



# TASMANIAN FIRE BRIGADES CHAMPIONSHIPS ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT'S REPORT  
2017

In 2017 the Tasmanian Fire Brigades Championships Association (TFBCA) continued with the second year of a two-year trial of divisions within the senior section of the Championships. This move has been deemed a success and a recommendation to continue with this format will be forwarded to the Executive Committee beyond 2017.

The Executive Committee elections at the 2017 AGM saw Robert Atkins (Vice President), Bronwyn Rigby and Tony Perry (Executive Members) re-elected for a further two-year period. Shaun West from the Wynyard Brigade joined the Executive Committee taking on the role of Treasurer. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Ben Dick for his efforts in the Treasurer's role since 2012.

Chief Track position elections were conducted for Chief Judge with Robert Atkins elected and Chief Starter with Alwyn Dobson also elected to these important positions. From 2018 there will be elections for deputy roles in the four key track positions to ensure there is some redundancy and also to allow proper succession planning into the future.

Corporate sponsorship was again outstanding in 2017 and we have continued to build our strong ties with a number of Tasmanian and National businesses, which provide tremendous support to our Association and the Championships.

A total of 37 teams enrolled for the 2017 Championships which is the second largest number of teams enrolled since I became President back in 2010. This is a fantastic result and I can only hope that this level of involvement from competitors both senior and junior, parents, partners and families continues to strengthen the Championships into the future.

I have decided not to nominate for the Executive Committee in 2018. After nine years at the helm I believe it's time for someone else to bring some fresh ideas to the Championships, and hopefully continue on with some of the innovations that have been introduced over those nine years.

I believe the Association and the Championships are in a much better position now than compared with 2010. Some of our achievements include:

- The development of a Constitution
- Conducting an AGM and General Meetings
- Ensuring there is an election of office bearers on an alternate basis annually
- Creating Statements of Duties for each recognised position
- Hosting the 2013 Australasian Firefighters Championship
- Creating a Facebook page and a dedicated page on the TFS website
- A dedicated Championships email address and regular newsletters to disseminate information
- The introduction of new and exciting, contemporary events
- Creating senior divisions

Countless hours of planning and logistical work goes into running the annual Championships and again I would like to personally thank the Executive Committee and the many people who selflessly give up their time each year to ensure the event goes according to plan.

It has been a privilege to have been your President and I have enjoyed my time in the role. I have met many new people from Tasmanian brigades as well as some from interstate and overseas, particularly from Vic, NSW, SA and NZ. Some of these people have become life-long friends.

I have been lucky to have been given the opportunity to represent not only the TFBCA but also the TFS at State and Australasian Championships at Tweed Heads, Bendigo, Warrnambool, Echuca, Port Macquarie, Tamworth, Bathurst, Cessnock and finally Carterton in NZ.

I would encourage brigades to get involved with the Championships, if you have juniors this presents a great opportunity for them to learn the basics of practical firefighting and gear handling in a fun and enjoyable setting. For those brigades who are already involved, reach out to your neighboring brigades and offer them some assistance to make it less daunting for them to get involved.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Mark Dobson', written over a thin horizontal line.

District Officer Mark Dobson  
TFBCA President