

## Chair Report

### Aspiring Gymsports AGM

7<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Last year the club took the opportunity to revisit some of our strategic plans. We developed three guiding documents – AGS Facility Strategy, AGS Fundraising Strategy and AGS Club Management structure. These were aimed at leveraging the foundations we put in place the year before in respect hiring coaching staff and planning for the equipment needs in the new facility.

Our hopes of moving into the new Wanaka Youth and Community Centre by December did not get realised and we were required to negotiate a further extension to our Reece Crescent lease. Fortunately, we were able to extend this until 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023. In addition, we were able to negotiate with QLDC to enter into a contract for service, which enabled us to gain access to funds in 2023 to help us continue to operate at our commercial lease rates. We appreciate this continued commitment from QLDC to ensure the financial viability of our club while we await the new premises.

The number of gymnasts in Term 4 2022 was 253 affiliated members plus 375 casual members – which is up on Term 4 prior year with 200 affiliated members plus 210 casual members. The growing population of school aged children, combined with the increased awareness of the benefits of participation in gymsports, has resulted in increased demand for the classes run by the club. The addition of new Trampolining and Tumbling classes at the Wanaka Recreation Centre would have also been a contributor to this growth. It is great that with new coaching expertise we are able to offer a full range of Gymsports codes. The club continued to be constrained in 2022 by the size of the premises and the availability of coaches and is running at full capacity of the current resources with some children on waiting lists. If we can continue to recruit new coaches, we hope 2023 in the new facility will see us in a situation where we can accommodate more kids into our classes.

There were some key changes in the committee with Kim Badger resigning as Treasurer and Julie Jones resigning as Club Administrator. Julie kindly agreed to continue to support the club by taking by the role of Treasurer. I would like to thank Kim for her contribution to the committee and Julie for both her time as Administrator and now as Treasurer. You have and continue to play a significant role in the effective functioning of this club. Karen Brooks also stepped down as our Health and Safety representative, but not before doing a complete review and update of all our policy and procedure information. We are very grateful to Karen for the work she put into getting these up to date. Carolyn Cruden and Kate McKinlay both joined the committee, so we welcomed the extra support. Clare Bridle also came on board to lead our fundraising sub-community – I would like to thank her for her time and professional expertise.

Will Julie's change in roles we welcomed Emily Feit to take on the role as Club Administrator in addition to her Lead Coach responsibilities. In December 2022 I also worked closely with Rae and Ranan to look at a transitional Club Management structure. This resulted in AGS offering Ranan Feit the role of Club Manager and Head Coach and Rae Patterson the role of Founder, Club and Community Liason. These changes came into effect start of January 2023. With contractual changes happening we took the opportunity to review current contracts to ensure they were up to date with current legislation and to rework the format of our job descriptions. I would like to formally thank Louise Merrall, HR Business Partner at EasiNZ for helping to guide me through this process. Your pro bono work for this club is greatly appreciated.

As per our Fundraising Strategy we continued to plan out our equipment needs and what events we could support and what grants we would apply for. Colleen Nisbet remains pivotal in managing our grant process

and securing much needed funds through this channel – thank you. We are very fortunate to be able to call on our membership to help with volunteering opportunities and local businesses and patrons to offer cash to support our smaller equipment purchases. We were also selected to be the charity of choice at the annual Hirepool Charity Golf Classic which was on March 2023 and represented a significant fundraising opportunity for us. We managed to fund nearly \$40K in new equipment that replaced old equipment and brought in some new key items like our 25m tumble track.

So overall another positive year, and one that has created the foundations to set the club up to continue to grow and meet the demands of local community. I look forward to writing this report next year and finally being able to talk about life in our new gym!

To conclude, thank you to all our volunteer committee members who help keep this club running, Rae and her team of coaches for doing such a great job with our gymnasts, Councillors for their support, and the gymnasts themselves, their families and the wider community who support us and appreciate the important role we play in keeping our youth active.

Prue Beams (Chair)