

## Presidents Report for 2024 AGM

The committee met twice during the year, March and June. We were unable to get a quorum for our Christmas meeting usually held in December. Some business was conducted and decisions were made throughout the year through our email group.

In addition to the Championship, we organised six other events during the year. These were the Spring Marathon, the JanBoree, the CSIM, the Matchplay Qualifier, the Hornsby Improvers and the Chris May Winter Masters.

Membership now stands at 101 full members and 70 social members. Some affiliated clubs cooperate by undertaking bulk renewals on our behalf. These include Bomaderry, Nowra, Bowral, Woy Woy, Lane Cove, Lake Macquarie, Baulkham Hills and Wollongong

For each \$20 collected from full members, \$12 goes to CASPA. Despite this necessity, we are in a sound financial situation as will be shown by our treasurer. At our last meeting we agreed to contribute any NSW member who was travelling overseas to represent Australia to the tune of \$200 each.

Regarding the dictionary choice, NSW has stuck to its stated aim of keeping the majority of its members satisfied the majority of the time. This has meant introducing the concept of hybrid tournaments, in which proponents of CSW21 are preferenced over CSW 19 players. This is despite haranguing from within our own NSW community and boycotting of our events by some top interstate players.

Scrabble NSW commissioned a memorial board for the National competition towards the memory of Chris May. We renamed the Winter Masters to the Chris May Winter Masters and his widow, Ksenia, struck a perpetual trophy to be presented to the winner. Considerable effort went into setting up a Go Fund Me campaign, with nearly \$2000 raised shared by tournament expenses and Ksenia.

An attempt was made to revive Sunday night Woogles, an initiative of Chris May. Even an invitation for all Sates to join in did not bear fruit. At this point it is in limbo, though the facility is still there for all to use. Games are unrated, 20 minutes and void challenge.

Our website has undergone a few modifications but the principle remains the same. The full details next tournament is always shown in yellow area, and this is also used to link to player lists, flyers, next round draws and webshows as applicable. The area under Player Achievements is waiting to be populated after many years of attempting to get this done.

After many years of service, I hope to transfer the reins to the vice president elect during the coming year,

Bob Jackman

President