

East Perth DFDC Chairs Report 2016

Dear Stakeholders

I'm pleased to provide a review of the 2016 year for the East Perth DFDC – a year in which 17,400 people participated in footy in the District.

As this is my first year in the role, I'd like to acknowledge the massive contribution of my predecessor, Jo Davies who had been DFDC Chair for 12 years. Jo thanks for your leadership of the District over that time. You have helped build a strong and well respected district and as Chair of the Council of Chairs worked hard with the WAFC to advocate for the district model and community football. Thank you.

Early 2016 saw us complete our District Strategic Plan which is focusing on:

- Maintaining our Identity and Building Sustainability
- Growing and Developing our Clubs
- Attracting and Retaining Participants
- Improving Facilities
- Growing Multicultural Participation
- Developing Participation Pathways particularly Coaching and Umpiring

I'm pleased to say we have made progress across each strategic focus area in 2016.

There were many achievements over the course of the year and I'd like to highlight some of the significant ones:

- The significant improvement in our Coach Development programs, led by our new Coaching Coordinator, Geoff Abbott. The high standard of the Royals Coaching Academy program is evidenced by the fact that it has been reviewed by the WAFC with a view to being introduced across the State.
- The establishment of the East Perth women's team. Under the leadership of President Donna Nowotny, the women's team in the District, which was previously aligned to the Mt Lawley Amateur Football Club, established their own identity and moved to Altone Park.
- The continued growth of the Coolbinia Bombers JFC Starkick program which won statewide Participation and Community Service Excellence awards.
- The establishment of a structured junior and youth girls football competition played on a Friday night and based at Lightning Park in Noranda
- Two of our junior teams and four of our Amateur teams winning premierships
- The continued success of our Bakari Royals program in introducing players from CALD backgrounds to football.
- The Auskick Gala Day at Langley Park
- Over 27% growth in participation in school based programs

None of these achievements could have happened without the passion and commitment of our District Development Officers Corey Ranger and Shaun Norman who were ably led by Community Development Manager Isaac Stewart and District Operations Manager Scott Faulkner. Thank you.

Similarly, community football would not exist without the time and effort of our volunteers in roles from Club Presidents to match day goal umpires. Thanks to each and every one of you for your contributions.

Our DFDC and JCC volunteers once aging worked tirelessly across the year to ensure our District and the Central Conference was well led and administered. To Competition Director

Angelo Barbaro, East Perth WAFL Club CEO Dean Turner, Assistant Competition Director Troy Starcevich, JCC Registrar, Secretary and Bookkeeper Belinda Goddard, DFDC Senior Delegate Paul Robinson, Coaching Coordinator Geoff Abbott, Umpires Manager Dave O'Reilly and Umpires Administrator Lyndall Jones thank you all for your efforts in 2016 and we look forward to seeing you back in 2017.

Kind Regards

Luke McNiece
DFDC Chair