



# ANNUAL 2021 REPORT





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# OUR PEOPLE

## WRFL EXECUTIVE BOARD

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	MEREDITH ANGWIN
<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>	PAUL ROBINSON
<b>TREASURER</b>	DOMINIC DRENEN
<b>DIRECTORS</b>	ANDREW HOWLETT CHRIS MURPHY SARAH ROBERTSON GINA SMITH ROSS WILLIAMSON SANDRA WILSON

## WRFL STAFF

<b>CEO</b>	MATTHEW DUCK
<b>MANAGER FOOTBALL OPERATIONS</b>	ADAM SPARROW
<b>MANAGER JUNIOR FOOTBALL</b>	STEPHANIE REIMERS
<b>FOOTBALL &amp; NETBALL OPERATIONS OFFICER</b>	JESSIE CHESTER
<b>MEDIA MANAGER</b>	KRISTEN ALEBAKIS
<b>CLUB SUPPORT MANAGER</b>	GARY BROWN
<b>ADMINISTRATION MANAGER</b>	KRISTY VIDOVIC
<b>AFL VICTORIA PARTICIPATION COORDINATORS</b>	MAJOK NGONG SHANNON GORE DOMENICO LAMMARDO

## KEY CONSULTANTS

<b>ROB PEAK &amp; ASSOC</b>	KIM PEAK
<b>MARKETING</b>	PETER HARLEY KELLY JONES
<b>LEAGUE HISTORIAN</b>	ANDREW MUSCAT
<b>G.P. BUSINESS SOLUTIONS</b>	GRANT PLOZZA
<b>GOVERNANCE SUPPORT</b>	BOB TREGEAR OAM
<b>PLAYER PAYMENTS COMPLIANCE OFFICER</b>	STEPHEN SMITH
<b>NETBALL COURT &amp; UMPIRE MANAGER</b>	CORSINA AQUILINA

## WRFL UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	STEVE SUTTON
<b>SECRETARY</b>	TERRY O'DONNELL

## WRFL UMPIRES PANEL

<b>DIRECTOR OF UMPIRING</b>	MARK WESTGARTH
<b>SECRETARY</b>	RENE VAN KUYK

## WRFL JUNIORS BOARD

<b>CHAIRMAN</b>	KEITH BROWN
<b>MEMBERS</b>	GRAEME CLARK COLIN CLOHESY IVO HAVARD MELINDA MCVEIGH CHRIS MURPHY STEPHEN PIGHIN JACKSON TAYLOR ALICIA THOMPSON

## INDEPENDENT TRIBUNAL

<b>CHAIRMAN</b>	ADRIAN NOBLE
<b>DEPUTY CHAIRMAN</b>	DARREN MAYNE JIM SIMMONDS

<b>SECRETARY</b>	RENE VAN KUYK
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<b>MEMBERS</b>	ANDREW COOK ANGELA COULSON BRONTE DOUGLAS-SCARFE DAVID FOLEY HENRIETTA GELBER IAN HAMM TOM HEDDITCH ASH JOSEPH JILL MCBAIN MICHAEL MCNAMARA ROWAN MIFSUD NICK PAPADOPOULOS FRANK PLATA DONNA WATSON JAMES WESTON JULIE WOODS ARTHUR WRIGHT
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## INDEPENDENT HEARING COMMITTEE

<b>CHAIRMAN</b>	MARK MCDONALD
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<b>MEMBERS</b>	ANDREW COOK ANGELA COULSON BRONTE DOUGLAS-SCARFE DAVID FOLEY HENRIETTA GELBER IAN HAMM TOM HEDDITCH DARREN MAYNE JILL MCBAIN MICHAEL MCNAMARA ROWAN MIFSUD NICK PAPADOPOULOS FRANK PLATA JIM SIMMONDS DONNA WATSON JAMES WESTON JULIE WOODS ARTHUR WRIGHT
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## APPEALS BOARD

<b>CHAIRMAN</b>	JOHN O'CALLAGHAN
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<b>MEMBERS</b>	GRAEME BLOOM IAN HAMM MICHAEL MCNAMARA SAM NORTON JOHN RACITI MARK SEYMOUR JIM SIMMONDS ROB STARY CAROLYN WOOD
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# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

MEREDITH ANGWIN



WELCOME TO THE 2021 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE WESTERN REGION FOOTBALL LEAGUE.

AFTER NOT BEING ABLE TO STAGE ANY COMPETITIONS IN 2020, WE ALL EMBRACED THE RETURN OF FOOTBALL AND NETBALL WITH ENTHUSIASM. IT IS A TESTIMONY TO THE HARD WORK OF ALL CLUBS AND THE COMMITMENT OF ALL VOLUNTEERS THAT WE SWUNG BACK INTO ACTION SMOOTHLY. I ALSO WANT TO RECOGNISE THE GREAT WORK OF MATT AND HIS TEAM AT WRFL HQ WHO WORKED TIRELESSLY TO ENSURE THE COMPETITIONS WENT AHEAD DESPITE THE ONGOING CHALLENGES DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS.

IT WAS UNFORTUNATE THAT OUR SEASON CAME TO AN ABRUPT END. NOT BEING ABLE TO PLAY FINALS WAS DISAPPOINTING FOR US ALL.

WHILE IT IS NOT THE SAME AS RUNNING OUT ON THE GROUND TO PLAY IN A FINAL OR HOLDING THE PREMIERSHIP CUP AFTER A HARD FOUGHT GRAND FINAL WIN, IT WAS GREAT TO RECOGNISE THE ON-FIELD PERFORMANCES AND THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THOSE WHO SUPPORT THE GAME - COACHES, TRAINERS, AND CLUB VOLUNTEERS. CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL WHO WERE RECOGNISED IN THE PRESENTATION EVENTS.

AS WE MOVE INTO 2022, WE LOOK FORWARD OPTIMISTICALLY TO OUR FIRST COMPLETE SEASON IN THREE YEARS. NEXT YEAR WILL ALSO BE THE FINAL YEAR OF THE LEAGUE'S STRATEGIC PLAN - WHICH WE DEVELOPED IN 2018. AT THAT TIME, WE DID NOT FORESEE WHAT WAS TO COME HOWEVER HAVING A CLEAR IDEA OF WHAT THE LEAGUE IS HERE FOR AND WHAT WE NEED TO DO TO FOSTER AND GROW COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN FOOTBALL AND NETBALL HAS BEEN IMPORTANT. TO UPDATE OUR STRATEGIC PLAN NEXT YEAR, WE WILL WORK WITH OUR COMMUNITY TO GAIN INPUT INTO OUR DIRECTION FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS.

AS A BOARD, WE MET ONLINE REGULARLY THROUGHOUT THE YEAR AND HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET IN PERSON ON A COUPLE OF OCCASIONS. IT WAS GREAT TO CATCH UP IN PERSON WITH FELLOW BOARD MEMBERS AND TO DISCUSS THE KEY STRATEGIC CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FACING THE WRFL. THE ABILITY TO TAP INTO THE BOARD MEMBER'S SPECIFIC SKILLSETS AND CONNECTIONS AT TIMES HAS BEEN IMPORTANT.

AT THIS YEAR'S AGM WE WILL FAREWELL A LONG-STANDING BOARD MEMBER, DOMINIC DRENE. DOM HAS BEEN ON THE WRFL BOARD SINCE 2009 AND HAS BEEN OUR TREASURER FOR MOST OF THIS TIME. AS TREASURER HE HAS WORKED WITH MATT AND THE WRFL FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION TO ENSURE WE MANAGE AND MEET OUR FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS AS WELL AS BUILDING A STRONG FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE.



ON BEHALF OF THE WRFL BOARD, I THANK DOM FOR HIS SERVICE. THROUGH HIS COMMERCIAL GUIDANCE, DOM IS LEAVING THE LEAGUE IN A STRONG POSITION.

FINALLY, LET ME SAY THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU. WHILE 2021 WAS AN IMPROVEMENT ON THE PREVIOUS YEAR, MANY CHALLENGES STILL NEEDED TO BE FACED AND OVERCOME. IT IS THROUGH THE TIRELESS EFFORTS OF ALL WHO ARE INVOLVED IN THE LEAGUE THAT WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO PLAY AND COME TOGETHER AS A SPORTS COMMUNITY.

ON BEHALF OF THE WRFL BOARD, I WISH YOU ALL THE VERY BEST FOR THIS FESTIVE SEASON. STAY SAFE AND ENJOY TIME WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

AS ALWAYS, I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO WELCOMING BACK OUR FOOTBALL AND NETBALL COMPETITIONS NEXT YEAR.

**MEREDITH ANGWIN**  
PRESIDENT





# CEO'S REPORT

MATTHEW DUCK



IT HAS CLEARLY BEEN A CHALLENGING TWO YEARS FOR EVERYONE, INCLUDING MANY OF YOU READING THIS REPORT. WHILE 2021 OFFERED BURSTS OF 'NORMALITY', AS WE KNOW THESE ALL-TOO-QUICKLY MADE WAY FOR FURTHER LOCKDOWNS, INCLUDING THE ONE THAT ULTIMATELY BROUGHT ABOUT A PREMATURE END TO OUR 2021 SEASON.

IT IS EASY TO LOOK BACK ON THE LAST TWO YEARS AND FOCUS ON WHAT WAS NOT, RATHER THAN WHAT WAS. BUT 2021 STILL SAW A NUMBER OF REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENTS, NOT LEAST OF WHICH THE RETURN OF OUR COMMUNITY GAME WHILE A GLOBAL PANDEMIC CONTINUED, WITH THE LEAGUE GOING ON TO COMPLETE TWO THIRDS OF ITS SEASON.

PERHAPS MORE REMARKABLY, AND DESPITE THE SUGGESTION THAT PEOPLE WOULD EFFECTIVELY 'OPT-OUT' OF COMMUNITY SPORT AFTER 12 MONTHS ON THE SIDELINES, OUR PARTICIPATION NUMBERS REMAINED COMPARABLE TO 2019, REINFORCING THE INTEGRAL ROLE THE WRFL PLAYS IN THE FABRIC OF THE WESTERN SUBURBS' COMMUNITY.

AND WHILE THE WORDS 'INNOVATION' AND 'PIVOT' HAVE BEEN USED AD NAUSEAM, WE TRULY HAVE EXPERIENCED INNOVATION, INCLUDING A NECESSARY FOCUS ON ALL THINGS DIGITAL, THAT HAS INEVITABLY CHANGED AND INDEED IMPROVED OUR BUSINESS FOREVERMORE.

ONE SUCH EXAMPLE OF A REQUIRED PIVOT THAT WILL HAVE A LASTING IMPACT COULD BE SEEN WITH OUR JUNIOR AND SENIOR PRESENTATION EVENINGS. NORMALLY LIMITED TO THE GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE IN THE ROOM AND STAGED ON A SINGLE EVENING, THIS YEAR 'THE ROOM' INCLUDED LOUNGE ROOMS, BEDROOMS, BATHROOMS - ANYWHERE SOMEONE HAD AN INTERNET CONNECTION. THE PRESENTATION EVENINGS WERE BROADCAST TO TENS OF THOUSANDS ONLINE AND STAGED OVER A FOUR-WEEK PERIOD.

AS WE EMBARK ON SEASON 2022, WE DO SO WITH GENUINE OPTIMISM OF ACHIEVING OUR FIRST UNINTERRUPTED RUN SINCE 2019.



THERE WILL INEVITABLY REMAIN SIGNIFICANT CHALLENGES, SOME OF WHICH A RESULT OF THE LAST TWO YEARS. SOME VOLUNTEERS HAVE BEEN LOST TO THE GAME, AND THERE HAS BEEN INCREASED COMPETITION FOR BOTH PARTICIPANTS AND SPONSORSHIP DOLLARS ALIKE. HOWEVER, WITH INCREASED VACCINATION RATES WILL COME INCREASED COMMUNITY CONFIDENCE, AND WE TRUST THAT THOSE THAT MAY HAVE LESSENED THEIR INVOLVEMENT WITH THE GAME OVER THE LAST TWO YEARS WILL INDEED RETURN.

A NUMBER OF EXCITING DEVELOPMENTS ARE SET FOR 2022, INCLUDING THE POTENTIAL FOR THE WRFL TO UNDERGO A REBRAND THAT SEEKS TO RECOGNISE THE EMERGENCE OF NETBALL AND ITS INCREASING SIGNIFICANCE TO THE LEAGUE'S DNA. WHILE A LOT OF WATER STILL NEEDS TO GO UNDER THE BRIDGE BEFORE THIS OCCURS, IT IS SOMETHING WE ARE ACTIVELY EXPLORING.

EVERY YEAR I ACKNOWLEDGE OUR SPONSORS FOR THEIR SUPPORT AND NOTE THAT WE COULD NOT DO WHAT WE DO WITHOUT THEM, BUT NEVER HAS THIS BEEN MORE TRUE THAN OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS. WHILE UNDERSTANDABLY NOT EVERY SPONSOR HAS MANAGED TO STAY ON BOARD, I HAVE BEEN SO ENERGISED BY THE NUMBER THAT HAVE.

I WOULD PARTICULARLY LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE TRADE INSTITUTE OF VICTORIA (TIV), VICTORIA UNIVERSITY AND VICTORIA UNIVERSITY POLYTECHNIC, PRESTIGE REAL ESTATE, ALAN MANCE MOTORS, AND WESTERN BULLDOGS FOOTBALL CLUB, AS WELL AS BOTH SHERWOOD AND STARSUB.

TO THE WRFL STAFF, THANK YOU FOR YOUR RESILIENCE, YOUR TIRELESS WORK ETHIC AND YOUR SUPPORT OF OUR CLUBS AS WELL AS ONE ANOTHER. TO THE BOARD OF THE WRFL, LED BY PRESIDENT MEREDITH ANGWIN, THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNWAVERING SUPPORT AND EVER-PRESENT STRATEGIC MINDSET.

FINALLY, THANK YOU TO THE COUNTLESS CLUB OFFICIALS, VOLUNTEERS, TRIBUNAL MEMBERS, UMPIRES AND SUPPORT STAFF, PLAYERS AND SUPPORTERS WHO ARE THE WESTERN REGION FOOTBALL LEAGUE. WE AGAIN ENDURED A YEAR THAT LACKED THE CULMINATION YOU ALL DESERVED, BUT YOU ALL ROLLED WITH THE PUNCHES ONCE AGAIN AND SUPPORTED US AS WE SOUGHT TO SUPPORT YOU.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO 2022 AND A NEW DAWN.

**MATTHEW DUCK**  
CEO



# SENIOR FOOTBALL REPORT

ADAM SPARROW



I WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL WRFL CLUBS FOR THE FANTASTIC WAY YOU HAVE WORKED WITH US THROUGHOUT 2021, AND FOR THE WAY YOU ALL HAVE NAVIGATED YOUR WAY THROUGH ANOTHER CHALLENGING SEASON.

ON THE BACK OF A 2020 SEASON LOST TO A GLOBAL PANDEMIC, WE WERE HOPING TO BOUNCE BACK IN 2021. HOWEVER, DESPITE THE FRUSTRATING ON-AGAIN-OFF-AGAIN NATURE OF THE YEAR WE HAVE EXPERIENCED AND THE DIFFERENT COMPLEXITIES THAT OCCURRED AS A RESULT, ALL CLUBS AND STAKEHOLDERS REMAINED POSITIVE AND DEMONSTRATED A HIGH LEVEL OF PROFESSIONALISM AND PATIENCE, WHILST ADOPTING A COLLABORATIVE APPROACH TO WORK TOWARDS CLOSING OFF THE 2021 SEASON AS BEST AS POSSIBLE.

WHEN PRESENTED WITH TOUGH TIMES, IT PUTS EVERYONE UNDER PRESSURE TO MANAGE MANY ISSUES SIMULTANEOUSLY, AND IT WOULD BE UNDERSTANDABLE TO FALTER ALONG THE WAY. AS THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY WAS DOING IT TOUGH DURING THE PAST 24 MONTHS, ALL KEY CLUB LEADERS MANAGED TO DEAL WITH THEIR OWN PERSONAL CHALLENGES AS WELL AS MANAGE THEIR RESPECTIVE CLUBS, AND WORK WITH US AT THE SAME TIME. FOR THAT, I THANK YOU.

## UMPIRES

TO WRFL DIRECTOR OF UMPIRING MARK WESTGARTH AND ALL HIS SUPPORT STAFF, I THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED WORK AND LEADERSHIP WITHIN THIS SPACE AND EVERYTHING YOU DO TO FACILITATE ALL COMPETITIONS WITHIN THE WRFL EACH WEEK. THANK YOU FOR YOUR WORK TO KEEP THE ENTIRE GROUP ENGAGED AND MOTIVATED THROUGHOUT 2021.

UMPIRES ARE ESSENTIAL TO THE GAME, AND IT IS NOT AN EASY TASK MEETING THE DEMANDS OF A SEASON, LET ALONE A YEAR WITH SO MUCH CHANGE AND UNCERTAINTY AT TIMES. THE ADMINISTRATION'S RELATIONSHIP WITH THE WRFL UMPIRES ASSOCIATION REMAINS STRONG AND I MUST ACKNOWLEDGE THE WORK OF STEVE SUTTON AND TERRY O'DONNELL ALONG WITH THEIR COMMITTEE.

CONGRATULATIONS ON A SUCCESSFUL YEAR. I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU IN 2022.

## AWARDS

DESPITE THE SHORTENED SEASON, THE STANDARD OF FOOTBALL ON-FIELD WAS HIGH AND THERE WERE MANY STRONG INDIVIDUAL AND TEAM PERFORMANCES.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL TEAMS THAT FINISHED ON TOP OF THEIR RESPECTIVE LADDERS AND WERE ACKNOWLEDGED AS MINOR PREMIERS AND CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL INDIVIDUAL AWARD WINNERS FROM THE 2021 SEASON. I HAVE NO DOUBT ALL TEAMS WILL RETURN HUNGRY TO TASTE THE ULTIMATE SUCCESS IN 2022.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

TO THE WRFL ADMINISTRATION TEAM - GARY BROWN, JESSIE CHESTER, KELLY JONES, KIM PEAK, KRISTEN ALEBAKIS, KRISTY VIDOVIC, MATTHEW DUCK, PETER HARLEY AND STEPH REIMERS - THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND THE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS EACH OF YOU MAKE TO THE SMOOTH RUNNING OF THE COMPETITION.

ALSO THANK YOU DOMENICO LAMMARDO, MAJOK NGONG AND SHANNON GORE FROM AFL VICTORIA WHO SHARE THE OFFICE AT WHITTEN OVAL.

LAST BUT BY NO MEANS LEAST, A HUGE THANK YOU TO ALL CLUB VOLUNTEERS, INCLUDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND COACHES THAT WORKED TIRELESSLY THROUGH SEASON 2021 TO DRIVE YOUR RESPECTIVE CLUBS AND THE OVERALL COMPETITION FORWARD.

I HOPE EVERYONE ENJOYS A SMALL BREAK AND I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU IN 2022 TO GET ALL OUR COMPETITIONS BACK UP AND RUNNING.

**ADAM SPARROW**  
MANAGER FOOTBALL OPERATIONS





# JUNIOR FOOTBALL REPORT

JESSIE CHESTER



AS WE REACH THE CONCLUSION OF 2021, I HAVE ENJOYED REFLECTING ON WHAT WAS A UNIQUE YEAR AND LOOK AHEAD TO THE EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES THAT LIE AHEAD IN 2022.

LIKE MANY THINGS DURING COVID, THERE WAS A LOT OF UNCERTAINTY AROUND WHAT THE SEASON WOULD LOOK LIKE. IN 2021 WE SAW 197 JUNIOR TEAMS TAKE THE FIELD AND A RESTRUCTURE OF THE JUNIORS GIRLS COMPETITION MOVING TO DOUBLE AGES IN THE HOPES OF CREATING MORE COMPETITIVE DIVISIONS.

IT HAS BEEN AN INCREDIBLY CHALLENGING YEAR FOR ALL INVOLVED WITH JUNIOR FOOTBALL. WE GOT A TASTE OF COMPETITION ACROSS THE EARLY PART OF THE YEAR GETTING THROUGH 50% OF OUR SEASON BEFORE METROPOLITAN MELBOURNE WAS HIT WITH LOCKDOWNS THAT BROUGHT A STOP-START NATURE AND EVENTUALLY AN ABRUPT END TO THE SEASON.

AT WRFL HQ WE WERE BUSY PLANNING FOR DIFFERENT SCENARIOS THAT WOULD SEE US PLAY OUT A FINALS SERIES THAT RANGED FROM, A TOP FOUR KNOCKOUT, TO A TOP TWO PLAY-OFF, HOWEVER AS OUR ENVIRONMENT AROUND US WAS WORSENING WITH COVID, IT BECAME ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE FOR FOOTBALL TO RESUME.

WHILST WE COULDN'T HOST A FINALS SERIES THIS YEAR, WE CONGRATULATE ALL OUR MINOR PREMIERS AND BEST AND FAIREST WINNERS ON A FANTASTIC SEASON.

## INTERLEAGUE

AFTER A YEAR OF NO JUNIOR INTERLEAGUE, AND A RESCHEDULE OF DATES, WE FINALLY GOT TO EXPERIENCE THE EXCITEMENT OF SEEING THE NEXT BIG STARS OF THE WRFL TAKE THE FIELD OVER THE JULY SCHOOL HOLIDAYS.

THE WRFL'S TEAMS WON SEVERAL GAMES ACROSS SEVEN COMPETITIONS, WITH OUR UNDER 13A TEAM WINNING THE JUNIOR CARNIVAL SHIELD FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE 2014.

I'D LIKE TO EXTEND MY APPRECIATION AND GRATITUDE TO OUR COACHES WHOM WITHOUT THEIR HARD WORK AND DEDICATION IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE.

U13 A - MICHAEL FISHER  
U13 B - DARREN RYAN  
U14 DIVISION 1 - ARON LOMBARDI  
U14 DIVISION 2 - ZACH VESTY  
U15 DIVISION 1 - RICH MORROW  
U15 DIVISION 2 - MICHAEL GRECH  
U15 GIRLS - HAYLEY BABER

A SPECIAL MENTION AND THANK YOU TO ALBION, TARNEIT, LAVERTON, FLEMINGTON JUNIORS, POINT COOK CENTRALS, MANOR LAKES AND NEWPORT POWER JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUBS FOR OPENING AND MAKING YOUR FACILITIES AVAILABLE TO US TO HOST TRAINING AND GAMES.

## JUNIORS BOARD

DESPITE THE STOP-START NATURE OF THE SEASON, OUR JUNIORS BOARD DID NOT STOP WORKING. WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF ZOOM WE WERE STILL ABLE TO MEET REGULARLY AND CONTINUE WORKING ON IMPLEMENTING STRATEGIES AND PROGRAMS TO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE WRFL'S STRATEGIC PLAN, WHICH WILL FURTHER ASSIST IN TAKING OUR JUNIOR COMPETITION TO NEW HEIGHTS.

OUR FOCUS FOR NOW IS LOOKING AHEAD TO OUR JUNIOR FORUM IN FEBRUARY AND ENSURING THE CONTENT WE DELIVER IS GOING TO SET UP OUR CLUBS FOR A SUCCESSFUL 2022. A SPECIAL MENTION TO OUR CHAIRMAN KEITH BROWN, HIS PASSION FOR GROWTH IN THE JUNIOR SPACE AND FOCUS ON MAKING LIFE EASIER FOR OUR VOLUNTEERS IS REMARKABLE.

## 2022

SEASON 2022 IS SHAPING UP TO BE AN EXCITING YEAR FOR OUR JUNIORS, WITH THE WRFL ADMINISTRATION TEAM WORKING CLOSELY WITH AFL VICTORIA ON A NUMBER OF AUSKICK TO JUNIOR TRANSITION PIECES WITH THE END GOAL OF SIGNIFICANTLY GROWING OUR UNDER 8'S, 9'S AND 10'S ACROSS THE LEAGUE.

IN ADDITION TO THESE INITIATIVES THERE WILL BE CONTINUED SUPPORT AND FOCUS ON OUR JUNIOR GIRL'S COMPETITIONS WITH SEVERAL STRATEGIES IMPLEMENTED, ONE BEING THE INTRODUCTION OF OUR FEMALE DEVELOPMENT NETWORK, TO ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION OF JUNIOR GIRLS TO OUR GAME AS WELL AS THE TOOLS AND GUIDANCE NEEDED TO START UP AND GROW NEW GIRL'S TEAMS ACROSS THE REGION.

I'D LIKE TO GIVE A MASSIVE THANK YOU TO THE WRFL ADMINISTRATION TEAM, STEPPING INTO THE SHOES OF WRFL JUNIOR FOOTBALL MANAGER - STEPHANIE REIMERS - ALBEIT TEMPORARILY, WAS ALWAYS GOING TO PROVE A GIANT TASK. STEPH DOES A POWER OF WORK AND IS ONE OF THE BEST IN THE BUSINESS. I THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONFIDENCE AND FAITH IN MY ABILITY TO LOOK AFTER ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ELEMENTS OF OUR LEAGUE, THE JUNIOR SPACE.

FINALLY, THANK YOU TO OUR 34 CLUBS AND EVERY SINGLE ONE OF OUR VOLUNTEERS WHO WORK TIRELESSLY BEHIND THE SCENES. I'VE THOROUGHLY ENJOYED WORKING WITH YOU ALL. WHILST IT WASN'T THE YEAR WE HAD PLANNED FOR, YOU TOO SUPPORTED US EVERY TIME THE GOAL POSTS MOVED AND THAT SUPPORT NEVER GOES UNNOTICED. I LOOK FORWARD TO A RETURN TO OUR FIELDS IN 2022, THE SENSE OF NORMALITY IT WILL BRING AND AM ALREADY COUNTING DOWN THE DAYS!

**JESSIE CHESTER**  
FOOTBALL & NETBALL  
OPERATIONS COORDINATOR





# NETBALL REPORT

ADAM SPARROW & JESSIE CHESTER

OFF THE BACK OF A DISAPPOINTING 2020 SEASON, THE EXCITEMENT AND ANTICIPATION THAT WAS BUILDING TO GET BACK ONTO OUR COURTS FOR THE 2021 VICTORIA UNIVERSITY WRFL NETBALL COMPETITION WAS GREAT TO SEE.

THERE WAS FANTASTIC ENTHUSIASM AND POSITIVITY THROUGHOUT THE EARLY STAGES OF THE YEAR, IN PREPARATION FOR THE WRFL'S FIRST EVER PRE-SEASON ROUND ROBIN COMPETITION. THIS INITIATIVE ACTED AS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR PLAYERS TO DUST OFF THE COBWEBS AND RETURN TO THE COURT. IT WAS ALSO A CHANCE FOR CLUBS TO HOST TRY OUTS AS WELL AS PROVIDE THE LEAGUE A CHANCE TO LOOK AT THE EARLY STAGES OF GRADING.

THE GROWING NUMBER OF CLUBS PARTICIPATING IN THE NETBALL COMPETITION IS CERTAINLY ONE TO CELEBRATE. THIS SEASON SAW RAPID GROWTH IN TEAM NUMBERS, WHICH LED TO HOSTING FOUR DIVISIONS. IN 2021 WE OFFICIALLY WELCOMED ALBANVALE, SUNSHINE HEIGHTS, WYNDHAMVALE AND LAVERTON INTO THE MIX, WITH THE TOTAL NUMBER OF TEAMS EXPANDING FROM 18 (IN 2019) TO 30, SHOWING A 66% INCREASE IN 2021.

OVER THE PAST COUPLE OF MONTHS, NEW CLUBS HAVE BEEN EXPRESSING AN INTEREST IN FORMING NETBALL TEAMS AS WELL AS CURRENT CLUBS IN THE COMPETITION STATING THEIR INTENT TO FURTHER ADD TO THEIR NUMBER OF TEAMS, WHICH HAS BEEN GREAT TO SEE. THE FUTURE OF WRFL NETBALL CERTAINLY LOOKS BRIGHT.

IT HAS BEEN A CHALLENGING YEAR FOR ALL INVOLVED WITH NETBALL THIS YEAR. WE PERSONALLY HAVE FOUND 2021 TO BE SIGNIFICANTLY HARDER THAN 2020 DUE TO GETTING A REAL TASTE OF THE COMPETITIONS, THE STOP START NATURE AND EVENTUALLY HAVING IT CANCELLED SO ABRUPTLY.

AT WRFL HQ, WE WERE BUSY PLANNING HOW NETBALL COULD RESUME AND CLOSE OUT THE SEASON WITH PREMIERSHIPS. HOWEVER, AS THE ENVIRONMENT WAS EVER CHANGING, SO TOO WAS OUR LANDSCAPE AND IT BECAME INCREASINGLY APPARENT THAT NETBALL IN 2021 WASN'T GOING TO BE ABLE TO CONTINUE FURTHER.

WHILST WE WEREN'T ABLE TO HOST A FINALS SERIES, WE CONGRATULATE ALL OF OUR MINOR PREMIERS, LEADING GOAL SCORERS AND BEST AND FAIREST WINNERS ON A FANTASTIC SEASON.

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE WRFL AND NETBALL VICTORIA ONLY STRENGTHENED IN 2021.

THIS YEAR WE WERE SET TO HAND OVER ACCESS TO THE DATABASE TO CLUBS THROUGH MY NETBALL, HOWEVER NETBALL VICTORIA HAVE SINCE INTRODUCED AN ENTIRELY NEW PLATFORM CALLED NETBALL CONNECT, WHICH IS SIGNIFICANTLY MORE USER FRIENDLY FOR CLUBS AND WILL SIMPLIFY THE CURRENT PROCESSES CONCERNING GAMES TRACKING, GOAL SCORING TALLIES AND TEAM SHEETS.

THIS NEW PLATFORM GIVES CLUBS FULL CONTROL OVER THEIR REGISTRATIONS AND MEMBER PROCESSES. NETBALL VICTORIA IS SET TO COMMENCE TRAINING WITH OUR CLUBS IN FEBRUARY NEXT YEAR.

THIS YEAR ALSO SAW US REGISTER A TEAM IN THE NETBALL VICTORIA ASSOCIATION CHAMPIONSHIPS, A VERY EXCITING INITIATIVE WHICH WOULD HAVE SEEN THE WRFL'S FIRST EVER REPRESENTATIVE NETBALL SIDE. UNFORTUNATELY, MUCH LIKE OTHER INITIATIVES IT WAS UNABLE TO GET OFF THE GROUND DUE TO LOCKDOWNS, BUT IS CERTAINLY SOMETHING WE WILL BE REVISITING IN 2022 AND ARE VERY EXCITED ABOUT.

WE THANK NETBALL VICTORIA FOR THEIR ONGOING SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE.

NONE OF THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT MANY LEAGUE STAKEHOLDERS, NAMELY VICTORIA UNIVERSITY, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY THE 13 PARTICIPATING CLUBS AND THEIR RESPECTIVE NETBALL COORDINATORS AND COMMITTEES. A SPECIAL MENTION TO OUR UMPIRE AND COURT SUPERVISOR CORSINA AQUILINA, WE APPRECIATE ALL YOU DO FOR US AND LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU IN THE FUTURE.

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE WRFL ADMINISTRATION TEAM; MATT, STEPH, KRISTY, KRISTEN AND GARY FOR THEIR ONGOING SUPPORT. LAST BUT CERTAINLY NOT LEAST, WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL CLUBS, PLAYERS, AND COACHES FOR THEIR SUPPORT DURING THIS CHALLENGING TIME AND ADAPTING EVERY TIME THE GOAL POSTS WERE MOVED. YOUR PASSION AND ENTHUSIASM FOR THE COMPETITION IS SECOND TO NONE. WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU ALL AS WE CONTINUE TO GROW THE COMPETITION IN THE FUTURE. WE HAVE LEARNED HOW IMPORTANT COMMUNITY SPORT IS TO OUR REGION AND BELIEVE OUR GROWING NETBALL COMPETITION WILL RETURN BIGGER AND BETTER IN 2022.

ADAM SPARROW & JESSIE CHESTER





# MEDIA REPORT

KRISTEN ALEBAKIS



WITH THE EVER-CHANGING DIGITAL LANDSCAPE, THE DEMAND FOR COMMUNITY FOOTBALL AND NETBALL NEWS IS GREATER THAN EVER.

LAST YEAR TAUGHT US WE HAD TO BECOME MORE CREATIVE IN THE WAY WE WORKED, WITH THE APPETITE FOR CONTENT GROWING ACROSS ALL FORMS OF SOCIAL MEDIA.

LIKE MOST YEARS, THE GOAL IN 2021 WAS TO GROW THE WRFL'S DIGITAL PRESENCE AS WELL AS PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE COVERAGE OF ALL SENIOR AND JUNIOR COMPETITIONS. THROUGH NEW PARTNERSHIPS AND INITIATIVES, I BELIEVE THE LEAGUE CONTINUES TO DELIVER NEW, ORIGINAL, AND EXCITING CONTENT FOR OUR AUDIENCE.

DESPITE THE SEASON CUT SHORT DUE TO THE EXTENDED LOCKDOWN, THERE WAS STILL PLENTY TO CELEBRATE BOTH ON AND OFF THE FIELD, WHICH RESULTED IN SIGNIFICANT ENGAGEMENT ACROSS ALL MEDIA PLATFORMS.

THE WRFL'S INSTAGRAM PAGE SURPASSED 10,000 FOLLOWERS, WE REGISTERED ALMOST 500,000 VIDEO VIEWS ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE, HAD 103,585 SCREEN VIEWS ON THE WRFL LIVE APP AND THE PLAYERS TAKE WITH KA & J PODCAST ALSO GREW ITS LISTENERS IN ITS SECOND SEASON.

SOCIAL MEDIA IS AN IMPORTANT TOOL AND THE WRFL'S CHANNELS CONTINUE TO SHOW GREAT AUDIENCE ENGAGEMENT, WITH PLENTY OF IDEAS ALREADY PLANNED FOR 2022.

## MEDIA DAY

THE WRFL'S MEDIA DAY CONTINUES TO GET BIGGER AND BIGGER EACH YEAR, WITH UP TO FIVE PLAYERS FROM EACH CLUB ATTENDING THIS YEAR'S EVENT.

HELD AT THE WERRIBEE FOOTBALL CLUB, SEVERAL VIDEO AND PHOTOGRAPHY STATIONS WERE SET UP, WITH THE DAY AN UNDOUBTED SUCCESS.

THE CONTENT PRODUCED IN ONE DAY IS INVALUABLE, WITH KEY COMMUNITY CAMPAIGNS AND VIDEOS CREATED.

DAYS LIKE THIS AREN'T POSSIBLE WITHOUT THE HELP AND GUIDANCE OF SPORTSCAST AUSTRALIA AND LOCAL LEGENDS PHOTOGRAPHY, WHO ARE BOTH EXPERTS IN THEIR FIELD. THE OFFICE TEAM ALSO DEDICATE THEIR OWN TIME TO HELP BRING MY IDEAS TO LIFE AND I AM FOREVER GRATEFUL FOR THEIR SUPPORT.

## GAME DAY FOOTAGE

THIS YEAR WAS OUR FIRST SEASON WITH SPORTSCAST AUSTRALIA AS OUR OFFICIAL FILMING PROVIDER. ANDREW MCLEISH AND HIS TEAM PROVIDED THE DIVISION 1 COMPETITION WITH EXCELLENT GAME DAY VISION.

AS PART OF OUR PARTNERSHIP, VIDEO HIGHLIGHTS FROM ALL FIVE GAMES EACH ROUND WERE CREATED AS WELL AS A TOP FIVE PLAYS OF THE WEEK VIDEO. THIS GAVE OUR AUDIENCE AN OPPORTUNITY TO RELIVE THE BEST BITS FROM THE WEEKEND AND IN TURN GROW OUR DIGITAL FOOTPRINT.

DESPITE THE SEASON BEING CUT SHORT, THERE WAS STILL PLENTY OF FOOTBALL PLAYED AND LOTS OF HIGHLIGHTS CELEBRATED ACROSS SOCIAL MEDIA. WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING TOGETHER IN 2022 AND BUILDING ON WHAT WE PRODUCED THIS YEAR.

## PRESENTATIONS

THIS YEAR'S BEST AND FAIREST CELEBRATIONS WENT ONLINE FOR THE FIRST TIME. WE COULDN'T HOST THE TRADITIONAL END OF SEASON EVENTS DUE TO LOCKDOWN, SO INSTEAD WE CREATED A SERIES OF CELEBRATIONS ACKNOWLEDGING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF PLAYERS, COACHES AND VOLUNTEERS ACROSS A FOUR WEEK BLOCK.

EACH WEEK WE PREMIERED A SERIES OF VIDEOS AND POSTS ANNOUNCING WINNERS ACROSS OUR NETBALL, JUNIOR, SENIOR WOMEN'S AND SENIOR MEN'S COMPETITIONS. THE PREMIERED VIDEOS RECORDED MORE THAN 10,000 COMBINED VIEWS ON FACEBOOK, WITH ENGAGEMENT LEVELS AMONG THE HIGHEST OF THE YEAR.

WE BEAMED THE PRESENTATION INTO PEOPLE'S HOMES GIVING FANS ACROSS THE LEAGUE A CHANCE TO TUNE IN AND WATCH ALONG AS WE ANNOUNCED THE WINNERS. IT WAS A NEW AND POPULAR INITIATIVE THAT COULD BECOME THE NORM AS WE MOVE INTO A POST COVID WORLD.

## VOLUNTEERS

THE WRFL MEDIA TEAM IS A SPECIAL ONE. WE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO PRODUCE THE CONTENT OR COVER EVERY CORNER OF THE LEAGUE WITHOUT THESE VOLUNTEERS, WHOSE PASSION AND DEDICATION FOR FOOTBALL IS INFECTIOUS.

I WANTED TO THANK OUR REPORTERS, NICK BOYLAN, CONNOR PAIN, KEL ROWE, LEO MULLALY AND JERRY NG FOR THEIR WORK IN 2021.

WE HAD SOME CHALLENGES THIS YEAR, BUT OUR RADIO TEAM WAS ABLE TO DELIVER HIGH QUALITY COVERAGE ON 88.9 WYN FM. THANK YOU TO ANDREW WILSON, NICK BOYLAN, DARREN PARKIN, CONNOR PAIN AND TO TEO PELLIZZERI FOR THEIR PROFESSIONALISM AND EFFORTS THROUGHOUT THE SEASON.

FINALLY, I WANTED TO THANK ALL CLUBS, COACHES, PLAYERS, AND UMPIRES FOR THEIR ONGOING SUPPORT. YOUR ENTHUSIASM TO BE INVOLVED IN MEDIA ACTIVATIONS ACROSS THE SEASON IS WHAT MAKES MY JOB SO ENJOYABLE. WITHOUT YOUR WILLINGNESS TO PARTICIPATE, WE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO CREATE THE CONTENT THAT IS THE ENVY OF ALL COMMUNITY FOOTY.

THANK YOU TO THE WRFL OFFICE TEAM. LIKE LAST YEAR, MOST OF THIS SEASON WE HAVE WORKED FROM HOME AND HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO WORK TOGETHER AS MUCH AS WE WOULD HAVE LIKED, HOWEVER WE HAVE STUCK TOGETHER LIKE ALL GOOD TEAMS DO AND HAVE AGAIN NAVIGATED OUR WAY THROUGH A CHALLENGING YEAR.

2022 PROMISES TO BE ONE OF THE BEST AND MOST EXCITING YEARS OF COMMUNITY SPORT WE HAVE EVER SEEN. LIKE MANY OF YOU, I AM EXCITED TO SEE WHAT THE NEW YEAR WILL BRING.

**KRISTEN ALEBAKIS**  
MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS  
MANAGER





# 2021 MOST WATCHED VIDEOS

MEDIA



IZZY GRANT DEBUTS



2021 SEASON LAUNCH



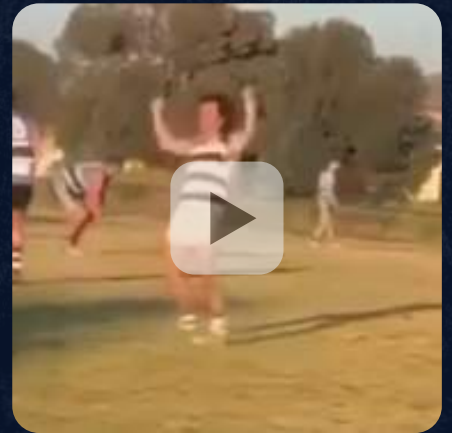
SILVER YOUSIF CELEBRATES



FIRST SONG OF 2021



FOOTY RETURNS AFTER COVID BREAK



EVERYTHING IS BETTER WITH TITANIC MUSIC



THE SEASON THAT WAS



GARETH THE FLYING EAGLE



BULLDOGS INTO THE GRAND FINAL



# CLUB DEVELOPMENT REPORT

GARY BROWN



IT IS WITH GREAT DELIGHT THAT I PRESENT MY FIRST REPORT AS THE CLUB SUPPORT MANAGER OF THE WRFL HAVING COMMENCED MY ROLE ON THE EVE OF THE SEASON IN MID-MARCH.

FIRSTLY, I WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE DIFFICULTIES AND STRUGGLES MANY OF OUR CLUBS EXPERIENCED THIS YEAR IN GETTING TEAMS ON THE PARK, SOURCING VOLUNTEERS AND THEN THE SEASON BEING TORN APART AGAIN WITH THE ONGOING LOCKDOWNS.

ON THE BACK OF NO FOOTBALL AND AUSKICK IN 2020, JUNIOR TEAMS TOOK A BIG HIT THIS YEAR PARTICULARLY IN THE YOUNGER AGE GROUPS. THIS IS NOT A REFLECTION OF CLUBS, INDIVIDUALS, OR THE LEAGUE AS IT HAPPENED ACROSS MELBOURNE, WITH FOOTBALL NOT THE ONLY SPORT AFFECTED. ONWARDS AND UPWARDS NOW TOWARDS 2022!



IT WAS, HOWEVER, FANTASTIC CATCHING UP WITH CLUB PRESIDENTS, JUNIOR ADMINISTRATORS, AND HARD-WORKING VOLUNTEERS OVER THE COURSE OF THE SEASON ALL OF WHICH ASSISTED ME GREATLY IN GAINING A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF THE CLUBS, INCLUDING LEARNING, AND IDENTIFYING CHALLENGES THAT MAY BE PRESENT. I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO BUILDING ON THOSE RELATIONSHIPS AND WORKING ON STRATEGIES TO SEE OUR CLUBS GROW AND PROSPER.

ONE OF OUR KEY STRATEGIC PRIORITIES IS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT WITH A FOCUS TO RAISE AWARENESS OF AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL, SPECIFICALLY AROUND THE CLUBS IN THE EXTREME MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITY AREAS. SEVERAL OF OUR CLUBS ARE ON THE PRECIPICE AND THE COLLECTIVE SURVIVAL OF THESE CLUBS WILL BE DEPENDANT ON THEIR ABILITY TO TRULY CONNECT WITH THEIR MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITIES. MY ROLE IS TO ASSIST THEM IN THAT PROCESS. ON THE BACK OF THE WONDERFUL SUPPORT AND FUNDING FROM THE BRIMBANK AND MARIBYRNONG COUNCILS, WE ARE DEVELOPING STAKEHOLDER AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVES THAT WILL ADD SOCIAL VALUE AND SUPPORT PROGRAM ACCESSIBILITY, EQUALITY, AND INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENTS.

THESE PROGRAMS WILL BE LINKED TO THE WRFL CLUBS THAT ARE NEARBY. TOGETHER WITH AFL VICTORIA, WE HAVE DEVELOPED PROGRAMS THROUGHOUT THE INNER WEST AND PARTS OF WYNDHAM THAT WILL BE OPEN TO ALL BUT TARGETED AT SPECIFIC COMMUNITIES.

THE TRADITIONAL MEANS OF FOOTBALL ENGAGEMENT DOESN'T WORK IN AREAS OF EXTREME CULTURALLY DIVERSE AREAS. WE MUST APPROACH FOOTBALL ENGAGEMENT DIFFERENTLY BY TAKING OUR GAME DIRECTLY TO OUR COMMUNITIES RATHER THAN JUST EXPECTING THEM TO COME TO US.



IT CERTAINLY IS A CHANGING LANDSCAPE. CONNECTING WITH OUR COMMUNITIES IS SO IMPORTANT AND THIS APPROACH WILL HOPEFULLY SEE OUR CLUBS BE MORE REFLECTIVE OF THEIR OWN DEMOGRAPHIC AND AS A RESULT THEY WILL PROSPER AND REMAIN VITAL AND SUSTAINABLE WELL INTO THE FUTURE.

WRFL STAFF ARE ALSO WORKING CLOSELY WITH AFL VICTORIA'S PARTICIPATION REGION STAFF AND THE BENEFITS ARE ALREADY BEING SEEN. BUILDING STRONGER LINKS BETWEEN AUSKICK CENTRES AND LOCAL CLUBS, PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AND EDUCATION FOR COACHES, CLUB ADMINISTRATORS AND VOLUNTEERS, AND AN INCREASING NUMBER OF TARGETED PROGRAMS INTRODUCING THE GAME IN SCHOOLS, MOSQUES, AND PLACES OF WORSHIP THROUGHOUT THE WEST.

WHILE SOME GOALS HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED THE RESULTS OF THIS DEVELOPMENT WORK WILL BECOME MORE OBVIOUS GOING FORWARD WITH IMPROVED STABILITY BACK IN OUR SOCIETY AND CLUBS AND CLEARER PATHWAYS FOR PLAYERS FROM INTRODUCTORY PROGRAMS TO CLUB FOOTBALL. I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING ALONGSIDE EVERYONE AND ENCOURAGE ANYONE TO REACH OUT WHERE WE MAY BE ABLE TO ASSIST.

**GARY BROWN**  
CLUB SUPPORT MANAGER



# UMPIRE REPORT

MARK WESTGARTH



WE STARTED 2020 WITH A FULL PRE-SEASON AND LIKE ALL CLUBS NEVER GOT TO THE FIRST BOUNCE. WE WERE BACK IN 2021, BUT THAT WAS CUT SHORT WITH ONLY 12 ROUNDS PLAYED. LIKE ALL FOOTBALLERS AND CLUBS, THE UMPIRES WERE DISAPPOINTED THAT WE COULD NOT COMPLETE SEASON 2021 AFTER LOSING ALL OF 2020.

HOWEVER, OVER THE COURSE OF THIS SEASON WE WORKED ON DEVELOPING OUR JUNIOR UMPIRES AS UMPIRE NUMBERS REDUCED FROM THE PREVIOUS SEASON. THIS HAD AN IMPACT ON CLUBS WHO WERE THEN PLACED IN A POSITION TO FIND AN UMPIRE FOR THEIR GAME WHEN THEY WERE ALSO FACING REDUCED PLAYER NUMBERS.

WE ESTABLISHED A COMMUNITY UMPIRING TALENT ACADEMY, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE NAB LEAGUE WESTERN JETS, FOR YOUNGER UMPIRES WHO ASPIRE TO UMPIRE IN THE VFL AND HIGHER. THESE YOUNG UMPIRES WERE THEN PROVIDED THE OPPORTUNITY TO UMPIRE WESTERN JETS PRACTICE MATCHES PRE-SEASON AND THEY

THEN UMPIRED IN VFLW AND NAB LEAGUE GIRLS AND BOYS GAMES EARLY IN THE 2021 SEASON. THEY ALSO UMPIRED WITH VFL DEVELOPMENT UMPIRES ALLOWING THEM TO ENHANCE THEIR SKILLS.

ONGOING SKILLS SESSIONS WERE RUN PHYSICALLY IN THE PRE-SEASON WHILST ONLINE SESSIONS WERE HELD WITH CURRENT AFL UMPIRES AROUND LEADERSHIP, GOAL SETTING, FITNESS AND DIET. THE SKILLS DEVELOPED IN THE ACADEMY WILL BENEFIT THE WRFL AS THOSE UMPIRES CONTINUE TO IMPROVE THEIR UMPIRING SKILLS WHICH IN TURN IMPROVES THE OVERALL STANDARD OF FOOTBALL IN THE WRFL.

WE HAD A NUMBER OF NEW COACHES AND OBSERVERS ADDED TO THE UMPIRING DEPARTMENT WHICH AGAIN PROVIDED ONGOING FEEDBACK TO ALL UMPIRES, ALLOWING THEM TO FURTHER DEVELOP THEIR UMPIRING SKILLS.

OUR CHALLENGE IS TO GROW OUR UMPIRING GROUP. THE WRFL HAVE SUPPORTED AN EX-PLAYER PROGRAM INTO UMPIRING AND THIS WILL CONTINUE AS A NUMBER OF EX-PLAYERS HAVE ENJOYED BEING INVOLVED WITH THE UMPIRING FRATERNITY. CLEARLY VERY DIFFERENT TO PLAYING BUT IF YOU HAVE HAD ENOUGH OF WAKING UP EVERY SUNDAY FEELING BATTERED AND BRUISED THEN UMPIRING ALLOWS YOU TO STILL BE INVOLVED IN FOOTBALL, KEEP OR IMPROVE YOUR FITNESS, AND GET PAID.

THE WRFL UMPIRES UTILISE WRFL TV, ALLOWING US TO SHOW GAME-DAY VISION IN A COACHING SESSION AGAIN TO FURTHER DEVELOP OUR SKILLS. WE WERE ALSO ABLE TO RECORD VISION AT TRAINING AND THEN USE THAT VISION AS A COACHING TOOL FOR THOSE WHO COULD NOT MAKE IT TO TRAINING AND FURTHER REFINE WHAT WAS REQUIRED IN SEASON 2021 IN PARTICULAR THE NEW STAND AND 15M KICK IN RULE.

THERE HAS BEEN A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF CHANGES TO THE RULES FROM 2019 TO 2021, SO THREE SEASONS BUT ONLY 1.6 SEASONS TO PLAY WITHIN THOSE CHANGES.

CREDIT TO EVERY CLUB AS THEY HAVE EMBRACED AND WORKED WITH US TO ENSURE A SMOOTH AS POSSIBLE TRANSITION ACROSS ALL GRADES.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO A 'NORMAL' 2022 WRFL SEASON. IN THAT, I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK EVERYONE IN THE WRFL FOOTBALL COMMUNITY FOR YOUR SUPPORT OVER THE PAST TWO SEASONS, AND TO CONGRATULATE EVERY UMPIRE, UMPIRE COACH AND UMPIRE OBSERVER FOR PERSEVERING IN WHAT WAS A CHALLENGING TWO SEASONS.

**MARK WESTGARTH**  
DIRECTOR OF UMPIRING





# TRIBUNAL REPORT



ADRIAN NOBLE

THE TRIBUNAL OF 2021 BEGAN WITH FIVE NEW PANEL MEMBERS WITH A VARYING DEGREE OF EXPERIENCE AND SPORTING BACKGROUNDS. THE NEW TEAM WORKED WELL TOGETHER THROUGHOUT THE YEAR AND THEIR DEDICATION OF TIME AND EFFORTS ARE APPRECIATED BY THE WRFL.

A SPECIAL THANKS TO THE TRIBUNAL OF 2021:

- JIM SIMMONDS (DEPUTY CHAIR)
- DARREN MAYNE (DEPUTY CHAIR)
- RENE VANKUYK (TRIBUNAL SECRETARY)
- ANDREW COOK
- ANGELA COULSON
- BRONTE DOUGLAS-SCARFE
- DAVID FOLEY
- HENRIETTA GELBER
- IAN HAMM
- TOM HEDDITCH
- ASH JOSEPH
- JILL MCBAIN
- MICHAEL MCNAMARA

- ROWAN MIFSUD
- NICK PAPADOPOULOS
- FRANK PLATA
- DONNA WATSON
- JAMES WESTON
- JULIE WOODS
- ARTHUR WRIGHT

SPECIAL THANKS TO ANDREW COOK AND JILL MCBAIN WHO ALSO MOVED ON IN 2021.

THERE WERE 1387 GAMES PLAYED ACROSS THE WHOLE OF THE WRFL THIS SEASON. THIS INCLUDED 282 SENIOR MEN'S, 60 SENIOR WOMEN'S, 910 JUNIOR BOYS AND 135 JUNIOR GIRLS GAMES.

THERE WAS A TOTAL OF 58 CHARGES LAID (SET PENALTIES AND TRIBUNAL APPEARANCES). PLAYERS AND OFFICIALS WERE SUSPENDED FOR A TOTAL OF 203 GAMES.

OF THE 203 GAMES IMPOSED, 55 GAMES (27%) RELATED TO

SUSPENSIONS GIVEN TO TWO SPECTATORS AND 77 GAMES (38%) RELATED TO SUSPENSIONS GIVEN TO SIX OFFICIALS ON 10 CHARGES FOR INCIDENTS THAT OCCURRED OVER SIX GAMES.

THE SUSPENSIONS HANDED DOWN TO THESE SPECTATORS AND OFFICIALS REPRESENT 65% OF THE TOTAL SUSPENSIONS HANDED OUT ACROSS THE LEAGUE.

STRIKING OR ATTEMPTING TO STRIKE WAS THE MOST COMMON OFFENCE (41%). DOWN FROM 57% ON 2019.

UMPIRE RELATED OFFENCES REPRESENTED 14%. UP FROM 9% ON 2019.

**ADRIAN NOBLE**  
TRIBUNAL CHAIRMAN





# STRATEGIC PLAN

2019-2022

## PURPOSE STATEMENT

OUR PURPOSE IS TO ENSURE A WELL-RUN, SUSTAINABLE FOOTBALL & NETBALL COMPETITION THAT PROMOTES THE GROWTH OF THE GAME IN THE WESTERN REGION. WE DO THIS BY PROVIDING:

- A SAFE & INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR INDIVIDUALS, CLUBS & COMMUNITY TO THRIVE;
- A VALUED COMMUNITY FOR THE WEST & ALL OF OUR STAKEHOLDERS.

## THE OBJECTIVES

### OUR PRODUCT & PLACE

1. COMMISSION AN UPDATED WESTERN METROPOLITAN REGION FOOTBALL FACILITIES STRATEGY, & REASSEMBLE A COUNCIL WORKING PARTY TO ASSIST IN DELIVERING ON ITS RECOMMENDATIONS.
2. DEVELOP FACILITIES WITH A PARTICULAR FOCUS ON THOSE IDENTIFIED AS A PRIORITY FOR FINALS-HOSTING, INCLUDING POTENTIAL FENCING PROVISIONS.
3. STRENGTHEN TIES WITH ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ANNUAL WRFL/COUNCIL FORUM.
4. IN COOPERATION WITH LOCAL COUNCILS & AFL VICTORIA, FACILITATE ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW FOOTBALL CLUBS AS CLEARLY VIABLE OPPORTUNITIES PRESENT.
5. GROW THE WRFL'S NETBALL COMPETITION TO NO LESS THAN FIVE (5) DIVISIONS BY 2022.
6. DRIVE GREATER COLLABORATION WITH AFL VICTORIA ON AUSKICK CENTRES & SCHOOLS & ASSOCIATED PATHWAY-FOCUSED INITIATIVES TO INCREASE JUNIOR RECRUITMENT & RETENTION.
7. ESTABLISH A REGIONAL UMPIRING TRAINING VENUE.
8. DRIVE UMPIRING PARTICIPATION & FILL-RATES VIA A NUMBER OF TARGETED & UNIQUE INITIATIVES.
9. CONTINUALLY MODERATE THE LEVEL OF PAYMENTS TO PLAYERS.
10. CONDUCT RESEARCH & ANALYSIS ON THE WESTERN REGION FOOTBALL ENVIRONMENT WITH A VIEW TO BETTER UNDERSTANDING TRENDS WITH REGARDS TO WHERE THE GAME & CLUBS ARE HEADING IN THE NEXT 10 YEARS, AS WELL AS CONSIDERATION OF ANY APPLICABLE RECOMMENDATION(S) ASSOCIATED WITH THE ANALYSIS.

### OUR PEOPLE & CULTURE

11. ACHIEVE 100% COMPLIANCE WITH REGARD TO BASE-LEVEL COACHING ACCREDITATIONS.
12. PROVIDE FURTHER COACH DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES IN CONJUNCTION WITH OUR AFL AFFILIATES.
13. DELIVER PROJECTS & CHARITABLE INITIATIVES THAT PROVIDE A MEANINGFUL CONTRIBUTION TO OUR COMMUNITY VIA SELECT COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS.
14. INTRODUCE FURTHER MEANS OF SUPPORT FOR FIRST-THIRD YEAR CLUB PRESIDENTS/LEADERS.
15. IMPLEMENT ANNUAL LEAGUE-WIDE CLUB HEALTH CHECKS, WITH INTERVENTION INITIATIVES FOR THOSE CONSIDERED 'AT RISK'.
16. ENGAGE GREATER COLLABORATION WITH OTHER LEAGUES, INCLUDING TAILORED STAFF WORKSHOPS &/OR 'CLUB MASTERCLASS' INITIATIVES.
17. ENHANCE TRAINING & EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR STAFF & ALL LEVELS OF CLUB VOLUNTEERS.
18. ENHANCE TRAINING & EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES IN DIVERSITY & INCLUSION INITIATIVES TO BETTER ENGAGE MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE.
19. INCREASE FEMALE FOOTBALL PARTICIPATION IN ON-FIELD (PLAYING &/OR SUPPORT) ROLES & OFF-FIELD (ADMINISTRATIVE) ROLES AT ALL LEVELS.

### COMMUNICATION & ENGAGEMENT

20. CONTINUALLY DEVELOP THE WRFL WEBSITE & OTHER DIGITAL PLATFORMS, INCLUDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF E-COMMERCE.
21. IMPROVE CLUB DIGITAL MEDIA KNOW-HOW & PRESENCE.
22. INTRODUCE ADVANCED ANALYTICS TOOLS & AUDIENCE-CAPTURING INITIATIVES.
23. ENSURE GREATER UTILISATION OF DIGITAL PLATFORMS TO INTEGRATE & ASSIST IN CLUB SKILLS TRAINING.
24. ENGAGE INITIATIVES THAT POSITION THE WRFL AS THE PREMIER COMMUNITY FOOTBALL LEAGUE FOR VIDEO CONTENT.
25. BOLSTER THE SUITE OF TOOLS USED TO DISSEMINATE KEY INFORMATION FROM LEAGUE OFFICE TO THE WRFL COMMUNITY.

### OUR FINANCIAL VIABILITY

26. ACHIEVE A RESPONSIBLE & SUSTAINABLE NET ASSETS POSITION WITHOUT INCREASING ADMINISTRATION CHARGES TO CLUBS.
27. CONTINUALLY INCREASE COMMERCIAL PARTNERSHIP INCOME, LESSENING RELIANCE ON CLUB AFFILIATION.
28. CONTINUALLY SEEK TO ESTABLISH ALTERNATIVE REVENUE STREAMS.
29. PROVIDE & ENCOURAGE THE USE OF STANDARDISED CLUB BUDGETING TEMPLATES & END-OF-YEAR CLUB FINANCIAL REPORTING MECHANISMS/TEMPLATES.
30. EXPLORE THE NOTION OF ESTABLISHING A FOUNDATION.
31. ESTABLISH A BUSINESS ADVISORY GROUP, AIMED AT ASSISTING THE LEAGUE IN TAPPING INTO GREATER BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES.

## THE MEASURES THAT MATTER

### PARTICIPATION

- OVERALL PARTICIPATION
- NUMBER OF TEAMS - SENIORS/JUNIORS/FEMALE/NETBALL
- PLAYER RETENTION RATES - SENIORS/JUNIORS/FEMALE/NETBALL

### UMPIRING

- UMPIRE APPOINTMENT FILL RATES - SENIORS/JUNIORS/FEMALE/NETBALL
- UMPIRE RETENTION RATES
- UMPIRE DOUBLE-UP MATCH PERCENTAGE
- UMPIRE AGE PROFILE

### FACILITIES

- FACILITY INVESTMENT PER COUNCIL (YEAR-ON-YEAR)
- INDIVIDUAL FACILITY REVIEW SCORES (YEAR-ON-YEAR)
- INDIVIDUAL FACILITY REVIEW SCORES (AVERAGE PER COUNCIL)

### COMPETITION

- AVERAGE WINNING MARGINS - SENIORS/JUNIORS/FEMALE/NETBALL
- NUMBER OF CLUBS PLAYING FINALS
- NUMBER OF CLUBS WINNING PREMIERSHIPS

### CLUB HEALTH & GAME DEVELOPMENT

- CLUB HEALTH CHECK RESULTS
- AFL COMMUNITY CLUB IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM STATUS
- PERCENTAGE OF ACCREDITED COACHES
- AUSKICK/SCHOOL CLINICS DATA

### LEAGUE DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

- NUMBER OF PLAYER REPORTS
- NUMBER OF TRIBUNAL CASES RESULTING IN GUILTY VERDICT
- NUMBER OF SET PENALTIES ACCEPTED
- AVERAGE SUSPENSION LENGTH

### COMMUNICATION & ENGAGEMENT - INTERNAL

- DIGITAL MEDIA ENGAGEMENT
- EXTENT & QUALITY OF COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

### COMMUNICATION & ENGAGEMENT - EXTERNAL

- EXTENT OF ACTIVE CLUB WEBSITES & SOCIAL MEDIA CHANNELS
- NUMBER OF ATTENDEES AT LEAGUE FUNCTIONS
- LEAGUE FUNCTION FEEDBACK DATA

### FINANCIAL VIABILITY

- LEAGUE NET ASSETS POSITION
- GROSS REVENUE
- GROSS EXPENDITURE
- GROSS VALUE OF LIABILITIES
- GROSS VALUE OF ASSETS
- CLUB DEBTORS
- SPONSORSHIP REVENUE
- FINALS SERIES PROFIT
- EOY PERFORMANCE TO BUDGET
- EOY TRADING RESULT
- PERCENTAGE OF REVENUE FROM CLUBS



# CLUBS

2021



## WRFL OFFICE

LEVEL 1 WHITTEN OVAL  
417 BARKLY STREET  
FOOTSCRAY WEST



## MANOR LAKES

HOWQUA ROAD RESERVE  
HOWQUA ROAD  
MANOR LAKES



## SUNS

GODDARD STREET RESERVE  
GODDARD STREET  
TARNEIT



## ALBANVALE

ROBERT BRUCE RESERVE  
GOULD STREET  
DEER PARK



## NEWPORT

LANGSHAW RESERVE  
CRESSER STREET  
ALTONA NORTH



## SUNSHINE

KINDER SMITH RESERVE  
LILY STREET  
BRAYBROOK



## ALBION

JR PARSONS RESERVE  
WRIGHT STREET  
SUNSHINE



## NEWPORT POWER

BRYAN MARTYN OVAL  
MARKET STREET  
NEWPORT



## SUNSHINE HEIGHTS

AINSWORTH RESERVE  
GLENGALA ROAD  
WEST SUNSHINE



## ALTONA

GRANT RESERVE  
SUGAR GUM RESERVE  
ALTONA



## NORTH FOOTSCRAY

HANSEN RESERVE  
ROBERT STREET  
WEST FOOTSCRAY



## TARNEIT

WOOTEN ROAD RESERVE  
WOOTEN ROAD  
TARNEIT



## ALTONA JUNIORS

GRANT RESERVE  
SUGAR GUM RESERVE  
ALTONA



## NORTH SUNSHINE

DEMPSTER PARK  
PHOENIX STREET  
NORTH SUNSHINE



## TRUGANINA THUNDER

MAINVIEW BOULEVARD  
TRUGANINA



## BRAYBROOK

PENNELL RESERVE  
CRAMWELL & BURKE STREETS  
BRAYBROOK



## PARKSIDE

MERV HUGHES OVAL  
FARNSWORTH AVENUE  
FOOTSCRAY



## WERRIBEE CENTRALS

GALVIN PARK  
SHAWS ROAD  
WERRIBEE



## CAROLINE SPRINGS

TOWN CENTRE OVAL  
THE CROSSING  
CAROLINE SPRINGS



## P.E.G.S.

PENLEIGH & ESSENDON  
GRAMMAR  
WRIGHT STREET  
KEILOR PARK



## WERRIBEE DISTRICTS

SOLDIERS RESERVE  
DUNCANS ROAD  
WERRIBEE



## DEER PARK

JOHN MCLEOD OVAL  
HUME STREET  
DEER PARK



## POINT COOK

SALTWATER RESERVE  
SALTWATER PROMENADE  
POINT COOK



## WEST FOOTSCRAY

SHORTEN RESERVE  
ESSEX STREET  
WEST FOOTSCRAY



## FLEMINGTON JUNIORS

JJ HOLLAND PARK  
KENSINGTON ROAD  
KENSINGTON



## POINT COOK CENTRALS

FEATHERBROOK RESERVE  
WINDORAH DRIVE  
POINT COOK



## WILLIAMSTOWN JUNIORS

BAYSIDE COLLEGE  
BAYVIEW STREET  
WILLIAMSTOWN



## GLEN ORDEN

HEATHDALE OVAL  
KOOKABURRA AVENUE  
WERRIBEE



## SPOTSWOOD

MCLEAN RESERVE  
THE AVENUE  
SPOTSWOOD



## WYNDHAMVALE

WYNDHAMVALE SOUTH  
BLACK FOREST ROAD  
WYNDHAMVALE



## HOPPERS CROSSING

HOGANS ROAD RESERVE  
HOGANS ROAD  
HOPPERS CROSSING



## ST ALBANS

KINGS PARK RESERVE  
GILLESPIE ROAD  
ST ALBANS



## YARRAVILLE SEDDON EAGLES

YARRAVILLE OVAL  
WILLIAMSTOWN ROAD  
YARRAVILLE



## LAVERTON

LAVERTON PARK  
MERTON STREET  
ALTONA MEADOWS



## ST BERNARDS

ST BERNARD'S COLLEGE  
BERYL STREET  
WEST ESSENDON



# MOMENTS THAT MATTERED

2021



**2021 MEDIA DAY**



**ROUND 1 LAUNCHES UNDER FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS**



**ANZAC DAY**



**WRFL LAUNCHES FEMALE DEVELOPMENT NETWORK**



**WRFL CLUBS SUPPORT FIGHT MND'S ANNUAL SOCKIT2MND CAMPAIGN**



**WRFL TAKE PART IN LOVE THE GAME, NOT THE ODDS THEMED ROUND**



**JUNIOR INTERLEAGUE**



**INDIGENOUS ROUND**



**2021 WRFL WESTERN BULLDOGS HEARTLAND AWARD WINNER**



# TEAM OF THE YEAR

2021 TIV DIVISION 1

COACH



**COREY**  
McCall

CAPTAIN



**ASHLIN**  
Brown

FB



**HARLEY**  
Walshe



**BRADEN**  
Ferrari



**TIM**  
Quick

HB



**JOSH**  
Mould



**ASHLIN**  
Brown



**SPENCER**  
Johnson

C



**NICK**  
Graham



**STEPHEN**  
Brewer



**JACK**  
Sims

HF



**ANDREW**  
Panayi



**ARCHI**  
Manton



**LACHLAN**  
Smart

FF



**SAAD**  
El-Hawli



**BRENTON**  
Payne



**DANIEL**  
Nielson

R



**SCOTT**  
Greenhough



**COREY**  
Muscat



**JOSH**  
Bench

INT



**BEN**  
McMahon



**MAX**  
Tessari



**TIM**  
Jenkins



**JACK**  
Dorgan



# TEAM OF THE YEAR

2021 PRESTIGE GROUP REAL ESTATE DIVISION 2



**LUKE**  
Wenlock



**SHAUN**  
Campbell

FB



**MACKENZIE**  
Parker



**MATTHEW**  
Chen



**BRODIE**  
Meadows

HB



**CODY**  
Bench



**KURT**  
Mayne



**AARON**  
Law

C



**NATHAN**  
Volk



**TYLER**  
Tessari



**BILAL**  
Chehade

HF



**SAM**  
Kater



**JACK**  
Papachatzakis



**DANIEL**  
Smith

FF



**JORDAN**  
Jobling



**DANIEL**  
Rosenzweig



**BRANDON**  
Walsh

R



**BRAD**  
Graham



**SHAUN**  
Campbell



**ADAM**  
Petridis

INT



**NATHAN**  
Montague



**NATHAN**  
Philpotts



**LUKE**  
Henderson



**CAMERON**  
Morrison



# TEAM OF THE YEAR

2021 ALAN MANCE MOTORS DIVISION 3

**COACH**  **DEAN**  
Cachia

**CAPTAIN**  **BRENDAN**  
Cassar

**FB** 

**ADAM**  
Scarpino



**BRENDAN**  
Cassar



**JOHN**  
Cowell

**HB**



**ROGER**  
Cini



**NATHAN**  
Halapio



**THOMAS**  
Rendle

**C**



**JUSTIN**  
Zahra



**MICHAEL**  
Jubb



**OSCAR**  
Gordon

**HF**



**NATHAN**  
Calleja



**JOHN**  
Tomelty



**RYAN**  
Potter

**FF**



**SHAUN**  
Buttigieg-Clarke



**DEAN**  
Cachia



**RICKY**  
Howell

**R**



**MICHAEL**  
Ryan



**BOBBY**  
Saric



**AIDAN**  
O'Rafferty

**INT**



**DANIEL**  
Bartels



**JONATHAN**  
Miller



**DION**  
Carabett



**NICHOLAS**  
Papakalodoukas



# TEAM OF THE YEAR

2021 VICTORIA UNIVERSITY POLYTECHNIC SENIOR WOMEN'S DIVISION 1

COACH



**MARK**  
*De Girolano*

CAPTAIN



**CAITLIN**  
*Brennan*

FB



**EMMA**  
*Meissner*



**ABUK**  
*Akec*



**MADELINE**  
*Mitchell*

HB



**DEBRA**  
*Bonde*



**LINDSAY**  
*Newton*



**KYMBERLY**  
*Bays*

C



**KAYLA**  
*Keropeckyj*



**KERRIE**  
*Clarke*



**PARAS**  
*Mackenzie*

HF



**LARISSA**  
*Renaut*



**CAITLIN**  
*Brennan*



**YANA**  
*Frontczak*

FF



**CAITLIN**  
*Pretty*



**LAUREN**  
*Clymo*



**PEGGY**  
*Toutziarakis*

R



**MOLLY**  
*Young*



**THALIA**  
*Wright*



**JAIMI**  
*Paten*

INT



**KYAH**  
*Tessari*



**JULIA**  
*Nash*



**SAMMIE**  
*Nguyen*



**OLIVIA**  
*Milla*



# TEAM OF THE YEAR

2021 VICTORIA UNIVERSITY POLYTECHNIC SENIOR WOMEN'S DIVISION 2

**COACH**  **SHANE**  
Windridge

**CAPTAIN**  **MELANIE**  
Thompson-Allan

**FB**  **TANYA**  **KIRA**  **BROOKE**  
Robertson Firth Prior

**HB**  **MORGAN**  **MARY**  **SOPHIE**  
McNally Daw Merryfull

**C**  **ANN-MARIE**  **CLAIRE**  **MELANIE**  
Ceary Cashman Thompson-Allan

**HF**  **MANDY**  **MADELINE**  **CAITLYN**  
Seath Johnson Cramer

**FF**  **BRITTANY**  **KENDRA**  **KATHERINE**  
Salt Trewavis Belcher

**R**  **CHLOE**  **CHLOE**  **TASHANIA**  
Lazzaro Muus Knapp Sirengo

**INT**  **FALLON**  **SARAH**  **JACQUI**  **JESSICA**  
Courts Daw McClurg Mudie



# TEAM OF THE YEAR

2021 VICTORIA UNIVERSITY NETBALL DIVISIONS 1 & 2

## DIVISION 1

<b>COACH</b> SHARKS <b>JOSHUA Burns</b>	<b>CAPTAIN</b> SPOTSWOOD SFC <b>HAYLEY Cran</b>	
<b>GA</b> SHARKS <b>ASHLEE Mitchell</b>	<b>GD</b> BROOKERS B <b>EMMA Vitalone</b>	
<b>GS</b> BROOKERS B <b>HELENA Samardzija</b>	<b>C</b> SPOTSWOOD SFC <b>HAYLEY Cran</b>	<b>GK</b> SHARKS <b>CAITLIN Twomey</b>
<b>WA</b> SHARKS <b>KIRBY Smith</b>	<b>WD</b> BROOKERS B <b>JAIMEE Smith</b>	
<b>INT</b> SPOTSWOOD SFC <b>NAOMI Parker</b>	<b>INT</b> SHARKS <b>BEYONCE Palavi</b>	<b>INT</b> SHARKS <b>ALEISHA Tainui</b>

## DIVISION 2

<b>COACH</b> SHARKS <b>ASHLEE Mitchell</b>	<b>CAPTAIN</b> SHARKS <b>JANE Goodier</b>	
<b>GA</b> SPOTSWOOD SFC <b>KELLY Prentice</b>	<b>GD</b> SHARKS <b>JANE Goodier</b>	
<b>GS</b> SHARKS <b>AIMEE JAMES Braun</b>	<b>C</b> SHARKS <b>EMILY Evans</b>	<b>GK</b> SPOTSWOOD SFC <b>GEORGIA Brown</b>
<b>WA</b> SPOTSWOOD SFC <b>ASHLEIGH Withers</b>	<b>WD</b> SHARKS <b>ERIKA Butler</b>	
<b>INT</b> SHARKS <b>KELLY Philby</b>	<b>INT</b> SHARKS <b>JENNA Coricanec</b>	<b>INT</b> SPOTSWOOD SFC <b>ANNA Van Rooden</b>



# TEAM OF THE YEAR

2021 VICTORIA UNIVERSITY NETBALL DIVISIONS 3 & 4

## DIVISION 3

<b>COACH</b> BROOKERS B <b>EMILY</b> Burge	<b>CAPTAIN</b> BROOKERS B <b>ALANA</b> Toka
<b>GA</b> CUBA <b>TANAYA</b> Cunningham	<b>GD</b> SHARKS <b>LOVEY</b> Merunga
<b>GS</b> SUNSHINE FOOTBALL CLUB <b>ROIROI</b> Naisvi	<b>C</b> BROOKERS B <b>ALANA</b> Toka
<b>WA</b> SHARKS <b>LISA</b> McAuliffe	<b>WD</b> BROOKERS B <b>CHLOE</b> Clark-Cain
<b>INT</b> P <b>TAMIKA</b> Taylor	<b>BREE</b> BROOKERS B Dean
	<b>ASHLEA</b> CUBA Hemstra
	<b>GK</b> SHARKS <b>MORGAN</b> Pollock

## DIVISION 4

<b>COACH</b> WYNDHAMVALE <b>KELLY</b> Woods	<b>CAPTAIN</b> WYNDHAMVALE <b>AIMEE</b> Strange
<b>GA</b> OLIVE GREEN <b>EMILY ROSE</b> Gelletly	<b>GD</b> WYNDHAMVALE <b>LIANI</b> Fenenga
<b>GS</b> WYNDHAMVALE <b>AIMEE</b> Strange	<b>C</b> WYNDHAMVALE <b>VALUSIA</b> O'Donnell
<b>WA</b> MACKAY <b>JOSIE</b> Cratt	<b>WD</b> SHARKS <b>DAHNA</b> Kochannek
<b>INT</b> MACKAY <b>CODY</b> Sylvester	<b>RAEGAN</b> OLIVE GREEN Desra
	<b>SARAH</b> MACKAY Brennan
	<b>GK</b> MACKAY <b>AMY</b> Reache



# JUNIOR INTERLEAGUE

2021 WRFL SEDA JUNIOR INTERLEAGUE RESULTS

## UNDER 15 GIRLS

**AFLSE 7.16. (58) DEF. WRFL 0.3. (3)**

BEST PLAYERS: L. FIELD, L. HUDSON, S. GRIEVES, E. MCMAHON, M. CAIN, J. HURRING

**EDFL 7.5. (47) DEF. WRFL 6.5. (41)**

GOAL KICKERS: K. KINKAID 3, M. GORDON 2, S. GRIEVES  
BEST PLAYERS: S. GRIEVES, P. CONWAY, L. HUDSON, L. FIELD, E. MCMAHON, K. KINKAID

## UNDER 15 DIVISION 1

**WRFL 13.7. (85) DEF. RDFNL 8.7. (55)**

GOAL KICKERS: J. KINGSTON 3, B. GALLOP 2, J. DALEY 2, L. TAYLOR, D. GILHAM, T. ASSAFIRI, S. ELFORD, H. SPELDEWINDE, J. GERARDI  
BEST PLAYERS: D. GILHAM, B. GALLOP, J. DALEY, S. ELFORD, H. SPELDEWINDE, X. KARDACHI

**EDFL 16.12. (108) DEF. WRFL 6.5. (41)**

GOAL KICKERS: D. SNELL 2, J. GERARDI 2, J. WHEELER, H. SIDDELL  
BEST PLAYERS: B. GALLOP, X. KARDACHI, T. ASSAFIRI, J. DALEY, M. DOWNING, J. GERARDI

## UNDER 15 DIVISION 2

**WRFL 12.9. (81) DEF. RDFNL 4.6. (30)**

GOAL KICKERS: J. STELLUTO 3, J. RYAN 2, O. MILLER 2, H. O'BRIEN, K. SEXTON, K. HARRIS, R. BENNETT, L. LEONARD

BEST PLAYERS: R. BENNETT, J. DI PAOLA, Z. BURSTON, D. BEZZINA, L. WORSLEY, C. BANKS

**EDFL 7.16. (58) DEF. WRFL 7.7. (49)**

GOAL KICKERS: J. STELLUTO 3, K. MACAULAY, O. MILLER, K. SEXTON, H. GRAHAM  
BEST PLAYERS: D. BEZZINA, C. BANKS, J. RYAN, L. WORSLEY, H. O'BRIEN, R. BENNETT

## UNDER 14 DIVISION 1

**WRFL 11.17. (83) DEF. RDFNL 4.3. (27)**

GOAL KICKERS: F. DAVIS 2, R. HADDARA 2, D. STEEDMAN, S. CHAUDHARY, W. ARMSTRONG, K. WILLIAMS, O. BURT, X. ARAPAKIS, T. BURTON  
BEST PLAYERS: I. GAWNE, E. WILLINGHAM, X. GIOVANNIELLO, R. HADDARA, T. BURTON, F. DAVIS

**EDFL 11.11. (77) DEF. WRFL 11.5. (71)**

GOAL KICKERS: R. HADDARA 3, T. BURTON 2, W. ARMSTRONG, P. WAYMAN, K. WILLIAMS, E. WILLINGHAM  
BEST PLAYERS: T. BURTON, I. GAWNE, F. DAVIS, R. HADDARA, P. WAYMAN, O. BURT.

## UNDER 14 DIVISION 2

**WRFL 17.11 (113) DEF. RDFNL 3.3. (21)**

GOAL KICKERS: M. BUCK 4, M. HOULI 3, S. COLEBATCH 3, J. ERRAHMAN 3, A. O'DONNELL 2, H. WATERS, T. ABOUZEID  
BEST PLAYERS: J. ERRAHMAN, M. HOULI, S. COLEBATCH, M. BUCK, T. CUNNINGHAM, N. MORA-MCDONALD

**EDFL 15.10. (100) DEF. WRFL 5.3. (33)**

GOAL KICKERS: M. BUK 2, S. COLEBATCH 2.  
BEST PLAYERS: T. GOOSTRY, R. HARRIS, B. DAVEY, R. CRAWFORD, N. ANDREULA, N. MORA-MCDONALD



## UNDER 13A

**WRFL 11.13. (79) DEF. RDFNL 0.0. (0)**

GOAL KICKERS: K. BYRNE 3, B. KING 2, A. TIPPETT 2, J. PISANI, L. HICKS, H. MCMAHON, A. CURRIE  
BEST PLAYERS: J. DJATSCHENKO, L. HICKS, A. TIPPETT, L. FISHER, O. PANNOZZO, D. NUTTALL

**WRFL 8.6. (54) DEF. EDFL 1.3. (9)**

GOAL KICKERS: L. HICKS 2, W. BIRD, H. GARDNER-SOLOMON, H. GRAY, B. KING, J. WAGHORNE, M. ZAHRA.  
BEST PLAYERS: L. HICKS, J. DJATSCHENKO, D. NUTTALL, O. PANNOZZO, W. BIRD, A. TIPPETT

## UNDER 13B

**EDFL 15.13. (103) DEF. WRFL 1.2. (8)**

GOAL KICKERS: L. ASH  
BEST PLAYERS: L. TZAROS, J. FENTON, B. FOLEY, D. CUMMINS, B. LAGOS, T. FERGUSON

**WRFL 6.8. (44) DEF. RDFNL 0.6 (6)**

GOAL KICKERS: O. ADAMS 2, L. ASH, J. BIRD, L. CARUANA, A. TINTOR  
BEST PLAYERS: L. TZAROS, M. EL-HAOULI, A. SMITH, B. BOWLER, O. ADAMS, D. CUMMINS



# JUNIOR INTERLEAGUE

2021 WRFL SEDA JUNIOR INTERLEAGUE BEST PLAYERS

**UNDER 15 GIRLS**



**LILY HUDSON**

**UNDER 15 DIVISION 1**



**BRODIE GALLOP**

**UNDER 15 DIVISION 2**



**DEAN BEZZINA**

**UNDER 14 DIVISION 1**



**THOMAS BURTON**

**UNDER 14 DIVISION 2**



**THOMAS GOOSTRY**

**UNDER 13A**



**JOSHUA DJATSCHENKO**

**UNDER 13B**



**LEVI TZAROS**





# 2021 AWARD WINNERS

BEST & FAIREST WINNERS

**TIV DIVISION 1 SENIORS**

**TIV DIVISION 1 RESERVES**

**PRESTIGE GROUP REAL ESTATE DIVISION 2 SENIORS**

**PRESTIGE GROUP REAL ESTATE DIVISION 2 RESERVES**

**ALAN MANCE MOTORS DIVISION 3 SENIORS**

**ALAN MANCE MOTORS DIVISION 3 RESERVES**

**VICTORIA UNIVERSITY POLYTECHNIC SENIOR  
WOMEN'S DIVISION 1**

**VICTORIA UNIVERSITY POLYTECHNIC SENIOR  
WOMEN'S DIVISION 2**

**UNDER 18.5 DIVISION 1**

**UNDER 18.5 DIVISION 2**

**VICTORIA UNIVERSITY POLYTECHNIC  
UNDER 18.5 GIRLS**

**SEDA UNDER 16 DIVISION 1**

**SEDA UNDER 16 DIVISION 2**

**SEDA UNDER 16 DIVISION 3**

**WESTERN BULLDOGS UNDER 16 GIRLS**

**WESTERN BULLDOGS UNDER 14 DIVISION 1**

**WESTERN BULLDOGS UNDER 14 DIVISION 2**

**WESTERN BULLDOGS UNDER 14 DIVISION 3**

**WESTERN BULLDOGS UNDER 14 DIVISION 4**

**WESTERN BULLDOGS UNDER 14 DIVISION 5**

**WESTERN BULLDOGS UNDER 14 GIRLS**

**WESTERN BULLDOGS UNDER 12 DIVISION 1**

**WESTERN BULLDOGS UNDER 12 DIVISION 2**

**WESTERN BULLDOGS UNDER 12 DIVISION 3**

**WESTERN BULLDOGS UNDER 12 DIVISION 4**

**WESTERN BULLDOGS UNDER 12 DIVISION 5**

**WESTERN BULLDOGS UNDER 12 DIVISION 6**

**WESTERN BULLDOGS UNDER 12 GIRLS**

**VICTORIA UNIVERSITY NETBALL DIVISION 1**

**VICTORIA UNIVERSITY NETBALL DIVISION 2**

**VICTORIA UNIVERSITY NETBALL DIVISION 3**

**VICTORIA UNIVERSITY NETBALL DIVISION 4**

**STEPHEN BREWER, CAROLINE SPRINGS**

**RYAN KITCHEN, HOPPERS CROSSING**

**SHAUN CAMPBELL, PARKSIDE**

**TRISTAN PEARCE, POINT COOK CENTRALS**

**JOHN TOMELTY, WYNDHAM SUNS**

**DANE THOMAS, ALBANVALE**

**KYMBERLY BAYS, POINT COOK**

**CHLOE MUUS, WYNDHAMVALE**

**BROCK SPITERI, WERRIBEE DISTRICTS**

**KAI LOGAN, POINT COOK**

**SIERRA GRIEVES, YARRAVILLE SEDDON/FLEMINGTON  
JUNIORS**

**MICHAEL CILMI, POINT COOK**

**DIESEL LIM, WEST FOOTSCRAY**

**XAVIER KARDACHI, SUNSHINE**

**CAITLYN VOLPE, CAROLINE SPRINGS &  
LILY HUDSON, WILLIAMSTOWN JUNIORS**

**RANI PAVLIDIS, WERRIBEE DISTRICTS**

**LACHLAN HICKS, ALTONA JUNIORS**

**DASHIELL MUIR, SPOTSWOOD**

**MARCUS ZAHRA, MANOR LAKES**

**PIPER DIXON, ALTONA JUNIORS  
ZEIN HAMMAD, HOPPERS CROSSING  
AIDEN HARRIS, FLEMINGTON JUNIORS  
COOPER MILLAR, WERRIBEE DISTRICTS**

**CHARLIE O'CONNOR MOREIRA, ALTONA JUNIORS  
CHARLOTTE MILLER, WILLIAMSTOWN JUNIORS**

**MAX CLARK, POINT COOK**

**MAX BAKKER, WILLIAMSTOWN JUNIORS  
JACKSON CATANIA, CAROLINE SPRINGS**

**OLIVER CASTRO, SPOTSWOOD**

**MALCHALY COLL, NEWPORT POWER JUNIORS**

**EUAN DRAGOVIC, ALTONA JUNIORS**

**SEBASTIN SIMONI, WYNDHAM SUNS**

**ARIANISA MURATOSKA, CAROLINE SPRINGS**

**HAYLEY CRAN, SPOTSWOOD  
EMMA VITALE, BRAYBROOK**

**JANE GOODIER, POINT COOK**

**ALANA TOKA, BRAYBROOK**

**EMILY ROSE GELLETTY, GLEN ORDEN**



# 2021 AWARD WINNERS

## LEAGUE AWARDS

### ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

SAAD EL-HAWLI, ALTONA

### MVP

NICK GRAHAM, SPOTSWOOD

### UNSUNG HERO

FIONA ROY, ALTONA JUNIORS

### LINDSAY PATCHING MEMORIAL CLUB OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR

BART SHAW, WERRIBEE DISTRICTS

### JUNIOR CLUB OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR

SAMANTHA SANDNER, PEGS

### JUNIOR CLUB OF THE YEAR

WYNDHAM SUNS FOOTBALL CLUB

## UMPIRING

### FIELD UMPIRE OF THE YEAR

DEAN MCGOWAN

### BOUNDARY UMPIRE OF THE YEAR

SCOTT VANSTONE

### GOAL UMPIRE OF THE YEAR

CONNOR PETRIE

## COACHING

### SENIOR COACH OF THE YEAR

DAVID BATTISTELLA, NORTH FOOTSCRAY

### YOUTH COACH OF THE YEAR

MICK RUSSELL, WILLIAMSTOWN JUNIORS

### JUNIOR COACH OF THE YEAR

EMMA WHEELER, ALTONA JUNIORS

## LEADING GOAL KICKERS

### TIV DIVISION 1 SENIORS

BRENTON PAYNE, HOPPERS CROSSING - 43 GOALS

### TIV DIVISION 1 RESERVES

JOEL MENADUE, ALTONA - 35 GOALS

### PRESTIGE GROUP REAL ESTATE DIVISION 2 SENIORS

SHAUN CAMPBELL, PARKSIDE - 38 GOALS

### PRESTIGE GROUP REAL ESTATE DIVISION 2 RESERVES

ETHAN MULLENGER, NORTH FOOTSCRAY - 30 GOALS

### ALAN MANCE MOTORS DIVISION 3 SENIORS

DEAN CACHIA, WYNDHAM SUNS - 51 GOALS

### ALAN MANCE MOTORS DIVISION 3 RESERVES

DANE THOMAS - 50 GOALS

### VICTORIA UNIVERSITY POLYTECHNIC SENIOR WOMEN'S DIVISION 1

LAUREN CLYMO, MANOR LAKES - 31 GOALS

### VICTORIA UNIVERSITY POLYTECHNIC SENIOR WOMEN'S DIVISION 2

MADLINE JOHNSON, POINT COOK CENTRALS - 13 GOALS  
BRITTANY SALT, YARRAVILLE SEDDON EAGLES - 13 GOALS

### UNDER 18.5 DIVISION 1

LUKE DI MAURO, WERRIBEE DISTRICTS - 28 GOALS

### UNDER 18.5 DIVISION 2

JACKSON EMERY, ST ALBANS - 26 GOALS

### VICTORIA UNIVERSITY POLYTECHNIC UNDER 18.5 GIRLS

JACINTA KONDIS, CAROLINE SPRINGS - 32 GOALS

## LEADING GOAL SHOOTERS

### VICTORIA UNIVERSITY NETBALL DIVISION 1

HELENA SAMARDZIJA, BRAYBROOK - 185 GOALS

### VICTORIA UNIVERSITY NETBALL DIVISION 2

JAIMEE JAMES BRAUN, POINT COOK CENTRALS - 155 GOALS

### VICTORIA UNIVERSITY NETBALL DIVISION 3

TANAYA CUNNINGHAM, POINT COOK - 213 GOALS

### VICTORIA UNIVERSITY NETBALL DIVISION 4

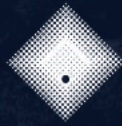
AIMEE STRANGE, WYNDHAMVALE - 163 GOALS



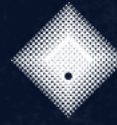
# PARTNERS & SUPPLIERS

2021 LEAGUE PARTNERS

THE WRFL WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OF OUR PARTNERS & SUPPLIERS FOR THEIR ONGOING SUPPORT IN 2021.



VICTORIA UNIVERSITY



VICTORIA UNIVERSITY  
POLYTECHNIC







1

**WATER  
NEWPORT**



SWD  
INSUREWORLD



**MANGOR LAKES  
STORM**

WYNDHAM  
**SUNS**



**LEVEL 1 SOUTH, WHITTEN OVAL  
417 BARKLY STREET, FOOTSCRAY WEST, VIC, 3012**

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**WRFL.COM.AU**