



Beginning in 1922, the Western Australian Amateur Football League Inc. (WAAFL) has grown from a six team competition to the largest single football competition in Western Australia. The WAAFL comprise 67 clubs, 231 teams and 9976 players who play football in the Perth metropolitan area. Currently, the WAAFL caters for men from the age of 16 years, and is well supported by an incredible number of volunteers and supporters.

The WAAFL provides a high quality standard competition for players not wishing to endure the commitment to semiprofessional training due to study commitments, career commitments or simply a lifestyle that considers football as a recreational pursuit.

In 2014, the WAAFL Board commenced a strategic review of the WAAFL to plan for the next three years through to 2018. However, resulting from a review of the WA football landscape by the WAFC, the Board reviewed that plan and now endorse this WAAFL Strategic Plan 2017-2020.

The WAAFL has solid foundations built on strong clubs and dedicated volunteers, a solid financial base, good governance, and mature partnerships with government, business, media and the community.

Building on these foundations, the WAAFL 2017-2020 Strategic Plan strives to *grow the game* of Australian Rules football across the Perth metropolitan area by providing players with an enjoyable, competitive and sustainable community football competition. In doing this, we focus on three strategic priorities - **competition growth**, **competition integrity and diversifying our revenue streams.** 

By leveraging clubs infrastructure and volunteer networks combined with our competition expertise and programs, the WAAFL and its members make a valuable contribution to the Perth community<sup>1</sup>.

The WAAFL's commitment to community development and maintaining the integrity of our competition is consistent with our core values of *fairness*, *honesty* and *decency*. These are incorporated in the WAAFL Spirit of the Game Statement.

#### **KEY ORGANISATIONAL RISKS**

- 1. High turnover of club volunteers, loss of local knowledge, unstable club governance.
- 2. Low junior player numbers transitioning to senior clubs.
- 3. Pressure on clubs to pay players.
- 4. Ageing umpires, poor umpire recruitment and retention.
- 5. Significant reduction in WAFC grant and loss of offices.
- 6. Elements of illicit drug use, excessive alcohol use and emerging mental health issues across our player demographic in the community.

#### **REVIEW AND REPORTING**

The Board and General Manager are to annually gain stakeholder feedback.

The Board is to report to the AGM the performance of the strategic plan.

# **CORE PURPOSE**

To grow the game of Australian Rules Football across the Perth metropolitan area by providing players with an enjoyable, competitive and sustainable community football competition.

# **VALUES – SPIRIT OF THE GAME**

We as a League, together with players, coaches and volunteers are all responsible for the values of -

FAIRNESS. HONESTY. DECENCY.



STRATEGIC FOCUS - "GROW THE GAME"

**SOLID FOUNDATIONS** 

# **COMPETITION GROWTH**

**COMPETITION INTEGRITY** 

DIVERSE REVENUE STREAMS

**STRONG & VIBRANT CLUBS** 

**SOUND FINANCIAL BASE** 

**GOOD GOVERNANCE** 

**RESPECTED PARTNERSHIPS** 

### WHAT IT MEANS

Exploring opportunities to increase the number of players in the League

Promoting the Spirit of the Game

Diversifying revenue streams to reduce costs on clubs

Having well organised clubs that attract and retain players, volunteers and fans

Investing funds to support the League's ongoing success

Displaying best practice governance and prudent risk management

Working with local governments, affiliates, sponsors and media

### **2020 TARGET OUTCOME**

11,000 registered players

Spirit of the Game Indicator +1

15 revenue streams implemented

50% of clubs completed Top Club program by 2020