



**EASTERN SUBURBS  
FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION**

**Developing football for everyone.**

## **MEETING OF THE EASTERN SUBURBS FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Wednesday 19 August, 2015 at 7.00pm, ESFA Office, Eastgardens  
(Mtg 9/15)**

### **MINUTES**

Attendance: Sean Fenton, John Clayton, Mark Puterflam, David Owens, Andrew Field, Paul Kelly, Aaron Dibdin

The meeting opened at 7.04pm.

#### **9/15.1 APOLOGIES**

There were apologies from Ron

#### **9/15.2 MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING 8/15 & MATTERS ARISING**

##### **9/15.2.1 Consideration of minutes**

One small amendment was made to the minutes in respect of local coaches being invited to recommend players to trial for RYC teams.

**The minutes from meeting 8/15 as amended were taken to be a true and correct record.**

Moved: David

Seconded: John

CARRIED

##### **9/15.2.2 Business arising from the minutes**

The action items were reviewed and updated.

The Board noted that at the Council review meetings a number of potential rules amendments and other changes will need to be discussed in line with our ongoing review of the rules and procedures of the Association.

In addition, the Board expressed a keenness to take advantage of the Grand Finals to provide a platform to promote our MiniRoos and also promote trials for our Regional Conference program.

The Board expressed a desire to host a C-Licence course this off-season if possible and tasked the General Manager with finding an appropriate venue.

### **9/15.3 REPORTS**

#### 9/15.3.1 President's Report

Sean reported on the upcoming Presidents' Forum. Club Presidents have received a presentation drawn from the Board's strategic planning sessions to give an indication of what the current Board thinking was and to seek their buy in. On Monday this will be presented along with the draft organizational review to gain feedback.

This will be fed back into the Board discussions – e.g. if they don't want us to strictly enforce rules then we won't, we'll be able to run a casual competition, etc. We need the feedback from stakeholders to guide our next steps.

#### 9/15.3.2 Financial Report

The Board reviewed the financials and discussed outstanding sums owed by some member clubs and processes that could be put in place to more effectively encourage late payers to pay up.

The Board also discussed the formatting of the financial reports and the treatment of bonds for clubs that no longer have teams in ESFA.

#### 9/15.3.3 Other Reports

##### 9/15.3.3.1 Small Sided Football

David reported that the MiniRoos U6 and U7 gala days went ahead on the weekend and that reports have been good. David noted that it was a shame that the association-wide gala days for the 8-11 year old players did not proceed, but that it was not for want of effort by himself, the Council Chair or ESFA staff.

We are looking forward to developments to strengthen the offering for 2016, including:

- discussing creating a MiniRoos coordinator position within the office to take up some of the added load,
- a coaching resource to better coach our coaches,
- dealing with academies in a clear way to address concerns about:
  - selective/exclusive teams
  - fees not commensurate with expectations of what 'community football' ought to cost

- whether some entities operate with a profit motive
- transfer of control from clubs to academies that they contract
- U12s playing 9v9 in the future

#### 9/15.3.3.2 Junior FMC

The Board took the report emailed from Ron as read.

It discussed the transition of the junior competitions moved into finals mode being relatively smooth, with everything on track for finals this weekend and grand finals next weekend. Championship leagues will play at Hensley with many other games at DP. Adrian / Aaron have done well to schedule games to suit teams where ever possible.

We have been so lucky this year with weather staying fine making it much easier than last season.

There still appears a number of underlying tensions mainly involving junior (boys) grades including a number of suggestion of teams being 'very flexible' with team selections & use of players from other teams.

Ron's report argued that we are simply too tolerant which is reflected in the way we monitor competitions.

In closing, with a bit of luck 2 more weeks of great football and we will have completed another successful season.

#### 9/15.3.3.3 Senior FMC

Aaron reported that senior competitions have rolled into finals and unlike last year the competitions have been managed in such a way as to create spare weeks in case of wet weather. In some cases this means teams will have weeks off between finals and grand finals, but the benefit is that barring disaster we will not have the unfortunate situation again of having washed out finals games with no chance to reschedule them.

Aaron also reported that relevant to the senior competitions is the possible collapse of the Sydney Amateur Football League, with clubs like Glebe Gorillas, Sydney CBD FC and Randwick City (all based in our area) potentially seeking new homes. The standard club entry process applies.

#### 9/15.3.3.4 Representative Football and Coaching

Andrew reported that there remain one more catch up game and one more regular game for the RYC program, and that SAP had finished for the year.

There have been good discussions about improvement of the RYC program for 2016, though there are some divergent views. We need to improve the standard of the offering, but we will have increased competition for players with the likely commencement of a Dunbar Rovers youth program as they enter NPL3 and Youth League in 2016.

Along with the coaches, the Technical Director's position needs to be advertised for the 2016 RYC program.

#### 9/15.3.3.5 Referees and Judiciary

Paul reported that there is a bit of concern about the stock of referees being extremely stretched with finals games, pennant games and regular season games all at the same time.

In addition, the difficulty of finalizing the draw (in large part due to the difficulty of ascertaining exactly which grounds are available) means that the Referees Coordinator is under extreme pressure to get appointments out.

Both junior and senior referees have been briefed about finals at well-attended sessions – well attended in part because all referees are keen to be involved in finals just as players are!

## 9/15.4 BUSINESS

### 9/15.4.1 AGM 2015 - Board Elections

The Board discussed the AGM at the end of the year and the upcoming elections.

The positions whose terms expire at the AGM are:

- President;
- Treasurer;
- Director of Junior Football, and;
- Director of Small Sided Football.

In addition, the Director of Senior Football vacancy still exists.

If directors whose term is expiring are considering not re-nominating, they may want to consider who they might encourage to run in their stead.

### 9/15.4.2 Other business

Aaron briefly reported on a positive development from FNSW in the form of a proposed protocol for dual registration to facilitate players from split families or clubs with

separate junior and senior entities getting the maximum opportunity to enjoy our game.  
The Board welcomed the development and looks forward to further news.

With there being no further business to transact, the meeting closed at 9:15pm.