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## Club President's Report 2006

2006 has been a very busy and successful season for this great club.

My ambition to lift the standard of **coaching** within the Club **got off to a good start** with the **appointment of Mr John (JT) Taylor**, the highest accredited coach ever to be involved with Perth Bayswater. JT's professional approach and work-rate with players and coaches (both senior and junior grades) has created a new outlook for the Club.

Not only did we get a new coach, JT also brought a **Team manager, Mr Barry Dorset**, whose experience in this field has been invaluable to us. We also welcomed JT's family who became very involved and supportive of our Club; Jacque, who entertained us royally at our wind-up dinner, Joey, expert water boy and sideline commentator; Kristy, always there to help at training and game days; also Gabbie and Sarah.

Our on-field performance during 2006 improved as time progressed; four out of six senior teams contested finals. **We may not have won a grand final but all teams competed strongly and with Pride.** First Grade had a fifty percent success rate with Nedlands being the only team to beat us twice. I must mention the achievements of **our Women's team** who **made it to the Grand Final** (not once being able to field a full team) and unfortunately the Grand Final was the only game that they were not victorious. Congratulations must go to **Puawai Hohepa** (Honks) winner of the Sue Roberts Medal presented by RugbyWA for the **fairest and best player** in the Women's Competition 2006.

I'd also like to thank all Coaches, Management and Players for all your efforts leading up to and during the playing Season.

The Perth-Bayswater *under 21* Academy is up and running, thanks to the **generous sponsorship** of Andrew Hine at The Morley Ale House. These young men are working hard under the guidance of JT, Peter Roberts, Lex Wilson, Dean Carlisle and Keith Reed. It is young players with this sort of commitment who will be the future players and members of our Club. Well done boys. JT has also put together an off-season training package for all other players so that they are fit for pre-season training in January, this will give us a good start for next year. I can't wait for the next season to commence. Both the senior and junior committees (under the leadership of Mr Graham Thompson) have worked very hard this year towards being a strong, united and successful Club. The addition of two extra playing venues was a trying time for the juniors but Britannia Oval was not big enough to cope with

the growth of junior rugby sport in Western Australia. Mr John MacFarlane was recognised with Life Membership of the Junior Club for his long standing commitment to junior community rugby

The Strategic Planning workshop held in October has brought forth many ideas for the future of Perth Bayswater. Thanks must go to our Club Secretary, John Robertson, whose experience, knowledge and commitment has been of invaluable help during the two years he has been on Committee. Congratulations to Bob Meade and Steve Wharerau on being awarded **Life Memberships**. Both these gentlemen have been loyal and hardworking members of the Club for very many years and are well deserving of this recognition.

Farewell to Ms Moreen Stewart who is standing down after two years as Club Treasurer. I would particularly thank Moreen for her professionalism and commitment and the many voluntary hours put in to the management of the Club. Moreen has provided leadership in sound fiscal management that has put this club back on its feet. Mr Bruce Rollerson steps down after two years on the management committee. Bruce provided leadership in the establishment of the volunteer management and recognition program. Bruce also assisted in many ways to the success of the club through his multi media ability – Editor of Line-out and together with Rick Boyd maintained an up to date internet web-site rated amongst the best in the world for a community based club.

Our next goal is to increase the number of social members and I invite everyone involved with the Club to apply for membership if you are not already a member. Non-playing members can support the club in many ways to take the Club to the next level where the Club becomes a Club of choice, improving the retention rate for junior players and the transition period to the senior grades.

We are consolidating the members' data base to include past and present members. Should you have contact with people who have moved on please pass their details onto a committee member so that they can be kept informed of club events.

The Wanderers get a special mention this year for their continued support of the Club through the winter months and now the summer Touch competition. It was a proud moment for me to witness the Wanderers playing at my old club *Petone* during the Golden Oldies Tournament in Wellington New Zealand in November 2006.

A special thanks to our loyal **sponsors for the generous support in 2006** and we look forward to continuing our association into the future. The club could not function without our sponsors and supporters who share the vision and for the experience this great sport can bring to the lives of the men and women who play for the love of the game.

I look forward to seeing you all on the sideline supporting Perth Bayswater RUFC in 2007.

**Jack Seymour**

Club President