

Domain Tennis

Where Hobart plays

2024-2025
ANNUAL REPORT

Acknowledgement of Country.

We acknowledge the Muwinina people of Nipaluna/Hobart as the traditional custodians of the country and their connection to land sea and community.

We pay our respects to their elders past and present and recognise that Australia is home to the oldest cultural tradition in the world.

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DOMAIN TENNIS CENTRE

WHO WE ARE:

The Domain Tennis Centre is Tasmania's premier tennis facility, established on its present site in 1964 after moving from Creek Road, New Town.

The Hobart City Council owns the site which is leased to the Domain Tennis Centre.

The Domain Tennis Centre is governed by its constitution through a Board of Management.

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT:

President:	David Zerna
Vice-President:	Danny Veis
Treasurer:	Andrew Hunt
Board Members:	Richard Atkins Darren Jones Linda O'Brien Eileen Smith

General Manager & Public Officer:	David Drysdale
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HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS:

Enda Burrow
J. Ian Murtagh
C. Ades S. Page
Theo Alexander
Viv Holloway
Sybil Vinen
Benn A. Rafferty
Hazell Turner
Audrey Hill

Arthur J. Matthews
Graham Lamphee
Gillian Anderson
Michael Burke
David Tunbridge
Barry Titmus
Chris Fyshe
Jon Aufder-Heide



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I am pleased to present the 2025 President's Report for the Domain Tennis Centre (DTC), a year that has been both challenging and rewarding in equal measure. While this has not been the easiest year in our history, it has been one of the most important a year where we laid the groundwork for long-term success, addressed significant internal challenges, and secured transformative opportunities for the future.

This year saw **leadership change and transition**, with farewells to both Edward Bouchier and Rosie Murphy, whose contributions over the years have been deeply valued. At the same time, we welcomed our new General Manager, **David Drysdale**, who brings over 30 years of professional tennis administration experience and a personal connection to the DTC as a former member. David has quickly set about rebuilding the club from the ground up, focusing on the fundamentals of team development, operational processes, and Centre-first culture. While much of this work happens behind the scenes, it has been critical to setting the base for a more sustainable and professional future.

We acknowledge that for some members this year felt frustrating, with lower levels of communication and uncertainty during times of change. What was not always visible, however, were the **operational and financial challenges we were navigating**, including restructuring our financial systems, re-aligning cost centres, and stabilising core services. These were not easy adjustments, and at times they came at the expense of visibility. But they were necessary, and they now give us a solid foundation to move forward with clarity and confidence.

Despite these challenges, **the highlights of 2025 are significant**. Most notably, after more than four years of planning and advocacy, we secured an **\$8 million Federal Masterplan Grant**, the largest external funding commitment to the DTC in more than 15 years. This achievement, made possible through partnership with Tennis Tasmania and the persistence of our Board, will transform our facilities and secure the long-term future of the Hobart International. In addition, we were awarded a **\$500,000 grant** to introduce pickleball and padel courts on the southern site, positioning the DTC at the forefront of racquet sport innovation. Together, these commitments represent nearly **\$9 million in future investment** into the Centre an extraordinary achievement in a single year.

On top of this, the club marked its **60th year on site**, a milestone worth celebrating and a reminder of the legacy we are building on. Participation also continued to grow, with a 10% increase in coaching program enrolments across juniors, adults, and social players. These outcomes show that even during a period of internal rebuilding, the demand for tennis and the vibrancy of our community remain strong.

Financially, the year presented both resilience and challenge. Trading income grew by 3% year-on-year, supported by growth in memberships and coaching. However, ambitious expansion in food and beverage operations, combined with higher staffing costs and investment in branding, meant the club recorded a deficit of \$66,000. Importantly, our **cash reserves remain healthy at close to \$800,000**, including \$400,000 in grant funding, ensuring we are well-placed to deliver on our commitments and fund the exciting projects ahead.

Looking forward, our new **2026–2028 Strategic Plan** provides a clear pathway. Developed collaboratively with 25 members over two days of workshops, it outlines key priorities: delivering the \$8 million masterplan redevelopment, establishing pickleball and padel as new racquet sport offerings, strengthening participation pathways for juniors and families, diversifying revenue through events and coaching, and restoring financial surplus. These are bold but achievable goals, built on the foundations we worked so hard to put in place this year.

As I reflect on 2025, I see a year where the club faced real challenges, made difficult choices, and sometimes had to ask members to trust the process while we rebuilt behind the scenes. But I also see a year of incredible progress, a year where we secured funding at a scale unseen in more than a decade, celebrated 60 years of history, grew participation, and welcomed new leadership to guide us into the future.

On behalf of the Board, I thank our staff, volunteers, members, partners, and community for their continued support. The Domain Tennis Centre is entering a new chapter with confidence, momentum, and opportunity. The future is bright, and I am certain the DTC will continue to thrive as Tasmania's premier tennis destination.

David Zerna
President,
Domain Tennis Centre – Where Hobart Plays

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

This year marked a special milestone for the Domain Tennis Centre - 60 years of serving the community from our unique home on the Queens Domain. It's a proud legacy, and one we continue to build on as Tasmania's premier place to play tennis.

Over the past year, we've maintained financial stability across our areas: coaching, competitions, memberships, café and bar operations, and our work with leaseholders and sponsors. We continue to operate a diverse facility, unlike any other in the State.

There were some changes in management during the year. We thank Edward Bouchier, who departed in September 2024, and Rosie Murphy, who stepped down in early February 2025, for their valuable contributions. Since November, I've been joined by Tamas Fintas and Matthew Paynter, both coming on board in March 2025. Together, we bring a renewed focus and energy to the Centre's future.

For me personally, this role carries deep meaning. I first played here as a junior, over 50 years ago, on the old natural grass and white clay courts. Much has changed since then, some not, and to reignite the Centre's spirit is a personal goal.

In today's rapidly changing world, it's crucial that we remain not just relevant, but future ready. Over the past seven months, we've begun a thorough review of our operations, aimed at strengthening the Centre's structure and sustainability for the long term. This is about building a strong foundation - so we can proactively adapt to changes in sport, society, and technology, rather than react to them.

The Domain Tennis Centre is one of the largest facilities of its kind in the country - spread across three hectares, and with more all-weather courts than State Tennis Centres outside of Melbourne, Brisbane and Canberra. Our stunning setting gives us one of the best outlooks in the world. But the topography also brings unique challenges in terms of upkeep and accessibility, especially when paired with our ageing clubhouse and rising costs of compliance and essential services. Addressing these issues requires professionalism, strategy, and foresight - all of which we are putting into place.

That said, none of this should be seen as negative — it's quite the opposite. We have an extraordinary opportunity in front of us. With good governance, strong operations, and a bold vision, the Centre's potential is truly boundless. We are planning now not just for the next few years, but for the next 20. I hope that a junior playing at the Centre today can be part of the Centre's 100th anniversary!

In April, the Federal Australian Labor Party committed \$8 million in funding for improvements to the Centre from a joint proposal from Tennis Tasmania and the Domain Tennis Centre; a commitment they've honoured following their re-election. A sincere thank you to Darren Sturgess, General Manager of Tennis Tasmania, for his efforts in helping secure this funding. Together with Tennis Tasmania, we're now developing a Master Plan to guide how this investment - and the State Government's Active Tasmania Grant received last financial year - will be used to commence shaping the Centre's future and secure the long-term future of the Hobart International.

Speaking of which, 2025 marked the 30th year of the Hobart International, Australia's only standalone women's WTA event. It's a rare and impressive achievement in today's sporting calendar. Having played a role in bringing the event to Hobart and directing its first four years, it's incredibly rewarding to see it go from strength to strength. We look forward to working closely with Tennis Tasmania and Tennis Australia to ensure the Centre reaps the full benefit of hosting this iconic tournament.

Of course, none of this would be possible without the many people who contribute to the Domain Tennis Centre. Thank you to the Board members, staff past and present, members, volunteers, sponsors, casual users and visitors, leaseholders, the Hobart City Council, Tennis Tasmania, Tennis Australia, and our government partners, both State and Federal.

The Centre continues to be a place for everyone — with a broad mix of users, all with different needs and expectations. As our community changes, we'll continue evolving to meet those needs. Sometimes that means updating long-standing practices. Change can take time to be accepted, but it's essential for growth, inclusivity, and long-term sustainability.

The Domain Tennis Centre is bigger than any one person or group — it's a place where people come together, where community thrives, and enhances lifestyle through sport. It's for all of Hobart, Southern Tasmania, and beyond. And it's about the generations to come, as well as now.

It's an exciting time to be involved as we start this next chapter, and I look forward to having you on the journey with us.



David Drysdale
General Manager

FINANCIAL YEAR 2025 OVERVIEW

The financial year 24/25 saw the Domain Tennis Centre (DTC) employ a new bookkeeper, Heart Bookkeeping, who are doing an outstanding job keeping the finances up to date. Thanks to Wise Accounting for their work for many years.

Capital Expenditure

DTC implemented improvements to the clubhouse with new security cameras and locks. Capital works around the site included water fountains, a seating area behind court 14, and way finding signage.

Revenue, Expenses and Cash Position

DTC remains solvent with strong cash reserves including operating cash at bank of \$231K and term deposits totalling \$564K.

The FY25 revenue was \$972,775 and cash expenses \$944,030, providing a cash profit of \$28,745.

DTC has retained earnings of \$1.944M.

DTC has embarked on a very exciting strategic plan, positioning the Centre for sustainable growth and continued development in the coming years. Planning for facility improvements is taking part with the commitment from the Federal Government this year and the grant received from Active Tasmania last year.

Towards the end of the year the working group of the new General Manager, Bookkeeper and the Treasurer re-configured the reporting and accounting methods to enable the DTC's activities to be divided into business units to enable improved transparency and clearer understanding of the financial outcomes of the Centre's workings. This was supported by the board who have been very diligent in their approach to control the Centre's finances. Full benefits of this change will become more evident in the coming years.



TENNIS

Over the past year, the Centre has continued to offer a wide range of tennis activities, including tournaments, pennants, social tennis, coaching programs, and general play. It's been another vibrant and active season, with plenty of opportunities for players of all ages and abilities to get involved.

The Hobart Open and Domain Easter championships were both successfully held, with good participation and positive feedback. We're already planning more tournaments for the coming year, with a focus on expanding opportunities and boosting participation even further.

Pennants remain one of the Centre's core offerings, and numbers remained steady throughout the year. Early 2025 saw some structural changes, aimed at supporting the long-term growth and sustainability of all our programs. We'll continue to adapt to ensure our facilities and services meet the evolving needs of our community.

Social tennis has again been popular and is played six days a week, Tuesday and Thursday mornings attracting excellent numbers. It's been wonderful to see new faces joining our regulars, creating a welcoming and inclusive environment. Social events and luncheons add to the sense of camaraderie, and we extend a heartfelt thank you to the members who generously volunteer their time to organise all aspects of social tennis.

Our coaching programs have had a solid year, with strong participation during the Spring/Summer months and consistently good numbers for adult skills sessions throughout the year. Looking ahead, we'll be placing a greater emphasis on quality and experience, with only mature, qualified coaches leading our programs. New targeted sessions will also be introduced to help players of all skill levels continue improving.

In March 2025, the Centre proudly hosted the tennis section of the Australasian Police & Emergency Games. Competitors from across Australia and New Zealand enjoyed three days of spirited play, and the event was a resounding success. A special thank you goes to Eileen and Ian Smith for their valuable assistance.



Also in March, we held a memorable Corporate Day, featuring special guests Richard Fromberg, Harry Bouchier, and former Australian cricketers George Bailey and Alex Doolan. We were also pleased to welcome State MP Kerry Vincent. The weather was perfect, and the afternoon was filled with friendly, fun tennis and great networking opportunities. We look forward to hosting more of these events in the future.

PICKLEBALL

Pickleball has seen rapid growth at the Centre, and in response to its increasing popularity Court 1 has recently been converted into four dedicated Pickleball courts on our booking system.

We're proud to have welcomed Pickleball Tasmania to the facility, who have utilised our courts for elite player training. In addition, we've hosted a Major Pickleball League event, welcomed interstate coaches, held a North vs South competition, and even run several successful corporate fun days - all of which have contributed to the sport's vibrant presence here.

The rise of Pickleball has also brought in new Centre members, and with the recent appointment of leading coach Don Ryan — supported by the experienced Ange Green and Spencer Etherington — the future of Pickleball at the Centre looks incredibly promising.

We're excited to be part of this growing community and look forward to supporting the sport's continued development.



HOBART INTERNATIONAL

From January 4–11, the Centre proudly hosted another successful tournament, marking the 30th year of this iconic event. The venue looked exceptional, the atmosphere was electric, and we extend our sincere congratulations to Tennis Australia and Tennis Tasmania for their outstanding delivery and presentation of this WTA tournament.

It was a privilege to welcome WTA Tour CEO Portia Archer and tennis legend Jelena Dokic during the week. Their presence added to the excitement and helped showcase the Centre at its very best.

The tournament concluded in perfect weather conditions, with McCartney Kessler (USA) securing the singles title over Elise Mertens (Belgium). In doubles, Jiang Xinyu (China) and Wu Fang-hsien (Chinese Taipei) claimed the championship in a strong display of teamwork and skill.



FACILITY



The Centre was pleased to receive a grant from Active Tasmania in the last financial year, supporting the redevelopment of the currently unused grassed area in the south-eastern corner of the site.

Planning was already well advanced when we received further welcome news - a commitment of support from the Australian Federal Labor Party, contingent on their return to government in the May election. With their successful re-election, this commitment has now come to fruition in the form of an \$8 million grant, secured through a joint application with Tennis Tasmania.

As a result, the Centre is now working closely with Tennis Tasmania to review and update its development plans. Together, we are creating a new Master Plan to ensure that current and future funding is strategically allocated in a staged and coordinated approach over the coming years.

This marks a significant step toward creating a long-term vision for the Centre - one that will benefit players, members, and the wider community for generations to come.



STAFF

The Centre has undergone several staffing changes over the past year, driven by both staff departures and a restructuring of operations. At the beginning of the year, the team comprised seven permanent staff members and thirteen casual staff across Administration, Coaching, Grounds, and Food & Beverage. Currently, the team consists of six permanent and nine casual staff members.

Current team

General Manager: David Drysdale

Club Operations Coordinator: Tamas Fintas. Tamas is responsible for membership, the facility, leaseholders, IT programs, and social media.

Tennis Operations Coordinator: Matthew Paynter. Matthew conducts the pennants, administration of the coaching program, pickleball, and social media.

Administration: Sharon Smith & Mandy Smith. Both work over the weekends in the office. Sharon also assists at time in the Food & Beverage area, and Mandy with Coaching.

Groundskeeping and Maintenance: David Canham ensures the Centre's grounds look the best they have ever been, whilst also maintaining our facilities.

Coaching: Nick Martin and Catherine Krueger are currently our two permanent coaches. Yeoh Kean Wah decided to leave to pursue other options, and we thank Yeoh for his time and efforts whilst working at the Centre. We have been fortunate to acquire the services of Mandy Smith, a former Tasmanian champion player and long-time qualified coach, with Olivia Hood, Hannah Sheers, and Don Ryan rounding out our coaching team.

Food and Beverage: Ricardo Alarcon, Teresa Beckett, and Alexia Williamson provide the service at the bar and for all functions.



OUR PARTNERS

The Centre is fortunate to have the support of several key stakeholders who play a vital role in our continued success. These include our valued sponsors, leaseholders, government representatives, community partners, and the many schools that regularly use our facilities. We sincerely thank each of them for their ongoing support and look forward to continuing these strong and collaborative relationships in the future.

GOLD SPONSOR



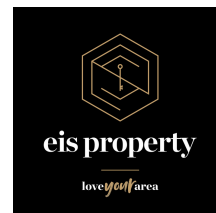
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COMMUNITY



KEY PARTNERS



City of **HOBART**



Australian Government



Tasmanian
Government

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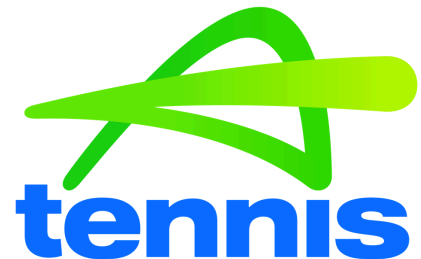


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ODYSSEY
STRENGTH + CONDITIONING



mint
fast fresh food

Domain Massage

(Domain Tennis Centre)



Profit and Loss

Domain Tennis Centre

For the year ended 30 June 2025

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Trading Income		
Ball Machine Hire	1,060	2,172
Commemorative Book	995	0
Court Lighting Income	1,906	1,195
Court Hire	37,253	43,394
Domain Voucher	0	293
Women's International Event Fee	45,000	60,000
Food and Beverage Sales	119,181	141,930
Fundraising and Events	1,029	3,745
Grant Income	52,552	89,401
Guest Fees	7,699	3,624
Interest Income	19,353	8,000
Membership	153,105	146,885
Merchandise Sales	9,582	758
Pennant Fees	47,430	48,093
Rent Received	144,695	145,280
Sponsorship	8,822	18,448
Sundry Income	2961	-
Tennis Programs	292,194	210,128
Tournament Income	19,741	14,738
Venue Hire	8,217	8,242
Total Trading Income	972,775	946,326
Gross Profit	972,775	946,326
Operating Expenses		
Accounting and Audit	6,729	5,692
Advertising	36,595	714
Affiliation Fees - Tennis Tasmania	8,569	19,876
Bank Fees and charges	36	2,924
Bad Debts Expense	4,402	-
Bookkeeping	6,915	2,394
Catering	10,182	-
Cleaning	24,507	32,320
Computer Expenses	8,768	20,122
Depreciation and Amortisation	95,384	93,786
Electricity Gas Heating	36,160	23,377
Equipment Purchase and Rental	4,910	-
Food and Beverage Expenses	52,869	69,205
Fundraising Functions and Events	1,016	3,891
Groundskeeping	3,149	9,206

Profit and Loss

Domain Tennis Centre

For the year ended 30 June 2025

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Operating Expenses Continued		
Insurance	16,371	13,793
Interest Expenses	-	381
Kitchen Equipment	-	342
Legal Fees	150	16,658
License Permits and Registration	3,260	-
Meeting Expenses	-	884
Member and Staff Amenities	2,548	10,003
Merchant Fees	11,034	6,725
Merchandise purchases	8,638	14,903
Pennant Expenses	18,222	27,869
Postage	259	274
Printing and Stationery	20,414	3,029
Provision for AL and LSL Expense	16,424	-
Recruitment	3,370	-
Repairs & Maintenance	44,529	44,436
Staff Training	3,708	3,331
Subscriptions	10,856	2,359
Superannuation Expense	54,222	43,321
Telephone and Internet	5,387	13,792
Tennis Program Expense	5,441	1,857
Travel Meals Accommodation	1,453	
Tournament Expenses	9,276	9,578
Voucher Expenses	-	6,833
Wages and Salaries	498,003	410,340
Waste Removal	5,658	-
Total Operating Expenses	1,039,414	914,215
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	(66,639)	32,111

Balance Sheet

Domain Tennis Centre

As at 30 June 2025

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Current Assets		
Cash at bank	231,517	256,660
Bond	87	-
Inventory	4,393	-
Term Deposit	564,162	106,336
Debtors	34,412	485,938
Total Current Assets	834,571	848,934
Non-current Assets		
Clubhouse and Court Development	2,464,728	2,464,294
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(1,270,440)	(1,125,201)
Grandstand	107,465	107,465
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(37,456)	(34,770)
Other Leasehold Improvements	230,144	230,144
Merchandise Sales	(103,192)	(100,301)
Plant & Equipment Assets	100,434	76,967
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(66,212)	(62,711)
Solar Panel Installation	26,273	26,273
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(4,178)	(2,865)
Website Redevelopment	66,320	66,320
Less: Accumulated Amortisation	(47,442)	(41,477)
Other Intangibles	450	450
Total Non-Current Assets	1,532,672	1,604,588
Total Assets	2,362,763	2,453,522

Balance Sheet

Domain Tennis Centre

As at 30 June 2025

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Current Liabilities		
Trade Creditors	9,604	6,081
GST	29,181	58,467
PAYG Tax	6,564	19,698
Provision for Annual Leave	31,664	13,985
Superannuation Liabilities	6,651	3,609
Suspense	372	-
Unexpended Grants	405,458	405,458
Total Current Liabilities	489,494	507,298
Non-current Liabilities		
Provision for Long Service Leave	-	1,255
Total Non-current Liabilities	-	1,255
Total Liabilities	489,494	508,553
Net Assets	1,877,749	1,944,969
Current Year Earnings	(66,639)	32,111
Retained Earnings	1,944,969	1,912,858
Total Equity	1,877,749	1,944,969

DOMAIN TENNIS CENTRE
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

1. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements are special purpose financial statements prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Act 1964 [Tas]*. The Committee of the Domain Tennis Centre has determined that the Association is not a reporting entity.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historic costs and do not take into account changing money values or, except where stated specifically, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of these financial statements.

(a) Plant and Equipment

Plant and equipment and leasehold improvements are brought to account at cost less any accumulated depreciation. The carrying amount of fixed assets is reviewed annually to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount of these assets. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of expected net cash flows which will be received from the assets employment and subsequent disposal.

(b) Intangible Assets

Intangible assets are brought to account at cost less accumulated amortisation. Intangible assets are tested for impairment where an indicator of impairment exists. Useful lives are also examined on an annual basis and adjustments, where applicable, are made on a prospective basis.

(c) Impairment of Assets

At the end of each reporting period, the Committee reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, an impairment test is carried out on the asset by comparing the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, to the asset's carrying amount. Any excess of the asset's carrying amount over its recoverable amount is recognised in the income and expenditure statement.

DOMAIN TENNIS CENTRE
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

1. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONT.

(d) Provisions of Employment Entitlements

Provision is made for the organisation's liability for employee entitlements arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee provisions have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

Committee Policy is to accrue employee entitlements in line with accounting standards and Domain Tennis Centre Employee Agreement.

(e) Cash on Hand

Cash on hand includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

(f) Receivable

Accounts receivable and other debtors are expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivable are classified as non-current assets.

(g) Revenue

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable after taking into account any discounts or volume rebates allowed. For this purpose, deferred consideration is not discounted to present values when recognising revenue.

Grant or donation income is recognised when the entity obtains control over the funds. If conditions are attached to the grant that must be satisfied before the Association is eligible to receive the contribution, recognition of the grant as revenue will be deferred until those conditions are satisfied.

Interest revenue is recognised in the period in which it is earned.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax.

DOMAIN TENNIS CENTRE
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

1. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONT.

(h) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the balance sheet.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST component of cash flows arising or financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are presented as operating cash flows included in receipts from customers or payments to suppliers.

(i) Creditors

Accounts payable and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the association during the reporting period that remain unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

(j) Comparative Information

Where necessary, comparative figures have been re-classified and re-positioned for consistency with current period disclosures.