

MEDIA RELEASE

2024 BASKETBALL ACT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) CREATES HISTORY

Basketball ACT made history at their Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Tuesday 27 February 2024, at Canberra Southern Cross Club, Woden, with the election of Michelle Hocking to the position of President.

Ms Hocking, who has had a long association with basketball in the nation's capital, claimed the role of President in a unanimous decision, to become only the second female President of basketball in the ACT, and the first one in 30 years, following in the footsteps of Life Member Ros Roberts. The appointment also means that it is the first time in history that a female President and female Chief Executive Officer (CEO) will lead the future of basketball in the ACT.

Ms Hocking - a former Canberra Capitals and ACT representative coach, chair of the BACT High Performance Committee, WNBL Council member and long-time BACT Director – assumes the role from Allan Yates, said on her appointment as President, "I'm really excited to step into the role as we celebrate 75 years of basketball in the ACT. I am honoured to have been entrusted with the responsibility of President and look forward to working with the Board, management and the basketball community. I wish to acknowledge and thank Allan Yates for his leadership over the last six years as President and more broadly his contribution to the sport over many decades."

"Basketball ACT is in a great position on and off the court. This is credit to the dedication and hard work of our clubs, schools, volunteers, partners, Basketball ACT management, staff and Board. I'm confident that we are well placed to continue to build on our past success, meet future challenges and achieve our goals.", Hocking said.

"Basketball is experiencing unprecedented growth across all areas of operation and progressing our facilities strategy is critically important. The expansion of the Belconnen Basketball Stadium for own competitions and programs, and increasing clubs access to fit for purpose training facilities are the priority. At the end of this year we will review our strategic plan and take a look at our operating model to ensure that we are able to respond to future needs, changes and growth in our sport at the local and national level."

When discussing Ms Hocking's election to President of the Board, Nicole Bowles, Basketball ACT CEO, said "Michelle's knowledge and on-going commitment to the game of basketball, in the ACT has long been one to admire, and for Michelle to take on the Presidency of the BACT Board presents a really exciting, and historic, opportunity for our organisation. I look forward to working closely with Michelle and the Board to ensure the sustainable growth of our game in the region."

Both Basketball ACT President, Michelle Hocking and Chief Executive Officer, Nicole Bowles are available for interview.

For further information, or interview requests, please contact BACT Communications and Commercial Manager, David Lane at david.lane@basketballact.com.au or (02) 6189-0709.

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