



Metro North Region

Circular 7/2017

## District Dreaming

Audience: Junior Football Club Committees, DFDC/JCC Members  
Date: 22 June 2017  
Distributed by/to: Email to Junior Presidents, Secretaries and DFDC/JCC Members  
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### **Summary:**

- *District Dreaming, Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July – A celebration of Indigenous culture*
- *Where: Barry Britton Oval (Balga JFC), Luketina Reserve (Wembley Downs JFC)*
- *Umpires will be wearing an Indigenous strip and games will be played with Indigenous design footballs*
- *Welcome to the countries will be performed at both venues*
- *Kids activation zones at both venues*
- *Indigenous food stands at both stands*

### **Action:**

- *Promote to teams, members, schools, local community areas, Facebook & on district Pages*
- *JCC to fixture games at both venues throughout the day*

District Dreaming is a celebration of Indigenous Culture, and an acknowledgement of the contributions from both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Australians to our great game of Australian Rules football. It is also an opportunity to continue reinforcement of positive game environments, provide a history of aboriginal culture, and an opportunity to integrate the community through football.

The carnival is in its eleventh year and was the initiative of the Northern Cobra's Junior Football Club to acknowledge the indigenous stars that play Australian Rules football and was developed after Jarrod Oakley Nicholls was drafted to Richmond and then subsequently debuted at the annual "Dreamtime at the 'G'" game in 2006, where he scored the winning behind.

District Dreaming (formally District Dreamtime) will host 4 matches with 8 teams from within the Subiaco District. The day also provides an opportunity to continue to reinforce positive game environments, provide the history of aboriginal culture through a welcome to the country address and cultural dancers and an opportunity to integrate the community through football.

### **Event information:**

#### **District Dreaming**

**Where:** Barry Britton Oval (Balga JFC)  
**Date:** Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> of July 2017  
**Time:** 9:30am (welcome to the country)  
10:00am first game will start

#### **Naidoc round**

**Where:** Luketina Reserve (Wembley Downs JFC)  
**Date:** Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> of July 2017  
**Time:** 8:30am first game will start  
12:45pm (welcome to the country)



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### How you can get involved?

Football clubs across the Claremont, Subiaco and West Perth Districts are encouraged to perform acknowledgement or welcome to country at their junior clubs.

Incorporating a welcome or acknowledgement protocol into official meetings and events recognises Aboriginal people as the First Australians and custodians of their land. It promotes an awareness of the past and ongoing connection to place and land of Aboriginal Australians but most important is shows respect for aboriginal people. The acknowledgement can be performed by aboriginal and non-aboriginal people and a welcome to the country can only be performed by an recognised Aboriginal Elder.

The correct way to say acknowledgement is...

*"I would like to show my respect and acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land and the Elders past and present, on which we stand on today."*

If you require any further information regarding District Dreaming events or the information contained within this circular, please contact Adam Cockie on 0477 767 007 or email [acockie@wafc.com.au](mailto:acockie@wafc.com.au).

**Andrew Ridley**

Community Development Manager – Metro North



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### **Background & History:**

Archaeological evidence from Perth and Albany suggests that the Nyoongar people have lived in the area for at least 45,000 years. There are even some caves at Devil's Lair amongst the hills of Margaret River dating back 47,000 years.

When European colonisers first arrived in Australia they encountered an unfamiliar land occupied by people they didn't understand. Because they didn't understand the peoples' society and their land 'ownership' system, Australia was deemed to be 'terra nullius' and the land was claimed by the British.

Terra nullius is a Latin term meaning 'land belonging to no one', But Indigenous people fought, and are still fighting, for their land and their lives. The history of these battles is not often told but they involved hundreds of incidents and thousands of people. These stories form a part of the untold history of Australia.

Traditional Indigenous cultures mostly experience "Dreaming" as one entity – past, present and future combined.

Today we honour the traditional owners of the land and celebrate by playing our national game of Australian Football.

Australian Football provides an opportunity for the Australian population, both young and old, to enjoy physical activity and the spectacle that it ensures.

It provides opportunities for all Australians, without discrimination to integrate harmoniously within society.

