



**Annual General Meeting, September 3rd
2007 Presidents Report**

Firstly I would like to thank all members for their attendance at tonight's AGM.

This year's main issue has been the continuous and rapid drop in the water level of the dam, presenting a series of challenges and obstacles. The water is now at its lowest point and is continuing to drop. Rain over the past two weeks has not increased the level.

Putting boats in the water has to be a careful operation. But thanks to the council (I assume), there is now a graveled make shift ramp into the water.

Several more boulders have made their way to the surface over the season and as the water continues to drop I am sure we will see more. The club grapevine has been working well in warning members of rocks and stumps as they are found. The new club web site and mailing list is good for members to be made aware of obstacles. I encourage all members to make the effort to mark any rocks with a buoy when they are found and then send a club email.

Now onto a quick rundown on the events and highlights of the season.

Late last year, Nathan Graves organized and held a slalom coaching day where members were given the opportunity to learn the tricks of getting through a course. All participants were able to have several runs with coaching tips to help them improve. Thanks Nathan.

Last year's Christmas party saw a change from the camping weekend at the dam to a night at the Highfields Tavern. This came about due to rule changes that made the recreation centre an alcohol free area.

Early in the New Year the club web site was launched. The web site allows us to have a club mailing list which is slowly being used more often and is open to all members to post any information onto. Monthly minutes have been listed on the web site and sent out via the mailing list which has 17 members. The more members we get on this email, the more we can use it to our advantage. Especially when it comes to warnings about dam conditions, notices of upcoming events and meeting reminders. Thanks to Sue Schluter, a non club member, who has built and maintained the club web site at no charge. We do pay a small amount to another company to have our web site hosted. Members are invited to be part of the mailing list as well as send in their photos and stories to add to the web site.

This past year has been a bit disappointing with the number of members attending meetings. 2 meetings were cancelled due to lack of numbers. I want to remind members that one of the membership conditions is that 4 meetings per year must be attended. Even though the water levels are low, it is important to maintain the club activities and structure so that when the dam does rise again (and it will) the club will still be operating strongly. I would like to thank the core group of people who have been attending, which has let the club continue to operate.



March was the month for the Fun Day and under the guidance of Michael Flannery a great day was had with almost everyone leaving with a prize. The prizes were generously donated by Waterskiers Warehouse and Brauers Marine. The competition allowed skiers of all levels to participate and gave members a chance to get to know each other a bit more. This season will give us the chance to hold a few more of these events. And, with member emails, we can notify everyone more quickly when they are happening.

The low water and low rainfall has had one benefit. Not as much mowing to do and therefore less working bees. At the main working bee this year, we were able to get across to the saddle and cut down most of the saplings. Since then, the council has cut a lot of the remaining trees which were growing below the high water mark. Plans are still underway to replace the wooden retaining wall with a concrete wall. Also the garden shed will be taken down and replaced with a bigger shed located above the picnic area. We have plans to bitumen the road and carpark area as per the conditions in our lease with the council. On other days, members have contributed to the maintenance of the club with their own work, in particular I would like to thank Roger Fuss and his wife Robyn. Roger graded and repaired the whole road from the front gate as well as trying to stop the illegal traffic that has been driving around the chain. The toilets were also given a much needed clean up. Thank you Roger and Robyn Also thanks to Craig Clancy who came to the dam with me one day in winter and we spent several hours repairing the slalom course. Thanks must go to those members who put back into the club. That is what makes the club stronger.

Looking to the future, I hope to see more participation by members at meetings. I also think that we have the opportunity to make the most of our web site and mailing list. On the water, we have the facilities and equipment to hold more fun days which help make the club a better one as members get to know each other more. The next year will see major improvements in facilities with the construction of the shed and surfacing of the road. All we need now is about 30 foot of water to dump into the dam to get us started.

Thank you again for your attendance and I look forward to seeing you at the monthly meetings and on the water.