

AGM Annual Report 2024

Guildford Owls JRLFC 28/10/24

The Owls Golden Era Begins

In the future when people look back and ask, “When did Guildford’s Golden Era start”? Many people will mistakenly point to the 2024 season. They might talk about the positive culture of the club; some might point to the inaugural multicultural day and its success. Some haters might deny the success of 2024 by pointing to the 12 forfeits and 98 games missed through wash outs in rounds 2,3,8 and 10. Some will say the golden era began when we achieved a 62% win rate over the entire club - We had 175 wins from 283 completed games in 2024. **Maths don’t lie.**

We won club championship in 2024 we won the junior shield too, but the golden Era started with careful planning years ago. We always knew it was coming – Now everybody knows it. Now we are in it!

Owls don’t sleep

We can’t rest now. We need to keep getting better at getting better. We need to continue balancing the fact that we ARE a nursery for future stars, and we are a place where everyone is welcome. We need to be more professional without losing our superpower of family and community. If ever we need to rely on our values, it is at the start of this era. Family, Respect and a lot more of that special ingredient EFFORT.

Back to the future

As we look to the potential of the future, we must always maintain our links to the past. We have all heard the stories of how successful Guildford teams were in the past. That historical success is a tribute to the deep links this community has to Rugby League.

The next time someone asks, “Do you remember when Guildford was the strongest club, and they used to win all the time?” We can happily answer “Yes I do remember - it was today!”

Bring the challenge we love it

New era brings new challenges. We know all the other clubs are coming for us now. They will all level up when they play us. So, they should give us that respect, and we too will respect our opponents by being prepared enough to beat them. Not just on the field, we will do everything better than they do.

So that is our challenge: to maintain the dominance without forgetting who we are.

Let us all unite and build a Golden Era for the Mighty Guildford Owls.

Committee Candidates

Name	Position
Charlie Abraham	President
Clayton White	Secretary
Peter Sleiman	Treasurer
Sarah White	Registrar <i>(Assistant Secretary)</i>
Jimmy Rizk	Vice President OR Executive member
Monza Elhamdan	Vice President
Siaosi Ngu	Head of Football
Akosita Fililava	Executive Member
Dan Siviero	Executive Member
David Zaiter	Executive Member
Melanie Brown	Executive Member
Mohamed Ghama	Executive Member
Omar Elahmed	Executive Member
Samantha Sleiman	Executive Member

Candidates followed a self-nomination process that involved vetting of candidates by the Board of the leagues club. Above is the approved list of candidates and respective approved positions. As there is a complete list of nominated candidates for each available positions there is no need to call for nominations at this meeting.

The constitution (Sec 8, part b) allows for four titled roles and 8 other members. Whilst HoF and VP have titles, they are constitutionally executive committee members and count toward the 8-person minimum.

Player representative

Our constitution (Part 8 Section B) allows for an elected player representative. This person must be over 18 years of age. The player representative will be invited to committee meetings and may be part of sub committees. The player representative has no voting rights on the committee. **We will call for nominations for the player representative at this meeting.**

Financial Statement

The owls continue to thrive in all areas and financial stability is another area where the club improved in 2024. The key Highlights.

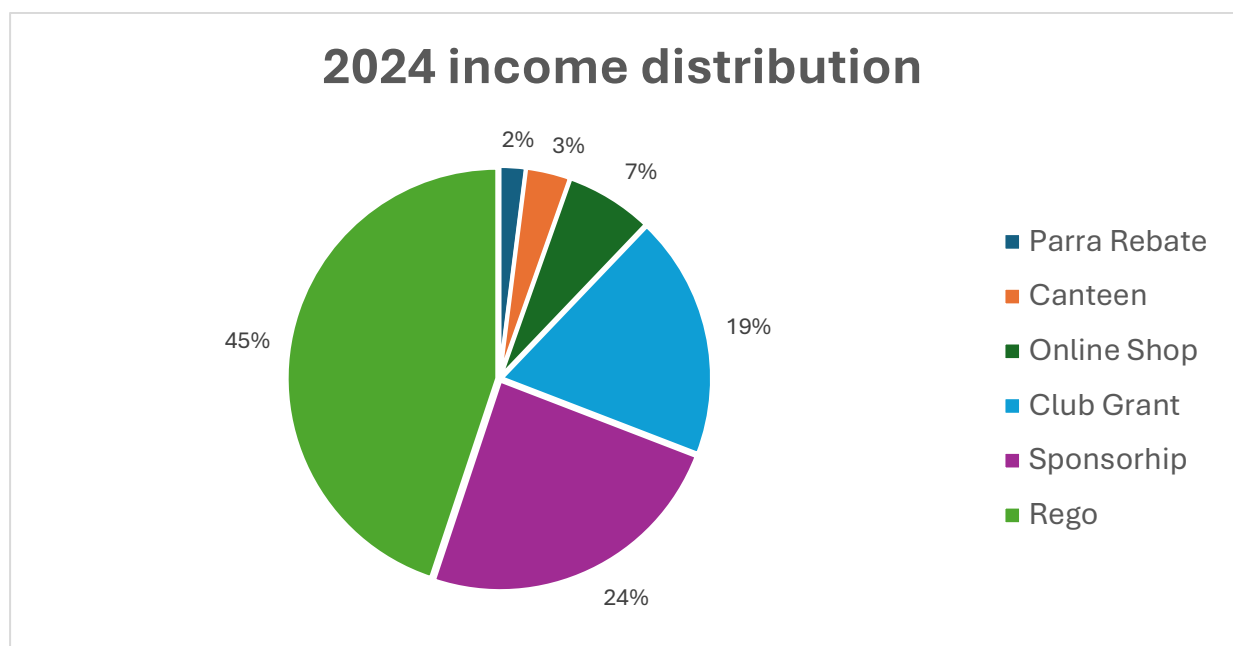
1. Added cost control with expenditure authorisation procedures
2. New major sponsorship of Brydens Lawyers
3. Online store creating cashflow benefits.

The club benefited from cost controls on apparel and the addition of smaller sponsors including National RE and Frankie and Co. The online store was a financial success in its first year. It generated a small cash profit of approximately \$1500.00 not including stock on hand. Maintaining this online channel offers further opportunities for benefiting the club financially. Multicultural day proof of concept for vendors will enable the club to monetise the event moving forward.

2025 estimated opening balance

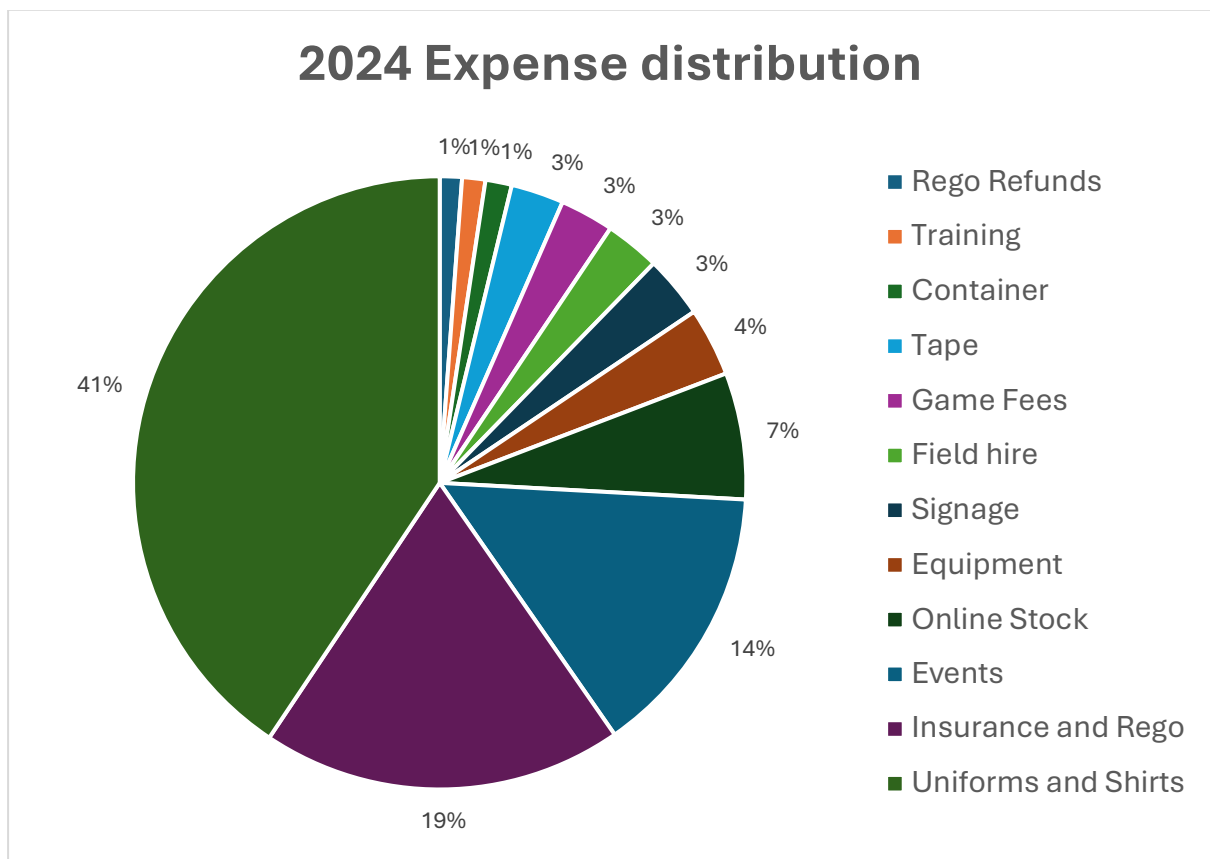
After purchases of 2025 uniforms and scheduled equipment purchases our club is forecast to start 2025 with an opening balance commensurate with a club of our size and stature.

Approx \$15k – \$20k



The graph above shows the proportionate distribution of income streams for junior league in 2024.

- Despite a generous club grant of 37500 our sponsorship income is higher
- 55% of income comes from sources other than rego,
 - Because our rego is comparatively low compared to other clubs
 - Because our level of Sponsorship and Leagues Club support is high



Expenditure patterns changed with player demographic changes in 2024. Tape became an expense category on its own where it used to be part of equipment. We spent just over 5000 on game fees and we paid \$34,237.90 in insurance and affiliation fees to Parra.

Field Hire is a new expense that will be ongoing, one-off expenses in 2024 include the container and field signage for our new sponsors.

The \$11k* for online stock is offset by \$12.8k in online sales

**NB. Jibits and neck gaiters were donated stock.*

General Business

Player Grading

In 2025 all players in a single age group will train together during pre-season until the football sub committee with authority of the head of football has selected players for each division in February or early March. This will be enforced for competitive ages and recommended for other ages.

Parents will receive a welcome email advising them of the grading policy when they register their child. We don't want to surprise them if their child is placed in a different team.

Team and Division selections and grading are final, for competitive age groups. A player selected for a Div 1 team will not have the option to play in Div 2. We need the best players to play in the best teams.

Age Group Rules

Playing up an age group will only be permitted if that player has played that week in their correct age groups. Players may only be added to the squad for a team that is their natural age. This rule has come into effect based on the NSWRL player development framework PDF. This change will have an impact for many of our teams and players. Ultimately this change will make our teams stronger. Player grading will be a crucial activity to ensure a smooth transition for this changer.

Multiple Div 1 Teams

Parra's decision to not play against Canterbury clubs is welcome but will leave the Div 1 competitions short of teams. Parra has floated the idea that clubs like ours enter 2 div 1 teams by spreading the talent across both their Div 1 and Div 2 Teams. They especially mentioned our 2025 under 12's and under 14's. This is not a rule yet, but it might be. Even more reason for our age groups to train together. We need to be ready to adapt, if this becomes a requirement from the league.

Questions?

Sub Committees – We need your help!

There are multiple Sub Committees with delegated authority that need volunteers. Executive committee members will nominate for a subcommittee. The Chair for each subcommittee will provide updates and seek approval for decisions at monthly committee meetings. The chair will appoint non committee members to assist with sub committee activities.

Football Sub Committee

Chaired by the head of football, this sub committee will be responsible for player selection - coach selection – Staff training and any other on field issues. This subcommittee will appoint at least 2 non committee members to help.

Finance Sub Committee

Chaired by the treasurer the finance subcommittee will be responsible for club finances and sponsor relations. The objective of this subcommittee is to attract and retain sponsorship. The treasurer may appoint non committee members to help.

Event Sub Committee

Chaired by the Registrar this committee will be responsible for organising and planning our event calendar. Including Special events like NAIDOC, Multicultural day, Presentation Day and any other promotional event. This sub committee will appoint non committee members on a needs basis.

Culture and Safety Sub Committee

Chaired by the Vice President this subcommittee will own our policies and will determine outcomes for players, parents or spectators who breach them or behave in a way contrary to our values. They will advise players on Judicial matters. This committee will also be responsible for Child Safety and will appoint an MPIO and other safety officers who are non-committee members

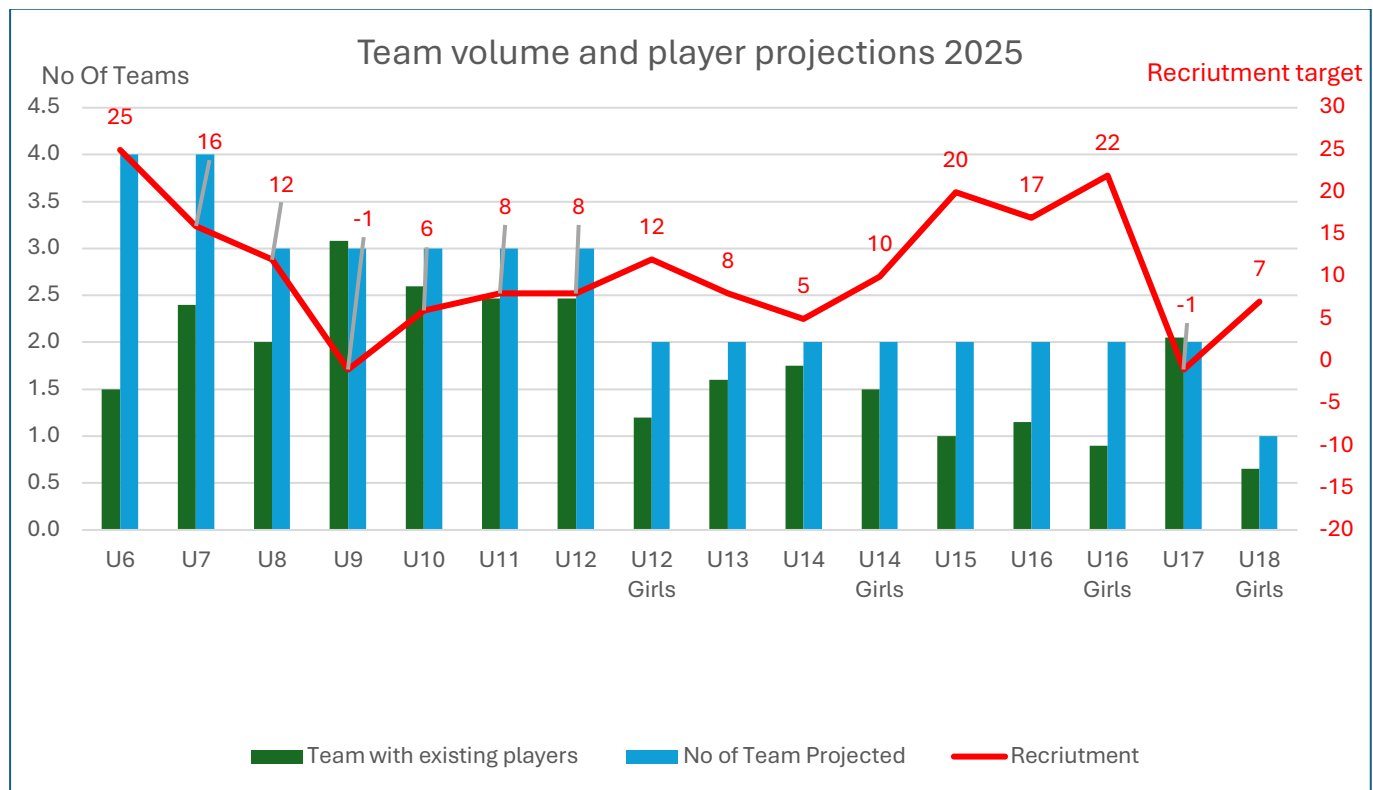
Game Day Sub Committee

Co-Chaired by the President and the Secretary this subcommittee will be responsible for all things game day - setting up fields, team sheets ground managers etc. This sub committee will need plenty of help from non-committee members

We encourage everyone to reach out to a Subcommittee and offer their support and help. This is a way to lean in and help without being part of the executive committee. It is also a necessary method of dividing and delegating the workload

We can't do it without volunteers.

2025 player and team projections



The Chart above shows the projected number of teams and recruitment target areas for the 2025 season. The green line shows 2025 team volumes based on 100% retention of current 2024 players.

If u6 and u7 have 10 players in each team

If u8 and u9 have 12 players in each team

If U10 to U12 have 15 players in each team

And internationals have 20 players in each team.

The red line indicates the age groups requirements for recruitment. We can see that if all the u8 players come back we will have 3 full under 9 teams. It also indicates that under 14 to under 16 boys and girls needs to be a target recruitment area for us. Along with the u6 and u7s – NB *Birth rates dropped in 2019/2020 due to Covid these are the birth years for our 2025 u6s and u7s.*

This projection indicates 40 teams without including u19's and open age groups.

In 2025 we are looking at potentially 44 teams and approximately 730 players.