Committee and is an Executive General Manager at Holcim Australia, Deputy Chairman of Metromix Pty Ltd, and a Director of Harwood Nominees Pty Ltd and Minicon Pty Ltd.



D.J. VAN DE VELDE

STATEWIDE COMPETITIONS DIRECTOR

Through his role as the Statewide Competitions Clubs Director, Darryl Van de Velde is actively involved in the development of Queensland's premier competition – the Host Plus Cup. A well-known and respected rugby league identity, Darryl brings a wealth of experience to the position as a former professional rugby league footballer, coach and administrator. Darryl played club football in Queensland for Easts, Souths and Redcliffe and represented his state on one occasion in 1977. He coached Castleford and Warrington in England and was the Chief Executive Officer of the South Queensland Crushers club. Darryl is a member of the QRL Pathways & Performance Committee.

DIRECTORS' MEETINGS

The QRL Board established two additional Board Committees during the year to oversee key areas of the QRL strategy and advise the Board. The Participation Committee (previously a non-Board Game Development Committee) and the Corporate & Social responsibility were established prior to 31 October 2021 with the first meeting of both these Committees held subsequent to year end. Each of the QRL Board Committees is chaired by an independent director and includes another appointed QRL director, as well as a member of the QRL Senior Leadership Team.

An external independent member, Ms Michelle Thomsen, was appointed to the QRL Audit & Risk Committee in September 2020. Following his resignation as a Director of the QRL, Mr Tallon was also appointed as an external independent member of the QRL Audit & Risk Committee. Neither Ms Thomsen or Mr Tallon are directors of the QRL at the date of this report.

COMPANY SECRETARY

G.F. Maher | BCom, CA, GAICD, FGIA

G.F. Maher has been the Company Secretary of Queensland Rugby Football League Limited for five years. He holds a Bachelor of Commerce, is a Chartered Accountant with the Institute of Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand, a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, and a Fellow of the Governance Institute of Australia.

MEMBERS GUARANTEE

The Company is incorporated under the Corporations Act 2001 and is a company limited by guarantee. If the Company is wound up, the Constitution states that each member is required to contribute to a maximum of \$20 each towards meeting any outstandings and obligations of the Company. At 31 October 2021, the number of members was 8 (2020: 9). The combined total amount that members of the Company are liable to contribute if the Company is wound up is \$160 (2020: \$180).

AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration under section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the audit for the financial year is provided with this report.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Directors.



B.M. HATCHER

Chairman

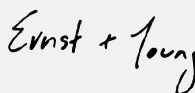
25 January 2022

DIRECTORS	DIRECTORS' MEETINGS		AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE MEETINGS		PATHWAYS & PERFORMANCE	
	No. eligible to attend	No. attended	No. eligible to attend	No. attended	No. eligible to attend	No. attended
B.M. Hatcher	6	6	-	-	-	-
R.W. Moore	6	6	-	-	3	1
L.W. Anderson	6	6	-	-	-	-
S.D. Bliss	0	0	-	-	-	-
B.W. Canavan	3	3	3	2	-	-
C.P. Cronk	1	1	-	-	1	1
R.M. Garard	6	5	5	4	3	3
B.A.C. Ikin	4	3	-	-	1	1
N.S. McCarthy	6	6	-	-	-	-
B.D. McGuire	6	6	-	-	3	3
B.A. Tallon	3	3	2	2	-	-
D.J. Van de Velde	6	6	-	-	3	3
EXTERNAL A&R COMMITTEE MEMBER						
B.A. Tallon	0	0	3	3	-	-
M.J.E. Thomsen	0	0	5	5	-	-

AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION TO THE DIRECTORS OF QUEENSLAND RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE LIMITED

As lead auditor for the audit of Queensland Rugby Football League Limited for the financial year ended 31 October 2020, I declare to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit;
- no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit; and
- no non-audit services provided that contravene any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.



ERNST & YOUNG



MATTHEW TAYLOR

Partner

25 January 2022

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS & OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

	NOTES	2021	2020 Restated*
			\$
REVENUE FROM CONTRACTS WITH CUSTOMERS	5.1	36,872,447	17,641,330
Other income	5.2	1,659,488	2,273,397
Finance income	5.4	5,573	40,050
Less: Expenses			
Employee benefits expense		(10,647,756)	(8,347,244)
Competitions		(9,551,545)	(4,580,939)
Representative teams		(5,605,713)	(1,049,473)
Grants to clubs and schools		(554,437)	(187,922)
Sponsor servicing		(1,802,911)	(457,254)
Referee development expenses		(842,028)	(298,980)
Development expenses		(402,888)	(141,274)
Commercial expenses		(2,261,310)	(1,082,591)
Administration expenses		(3,016,404)	(2,009,971)
Depreciation and amortisation	5.3	(656,668)	(717,606)
Finance costs	5.5	(119,440)	(120,448)
Total expenses		(35,461,100)	(18,993,702)
Profit for the year		3,076,408	961,075
Other comprehensive income for the year		-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year		3,076,408	961,075

* Certain amounts shown here do not correspond to the 2020 financial statements and reflect restatements made (refer to Note 4).

The above statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 31 OCTOBER 2021

	NOTES	2021 \$	2020 Restated* \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	6	11,207,091	9,696,586
Trade and other receivables	7	2,038,360	1,694,723
Inventories	8	166,192	141,620
Other assets	9	504,516	1,879,430
Total current assets		13,916,159	13,412,359
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Trade and other receivables	7	159,000	323,000
Plant and equipment	10	329,320	350,767
Right-of-use assets	11	1,895,305	2,484,768
Total non-current assets		2,383,625	3,158,535
Total assets		16,299,784	16,570,894
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	12	2,306,008	1,637,615
Employee benefit liabilities	14	1,085,006	905,887
Provisions	15	-	61,646
Lease liabilities	11	490,562	529,563
Contract liabilities	13	340,458	3,928,106
Total current liabilities		4,222,034	7,062,817
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Employee benefit liabilities	14	303,234	276,410
Lease liabilities	11	1,765,215	2,298,774
Total non current liabilities		2,068,449	2,575,184
Total liabilities		6,290,483	9,638,001
Net assets		10,009,301	6,932,893
EQUITY			
Retained earnings		10,009,301	6,932,893
Total equity		10,009,301	6,932,893

* Certain amounts shown here do not correspond to the 2020 financial statements and reflect restatements made (refer to Note 4).

The above statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

	RETAINED EARNINGS	TOTAL EQUITY
	\$	\$
As at 1 November 2020	6,932,893	6,932,893
Profit for the year	3,076,408	3,076,408
Other comprehensive income	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	3,076,408	3,076,408
As at 31 October 2021	10,009,301	10,009,301
As at 1 November 2019	6,179,358	6,179,358
Write-off of intangibles (Note 4)	(207,540)	(207,540)
At 1 November 2019 (restated)	5,971,818	5,971,818
Profit for the year (restated*)	961,075	961,075
Other comprehensive income	-	-
Total comprehensive loss for the year (restated*)	961,075	961,075
As at 31 October 2020 (restated*)	6,932,893	6,932,893

* Certain amounts shown here do not correspond to the 2020 financial statements and reflect restatements made (refer to Note 4).

The above statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

	NOTES	2021	2020
		\$	\$
OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts from customers		35,807,476	23,343,286
Payments to suppliers and employees		(33,605,896)	(19,232,239)
Interest received		5,573	40,050
Interest and borrowing costs paid		(119,440)	(120,448)
Net cash flows from operating activities	6	2,087,713	4,030,649
INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts on disposal of plant and equipment		5,604	18,109
Purchase of plant and equipment	10	(110,208)	(68,492)
Repayment of loan received		45,000	0
Loans to associated parties		(5,000)	(117,650)
Net cash flows used in investing activities		(64,604)	(168,033)
FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Lease principal repayment		(512,604)	(548,380)
Net cash flows used in financing activities		(512,604)	(548,380)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		1,510,505	3,314,236
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 November		9,696,586	6,382,350
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 October	6	11,207,091	9,696,586

The above statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONT.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

NOTE 1: CORPORATE INFORMATION

The financial report of Queensland Rugby Football League Limited (the "QRL" or "Company") for the year ended 31 October 2021 was authorised for issue in accordance with a resolution of the directors on 25 January 2022.

The Company is a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee, incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

The registered office and principal place of business of the Company is Rugby League Central - Queensland, 83 Castlemaine Street, Milton, QLD 4064.

The nature of the operations and principal activities of the Company are described in the directors' report.

NOTE 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

2.1 BASIS OF PREPARATION

The financial report is a general purpose financial report that has been prepared in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* and Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements, Interpretations and other applicable authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board.

The financial report covers Queensland Rugby Football League Limited as an individual entity.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis and are based on historical costs, unless otherwise stated in the notes.

The following are the significant accounting policies adopted by the Company in the preparation and presentation of the financial report. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

2.2 CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES, DISCLOSURE, STANDARDS AND INTERPRETATIONS

New and amended standards and interpretations

The new and amended Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations that apply for the first time in 2020/2021 do not materially impact the financial statements of the Company.

Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued but not yet effective

Certain Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations have recently been issued or amended but are not yet effective and have not been adopted by the Company for the annual reporting year ended 31 October 2021. The directors have not early adopted any of these new or amended standards or interpretations. The Company intends to adopt these new and amended standards and interpretations, if applicable, when they become effective.

AASB 1060 General Purpose Financial Statements - Simplified Disclosures for For-Profit and Not-for-Profit Tier 2 Entities

Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 July 2021, entities will be required to follow the recognition and measurement requirement under Australian Accounting Standards, but may apply the simplified disclosure requirements in AASB 1060. AASB 1060 is the new simplified disclosure standard developed by the AASB based on IFRS for Small and Medium-sized Entities.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

2.3 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Revenue recognition

Revenue from contracts with customers is recognised when control of the goods or services are transferred to the customer at an amount that reflects the consideration to which the Company expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. The Company has generally concluded that it is the principal in its revenue arrangements.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax ("GST").

Commercial revenue

Corporate hospitality and merchandise revenue are recognised at a point in time when control of the asset is transferred to the customer, generally on delivery of the goods. The normal credit term is 30 to 90 days upon delivery.

Membership subscriptions are recognised over the period the income relates.

Grant income

Grants from the Australian Rugby League Commission Limited ("ARLC") are recognised as revenue in the period in which the ARLC funding relates to the extent that expenditure has been incurred in accordance with the terms and conditions attaching to individual program funding and grants.

Partnership

Partnership and other revenue receipts are recognised in the profit or loss when the revenue is earned or when the fee in respect of the services have been rendered.

b) Other income

Government grants

Government grants are recognised where there is reasonable assurance that the grant will be received and all attached conditions will be complied with. When the grant relates to an expense item, it is recognised as income on a systematic basis over the periods that the related costs, for which it is intended to compensate, are expensed. When the grant relates to an asset, it is recognised as income in equal amounts over the expected useful life of the related asset.

When the Company receives grants of non-monetary assets, the asset and the grant are recorded at nominal amounts and released to profit or loss over the expected useful life of the asset, based on the pattern of consumption of the benefits of the underlying asset by equal annual instalments.

JobKeeper payment scheme

The Federal Government's JobKeeper payment scheme is a subsidy for businesses significantly affected by COVID-19. JobKeeper payments that were received by the Company are recognised as other income.

c) Finance costs

All finance costs are expensed in the period in which they occur. Finance costs consist of interest and other costs that an entity incurs in connection with the borrowing of funds.

d) Finance income

Interest revenue is recognised when it becomes receivable on a proportional basis taking in to account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONT.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

2.3 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

e) Current versus non-current classification

The Company presents assets and liabilities in the statement of financial position based on current/non-current classification. An asset is current when it is:

- Expected to be realised or intended to be sold or consumed in the normal operating cycle
- Held primarily for the purpose of trading
- Expected to be realised within twelve months after the reporting period, or
- Cash or cash equivalent unless restricted from being exchanged or used to settle a liability for at least twelve months after the reporting period

All other assets are classified as non-current.

A liability is current when:

- It is expected to be settled in the normal operating cycle
- It is held primarily for the purpose of trading
- It is due to be settled within twelve months after the reporting period, or
- There is no unconditional right to defer the settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting period

The Company classifies all other liabilities as non-current.

f) Taxes

Income tax

No provision for income tax has been raised as the Company is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

Goods and services tax

Revenues, expenses and purchased assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Tax Office. In these circumstances, the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the statement of financial position are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

g) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents in the statement of financial position comprise cash at bank and on hand and short-term deposits with a maturity of three months or less, which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

h) Trade and other receivables

A receivable represents the Company's right to an amount of consideration that is unconditional (i.e., only the passage of time is required before payment of the consideration is due). Trade receivables, which generally have 30-60 day terms, are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate (EIR) method, less an allowance for expected credit losses (ECLs). All trade receivables held by the Company are measured at amortised cost.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

2.3 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

h) Trade and other receivables (continued)

Loan receivables are initially recognised at fair value, carry no interest and are repayable on demand.

For trade receivables, the Company applies a simplified approach in calculating ECLs. Therefore, the Company does not track changes in credit risk, but instead recognises a loss allowance based on lifetime ECLs at each reporting date. The Company has established a provision matrix that is based on its historical credit loss experience, adjusted for forward-looking factors specific to the debtors and the economic environment.

i) Inventories

Inventories held for sale are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

j) Plant and equipment

Each class of plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all plant and equipment is depreciated over their estimated useful lives commencing from the time the asset is held available for use, consistent with the estimated consumption of the economic benefits embodied in the asset.

Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

Class of fixed asset	Depreciation rates	Depreciation basis
Leasehold improvements at cost	10%	Straight-line
Plant and equipment at cost	10% - 50%	Diminishing value

k) Trade and other payables

Trade and other payables are initially recognised at fair value and are subsequently carried at amortised cost. Due to their short-term nature they are not discounted. They represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the Company prior to the end of the financial year that are unpaid and arise when the Company becomes obliged to make future payments in respect of the purchase of these goods and services. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

l) Contract Liabilities

A contract liability is recognised if a payment is received or a payment is due (whichever is earlier) from a customer before the Company transfers the related goods or services. Contract liabilities are recognised as revenue when the Company performs under the contract (i.e., transfers control of the related goods or services to the customer).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONT.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

2.3 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

m) Leases

The Company assesses at contract inception whether a contract is, or contains, a lease. That is, if the contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration.

Company as a lessee

The Company applies a single recognition and measurement approach for all leases, except for short-term leases and leases of low-value assets. The Company recognises lease liabilities to make lease payments and right-of-use assets representing the right to use the underlying assets.

(i) Right-of-use assets

The Company recognises right-of-use assets at the commencement date of the lease (i.e., the date the underlying asset is available for use). Right-of-use assets are measured at cost, less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses, and adjusted for any remeasurement of lease liabilities. The cost of right-of-use assets includes the amount of lease liabilities recognised, initial direct costs incurred, and lease payments made at or before the commencement date less any lease incentives received. Right-of-use assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the shorter of the lease term and the estimated useful lives of the assets, as follows:

- Property 10%
- Motor vehicles 33%

If ownership of the leased asset transfers to the Company at the end of the lease term or the cost reflects the exercise of a purchase option, depreciation is calculated using the estimated useful life of the asset.

(ii) Lease liabilities

At the commencement date of the lease, the Company recognises lease liabilities measured at the present value of lease payments to be made over the lease term. The lease payments include fixed payments (including in-substance fixed payments) less any lease incentives receivable, variable lease payments that depend on an index or a rate, and amounts expected to be paid under residual value guarantees. The lease payments also include the exercise price of a purchase option reasonably certain to be exercised by the Company and payments of penalties for terminating the lease, if the lease term reflects the Company exercising the option to terminate. Variable lease payments that do not depend on an index or a rate are recognised as expenses (unless they are incurred to produce inventories) in the period in which the event or condition that triggers the payment occurs.

In calculating the present value of lease payments, the Company uses its incremental borrowing rate at the lease commencement date because the interest rate implicit in the lease is not readily determinable. After the commencement date, the amount of lease liabilities is increased to reflect the accretion of interest and reduced for the lease payments made. In addition, the carrying amount of lease liabilities is remeasured if there is a modification, a change in the lease term, a change in the lease payments (e.g., changes to future payments resulting from a change in an index or rate used to determine such lease payments) or a change in the assessment of an option to purchase the underlying asset.

(iii) Short-term leases and leases of low-value assets

The Company applies the short-term lease recognition exemption to its short-term leases of machinery and equipment (i.e., those leases that have a lease term of 12 months or less from the commencement date and do not contain a purchase option). It also applies the lease of low-value assets recognition exemption to leases of office equipment that are considered to be low value. Lease payments on short-term leases and leases of low-value assets are recognised as expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

2.3 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

n) Employee benefit liabilities

Short-term employee benefit obligations

Liabilities arising in respect of wages and salaries, annual leave and any other employee benefits (other than termination benefits) expected to be settled wholly before twelve months after the end of the annual reporting period are measured at the (undiscounted) amounts based on remuneration rates which are expected to be paid when the liability is settled. The expected cost of short-term employee benefits in the form of compensated absences such as annual leave and accumulated sick leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits. All other short-term employee benefit obligations are presented as payables in the statement of financial position.

Long-term employee benefit obligations

The provision for other long-term employee benefits, including obligations for long service leave and annual leave, which are not expected to be settled wholly before twelve months after the end of the reporting period, are measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflow to be made in respect of the services provided by employees up to the reporting date. Expected future payments incorporate anticipated future wage and salary levels, durations of service and employee turnover, and are discounted at rates determined by reference to market yields at the end of the reporting period on high quality corporate bonds that are denominated in the currency in which the benefits will be paid, and that have terms approximating to the terms of the related obligation. For currencies in which there is no deep market in such high quality corporate bonds, the market yields (at the end of the reporting period) on government bonds denominated in that currency are used. Any remeasurements for changes in assumptions of obligations for other long-term employee benefits are recognised in profit or loss in the periods in which the change occurs.

Other long-term employee benefit obligations are presented as current liabilities in the statement of financial position if the entity does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, regardless of when the actual settlement is expected to occur. All other long-term employee benefit obligations are presented as non-current liabilities in the statement of financial position.

o) Comparative figures

Where necessary, comparative figures have been reclassified to conform with changes in presentation in the current year.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONT.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

3. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS

The Company evaluates estimates and judgements incorporated into the financial report based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and are based on current trends and economic data, obtained both externally and within the Company. Key estimates and judgements impacting the financial statements are as follows:

Recoverable amount of loan receivables

As at 31 October 2021, the Company had outstanding loan receivables with various rugby league clubs. As at the reporting date, management have assessed that these loans are not impaired.

Leases - Estimating the incremental borrowing rate

The Company cannot readily determine the interest rate implicit in the lease, therefore, it uses its incremental borrowing rate (IBR) to measure lease liabilities. The IBR is the rate of interest that the Company would have to pay to borrow over a similar term, and with a similar security, the funds necessary to obtain an asset of a similar value to the right-of-use asset in a similar economic environment. The IBR therefore reflects what the Company 'would have to pay', which requires estimation when no observable rates are available (such as for subsidiaries that do not enter into financing transactions) or when they need to be adjusted to reflect the terms and conditions of the lease (for example, when leases are not in the subsidiary's functional currency). The Company estimates the IBR using observable inputs (such as market interest rates) when available and is required to make certain entity-specific estimates (such as the subsidiary's stand-alone credit rating).

Determining the lease term of contracts with renewal options - Company as lessee

The Company determines the lease term as the non-cancellable term of the lease, together with any periods covered by an option to extend the lease if it is reasonably certain to be exercised, or any periods covered by an option to terminate the lease, if it is reasonably certain not to be exercised.

The Company has several lease contracts that include extension options. The Company applies judgement in evaluating whether it is reasonably certain whether or not to exercise the option to renew the lease. After the commencement date, the Company reassesses the lease term if there is a significant event or change in circumstances that is within its control and affects its ability to exercise or not to exercise the option to renew.

The Company did not include the extension option as part of the lease term of premises. Renewal options for leases of motor vehicles are not included as part of the lease term because the Company typically leases motor vehicles for not more than three years and, hence, is not exercising any renewal options.

4. RESTATEMENT

In April 2021, the IFRS Interpretations Committee (IFRIC) published an agenda decision for configuration and customisation costs incurred related to implementing Software as a Service (SaaS) arrangements. In 2019, upon the implementation of a new cloud based software system, the QRL capitalised \$207,540 within intangible assets.

In accordance with the IFRIC agenda decision clarification of SaaS costs which meet the criteria to be capitalised, the prior period statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income and statement of financial position presented for comparison purposes, were adjusted, and are restated to remove software costs previously capitalised as intangible assets.

	1 NOVEMBER 2019 PREVIOUSLY STATED	ADJUSTMENT	1 NOVEMBER 2019 RESTATED	31 OCTOBER 2020 PREVIOUSLY STATED	ADJUSTMENT	31 OCTOBER 2020 RESTATED
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Statement of profit and loss and other comprehensive income						
Depreciation and amortisation	-	-	-	(762,079)	44,473	(717,606)
Net impact on profit for the year	-	-	-	916,602	44,473	961,075
Statement of financial position						
Intangible assets	207,540	(207,540)	-	-	-	-
Total assets	207,540	(207,540)	-	-	-	-
Retained earnings	6,179,358	(207,540)	5,971,818	6,888,420	44,473	6,932,893
Net impact on total equity	6,179,358	(207,540)	5,971,818	6,888,420	44,473	6,932,893

5. REVENUE AND EXPENSES

5.1 DISAGGREGATED REVENUE INFORMATION

Set out below is the disaggregation of the Company's revenue from contracts with customers:

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
TYPE OF GOODS OR SERVICE		
Partnership	12,102,539	2,336,517
ARLC funding	20,923,331	13,187,185
Other grants and subsidies	1,149,994	994,353
Commercial revenues	2,696,583	1,123,275
Total revenue from contracts with customers	36,872,447	17,641,330

Revenues in FY21 and FY20 were impacted by the coronavirus pandemic with ARLC funding in 2020 reduced as a result of broadcast renegotiation and cost saving measures implemented by the ARLC. Revenue was also impacted by the renegotiation of QRL partnership agreements and the timing of the 2020 State of Origin series.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONT.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

5. REVENUE AND EXPENSES (CONTINUED)

5.2 OTHER INCOME

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Federal Government - JobKeeper payment	1,050,450	2,002,500
State Government - Payroll tax relief	-	72,544
Other revenue	609,038	198,353
Total other income	1,659,488	2,273,397

5.3 DEPRECIATION AND AMORTISATION

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Depreciation of plant and equipment (Note 10)	127,161	121,040
Depreciation of right-of-use assets (Note 11)	529,507	596,566
	656,668	717,606

5.4 FINANCE INCOME

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Interest income	5,573	40,050

5.5 FINANCE COSTS

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Interest expense on lease liabilities (Note 11)	119,440	120,448

6. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Cash at bank and on hand	5,897,075	4,689,414
Short-term deposits	5,310,016	5,007,172
	11,207,091	9,696,586

For the purpose of the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents comprise the above.

	2021	2020
Cash flow reconciliation		
Profit after tax	3,076,408	961,075
Adjustments for non-cash items:		
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	656,668	717,606
Bad debts written off	5,062	100
(Gain) / Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment	(1,110)	408
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
(Increase) / decrease in trade and other receivables	(224,699)	4,317,597
Increase in inventories	(24,572)	(46,368)
Decrease / (Increase) in other assets	1,374,914	(1,522,811)
Increase / (decrease) in trade and other payables	668,393	(563,823)
Increase / (decrease) in employee benefit liabilities	205,943	(146,016)
(Decrease) / increase in provisions	(61,646)	61,646
(Decrease) / increase in contract liabilities	(3,587,648)	251,235
Net cash flows from operating activities	2,087,713	4,030,649

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONT.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

7. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Trade receivables	1,966,110	1,702,581
Allowance for expected credit losses	-	(98,108)
Loan receivables	72,250	90,250
	2,038,360	1,694,723
Non-Current		
Loan Receivables	159,000	323,000

Trade receivables are non-interest bearing and are usually paid within 30 days.

8. INVENTORIES

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Merchandise for sale	166,192	141,620

9. OTHER ASSETS

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Current		
Prepayments	504,516	1,879,430

Prepayments at 31 October 2020 included amounts related to the delivery of the State of Origin series in November 2020 and flight credits with airline partners fully utilised by the QRL during the 2021 financial year.

10. PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	PLANT AND EQUIPMENT	LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS	TOTAL
	\$	\$	\$
Cost			
At 1 November 2020	1,025,367	272,509	1,297,876
Additions	110,208	-	110,208
Disposals	(39,262)	-	(39,262)
At 31 October 2021	1,096,313	272,509	1,368,822
Accumulated depreciation			
At 1 November 2020	830,139	116,970	947,109
Depreciation charge for the year	98,882	28,279	127,161
Disposals	(34,768)	-	(34,768)
At 31 October 2021	894,253	145,249	1,039,502
Net Book Value			
At 31 October 2021	202,060	127,260	329,320
At 31 October 2020	195,228	155,539	350,767

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONT.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

11. LEASES

Company as a lessee

The Company has lease contracts for various items of property and motor vehicles used in its operations. Leases of property have lease term of 10 years, while motor vehicles generally have lease terms of 3 years. The Company's obligations under its leases are secured by the lessor's title to the leased assets.

The Company also has certain leases of premises with lease terms of 12 months or less and leases of office equipment with low value. The Company applies the 'short-term lease' and 'lease of low-value assets' recognition exemptions for these leases.

Set out below are the carrying amounts of right-of-use assets recognised and the movements during the period:

	PROPERTY	MOTOR VEHICLES	TOTAL
	\$	\$	\$
At 1 November 2020	2,322,371	162,397	2,484,768
Additions	-	102,710	102,710
Depreciation charged for the year	(404,945)	(124,562)	(529,507)
Lease modification	(162,666)	-	(162,666)
As at 31 October 2021	1,754,760	140,545	1,895,305

11. LEASES (CONTINUED)

Company as a lessee (continued)

Set out below are the carrying amounts of lease liabilities and the movements during the period:

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
As at 1 November	2,828,337	3,349,442
Additions	102,710	27,275
Accretion of interest	119,440	120,448
Lease modification	(162,666)	0
Payments	(632,044)	(668, 828)
At 31 October	2,255,777	2,828,337
Current	490,562	529,563
Non-current	1,765,215	2,298,774

The following are the amounts recognised in profit or loss:

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Depreciation expense of right-of-use assets	529,507	596,566
Interest expense on lease liabilities	119,440	120,448
Expense relating to short-term leases	130,410	45,142
Expense relating to leases of low-value assets	47,303	66,189
	826,660	828,345

The Company had total cash outflows for leases of \$809,757 in 2021 (2020: \$780,159). The Company also had non-cash additions to right-of-use assets and lease liabilities of \$102,710 in 2021 (2020: \$27,275) and modifications to leases of \$162,666 in 2021 (2020: \$0).

12. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Current		
Trade creditors	1,412,690	984,324
Sundry creditors and accruals	716,923	621,409
GST payable	176,395	31,882
	2,306,008	1,637,615

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONT.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

13. CONTRACT LIABILITIES

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Current		
Contract liabilities	<u>340,458</u>	<u>3,928,106</u>

Grant funding received in advance from the Australian Rugby League Commission for the 2022 financial year is included in contract liabilities, although there is no requirement to repay these amounts at balance date.

Contract liabilities in FY20 comprised income received from/invoiced to sponsors and partners of Queensland Rugby Football League Limited prior to 31 October 2020 which related to the financial year ending 31 October 2021.

14. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT LIABILITIES

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Current		
Annual leave	803,506	614,536
Long service leave	281,500	291,351
	<u>1,085,006</u>	<u>905,887</u>
Non-current		
Long service leave	<u>303,234</u>	<u>276,410</u>

15. PROVISIONS

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Current		
Redundancy	-	61,646
	<u>-</u>	<u>61,646</u>
		REDUNDANCY
		\$
At 1 November 2019		-
Arising during the year		61,646
At 31 October 2020		<u>61,646</u>
Utilised		(61,646)
At 31 October 2021		<u>-</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONT.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2021

16. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

Key management personnel compensation

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Compensation paid to key management personnel	1,784,009	1,466,054

The following were key management personnel of the Company at any time during the reporting period, and unless otherwise indicated were key management personnel for the entire period:

Name	Appointment/resignation details
Directors	
B.M. Hatcher	Chairman
R.W. Moore	Managing Director resigned 29 October 2021
L.W. Anderson	Northern Region Chair
S.D. Bliss	Independent Director appointed 15 November 2021
B.W. Canavan	South East Region Chair appointed 12 April 2021
C.P. Cronk	Independent Director appointed 16 August 2021
R.M. Garard	Independent Director
B.A.C. Ikin	Independent Director resigned 25 June 2021
N.S. McCarthy	Independent Director
B.D. McGuire	Central Region Chair
B.A. Tallon	South East Region Chair resigned 8 April 2021
D.J. Van De Velde	State-wide Competitions Director
Senior Leadership	
R. Sawyer	Chief Executive Officer
G.F. Maher	Chief Financial Officer & Company Secretary
G.F. Ottaway	Regional General Manager
J.L. Shand	Chief Human Resource Manager

The amounts disclosed in the table are the amounts recognised as an expense during the reporting period related to key management personnel.

17. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Commitments

The Company did not have any commitments at 31 October 2021 (2020: \$nil).

Contingencies

The directors are not aware of any contingent assets or contingent liabilities that have arisen in respect of the Company during the year (2020: \$nil).

18. ECONOMIC DEPENDENCY

The Company is dependent upon the Australian Rugby League Commission Limited ("ARLC") providing funding which is used in fostering and further developing the game of rugby league in Queensland.

19. MEMBERS' GUARANTEE

The Company is incorporated under the Corporations Act 2001 and is a Company limited by guarantee. If the Company is wound up, the Constitution states that each member is required to contribute to a maximum of \$20 each towards meeting any outstandings and obligations of the Company. At 31 October 2021, the number of members was 8 (2020: 9). The combined total amount that members of the Company are liable to contribute if the Company is wound up is \$160 (2020: \$180).

20. EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD

There has been no matter or circumstance, which has arisen since 31 October 2021 that has significantly affected or may significantly affect:

- (a) the operations, in financial years subsequent to 31 October 2021, of the Company, or
- (b) the results of those operations, or
- (c) the state of affairs, in financial years subsequent to 31 October 2021, of the Company.

DIRECTORS' DECLARATION

In accordance with a resolution of the directors of Queensland Rugby Football League Limited, I state that:

In the opinion of the directors:

- (a) the financial statements and notes of Queensland Rugby Football League Limited for the financial year ended 31 October 2021 are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, including:
 - (i) giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 31 October 2021 and its performance for the year ended on that date; and
 - (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the Corporations Regulations 2001; and
- (b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

On behalf of the Board of Directors



B.M. HATCHER
Chairman

25 January 2022

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF QUEENSLAND RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE LIMITED

OPINION

We have audited the financial report of Queensland Rugby Football League Limited (the Company) which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 October 2021, the statement of profit and loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Company is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:

- a) giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 31 October 2021 and of its financial performance for the year ended on that date; and
- b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the *Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

INFORMATION OTHER THAN THE FINANCIAL REPORT AND AUDITOR'S REPORT THEREON

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information obtained at the date of this auditor's report is the directors' report accompanying the financial report and our audit report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DIRECTORS FOR THE FINANCIAL REPORT

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the *Corporations Act 2001* and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF QUEENSLAND RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE LIMITED (CONTINUED)

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



Ernst & Young
ERNST & YOUNG



MATTHEW TAYLOR

Partner

Brisbane

25 January 2022









ABN 65 009 878 013