



# Annual Report 2022-2023

# CHAIRPERSON'S Report



**As we approach the end of another remarkable year, I find myself reflecting on the journey we've travelled together and the milestones we've achieved. It is both an honour and a bittersweet moment for me as I share updates and bid farewell to a role that has been incredibly fulfilling.**

I am pleased to report significant strides in our financial landscape over the past year. We were successfully awarded a new, multi-year Inclusive Sports Grant from the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries. This competitive grant will help us fulfil our commitment to expand sport and recreation opportunities for Western Australians with physical disabilities. Through this grant, we will provide tools for sports clubs, including Geraldton-based clubs, to learn how to support and engage youth with ambulant disabilities.

Additionally, I am pleased to announce that we completed the sale of the Osborne Park property, a strategic move that aligns with our vision for a sustainable future. The proceeds from this sale will ensure the long-term financial health of Rebound WA while helping us take steps towards realising a Clubhouse for our members, a cornerstone of our strategic plan. The clubhouse remains a focal point of our aspirations, and I am confident in the strides we will continue to make in the coming years.

As I look back on the past five years serving as Board Chair and eight years as a Board Member, I am filled with gratitude for the collective efforts and dedication of our community. Together, we have navigated challenges, celebrated triumphs, and laid the foundation for a future where Rebound WA is synonymous with helping Western Australians with physical disabilities stay active, promoting para sports, and celebrating member activities and achievements.

Throughout my time with Rebound WA, I am honoured to have witnessed the impact of our programs on the lives of individuals with physical disabilities, and I am proud of the progress we have made in advancing participation in sports and recreation. While I bid farewell to my role as Chair, I remain a steadfast supporter of Rebound WA and its mission.

I would like to thank the Rebound WA CEO, Simon Mead, and all of the staff for their commitment to improving the lives of people with a physical disability, by providing an increasing range of sport and recreation opportunities. Under Simon's leadership we have seen new initiatives, such as the para sports festival, important relationship develop with our partners, including Telethon, and a focus on developing the impact for members and potential members.

I extend my deepest gratitude to each and every one of our Rebound WA Members for your unwavering support and commitment to the vision of Rebound WA. Our journey together has been nothing short of extraordinary, and I am excited to witness Rebound WA's achievements that lie ahead.

Wishing you all continued success and fulfilment on this remarkable journey.

*Simon Hardbottle*

**Simon Hardbottle**  
Chairperson

# CEO 'sReport

**Over the past year, our focus has centred on promoting and celebrating adaptive sports and our valued members.**

A LotteryWest Grant, supercharged our recovery from the isolation of the pandemic, enabling us to conduct unprecedented levels of outreach through disability expos, hospital visits, and provider presentations. The grant also fuelled the success of our four-month Rebound WA Mentorship program and monthly Get Active Social Clubs, where members gathered to share pizzas and casually explore activities from para badminton to a special Christmas Axe Throwing event.

Additionally, throughout the year, new and existing members were able to get active and develop informal mentorships and friendships with our thriving Wheelchair Basketball, Wheelchair Rugby, Whiz Kidz, and Spinners Youth Active programs.

Building upon last year's partnership with Athletics West FrameRunning initiative, we loaned 8 new FrameRunners to enable more West Australians with physical disabilities to explore athletics. Additionally, a recent grant from the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries deepened our collaboration with Athletics West and initiated partnerships with Swimming WA. We've also expanded our reach to Geraldton with support from the accessible recreation-focused organization, Atlas. This grant will help sport clubs keep kids with ambulant disabilities engaged. In the forthcoming year, we will continue to focus on collaborations to advance sport opportunities to Western Australians with physical disabilities.

Seizing every opportunity to promote our members and para sports, our Wheel Life program, a disability awareness-through-wheelchair basketball initiative, continues to be booked out by schools, workplaces, and community groups. The Para Sport Festival, the crown jewel of our promotion efforts, invites the public to explore Para sports by engaging with local adaptive sport organisations,



cheering on competitive games, and trying out wheelchair sports. Looking ahead, we aim to expand the Rebound WA Para Sports Festival into an iconic Perth event that elevates local organizations and engages the broader community with para sports.

This year's Telethon Family Festival activation was a resounding success, with many members showing up to support our demonstration games and cheer on our Whiz Kidz in their wheelchair basketball game against celebrities. Thanks to Telethon 7's live streaming and the loud support of the Rebound WA team, our young members felt like stars, earning a spot in the West Australian's Top 10 Telethon moments.

The successes of the year is the culmination of a deliberate strategy to uplift adaptive sports and showcase the achievements of our membership. With renewed focus, in this forthcoming year, we will continue to strive to centre our Members while we advance and expand participation opportunities for Western Australians with physical disabilities.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Simon Mead".

**Simon Mead**  
CEO

# Our ORGANISATION

Rebound WA is a charitable association to enhance the lives of Western Australians with a physical disability through sport and recreation opportunities and access to a like-minded community.

Our vision is to be the place that provides Western Australians with a physical disability the opportunity to live a more connected, engaged, and active lifestyle.



115  
Wheelchair  
basketball games



51  
Wheelchair basketball  
players with disabilities



47  
Wheelchair  
rugby games



6  
Come and  
try events



150+  
Health providers  
reached during  
presentations



3,500+  
People attended 80  
Wheel Life Disability  
Education sessions



10  
Families of kids with  
disabilities attended  
Family Camp



# Our MEMBERS

**Growing up in Queensland and Western Australia, Robert Petersen was very active and his main sports were basketball, AFL, and pool. At twenty years old, Rob was involved in a car accident that fractured his T4 and T5 vertebrae, resulting in paraplegia.**

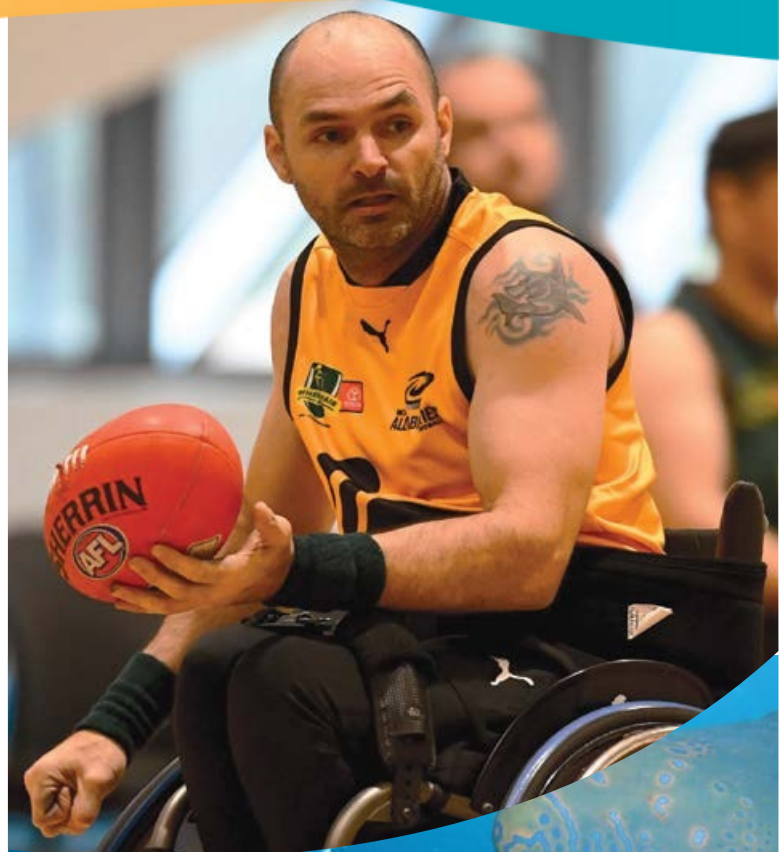
Living outside of cities, without access to adaptive sports, Rob focused on playing competitive pool. A scuba instructor friend taught him to dive and he achieved an advanced open water dive certificate. He has dived in many places around Australia including the Great Barrier Reef, snorkeled beside whale sharks in Exmouth, and swam with sea lions in Green Head.

17 years after the accident, Rob relocated to Germany and had his first adaptive sport experience. He joined a wheelchair basketball club, trained hard, and played for a season at the highest national level in Germany. One evening, he stumbled into a Wheelchair AFL video on Youtube, and vowed to try it.

In 2022, upon his return to Western Australia, Rob became a Rebound WA member and joined the weekly wheelchair basketball social league. Every Monday evening, Rob treks up to Mirrabooka from Rockingham for as much wheelchair basketball court time as possible.

In addition to Wheelchair Basketball, Rebound WA connected Rob with para canoe and his goal – Wheelchair AFL. At one of the Rebound WA Get Active Social Club sessions, Rob tried Wheelchair AFL and met an All Abilities Football staff member. The next week, he joined the Perth Demons Wheelchair AFL team. Four weeks later, Rob joined the first Western Australian Wheelchair AFL team to go to Nationals and he made history by scoring the first goal for WA!

Rob knows firsthand that competitive para sports and adaptive recreation provide important opportunities for those with disabilities to



“get involved in the community, interact with others, build relationships, grow confidence and simply have some fun.”

His hope is that more adaptive sports can expand beyond metropolitan Perth, so those living in regional areas, including Rockingham, can also enjoy the benefits of adaptive recreation and sport.

When not playing wheelchair Basketball or Wheelchair AFL, you can find Rob staying active riding quad bikes, hunting, playing table tennis, darts, mini golf, hand cycling, swimming, 10 pin bowling, lawn bowls, archery and camping. In the coming year, he hopes to venture into para golf, para ice hockey, and skydiving.

# Our ACTIVITIES

**Rebound WA programs and activities play a pivotal role in fostering a sense of community among active Western Australians with physical disabilities.**

Sport and recreation are pathways to developing a sense of belonging and maintaining good mental health. For those with physical disabilities, adaptive sports provide not only the physical and social benefits of sport, but a rare opportunity to connect with others who have physical disability.

Empowered by LotteryWest Grant to facilitate connections, we initiated a monthly Get Active Social Group. These casual evenings started with a pizza and provided a relaxed setting for members, especially newcomers, meet other members and explore a new activity. We collaborated with organisations to introduce members to para badminton, Wheelchair AFL, Ultimate Frisbee, Floorball, and Axe-throwing. Additionally, our formal Rebound WA mentorship program was launched, pairing members to support each other in achieving their active and life goals.

Rebound WA's diverse activities and programs, members of all ages have the opportunity to engage with peers who have physical disabilities, creating an environment ripe for informal mentorships.

These programs foster a supportive and active community that can develop into lifelong friendships and important support systems.

Our Whiz Kidz, Family Camp, and Spinners Youth Active programs, provide children and youth with physical disabilities with a unique opportunity to connect with others. These programs foster a supportive and active community that can develop into lifelong friendships and important support systems.

For adult Members, we continue to provide a range of opportunities to develop informal mentorship. Strong team bonds are forged during our weekly Wheelchair Rugby and Wheelchair Basketball Games. Friendly bonds are forged during our fishing trips and playing in our wheelchair sport demos such as at the City Showcase, Telethon Family Festival, and the Rebound WA Para Sport Festival. These regular activities not only brings Western can be key for Members who are new to disability, or recently moved to Perth, to find a community that fully accepts and gets disability.

Rebound WA programs and activities provide opportunities for Western Australians with physical disabilities to get active together. By providing regular moments for check-ins, sharing tips, and connection around community issues, they also help develop a sense of belonging.



# Our PEOPLE

## Our Board

### **Simon Hardbottle, Chairperson**

**Board member since 2016 and Chair since 2019**

Simon first became involved with Rebound WA through his daughter's attendance in the Whiz Kids program.

Simon is a strategic business leader with strong analytical skills, commercial acumen, business improvement, transformation capability, risk identification and management skills.

Simon commenced his career in Finance and has held senior executive roles in Finance, Operations and Technology, with companies including Wilson Group, Programmed, Skilled Group, Rib Loc and Sigma.

Simon has completed a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Adelaide, a Master of Business Administration from the University of South Australia and is a Certified Practising Accountant. Simon is an experienced executive and brings to the Board valuable skills in achieving strategic and operational outcomes.

Simon is a fellow of CPA Australia and a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

### **Edoardo Argento, Treasurer**

**Board member since 2018**

Edoardo graduated from the University of Western Australia with a Bachelor of Commerce (Finance and Economics Degree) in 2016, and has been working as a Consultant at Mainsheet Capital, a corporate advisory and Management Consulting firm, after graduation.

In seven years at Mainsheet, Edoardo worked on and managed a number of consulting and M&A projects across a range of industries such as resources, aged and disability care, mining services and financial services.

Edoardo is also a Director of a small commercial cleaning business, where he manages the finances and accounts for the business. During University, Edoardo worked for the Perth Wildcats for five years as a casual staff member, was a Basketball coach at Scotch College and worked at Subiaco Oval for three years.

### **Suzanne Perry, Vice Chair**

**Board member since July 2019**

Suzanne was a General Manager for the Rottnest Island Authority from 2012 to 2017 and now works for the PACT group as their Marketing & Innovations Manager. Suzanne brings to the Board strong skills in the areas of business strategy and development and commercialisation and marketing.

### **Karen Harvey, Director**

**Board member since October 2019**

Karen has 27 years of lived disability because of a car accident.

Her experience has been in the area of presenting and tutoring. She worked as a tutor with people with a brain injury and taught computer and communication skills for six years in New Zealand. Karen holds a diploma in Training and Assessment.

Also a keen water skier, Karen's history with disabled sports has been winning a bronze medal at an international fespics games in China and more recently, three-time Australian H4 handcycling champion.

Karen is the Founder and Chairperson for Spinal Chatter Inc, Injury prevention presenter for PBF and Peer support officer for Spinal Life.

She enjoys being a part of Rebound WA, networking with like-minded people and providing a unique perspective from a disabled person with many years lived experience.



### **Aaron Camm, Director**

#### **Board member since July 2021**

Aaron has been a member of Rebound WA for 17 years. He started his sporting career in Swimming before moving to Wheelchair Rugby where he has represented the West Coast Enforcers since 2012, including captaining the side to a Division 2 National Championship in 2021.

Aaron also co-hosted Spoked on 91.3 SportFM for many years that provided coverage to disability sport on the airwaves.

Professionally Aaron works in the Financial Advice Industry currently working for Viridian Advisory. He has previously worked for the Commonwealth Bank. He has a Bachelor of Business majoring in Economics and a Graduate Diploma in Financial Planning.

Aaron enjoys working on the board and making a positive impact on an organisation that has given him so much support over the years.





# THANK YOU to our supporters

**In order for Rebound WA to successfully deliver programs and activities to our members, we greatly depend on the support of our partners and supporters. Through them, we are able to make a meaningful impact in our members' lives.**

New equipment is crucial in our mission to expand sport and recreation opportunities for our members and other Western Australians with physical disabilities.

This past year, Telethon provided a beach wheelchair to enable our young members to enjoy beach days and holiday adventures. With its big wheels, the Hippocampe beach wheelchair glides over sand, and can go into the water. Switch over to the all terrain wheels to take it on bushwalks. We also received 8 FrameRunners from Ascot Capital Limited, expanding the popular Athletics West frame running program.

Continued support for our other programs means that our programs have a chance to thrive. This results in more accessible opportunities for all Western Australians living with physical disability.

- All Teams that participated in our City Showcase
- All participants of the Wheelchair Challenge
- All schools, organisations, and companies who participated in the Wheel Life Sessions
- Ascot Capital Limited
- At Home Care
- Bendat Basketball Centre
- Break the Boundary
- Brookfield Properties
- Carbine Club of WA
- City of Perth
- Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

- Development WA
- Fiona Stanley Hospital
- Freedom Motors Australia
- Fremantle Foundation
- Fremantle Sailing Club
- FTT group
- Healthway
- Hollister
- Honda Foundation
- Impact Services Pty Ltd
- ISPA Handa
- LotteryWest
- Murdoch University
- Net24
- Perth Children's Hospital
- Shoe Café

- Telethon
- Telethon Community Cinemas
- The Oliver Charitable Foundation
- Stan Perron Charitable Foundation
- WA All Abilities Football Association
- WA Government
- WA Opposition
- Wheelchair Sports South West
- Wild West Wheelchairs
- Yagan Square



Department of  
**Local Government, Sport  
and Cultural Industries**

# FINANCIALS

## Statement of Financial Position

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current Assets	2803	3,420
Non-Current Assets	1491	994
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>4294</b>	<b>4,414</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Current liabilities	381	425
Non-current liabilities	276	28
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>657</b>	<b>453</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>3637</b>	<b>3961</b>

## Statement of Financial Performance

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
<b>INCOME</b>		
Donations	187	443
Grants	785	607
Gain on disposal of building	411	-
Other income	211	313
<b>Total income</b>	<b>1594</b>	<b>1363</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Employee entitlements	906	737
Programs, services, and administration	541	543
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<b>1447</b>	<b>1280</b>
<b>NET (DEFICIT)/SURPLUS</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>83</b>



# Rebound WA

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