

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Rob Schroeder

May/June 2021

Greetings from the Whitsundays it's a hard life but I guess someone has to do it which is part of the reason that our regular monthly newsletters will be a bit spasmodic until our committee members that are travelling over the winter return to knuckle down to business.

No apologies for this it is a part of having older blood (some may say Dinosaurs) holding executive positions within our club that choose to try and balance the needs and future progression of our club and still maintain a personal social life.

I would also like to thank the remaining team and Committee that are carrying on with business at hand as I have mentioned below.

With the success of the competition more or less behind us it's time to start working towards next year and evaluate any changes we need to introduce and other ideas to value add to last year's success.

We did receive a feedback from our competitors particularly in regards to the combination of species and although I do believe we need to do away with the snapper/morwong and Nannygai (as indicated in my last report) as it did disadvantage the land based fishos our other combo's should remain perhaps with some minor tweaking as it did introduce fierce competition running down to the wire with the bream and whiting combo and gave the novice fishermen an opportunity to get in the lucky prize draw with the salmon and tailor combo.

There have also been suggestions to include Dolphin Fish as a target species and we already have someone keen to sponsor a men's and women's prize so this will be given careful consideration when considering the make-up of fish categories.

One of the more contentious suggestions is the return of Game Sharks and although I sympathise with those who like fishing for sharks to have sharks hanging on the gantry is not promoting catch and release and is not consistent with DPI Guidelines for running a fishing competition. We as a committee will need to consider if there are other options that would satisfy all entrants and community expectations if we were to include a shark category.

There will also be a change of the way some fish species are measured to make it easier on the officials who record the true length of each species. Last comp many entries did have lengths reduced due to some creative photography and some we disqualified but not without the angler first being notified.

With further improvements to our computerised fish registration program, it should make entries a lot easier for the angler and officials and I will soon be contacting our events partners to finalise these changes for next year's comp.

Even though many of the committee are away following the sun there has been a lot going on and thanks to Terry and Co. our club rooms are now covered with a very good security surveillance system, so hopefully this will deter future break-ins and or assist the Police in further prosecutions should break-ins occur. As a result of those break-ins we have now replaced one of the roller doors and the main security door due to forced entry.

Eddie has done some further tidying up around the club and burning off and is preparing a list of further jobs needed for our next working bee in June and as always will be seeking volunteers.

Most of the building repairs have now been completed and we will soon be requesting our final payment from our grant funding to pay our builder for the works completed. On a not so good note, when installing the security camera's we have discovered more termite damage to the roof trusses and are waiting on another quote for those repair works which the club will more than likely have to fund. This is a perfect example why our club needs to be financially responsible with money in reserves for ongoing improvements and maintenance.

As always please email our Secretary (secretaryeafc@iinet.net.au) with any information or ideas (and fish pic's) that you have which our committee and members may be interested in.