CITY TATTERSALLS SKI CLUB

2023 ANNUAL REPORT – 62nd YEAR

What a year it was in 2023! Just when we thought a good dump of snow in June was foreshadowing another great ski season all the snow stopped, with only small tantalising dumps occurring in July / August and pretty-well no snow in September. The snow-making machines got a good workout as surprisingly the temperature stayed cold overnight throughout most of the season and skiing was reasonably good until around midday. Let's hope the snow is better for 2024 – it hasn't got much to beat from 2023!

The Boonoona Open was run on a patched-up course that started and finished in front of the Nordic Shelter. Peter Cunningham and a team from the X-Country group spent 2 days moving snow onto the course to ensure the loops in the course were skiable and that the race could go ahead. 68 skiers competed in the various age groups in both classic and freestyle events. As a first, rather than having all competitors back to Boonoona for prizes and nibbles in the early evening, Matt and the team brought the prizes and food down to the Nordic Shelter and all received their prizes whilst having a bite to eat from about 1.30pm. Thankfully it was a fine day and all was finished by about 2.30pm.

The 47th running of the Swimmers Skiers Race went ahead in very challenging conditions on Front Valley at around 2.00pm on Saturday 2 September. 34 competitors competed in the event on an interesting course, that had a single ski course right next to a single snowboard course of similar length and flag configuration. For the first time, competitors weren't head to head with a swimmer / skier, but raced the clock on 2 runs down the mountain. 1st in the Ladies was Hannah McIlwaine and 1st in the Men's was Justin Melvey. In all our thoughts was 14-year-old Toby McIlwaine who was competing for Australia at the World Junior Big Air and Slopestyle Championships in New Zealand.

Building and Maintenance works at Boonoona were ongoing in the summer period of 2022 and into the autumn-winter of 2023. Cladding maintenance was continued, the stone façade at the entrance of the lodge was repaired and many furnishings within the rooms were upgraded. CTG is committed to opening Boonoona up to corporate and social events in the summer period so that the lodge can become a year-round destination – this 'Summerfication' of the lodge is one of the exciting initiatives that the CTG Board and Club Executive are looking to progress in 2023 and beyond.

It is worth mentioning the CTG team that always make staying at Boonoona a success! In Sydney Kevin Chiew (Head of Marketing and Communication), Julieanne Horsman (Chief of Staff), Peter Georgeson (CTC Architect) and Jacqueline Strickland (Boonoona Booking Coordinator) overseeing all the resources and activities to ensure Boonoona was still the destination-of-choice for members and guests for their ski adventures. A big thanks again to Sally Beattie from Milorad Sekuljica's office (the club's Financial Manager) for continuing to 'crunch the numbers' and handle all the financial matters for the Ski Club. On the snow thanks to Matt and Luanne (Managers of Boonoona) and their great young team managing and working with all the members and guests in trying to ensure everyone has a good holiday and enjoyable times whilst staying at Boonoona.

My thanks to CTG Chairman Pat Campion, the Board of City Tatts and Marcelo Veloz (CEO of CTG) for their ongoing support of the City Tatts Ski Club and Boonoona Ski Lodge. I also wish to acknowledge our Ski Club Vice-President Jimmy Chen, Committee members David & Tim McIlwaine, Marta Casabon, Hugh Sterndale Smith and Jeanette Morgan for their support throughout the year.

Wishing you a safe and happy Christmas / New Year,

Michael Sterndale-Smith

President