



**Developing football for everyone.**

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

**Wednesday 18 February, 2015 at 7.00pm, ESFA Office, Eastgardens  
(Mtg 4/15)**

### **MINUTES**

Attendance: Sean Fenton, John Clayton, Mark Puterflam, Ron Ogilvie, Paul Kelly, Andrew Field, David Owens (by telephone), Aaron Dibdin

The meeting opened at 7.18pm with John Clayton in the Chair.

#### **4/15.1 APOLOGIES**

Sean and Ron had advised that they would arrive late.

#### **4/15.2 MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING 3/15 & MATTERS ARISING**

##### **4/15.2.1 Consideration of minutes**

The minutes were amended to reflect that the John was looking into whether it was appropriate for the President to remain on the Ground Development Trust Fund Committee.

**As amended the minutes from meeting 3/15 were taken to be a true and correct record.**

Moved: Mark

Seconded: Paul

**CARRIED**

##### **4/15.2.2 Business arising from the minutes**

The action items were reviewed and updated.

Sean Fenton arrived and resumed the Chair.

#### **4/15.3 REPORTS**

#### 4/15.3.1 President's Report

Sean reported on the Presidents' Forum at Coogee Diggers. Most clubs attended and the meeting was a very open meeting, canvassing a range of issues, including:

- The development of coaching structures including a coaching forum and clubs' responsibility to ensure that their members receive news of the work we are doing so that club coaches can get the benefits
- We are working through ground issues with Randwick Council but have been assured that clubs with historical presence on Randwick grounds will be accommodated
- We will be adopting a no-nonsense approach to adherence to the rules this year, with the office empowered to police compliance
- We will work on a cadet referee program – Paul will be tasked with seeing how we might offer opportunities for youngsters hoping to referee who are too young for the Level 4 course
- Setting parameters for League Councils to establish the scope of their mandate and the ongoing role of the Councils and FMCs

#### 4/15.3.2 Other Reports

##### 4/15.3.2.1 Small Sided Football

David reported on the meeting held last week of the SSF council and noted that the minutes of the meeting and the paper presented to that meeting were included in the Board papers.

David noted that the meeting was an opportunity to ensure all clubs were up to speed with the key outcomes.

One key issue was Dunbar's reluctance to integrate into the hub system, instead intending to stay outside on a home-and-away basis. The Board discussed this and came to the conclusion that it is to the benefit of all clubs in the ESFA MiniRoos system if all clubs were fully integrated to hub football, including Dunbar.

We are working through the equipment needs of hubs and will set a standard to bring equipment up to a consistent standard across all ESFA hubs.

David noted and the Board agreed that there was still work to be done on the structure and delivery of coaching services to clubs and hubs.

##### 4/15.3.2.2 Junior FMC

Ron reported that we have collated indicative nominations and will continue to follow the established process for grading, with numbers up in some age groups and down in others.

Ron also raised the idea that had been discussed in the past at both Board and Council level of a Development League – more focused on participation and enjoyment of the game than competition, to sit beneath the Championship divisions in junior age groups.

The Board suggested that it could be put to clubs at the Season Launch.

Ron also reported that the Football Management Committees had been working on harmonized rules, eliminating inconsistencies and redundant clauses and ensuring a clean, consistent set of rules for the Competitions Coordinator to be able to rule over disputes.

This will harmonise with the revised Judiciary Committee rules, and challenges to determinations will go to the Judiciary Committee rather than the Football Management Committee.

#### 4/15.3.2.3 Representative Football and Coaching

Andrew reported that he is working on scheduling demonstration sessions at both Regional League and SAP on four occasions each for a total of 8 dates. This can form the basis for our coaching forums.

The regional league sides might need to add additional pre-season sessions in 2016 to get them match-fit for their early games.

The teams are coming together well and the quality is high in both programs. There was the issue of the RYL sides being drawn to travel to Griffith twice (playing both matches away) and Andrew is working through the logistics to ensure that that is affordable for parents.

Andrew reported on very positive discussions with the head of the Sydney FC Academy, Kelly Cross, and spoke to the proposal for development squads. The Board agreed that the idea is good, but that we need to work out what resources will be required operationally and whether we have sufficient capacity to deliver them effectively.

The Board also discussed different enrolment options including term-by-term and full-year options, with differential pricing.

It was resolved that we would approach clubs and ask them for their feedback, with a two week period in which to consult before we determine whether to progress.

#### 4/15.3.2.4 Referees and Judiciary

Paul reported that the Referees' Branch now has five Level 3 accredited assessors.

The Branch is running two dedicated courses for new referees – one for seniors and another for juniors – and may run more.

Finally, the Branch will also offer State League fitness tests for referees so referees seeking to referee higher grades within ESFA.

Andrew asked that the referees' course notice be sent to all RYL U14 and U15 players.

John reported that this season it was proposed to enforce the current Judiciary rule requiring payment of \$50 to convene a hearing of the Judiciary Committee in cases where a penalty was imposed by the JC following a review of the Referee's Report or Incident Report. Matters deemed more serious or complicated would continue to proceed straight to a JC hearing.

#### 4/15.3.2.5 Financial Report

The Board reviewed the financials and discussed processes for ensuring that representative players pay up on time. Aaron reported that we are well ahead of where we were in 2014. The Board discussed strict measures to ensure prompt payment, as well as hardship policies.

David noted that whilst the GDL sums are clearly accounted for within the accounts, it would be better practice to break them out into a separate book entirely as they are under a separate trust.

### **4/15.4 BUSINESS**

#### 4/15.4.1 Correspondence regarding Pagewood Botany Football Club regarding Small Sided Football

As the matter to be discussed related specifically to the Small Sided Football program at a club upon whose committee Sean serves, he declared that he had a conflict of interest and recused himself from the discussion.

The Board had an in-camera discussion regarding the Pagewood Botany FC SSF program and its integration into ESFA's MiniRoos program.

At the close of the discussion, with there being no further business to transact, the meeting closed at 9:40pm.