



**EASTERN SUBURBS  
FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION**

**Developing football for everyone.**

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

**Wednesday 16 September, 2015 at 7.00pm, ESFA Office, Eastgardens  
(Mtg 10/15)**

### **MINUTES**

Attendance: Sean Fenton, John Clayton, Mark Puterflam, David Owens, Andrew Field, Ron Ogilvie, Aaron Dibdin

The meeting opened at 7.10pm.

#### **10/15.1 APOLOGIES**

There were apologies from Paul, and David who was set to arrive late following an earlier meeting.

#### **10/15.2 MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING 8/15 & MATTERS ARISING**

##### **10/15.2.1 Consideration of minutes**

The Board reviewed the minutes of the previous meeting.

**The minutes from meeting 9/15 as amended were taken to be a true and correct record.**

Moved: Andrew

Seconded: John

CARRIED

##### **10/15.2.2 Business arising from the minutes**

The action items were reviewed and updated.

#### **10/15.3 REPORTS**

##### **10/15.3.1 President's Report**

Sean asked Aaron to convey his thanks to the office team their hard work around the Grand Final series at Hensley Athletic Field and David Phillips Sports Field. Sean noted that the Grand Finals were very well run. The additional tent was a good idea and the games all ran well; particularly popular was the fact that if games weren't at Hensley they were still on synthetic at David Phillips.

In relation to the Presidents' Forum in August, the Presidents have all been sent and re-sent the presentation from that forum and Sean has received little feedback other than some positive feedback.

Sean had signaled his intent to pursue the plan and we will be starting with hiring for new roles, with the Board to consider whether we hire all three, whether we space them out and how we might fund the positions.

Lastly, Sean gave details of his absence for a period of two months - he is overseas from the start of October until late November.

#### 10/15.3.2 Financial Report

Mark spoke to the financial report, noting that the profit and loss statement is very strong both compared to budget and compared to last year, which is obviously a positive.

The Board reviewed the reports and gave some feedback about debtors and also the formatting of the reports.

#### 10/15.3.3 Other Reports

##### 10/15.3.3.1 Referees and Judiciary

The Board discussed the timelines around judiciary matters and their outcomes being produced. John noted that this will feed into our post-season review of the rules and processes, and that we may write hard timelines into the rules.

##### 10/15.3.3.2 Small Sided Football

David reported on a very cordial MiniRoos Council review meeting, but noted that as Moray has elected to not re-nominate and there had not been another nomination received there remained a casual vacancy in the position of Council Chair.

Other than that, the meeting was very cordial, with some good feedback and suggestions received from a range of clubs to do with draws, grading, 'trial' games at the start of the season and improving hub coordination.

There was warm response to the idea of introducing a 'retreat' rule in ESFA MiniRoos.

The Board discussed the absence of a chair and David raised the question of whether we need a MiniRoos Council Chair or whether the Director ought to simply do it. This was discussed at some length.

The broad consensus was that we will call on clubs to nominate, and in the absence of a Chair the Director shall take the chair by default.

Sean gave his congratulations to David for negotiating a big season with a lot of big changes happening very late in the day, but bringing us through in very good shape for 2016.

#### 10/15.3.3.3 Junior FMC

Ron noted that he had made a number of points in an email to the Board following the Council review meetings.

Craig Blesson replaces Alan Charak as Girls' Council chair but the Junior position remains vacant.

Other points of discussion include moving 16s to Friday nights, communicating directly to clubs, rescheduling matches deferred for R1 of State Cup immediately on the following Wednesday, avoiding byes in Championship divisions and locking in 8 team competitions, delaying the start of the season to get around holidays, and promoting U21 competitions.

There was some discussion of tighter rules on forfeits, and to cut down on teams looking to move games without either consulting ESFA or giving adequate notice, the Competitions Coordinator will be expected to strictly enforce the reschedule rule in 2016, with sanctions to apply for transgressions. These sanctions will need to be determined as part of the competition rules review.

#### 10/15.3.3.4 Senior FMC

Aaron briefly reported that all senior grand finals got off without a hitch, and that happily (and unlike last year) we didn't have weather forcing our hands to abandon finals fixtures.

23 senior grand finals were played across two weekends and feedback was very strongly positive. Senior council review meetings will be next week.

#### 10/15.3.3.5 Representative Football and Coaching

Andrew reported that the SAP and RYC seasons had wrapped up and that the RYC teams had a bbq at Randwick Bowling Club, players received medals and the season ended on a really positive note.

We need to lock the coaches in for the RYC positions early to have coaches in place for the trials in November and thereafter.

Andrew proposed that we take the opportunity to open up a Girls SAP in the new structure set up by FNSW. UNSWFC has run the Girls' Supplementary Skills Program for the last two years but will likely not be eligible in 2016. At the same time, Associations are being invited to be part of this program going forward so we should consider taking up the position to offer girls similar opportunities to what the boys are offered.

Importantly, it is a 'dual registration' program, so the girls must be registered for a local club and then have this as an add-on.

The Board discussed the matter and asked Aaron to look into the application process.

#### **10/15.4 BUSINESS**

##### 10/15.4.1 Other business

###### 10/15.4.1.1 New ESFA staff roles to be created

Pursuant to the ESFA strategic plan that the Board has worked up and which has been circulated to Members, Sean proposed motions that we advertised for two additional staff members:

Motion: That ESFA hire a Technical Director to be in place for the end of 2015

Moved: Sean

Seconded: David

CARRIED

Motion: That ESFA hire a MiniRoos Coordinator to be in place for the end of 2015

Moved: Sean

Seconded: David

CARRIED

Advertisements should be put up very soon with applications to close 5<sup>th</sup> October with a view to a 1 November start.

The Board will need to take the funding proposal to clubs.

We will review the referees' role but work on ways to have young referees observed and mentored.

#### 10/15.4.1.2 Board process in absence of the President

The Board discussed the arrangements for the Board in Sean's absence. It was agreed that John would chair the meetings of the Board.

#### 10/15.4.1.3 Matters for consideration at the AGM

The Board discussed matters for attention in the lead up to the AGM, most notably that rules need to be reviewed and finalized in time to be circulated with the notice and sell the ESFA Strategic Plan to clubs.

#### 10/15.4.1.4 Payment of Champion of Champions referee fees by ESFA

The Board discussed whether ESFA should pay the referee fees for Champion of Champions games (through reimbursement to clubs), but resolved to leave the present arrangements in place.

#### 10/15.4.1.5 Staff 'battlefield' bonuses following Grand Finals

The General Manager left the room.

The Board passed a motion "to acknowledge and recognise the fantastic efforts of staff this year and especially that of the last three weekends at the grand finals", and awarded \$1,000 'battlefield' bonuses to the General Manager, Competitions Coordinator and Referees and Coaching Coordinator.

With there being no further business to transact, the meeting closed at 9:35pm.