



Nepalese Association of Queensland Inc.
क्वीन्सल्याण्ड नेपाली समाज

Nepalese Association of Queensland Inc.

Nepalese Association of Queensland Inc. (NAQ) is a not-for-profit community organization based in Brisbane, Australia. Established in 2006, its main objectives are to promote the interest of the emerging Nepalese community in Queensland and to promote friendship between the people of Nepal and Australia. NAQ aims to:

1. promote goodwill and co-operation amongst people of Nepalese origin residing in Australia;
2. provide guidance to new arrivals in Queensland whenever possible;
3. preserve and promote Nepalese culture and tradition;
4. foster friendship with broader Australian community and other community groups;
5. pursue mutual co-operation and support with other similar organizations;
6. assist in strengthening social and cultural ties between Nepal and Australia;
7. Offer informal professional advice to the Nepalese community in Australia;
8. create a forum to discuss contemporary issues facing the community.

To meet its objectives NAQ organizes different events, mobilizes necessary resources and contributes to various activities during the year.

1. **Promotion of Nepalese culture and traditions:** NAQ manages significant cultural programs, leads new initiatives (e.g. Nepalese Language & Culture Centre, Brisbane – Nepali Pathasala) and participates in cultural events organized by other groups.
2. **Guidance and assistance to new arrivals in Queensland:** NAQ provides the following services.
 - Guidance and assistance to new migrants and Nepalese students
 - Assistance with accommodation
 - Provides information on health insurance, taxation laws, rental rights
 - Provides moral and financial support during crisis such as road accidents, fatalities and severe illness
3. **Promotion of goodwill and co-operation amongst members of the Nepalese communities:** NAQ organizes various social/cultural and sporting activities on a regular basis throughout the year as per its calendar of events:
 - Social/Cultural events such as Nepalese New Year and Dashain/Tihar celebrations
 - Sporting events – regular soccer and cricket games, soccer, table tennis, tennis, badminton tournaments
4. **Facilitation of communication and networking amongst its members:** Members of the community can be reached through NAQ website and email lists. NAQ is also assisting the running of Nepalese Radio Program.

A list of the key activities conducted by NAQ during the current term 2011/12 is briefly presented in the following table.

S. N.	Activity/Event	Date	Description/Status
1	Social/Cultural Activities		
	<i>Thanks to all the volunteers who tirelessly contributed their time and effort and all the sponsors to make each and every event a successful one.</i>		
1.1	Deep Shrestha Sanjh (Live Concert)	19 November 2011	NAQ organized this live concert which provided once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to witness Deep Shrestha - a legend of Nepalese music - perform live and to enjoy his golden voice and popular melodies. About 150 people attended the event held in the Serbian Hall, Brisbane. Special thanks to Dhiren Thapa and Ashok Shrestha for coordination.
1.2	Nepathya Band Live Concert	05 April 2012	<p>The event "<i>Nepathya</i> Australia Tour 2012, Brisbane" was organized as a part of celebrating the Nepalese New Year 2069 BS. <i>Nepathya</i> has been a popular Nepalese music band for the past two decades who have set trends and pioneered the blend of folk melodies into youth friendly pop and rock music. <i>Nepathya</i>'s songs portray contemporary Nepal and its rich history and honest and diverse demography.</p> <p>More than 400 people attended the event held at the Princess Theatre in Woolloongabba, Brisbane. This was the biggest crowd for a single musical event recorded in Brisbane so far. Special thanks to Ishwor Kuinkel for coordination and the Nepalese Cricket Club Brisbane (NCCB) for serving the Nepalese food at the event.</p>
1.3	Sotang Sanjh (Live Concert)	21 April 2012	NAQ organised the "Uday and Manila Sotang Sanjh" as a family event. About 100 people attended the event organised at the Mitchelton Senior Citizens Club Hall in Mitchelton. Special thanks to Kamal Gurung for coordination.
1.4	NAFA New Year Celebration	12 May 2012	Nepal Australia Friendship Association (NAFA) organizes a fund raising event to celebrate the Nepalese New Year every year. NAQ Inc. has been supporting NAFA in the event since its establishment by organizing a cultural program involving members of local Nepalese community. NAQ again supported the event this year which was organised at the Merrimac Hall, Annerley, Brisbane.

1.5	NAFA: Nepal in the Park	9 September 2012	Nepal Australia Friendship Association (NAFA) organizes this annual fund raising event at Mt Cootha in Brisbane to support its charity projects in Nepal. The event includes many attractions and NAQ Inc. has been supporting NAFA by serving authentic Nepalese food and organizing a small cultural program involving members of local Nepalese community. NAQ again supported the event this year with revenues generated from the proceedings going to NAFA.
1.6	Teej Festival Celebration	16 September 2012	This event is celebrated mainly by the Nepalese women. NAQ organized this event which was held in Woolloongabba, Brisbane and attracted about 70 participants.
1.7	Dashain/Tihar Celebration	03 November 2012	Dashain and Tihar are the biggest festivals for Nepalese people. Every year, NAQ organizes a significant function to celebrate the event in Brisbane. Annual General Meeting of NAQ and election of new Executive Committee are also held at the same time. The program includes Nepalese dinner and entertainment program. This year, the event is being organized at the Mitchelton Senior Citizens Club Hall in Brisbane and is expected to be attended by around 250 community members, including invited guests representing broader Australian community. Special thanks to the Multicultural Affairs Queensland (Queensland Government) for the financial grant to support the event. Also special thanks to all the performers and participants of the cultural program.

2 Sports Events

Special thanks to the NAQ sports sub-committee members (i.e. Saroj Bajracharya, Padam Rai, Kamal Gurung, Swasti Shrestha, Hari Khadka, Badri Karki, Amit Lohani, Sharan Bhatta, and Sunil Thapa Maga) who organized all the sports events. Thanks also to Keshab Sharma and Narayan Koirala and numerous sponsors for support throughout the year.

2.1	Junior (30-) and Senior (30+) Soccer Matches	10 December 2011	The event was organized as a family fun day at the New Farm Park in Brisbane. The event was well attended by some 60 members of the community.
2.2	Sagarmatha Tennis Competition	5 February 2012	There was an overwhelming participation for this event this year with some 70 people attending. The winner, 1 st and 2 nd runner-ups were: <i>men's category</i> : Anup Gurung, Sunil KC and Ashwin Koirala; <i>women's category</i> : Rani Lama, Neha Pandeya and Nirmala Pandeya; and <i>children's category</i> : Yash Bajracharya, Krishna Yadav and Sarthak Shrestha.
2.3	Sagarmatha Cricket Match	19 February 2012	This event was organised at Tinglapa Cricket Ground. There were two matches played. North vs South Softball Match (South team won by 28 runs) and 20-20 Cricket Match - NCCB Team 1 and 2 (Team 1 won by 8 wickets). Saurab Pokharel from South team and Badri Poudel from Team 1 were men of the matches. More than 100 people attended this event.
2.4	ANZAC Family Day	25 April 2012	More than 100 people attended this popular annual event to celebrate ANZAC family day and soccer match. Two soccer matches were held: the 1 st was Senior North vs Senior South (North team won by 5-2 goals). The man of the match was Deepak Regmi and top goal scorer was Sarthak Shrestha. The 2 nd match was Northern Tigers vs Southern Lions. (South team won by 4-3 goals). The man of the match was Tendu Sherpa and top goal scorer was Samir Thapa. The day also included volley ball games, fun games for kids and adults such as tug of war, sack races, three legged races, hit the win bottles and of course Nepalese food.
2.5	Sagarmatha Table Tennis Competition	24 June 2012	This year, about 80 people attended this popular annual event which was organised at the Table Tennis Assoc. Centre, Windsor. The winners, 1 st and 2 nd runner-ups were: <i>men's category</i> : Achut Singh, Santosh Godar and Shailendra Gurung; <i>women's category</i> : Amita Bajracharya, Pali Singh and Ritu Singh; and <i>children's category</i> : Swarnim Shrestha, Srilok Rajbhandari and Sean Walker.

2.6	Friendly Cricket Match	22 July 2012	This event was organised jointly by NAQ and Nepalese Cricket Club Brisbane (NCCB) prior to the visit of Nepalese national team to participate in the ICC U19-World cup cricket in order to provide the community members an opportunity to know more about this cricket world cup and the Nepalese national team. A friendly match was played between North and South teams. North team won by 65 runs. The man of the match was Sanjeev Sharma. A cricket match for women was also held for the first time. Among 15 participants, the best batswoman was awarded to Amita Bajracharya. About 90 people attended this event.
2.7	Sagarmatha Badminton Competition	29 September 2012	The first ever badminton tournament organised by NAQ was attended by more than 70 people. There were 26 players in men, 12 in women and 15 pairs in mixed double categories. The winner, 1 st and 2 nd runner- ups were: <i>men's category</i> : Deepak Regmi, Abhimanyu KC and Sanjeev Sharma; <i>women's category</i> : Menuka KC Koiri, Amita Bajracharya and Anita Adhikary Ale; and <i>mixed double category</i> : Purna Gurung & Kumari Gurung and Deepak Regmi & Manisha Sharma Regmi (Joint Winners) and Krishna Rai & Priya Rai (2 nd runner-up).
2.8	Dashain and Tihar Sports Event	20 October 2012	This annual event is organised as a family fun day and enjoyed with recreational and sports activities and Nepalese food. This year the event was organised at New Farm Park and the popular Khasi Soccer Match was played between the teams led by Hari Khadka and Swasti Shrestha. The team led by Hari Khadka won by 6-3 goals. There were also men's and women's volleyball matches. In women's volleyball match, the team led by Kumari Gurung won 3-2 by defeating the team led by Anita Adhikary Ale. In men's volleyball matches, the team Manaslu led by Sharan Bhatta won this year's trophy. The other three teams were Sagarmatha, Dhaulagiri and GFC led by Kamal Gurung, Jeet B. Ale and Sunil Thapa Magar respectively. About 100 people attended the event which also included fun games for kids and adults and raffle prizes.

3 Special Initiatives and Activities			
3.1	Emergency Appeal - Arjun Mishra	March 2012	NAQ carried out an emergency appeal to the community members who generously contributed funds towards supporting Mr Arjun Mishra, a Nepalese studying in Brisbane who was suffering from life threatening illness and faced severe financial hardship.
3.2	Nepalese Language & Culture Centre, Brisbane	15 July 2012-	<p>This is a significant new initiative of NAQ. Starting with an initial concept, community survey and a grant application for support, NAQ did extensive planning and preparatory work (e.g. governance, policy and procedures, etc) in early 2012 leading to the establishment and operation of the Nepalese Language & Culture Centre, Brisbane (NLCCB – <i>Nepali Pathasala</i>) on 15 July 2012. NLCCB is a non-profit, volunteer-driven community centre that works for the benefit of the children of the Nepalese community in Brisbane and provides a forum for learning and promoting Nepalese language and culture. The Centre is run by a Management Committee comprising of teachers, parents and volunteers and a Centre Director. Currently, there are 27 students (4-14 years old) arranged in two classes which are run every fortnight on Sundays at 160 Ann Street, Brisbane in the premises of Central Queensland University.</p> <p><i>Special thanks to the Multicultural Affairs Queensland (Queensland Government) for the financial grant, Bankwest, Central Queensland University, teachers and numerous community volunteers for their support and contribution. Please see www.naq.org.au for further information.</i></p>
3.3	Mana and Rajani Ranjit Endowment Fund	August 2012	NAQ established the Mana & Ranjit Endowment Fund (donated by Mana and Rajani Ranjit) to sponsor the High School Excellence Award every year as recommended by the NAQ Award Committee.

3.4	NAQ Membership Drive	2012	<p>Throughout 2012, NAQ actively held the membership drive (for new and renewals) to increase its membership base. As a result, there are currently 255 financial members (including 55 student members) compared to 213 last year (2011).</p> <p>The membership database has also been cleaned up, with every financial member now having a unique membership ID number which will remain same in the future.</p>
3.5	New NAQ Web Page	October 2012	<p>NAQ has recently upgraded its web page to new server and its re-design is currently underway to make it user friendly and up to date with new features.</p>
3.6	New Email System	October 2012	<p>The 'everyone' e-mail list has recently been moved to a new email system which has improved features and no limit on the maximum number of emails (unlike the previous email system which had limited capacity and several technical issues to deal with). The 'everyone' e-mail list has also been cleaned up.</p>
3.7	Miscellaneous		<p>NAQ was also involved in other operational activities (including some outstanding from previous year such as NDC 2068, community hall etc.)</p>

Financial Statement						
as of 31 October 2012						
		<i>Opening Balance (as of Oct 11)</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expense</i>	<i>Balance (as of 31 October 2012)</i>	<i>Comment</i>
Operational, Social and Cultural						
Membership			3,760.00	0.00	3,760.00	
Interest			268.70	0.00	268.70	
Insurance			96.11	1,766.21	-1,670.10	
Other Misc			20.00	122.50	-102.50	
Web Page and Email			0.00	342.18	-342.18	
Advertising			115.00	0.00	115.00	
NAFA New Year Program			0.00	247.70	-247.70	
NAFA School Project			151.00	151.00	0.00	
Support to Arjun Mishap			1,560.00	1,530.00	30.00	Transfer to Emergency Fund
Deep Shrestha Sanjh			1,653.00	1,453.00	200.00	
Nepathya Concert			13,542.55	13,452.74	89.81	
Uday and Manila Sotang Sanjh			3,393.50	3,421.85	-28.35	
Dasain and Tihar Program			2,250.00	1,182.00	1,068.00	Not Finalised yet
Multicultural 2011 *			0.00	63.78	-63.78	Conducted by previous EC
Subtotal		15,909.21	26,809.86	23,732.96	18,986.11	
Sports						
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Friendly Cricket Match			617.00	297.00	320.00	
Sagarmatha Cricket Match			592.00	319.50	272.50	
Badminton Competition			815.00	654.00	161.00	
Kahshi Soccer Match			1,430.00	468.00	962.00	
Table Tennis Competition			815.00	505.50	309.50	
Tennis Competition			520.20	430.15	90.05	
Anzac Family Day			1,027.00	394.80	632.20	
<30 & >30 Soccer Match			240.50	98.50	142.00	
U 19 Visit			776.00	776.00	0.00	
Subtotal		675.47	6,832.70	3,943.45	3,564.72	
Nepalese Dance Competition *		148.47	1,115.00	1,338.00	-74.53	Conducted by previous EC
Emergency Fund		3,309.95	0.00	0.00	3,309.95	
Community Hall		1,586.25	234.00	0.00	1,820.25	
Mana Ranjit Endowment fund			2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00	
Nepali Pathshala			5,555.00	1,262.01	4,292.99	Ongoing Activity
Total		21,629.35	42,546.56	30,276.42	33,899.49	