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Jake Wilding from Perth is part of the PAA U'21 Team to tour New Zealand

## U21 AUSTRALIAN TEAM TO NEW ZEALAND

As part of the PAA's ongoing commitment to building our intermediate squads, whilst fostering and growing polocrosse relations with our cross Tasman neighbours, the PAA is pleased to announce that a mixed intermediate team will travel to New Zealand in early 2020. The team will play the Kaitieke Polocrosse Carnival, to be held in Taumarunui on the 15th and 16th February 2020. Taumarunui is about a 3 ½ hour drive from the Auckland airport. This team will be coached by Cameron Shepherd and managed by Lachlan Ross.

The players to take part are Kacie Crabb, Lindsay Doolan, Felicity Elford (VC), Keeley McGrath, Hugh Anderson (C), Callum Brook, Tom Keightley and Jake Wilding. The PAA Board will fund this team to the value of \$5,500 i.e. \$500 per player, coach and team manager. Congratulations to all players, the PAA looks forward to hearing the results of this carnival and wish you well on the tour.

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Your PAA Board met in Brisbane the weekend of 23 November. A number of important matters were tabled and discussed at the recent board meeting including:

 A presentation by insurance broking firm EBM enabled a comparison **review of the PAA's current insurance** arrangement. The Board will now assess this proposal against the current arrangements to ensure members are receiving the best possible value for money. As you all know insurance comprises a large component of our registration fees, the Board is working diligently to ensure the cost is kept to a minimum whilst guaranteeing members receive the insurance coverage they expect. It is not probable that the insurance component of our registration fee will rise in 2019. As always, the 2020 insurance quote will not be finalised until end of year. The Board will recommend to Council at the 2020 AGM that the PAA membership component of the registration fees will not increase i.e. as agreed at the 2018 AGM.

 The Board has been working to undertake a review and consolidation of all **PAA Policy and Procedure (P&P)** documents in order to update and consolidate these into the one document, up to date and viewable by all. The Board acknowledges that there has been a number of conflicting and duplicated documents in the past. There will be ongoing work to review all appendices to the P&P. The draft P&P will be uploaded to the PAA website from 1-30 December, during this period members are encouraged to provide comment via their State Associations on any aspect of the DRAFT P&P document. Consolidation of the P&P will reduce the need for multiple copies of individual P&P, and you will see these removed from the PAA website as they are reviewed and incorporated. As always, the P&P should be read in conjunction with the PAA Constitution. The Board also acknowledges that over time and as a result of the fractured nature of the P&P the Polocrosse Rule Book carries many P&P relating not to your game as it is played on the field but administrative procedures. These too will be incorporated in the P&P negating the need for replication in the Rule Book.

 As you may know the Board trialed **reciprocal Club membership** during the 2019 season. Following discussion and review the Board has determined not to continue this trial on the basis of the overly onerous administrative and time cost to our sport. Reciprocal membership was only taken up by 30 odd players whilst taking considerable time to administer and enact. The Board acknowledges member's desire to play with friends and family members for Clubs other than their home club from time to time. To achieve this the board are undertaking a review of the Club transfer rule to determine how best to achieve this aim within our current procedures and systems.

 The Board sincerely thanks **Christine Franklin**, for her ongoing dedication to our sport and in particular serving as the PAA Registration Database Officer. Following Christine's recommendation this role has recently been passed to Victoria, Administrator Bonnie Goss. Thank you, Bonnie, for taking this on.

In an ongoing effort to reduce the administrative costs to polocrosse, whilst improving involvement and transparency, the Board discussed holding the **2020 AGM** in line with the 2020 National Championships in Ballarat, Vic. It is unfortunate that the PAA AGM is often only able to be cost effectively attend by a handful of members from the State Associations other than the eastern states of Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland. As the majority of polocrosse members that would ordinarily attend the PAA AGM will be in Ballarat for the Nationals the Board view this as an easy opportunity to gather. The Board estimates a cost saving in the vicinity of \$30,000 to polocrosse by holding the AGM during the Nationals. For those that have not attended before you are most welcome to come along as an observer. The PAA AGM runs for about three hours with a general meeting of the Board following. AGM date and venue will be advised early in the new year. Keep an eye on the PAA [calendar](#) for further meeting and event dates.



## THANK YOU TO COL BLOOMFIELD

Long serving PAA Treasurer Col Bloomfield has aided the sport of polocrosse in one way or another for many years and as PAA Treasurer since August 2008. Col advised the Board earlier this year that he would retire at the end of the year. The Board were grateful for the advance notice and have used this time to recruit the next PAA Treasurer and enable plenty of time for an orderly hand over to begin January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020, at the most recent Board meeting, held in Brisbane 23 November. Col is also of course well known to many Clubs as the “draw guru” and I’m sure we can expect to see him around the usual haunts.



## WELCOME TO CALLUM HUGHES

Callum is a member of the Yass Polocrosse Club and a qualified Chartered Practicing Accountant, currently working with the Public Trustees and Guardian of the ACT. The Board and Callum have agreed to take a period of six months to ensure his fit for the role and allow him time to gauge the level of time commitment required. The Board than Callum for his expression of interest in the Treasurer’s role and we’re pleased to welcome him to the team.

Welcome to the team Callum Hughes, Yass Polocrosse Club.

