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MEETING OF THE EASTERN SUBURBS FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Monday 15 July, 2015 at 7.00pm, ESFA Office, Eastgardens
(Mtg 8/15)**

MINUTES

Attendance: Sean Fenton, John Clayton, Mark Puterflam, Ron Ogilvie, Andrew Field, Paul Kelly, Aaron Dibdin

The meeting opened at 7.00pm.

8/15.1 APOLOGIES

There were apologies from David Owens

8/15.2 MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING 7/15 & MATTERS ARISING

8/15.2.1 Consideration of minutes

One small amendment was made to the minutes in respect of the number of accredited referee assessors in the Association.

The minutes from meeting 7/15 as amended were taken to be a true and correct record.

Moved: John

Seconded: Paul

CARRIED

8/15.2.2 Business arising from the minutes

The action items were reviewed and updated.

The Board discussed an item to do with bringing MiniRoos coordinators together to thank them for their work so far in getting the ESFA MiniRoos hub system off the ground.

The Board also discussed 9v9 football for the 12-year-old age group following on from the shift of U12s from youth league to SAP in FNSW competitions. The Board agreed that the emphasis is on having clubs come to a view about what is best for us locally.

Aaron reported on very positive discussions with Football NSW in which there had been dates tentatively agreed for a program of coaching courses for post-season 2015 and pre-season 2016, including two Senior Football Certificate courses, two Game Training Certificate courses, a Skill Training Certificate expo and a Grassroots Certificate expo.

8/15.3 REPORTS

8/15.3.1 President's Report

The President thanked the Board for their hard work in the past weeks on the strategic planning process and reported that he hopes to present a draft strategic plan to club Presidents in coming weeks.

8/15.3.2 Financial Report

The Board reviewed the financials and discussed outstanding sums owed by some member clubs.

8/15.3.3 Other Reports

8/15.3.3.1 Junior FMC

Ron reported that Councils have met to discuss regrading and undertaken some changes to sort the U14 competitions, which needed some tidying up.

The process for wet weather rescheduling has been reviewed and tightened – the main thing is that rules were there in place and we hadn't been enforcing them to the full extent possible.

The 25m rule had come into force, but not without some bumps, particularly as the General Manager sent out a version of the rule with incorrect wording for the first weekend of operation.

The General Manager was tasked with providing a full calendar of Grand Finals to the Board and to ascertain the number of Pennant Finals needed for Chifley Reserve.

8/15.3.3.2 Senior FMC

The General Manager reported to the Board that competition splits had been completed for AAW4, O35M and O45M, and otherwise wet weather rescheduling was well in hand.

There has been an issue arise with UNSW FC being unable to field two teams in the Men's Championship, and the Men's Chair has agreed to allow them to forfeit the First Grade games for the second half of the season.

The President noted that given we have a rule stating that you are meant to only forfeit Reserves and not Firsts, UNSW should therefore be ineligible for the semi-finals in Reserve Grade.

The President also noted that he is particularly keen for there to be MiniRoos games at half time and between games at the Men's and Women's Championship Grand Finals at Hensley and for there to be mascots that walk out with the teams.

8/15.3.3.3 Representative Football and Coaching

Andrew reported on the progress of the Regional youth League sides, who had a tough weekend against very strong Sutherland Shire teams.

Andrew stated that to be more competitive overall there is a need to add to the level of training for the teams, especially in pre-season, and raise the level of expectations and commitment to something nearer what NPL sides experience.

We need to have our coaches in place early, and provide a kit to all players and parents which asks them to sign agreements to meet an agreed standard of commitment.

Ron suggested that we should have club coaches recommending players to trial for the sides and we ought to tell clubs that we will be inviting players to trail and then send letters in the post to players.

8/15.3.3.4 Referees and Judiciary

Paul reported on the rollout of the 25m rule. Some grounds (e.g. Pagewood) ran like clockwork, but others were not as good. Some teams expressed concern to referees about why the rule had been introduced mid-season.

Paul also reported on the strong program of assessing referees. So far 25 referees have been assessed across the Branch with some referees identified for further coaching and others for promotion to higher grades.

There is an ongoing issue with standalone games – they are very difficult to cover.

Lastly there was one Judiciary determination which was appealed to the Appeals Committee and parts of the JC determination were overturned and others modified. The Association will need to review the processes around and within JC and AC hearings.

8/15.3.3.5 Small Sided Football

Aaron reported that MiniRoos is running well and that the draws for the final phase of 5 weeks had gone live.

Hubs are generally running well but the Queens Park hub is massive and possibly too big. There may need to be some thought given to how we structure this in 2016.

The President reiterated the need to get Hub Coordinators together for a thank you.

8/15.4 BUSINESS

8/15.4.1 ESFA participation in 2016 FNSW programs

The Board agreed to apply to participate in the Skills Acquisition Program and Regional Youth Conference in 2016.

8/15.4.2 Other business

There was no other business.

With there being no further business to transact, the meeting closed at 8:55pm.