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MEETING OF THE EASTERN SUBURBS FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Wednesday 20 April, 2016 at 7.00pm, ESFA Office, Eastgardens
(Mtg 5/16)**

MINUTES

Attendance: Sean Fenton, Mark Puterflam, John Clayton, Jaleh Shafie, Tom Adam, Andrew Field, Paul Kelly, Aaron Dibdin

The meeting opened at 7.00pm.

5/16.1 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

5/16.2 MINUTES OF BOARD MEETINGS 3/16 & 4/16 & MATTERS ARISING

5/16.2.1 Consideration of minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes of the previous meetings.

Motion: That the minutes from meeting 03/16 are taken to be a true and correct record.

Moved: Tom

Seconded: John

CARRIED

Motion: That the minutes from meeting 04/16 are taken to be a true and correct record.

Moved: Paul

Seconded: John

CARRIED

5/16.2.2 Business arising from the minutes

The action items were reviewed and updated.

The Board noted that a number of items were falling overdue.

5/16.3 REPORTS

5/16.3.1 President's Report

The President made a brief report, noting that the previous few weeks had been difficult for the Association and for the clubs.

The President noted that it had been draining to be having some of the same old fights that we would have thought would already have been settled, but that we would get on with the year ahead.

5/16.3.2 Financial Report

The Board reviewed the financial report.

The Treasurer asked the General Manager to examine the possibility of revising invoice timings in future seasons to ensure that we do not have clubs not paying as a result of not having yet received sufficient fees to pay.

The Board also asked the General Manager to press clubs with outstanding invoices for payment.

5/16.3.3 Other Reports

5/16.3.3.1 Referees

Paul reported on the struggle to get the number of referees required to get a level of coverage that is seen as acceptable by the football community.

Jaleh noted that it was a specific complaint of the Senior Football Management Committee that coverage was inadequate.

Aaron noted that despite the growth in player numbers (and resulting increase in games) and the struggle to recruit and retain referees, coverage was still at similar levels to past years.

Paul reported that the Referees' Branch is working hard to ascertain why referees drop off, and how to work on keeping them, as well as issues with recruitment.

The Board discussed a range of ideas, noting that the Referees' Branch had offered four courses and run three, with another course aimed directly at ESFA clubs with incentives for players to sign up as referees not able to proceed due to lack of interest.

5/16.3.3.2 Judiciary

John reported that ESFA needs to consider recruiting additional volunteers to serve on Judiciary panels.

Sean stated that he's supportive of approaching clubs to seek volunteers to help us have a deep roster – panelists might only serve once or twice a year, making the task less onerous.

5/16.3.3.3 MiniRoos

John reported that he attended the MiniRoos council meeting in lieu of a MiniRoos Director.

The meeting was well-attended and well-run, despite starting late. Conducted regrading for 190-odd teams and worked through issues according to the agenda.

The meeting discussed included whether U12s should be 9v9 in 2017, with the consensus being that the Association should canvass other associations and Football NSW to see what they plan to do.

The meeting also discussed whether the retreat rule should be amended. John noted that whilst the competition rules used to include rules for MiniRoos, they no longer do, so there is a need for the Association to adopt a set of rules for MiniRoos.

There is a standing issue of Easts not wanting referees to be allocated to their games in U10/U11, with complaints about both quality and coverage.

The Board discussed the provision of referees to MiniRoos generally; John noted that in the MiniRoos rules there is meant to be a game leader rather than a referee and that that person is meant to offer coaching and guidance during the game.

John asked Paul if MiniRoos referees are specifically coached on the MiniRoos rules, and Paul advised that they are coached to facilitate, including things like re-taking foul throw-ins rather than handing the ball to the opposition.

5/16.3.3.4 Junior FMC

Tom reported that there hadn't been a meeting since the last Board meeting, and whilst he had been unable to get to games he was planning on getting around the grounds this weekend.

5/16.3.3.5 Senior FMC

Jaleh reported that the competitions had started smoothly, that teams were being regraded where required and that draws were likely to be finished at the end of next week.

5/16.3.3.6 Representative Football and Coaching

Andrew reported on the start of the Regional Youth Conference season, noting that results hadn't been great.

Andrew also reported on early discussions with Matraville Sports High about a Talented Sports Program at the school that could get ESFA's name associated with Sydney FC, UNSW and the School and get ESFA access to a facility for technical development programs.

Andrew and Sean noted that we need to build awareness on the ground of the Technical Director's services and ensure that clubs make use of the resource we have provided.

5/16.4 BUSINESS

5/16.4.1 ESFA Regulations

The Board reviewed the draft regulations and feedback received.

The Board resolved to pause before the adoption of the regulations to conduct a final check for consistency.

The Board noted that before specifying the level of fines, clubs must be consulted.

5/16.4.2 Pagewood Botany FC

The Board considered a proposal from Pagewood Botany FC that they accept teams in MiniRoos that had gone to Pagewood Soccer Club and enter them in the ESFA MiniRoos program.

The Board discussed the matter.

Motion: That ESFA consult with MiniRoos clubs with a view to admitting teams from Pagewood Botany FC to the ESFA MiniRoos program

Moved: Andrew

Seconded: Mark

CARRIED

John requested that his opposition be noted in the minutes.

The meeting closed at 9:45pm.