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## The Board



Kate Vivian, Jim Caffieri (VP), Richard Cohen, Tracy Gallagher Paul Cox, Dr Neale Fong (President), Larry Lopez, Adam Myers Peter Ross (Absent)

#### **NUMBER 1 TICKET HOLDER**

HONOURABLE PETER QUINLAN SC - CHIEF JUSTICE of the SUPREME COURT of WA

#### **CLUB PATRON & VICE PATRONS**

CLUB PATRONS - LEITH & ROSS KELLY

VICE PATRON DAVID ELSEGOOD - CMI

VICE PATRON LORD MAYOR BASIL ZEMPILAS - CITY OF PERTH

VICE PATRON RICHARD HOMSANY - CARDINAL LAWYERS

VICE PATRON GARY O'NEILL - KEVREK AUSTRALIA

VICE PATRON HONOURABLE PETER COLLIER MLC

VICE PATRON TRACEY ROBERTS MP - MEMBER FOR PEARCE

VICE PATRON IAN GOODENOUGH MP - MEMBER FOR MOORE

VICE PATRON EMILY HAMILTON MLA - MEMBER FOR JOONDALUP

VICE PATRON MAYOR ALBERT JACOB - CITY OF JOONDALUP

VICE PATRON MAYOR - CITY OF WANNEROO

## Staff



Joe McCarthy CEO



Steve Trewhella
GM Football Operations



Cameron Branch, Cohen Stickland, Kris Shannon, Paola Zito, Tracy Venner, Luke Richardson

## Coaches

#### LEAGUE COACHING STAFF

SENIOR COACH - Darren Harris
ASSISTANT COACH - Jason Salecic
ASSISTANT COACH - Andrew Strijk
ASSISTANT COACH - Matt Gaudagnin
ASSISTANT COACH - Dion Fleay
RUCK COACH - Ron Skender
INTERCHANGE STEWARD - Roberto Pieri
TEAM MANAGER - Vic Carbone
LEAGUE RUNNER - Ryan Fong
LEAGUE RUNNER - Michael Lowrey
TIME KEEPER - Trent Chisholm
PROPERTY MANAGER - Ray Garcia
CLUB CHAPLIN - Dan Shadbolt

#### **TALENT COACHING STAFF**

COLTS HEAD COACH - Ryan Lasscock
ASSISTANT COACH MIDS - Paul Downer
ASSISTANT COACH BACKS - Ryan Fong
ASSISTANT COACH FWD - Jay Carroll
ASSISTANT COACH RUCKS/TALLS - Ron Skender
COLTS RUNNER - Tom Moscardo
COLTS RUNNER - Adam Radici
TIME KEEPER - ALAN VEIPCH
TEAM MANAGER - Chris Erikson

#### RESERVE COACHING STAFF

RESERVES/DEVELOPMENT COACH - Blake Arnold ASSISTANT COACH - Todd Martin ASSISTANT COACH - Troy Arnold BENCH COACH - Gavin Lambert TEAM MANAGER - David Prout RESERVES RUNNER - Dan Barnard TIME KEEPER - Andrew Clarke

#### **FUTURES COACHING STAFF**

FUTURES HEAD COACH - Ash McKeown
ASSISTANT COACH MIDS - Mark Hutchings
ASSISTANT COACH BACKS - Steve Chapman
ASSISTANT COACH FWD - Josh Wooden
ASSISTANT DEVELOPMENT COACH - Josh Groves
ASSISTANT DEVELOPMENT COACH - Mitct Drewett
WELFARE OFFICER - Ben Horgan
TEAM MANAGER - Chris Erikson

## Volunteers

#### **MEDICAL TEAM**

CLUB DOCTOR - Dr Greg Smith
CLUB DOCTOR - Dr Chris Barr
PHYSIOTHERAPIST - Aaron Thomas
HEAD TRAINER - Maddie Simon
SPORTS TRAINER - Jordie Martin
SPORTS TRAINER - Paige Thomas
SPORTS TRAINER - Tom Murphey
SPORTS TRAINER - Zoe Edwards
SPORTS TRAINER - Jayden Williams
SPORTS TRAINER - Callum Paroczai
SPORTS TRAINER - Bart De Vita
WATER CARRIER - Andrew Collett

#### STRENGTH & CONDITIONING

SENIOR S & C COACH - Corey Green SENIORS S & C INTERN - Stuart Chester COLTS S & C COACH - Bryce Williamson FUTURES S & C ASSISTANT - Nhat Vu

#### **TALENT**

HEAD PHYSIO - Nathan Stephens
PHYSIO INTERN - Danielle Sanga
HEAD TRAINER- Alex Styan
HEAD TRAINER - Jess Fordum
SPORTS TRAINER- Emilee Erikson
SPORTS TRAINER- Brandon Landsdown-Goodman
SPORTS TRAINER- Zoe Courtney
SPORTS TRAINER - Cassie Burke

#### **GAME DAY VOLUNTEERS**

MATCH DAY COORDINATOR - Tony Hristianopoulos SCOREBOARD ATTENDANT - Lance Catchpole GROUND ANNOUNCER - Alister PHOTOGRAPHER - Belinda Taylor PHOTOGRAPHER - Dan White PHOTOGRAPHER - Brian Conduit MATCH DAY REPORTER - Darrell Kent PARKING ASSISTANT - Louis Zamponga SOCIAL MEDIA & VIDEOGRAPHY - Cameron Branch GATE - Andy Gorton GATE - Lucy Hristianopoulos





## PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Season 2022 was amazing!

Three men's teams into Grand Finals, a senior premiership to take us to a total of 20 in 131 years, a Rodriguez Shield, a Coach of the Year, a Jack Clark Colts Medallist, a Volunteer of the Year, two AFL Hall of Fame inductees, our Club's inaugural Hall of Fame, a WAFL Life Membership, four players into the WA Men's State team, a Rogers Cup Rising Star and an inaugural season for our WAFLW team.

On top of that a successful year financially and the start of a new strategic direction to ensure the Club's long term sustainability and success. Proud to belong!

This year we announced club great Ross Kelly and his wonderful wife Leith as Patrons, a husband and wife team being a first for a WAFL club. It recognises the important part partners play in making football clubs work. We also announced a cadre of great vice patrons as well as a new Number One Ticket Holder in the Chief Justice of WA the Hon Peter Quinlan SC, the great grandson of our first club president back in 1891. He takes over from Lord Mayor of the City of Perth Basil Zempilas who has been a truly great public supporter of the Falcons who becomes a vice patron.

Our management team is the leanest in the WAFL and our CEO Joe McCarthy and GM Football Steve Trewhella along with all the coaching, support and administration staff and volunteers are to be thanked and congratulated.

We see our sponsors as partners in our journey to achieve success. We thank them for their loyal and ongoing support. The Club achieved good results in this area and we welcomed new oval naming rights partner Pentanet for their first year. No matter how large or small the partnership, it is all highly valued.

Our relationship with Venueswest has also been a key to our success and we look forward working with them as our landlord in venue improvements (our light towers especially) in the coming years. We of course are proud of all of our men's and women's playing groups, leadership teams and coaching staff. They along with the 100+ support staff and volunteers are some of the best in the competition.

The Board has operated effectively to bring our club together and after the hard years which included the COVID pandemic impact we are united , strong and positive. We farewell football director Paul Cox this year and thank him for his professional and personal input into the club. Hopefully after a rest he will return. We also farewell Tracy Gallagher who was so instrumental in us gaining the WAFLW licence. We thank Tracy for her work and commitment and look forward to her still being involved around the Club.

This report will further outline the 2022 Season and on behalf of the Board I thank all members for their loyalty, passion and commitment to the Red and the Blue. Our Hall of Fame where we inducted 27 players, coaches and administrators was one of the very special nights in the history of our great club. Our heritage and traditions are the base of all of future success. Nine life members were also added this year and special mention to Laurie and Jen Richards for the donation of academic scholarships to two of our players.

Our club will not rest on its laurels and assume ongoing success will just happen. It will come through strong commitment to our shared values, financial strength, impeccable corporate governance and everyone's commitment to stand united as the Falcons.

Dr Neale Fong President



WOW.. what a year 2022 was



WOW.. what a year 2022 was.

Three sides started the WAFL year striving to be playing that final game of the season and all 3 of our WAFL sides made it to the big dance. It was an amazing day at Leederville and one that will be remember for a long time to come. An amazing effort by our league boys and let's not forget ours reserves and colts had amazing seasons and I have the utmost respect for players in these teams and how they fought so hard for our club on the field.

It is important we also celebrate our WAFLW sides. Our Rogers cup side once again showed the depth in our youth girls and though on field the season was tough for our WAFLW league girls, we are very optimistic and excited about 2023 and similar to our men's program the effort can never be questioned.

I would personally like to thank my small team for all the work you do. Tracy, Steve, Kris, Cohen, Luke, Cameron, and Paula you all go above and beyond for this club, and it is noticed by all – Premierships are won on and off the field and your contribution has been as important as any in our success in 2022.

To all the wonderful volunteers thank you- you are the fabric of our club and hold everything together so we can excel on the field- I look forward to seeing you all again in 2023.

Next to our sponsors- the contribution you make is amazing. From our large principal partners through to our fund a Falcon sponsors without you our club does not exist, your support is overwhelming and well done on being part of a Premiership team!

We are pleased to announce a 2022 profit prior to the depreciation of fixed assets of \$55,158 which was in line with the budget set by the Board at the commencement of the season. 2022 also saw our revenue increase to \$2,442,536.00 from \$1,988,308.00 in 2021.

During the year a further \$50,000 of our loan to the WAFC was repaid and approximately \$76,000 of fixed assets were purchased including \$20,000 for a can bar which will be operational prior to the commencement of next season to assist in further revenue generation.

We are building and building as a club. Our Board has great strength and leadership, to Neale and all directors thank you for guidance, decisions, and support to our club and of me personally. Our aim is to become the destination club of the WAFL and WAFLW competitions.

We want to be the club where people want to play football. It is important our members reading this continue to support the mighty Falcons. The challenges of WAFL football, and its future, will always be there, however with your support and unwavering passion we can, and we do problem solve our way through any situation that confronts us.

2023 is nearly upon us so please continue to support our club in every way you can. We aim to have another successful year in both the WAFL and WAFLW environment and in the words of one of our great members..... Caarrrnnn Weeesssttt!

Joe McCarthy CEO



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# NEXT LEVEL WIRELESS INTERNET

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## MENS FOOTBALL REPORT

"This football club has many people who are connected by red and blue who deeply care about their club, about each other and about the community."

**Shown here:** Steve Trewhella coaching

The WAFL system is currently designed as a handicap system to try and ensure competitive balance. Clubs including East Fremantle, Swan Districts, Perth and East Perth have all been provided additional recruiting concessions to make them more competitive against the other Clubs. It's been this way now for a significant number of years and has been challenging for our Club to try and compete on a level playing field when our Club has one of the most challenged zones (metropolitan and country) in the competition.

That said, this football club has many people who are connected by red and blue who deeply care about their club, about each other and about the community. I have no doubt it is our people that come together with these shared underlying attributes that has enabled our Club to consistently play finals, and this year deliver the Club its 20th League Premiership.

The Club won the Rodriguez Shield for the best performing club across all three grades of competition for just the fourth time since the Shield was introduced in 1957. We now draw equal with Perth FC on four shields (along way behind Claremont FC who have won the Shield a record 18 times).

It was the first time in the Club's history that all three grades finished the home and away season on top of their respective ladders and all three teams made the Grand Final. I wish to congratulate Darren Harris, Blake Arnold, Ryan Lasscock and all the respective assistant coaches and all the players on their season's.

With the appointment of Darren Harris as Senior Coach who returned to the club (his previous tenure as Senior Coach was from 2002 – 2005) the Football Department got to work immediately with the development of a bold new 5-year Strategic Plan (2022 – 2026) which is underpinned by a set of values that captures the fabric of the West Perth Football Club and provided a set of standards and behaviours that we believe drives high performance in our football programs.

Trust – We Value Character Selfless – We put the Team First Spirit – We Play to Win Resilient – We Never Give In

#### MENS FOOTBALL REPORT cont.

In a football sense we are always striving to improve, and we set our sights during our recruitment campaign on getting back Luke Meadows (Williamstown), Mark Hutchings, Ben Johnson (West Coast Eagles) and Aidan Lynch (East Perth) as well as adding Anton Hamp (Claremont), Mitch Dobson (East Perth) and Joseph Hinder (Bassendean FC). These signings added significant depth to our senior list with all players bringing a specific skill set that was going to help us improve as we strived towards our ultimate goal.

There were a significant number of other highlights in 2022 including:

- Former Club Champion, Kim Rigoll being selected as this year's Ball Legend as well as our Club Ambassador on Grand Final day.
- Dean Munns joining Aaron Black as Co-Captain with both men leading the Club to its 20th Premiership.
- West Perth having six players represent Western Australia in the State team including Keegan Knott, Noah Pegoraro, Luke Meadows, Aaron Black, Tyler Keitel and Zac Guadagnin.
- Shane Nelson becoming just the 22nd player in the history of the Club to play 200 senior games in Round 13 against Claremont.
- The League team winning the Polly Farmer Shield for the 6th season in a row, thrashing arch-rivals East Perth by 70 points in Round 18.
- 5 players making their league debut's including Luke Reilly, Alec Johnson, Lochlan Paton, Jospeh Hinder and Corey Rundle.
- Keegan Knott winning the WAFL KIA Goal of the Year for the 4th consecutive year in a row.
- Ryan Lasscock winning the J.J. Leonard Medal (Coach of the Year) presented on Sandover Medal night.
- Luke Meadows capping off a stellar season winning the Simpson Medal for his best on ground performance in the Grand Final after finishing Runner-up in this year's Sandover Medal count.

To Dr Neale Fong (President) and the entire Board of Directors, I want to extend my gratitude for the work you all do as volunteers and the support you have all provided to the football department. To Paul Cox (Director of Football) I want to personally thank you for all your support and guidance you have provided me during your tenure and wish you the best as you complete a very challenging but successful tenure in your role. You have served the Club to a very high level bringing in valued sponsorship to help the club succeed and made for an enjoyable football environment.

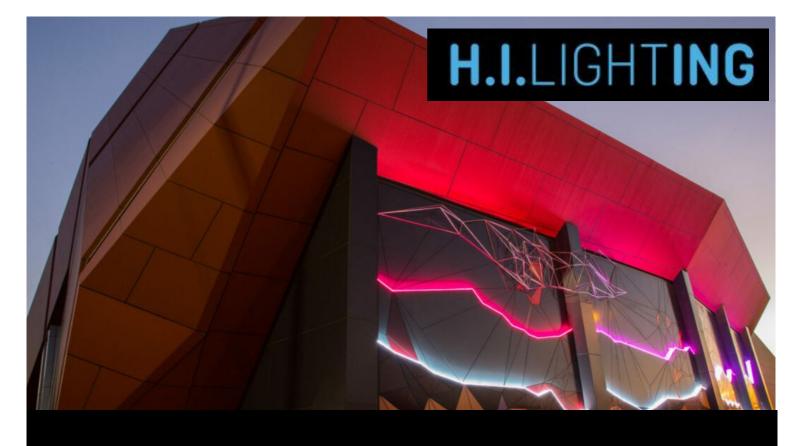


There is change at the end of every football season and we understand that much hard work lies ahead if we are to remain competitive. Our players and coaches will enjoy the break and refresh in preparation for 2023. It's impossible to guarantee anything in football, but what I do know is that everyone connected by red and blue will be back and giving it our very best to represent our Club with great pride as we strive for our next Premiership.

Be the best you can be!

Steve Trewhella General Manager - Football Operations





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Its Late October 2021 and I get a phone call from my great mate Geoff Valentine, the current coach of the West Perth Football Club. I have been lucky enough to do some leadership work with Geoff and his leaders at West Perth and the tone of his voice makes me think we are going to have a conversation about planning for season 2022. Little did I know the phone call was to discuss an AFL opportunity for Geoff via the Fremantle Dockers and the Peel Thunder FC. An opportunity Geoff thoroughly deserved for his long-term success as a coach across all levels of football. Where is this headed was my first thought?

My mind starts to tick over about the succession plan for the next coach and when I get a phone call from Neale Fong and Steve Trewhella I suddenly have a bit of thinking to do. I honestly thought I wouldn't coach again. It had been a rough journey in my last tenor in the WAFL which had a big impact on my trust in the game. Three weeks of discussion with my wife Gael and my family followed by a strong endorsement from the current coaches and leaders. I found myself in "the chair" again at a place I had first been appointed as Senior Coach in 2002. This was a great opportunity to give something back to the club I am a life member of, and had given me so many opportunities to grow. What a great honour.

The first meeting I had with the coaches and players was extremely nerve racking. This group of men I will always be indebted to for building back my confidence and believing in my message. A coach is only as good as the buy-in from his players. I could sense very early on this was a group of men that were hungry for success and not satisfied with where they currently sat on the premiership ladder. And so, my knowledge of the people working for this great club began to grow.

Steve Trewhella was my premiership teammate in 1995 and captained the team to a premiership when I was Coach in 2003. The thing I am most grateful for with Stevie T, apart from his honesty and work ethic, was how he protected me from anything that was outside the role of Coach. He let me do my job. He challenged me to do it better. And he listened and helped with my demands as we prepared the team to win. He will go down as one of the greatest servants the WPFC has ever had.

#### DARREN HARRIS REPORT

I will preface my article for the yearbook by my appreciation of all areas of the football club who played their role in us winning our 20th WAFL premiership. No one's role Is less significant than anyone else's. We are the sum of our parts. The WPFC thanks you sincerely.

You all know who you are including our families, members, supporters and staff.

The first thing we set about doing was defining our purpose and values that would guide all our decision making. Gavin Bell (former 1995 Premiership Player) and Josh Pullman (Leadership Coach) ran a "One Team" workshop that had representation from all levels and eras of our great club. From Bill Dempsey to the most recent debutant at the time, Michael Mallard. Including our newest members of our foundation women's team. Past players and officials and current players and officials. We told stories of what it meant to be a part of this club, and we defined what it looked like.

Trust, Selfless, Spirit, Resilience became part of our day-to-day language.

What does that look like?

**Trust** - we value character. **Selfless** - we put the team first. **Spirit** - we play to win. **Resiliance** - we never give in.

Now the challenge began for all of us to reward these behaviours and challenge people if we needed them to improve.



#### DARREN HARRIS REPORT CONTINUED

This job was made a lot easier by the calibre of leaders we had at our football club.

Assistant Coaches like Jason Salecic, Matt Guadagnin, Dion Fleay, Andrew Strijk, Ron Skender, and Blake Arnold are all past champions of our football club. Premiership players and coaches, Breckler Medallists, Life Members and the list goes on. These men model our values as well as anyone in the history of our club.

In 2022 the trust I had for our coaching group meant that any conversation that needed to be had was going to be had. We all agreed after robust debate and provided one clear message for our player group to follow.

In my world the 'head' (confidence) comes after the 'body' is strong. I have never claimed to be an expert in strength and conditioning or in the area of medical. I knew the club had enormous respect and belief for Corey Green (Strength & Conditioning Coach), Aaron Thomas (Physiotherapist), Dr Chris Barr & Dr Greg Smith, Maddy Simon (Head Trainer) and their respective teams. The quality of their work and the biggest pre-season from a numbers point of view the club had ever undertaken meant we were rock hard fit. These numbers continued in a Covid interrupted season. By Round 15 we had still only had one soft tissue injury. This is remarkable. I don't think a team in Australia would have a better record. Our players are indebted to you all. Having a rock hard fit squad able to train to win set us up for success.

Our annual pre-season camp at Matt and Karly Guadagnin's farm in Gilba Downs, York had a massive impact as a foundation for success. Josh Pullman co-ordinated the camp which involved some quality fellowship but also some self-reflection and our 2022 leadership vote.

Our players selected Aaron Black to again Captain the club but also recommended Dean Munns be his Co-Captain. This would prove a winner. Tyler Keitel, Blake Wilhelm, and Luke Meadows rounded out our leadership group as very capable Vice-Captains. These men would become the demanding role models assisting the Coaches to get that team buy-in required for the ultimate success we were all aiming for. As with the Coaches above they all have been instrumental in the WPFC culture being the best it can be.

The League side had 14 wins, one draw and 4 losses. It was enough to clinch the minor premiership and join the Reserves and Colts team on top of the ladder for the first time in the 131 years we have existed.

Our 4th Rodriguez Shield was a great reward for all the hard work Blake Arnold and Ryan Lasscock and their respective coaching and support staff teams did to be at the top of their respective ladders in 2022. This success will have a positive impact on the future of our club. The opportunity to be the best you can be on and off the field is provided by so many quality leaders. It's not that hard a decision to get on the 'positive bus'.

The story ends this time around with the WPFC winning is 20th WAFL League Premiership. There is so many stories within the story. 68 men got to represent their club on the final day. 22 lucky men get a medal that they will never forget but we don't succeed without a whole of club approach. All our players helped us win.

Leederville Oval was the perfect backdrop for the Grand Final. It was a sea of Red and Blue. The team had Black and Nelson who were the only two players remaining from the 2013 Premiership team. At the other end of the spectrum there was Joe Hinder for game 5 and Corey Rundle for game 3.

There was those that toiled long and hard for the opportunity. The average number of Reserves games played by the 22 men who played in the premiership was 38. Troy Yukich topped the list playing 110 games, Keegan Knott - 92, Aidan Lynch - 77, Conal Lynch - 67, Sam Rotham - 60, Tyson Moulton - 53, Mitch Peirce - 52, Nathan Alexandre - 45. That is resilience, perseverance, and loyalty right there. This is how the 2022 Premiership was built.

Tyler Keitel got to join his Uncle Ron Skender as a West Perth Premiership player. How good.

Then there was Anton Hamp, a Life Member of Claremont with over 150 games of experience and Mitch Dobson who played 42 games over 6 years at East Perth. They added the class needed up forward and would help us win several tight games throughout the season. Both played every game this season and both are now Premiership players. The stories continue and hopefully will continue.

Then there is men like Blake Wilhelm. Selfless and unlucky. Gets injured late, is part of the leadership group and misses the Grand Final. Same for our 2013 Premiership Simpson Medallist in Mark Hutchings. A hamstring injury sustained in the 2nd Semi Final but plays out the game and kicks a crucial goal to help us to victory. And we can't forget the serious injury that Mark Hamilton suffered toward the back end of the year tearing his hamstring off the bone that robbed him of a chance of playing on the last day. We value character is why they will come back and have another crack.

The WPFC is a great club. Grand Final day was a great way to display it. The spirit of the players to fight for victory and those big moments late in the game are what we are all about. How proud was every person connected by Red and Blue watching it all unfold. The amount of people we were able to make happy is part of the overall satisfaction of winning.

The way all of our players celebrated across all three grades, with or without a medal is what 'One Club' is all about.

The legacy continues. The Scarf has been handed over to the next custodians. It is in good hands. As we lose Matt Guadagnin after 22 years of playing and coaching, we welcome Kim Rigoll back. That is what great people do. They give back. Hopefully back-to-back.

See you all in 2023



"Our Development Program is critical to the long-term sustainable success of the Club

and this year's overall performance'

Our Development Program is critical to the long-term sustainable success of the Club and this year's overall performance resulting in the Club winning the prestigious Rodriguez Shield for the best performing club across all three grades was an indicator that our system is working well.

47 players represented the Club at Reserves level in 2022. This included 9 players from our Colts program. I am most pleased to report that 5 players achieved their league debut's. Congratulations to Luke Reilly, Lochlan Paton, Alec Johnson, Joey Hinder and Corey Rundle. It was great to watch these young men develop their football and be rewarded for their effort and consistency over the course of the season. To see both Joey & Corey shine on Grand Final day on the biggest stage of the year was confirmation that our development system is critical to our league success.

The Reserves season was a good one in terms of our win/loss ratio, with the highlight being a 13-game winning run from Rounds 4 all the way to the 2nd Semi-Final. Through this period the playing group played some superb football, and this was a key driver in ensuring a healthy selection session each week at league level. Whilst we may have fallen short on Grand Final day (by just 6 points), we certainly had our chances. Ultimately though, the result was a fair one with Subiaco deserving their victory. The learning experience for our group to experience the disappointment on Grand Final day will provide a spark and motivation heading into 2023.

I want to acknowledge the work of our Assistant Development Coaches, including Todd Stewart (Backline), Troy Arnold (Midfield), Steve Russell (Forward's), Ron Skender (Ruck) & Stuart Chesher (S&C). Additionally, our team of volunteers including David Prout (Manager), Dan Barnard (Runner), Gavin Lambert (Interchange Stewart), Aaron Thomas (Physiotherapist) and Maddy Simon (Head Trainer) and the entire team of trainers. It's been a fantastic year and your support and friendship are extremely valued.

Finally, to my family, Alanna, Jesse & Mikayla, thanks for your ongoing support in allowing me to be heavily involved in this great club, It's a huge commitment and I appreciate everything you sacrifice in order for me to fulfill the role.

All the very best to our staff, members, sponsors, and supporters across the off-season. See you at the footy in 2023

Blake Arnold





Aaron Black has a football resume most people only dream of. Prior to the season he was a Premiership Player, A three-time Breckler Medalist (Fairest & Best) and

With COVID-19 still causing major disruption and health challenges globally the AFL provided all Clubs with the ability to list an additional 20 top-up players from State Leagues who could be called upon if required.

had represented Western Australia on 6 occasions.

For Aaron, it presented him with an opportunity to fulfill a dream and make his AFL debut for the West Coast Eagles. On Sunday 27 March, Black debuted as the Eagles took on the Kangaroos in Melbourne at Marvel Stadium, and for Aaron Black he grabbed his opportunity with both hands. He finished the game with 15 disposals, 4 marks, 4 clearances, 2 tackles and a goal to be in the Eagles best players in a gallant effort losing by 15 points to North Melbourne. Whilst it would prove to be Aaron's only game of AFL he was able to represent himself and the West Perth Football Club with distinction on the big stage, confirming what many football followers always knew – that Aaron is good enough to play at AFL level.

Fast forward a couple of months and on the 14th of May, Black was selected to represent Western Australia to take on South Australia. It would be Aaron's 7th State selection for WA over his career.

But more was still to come for the veteran as the season progressed and he along with co-captain Dean Munns led the club to its 20th League Premiership. Lifting the Cup at the end of the season was fitting for Black who was inspirational on the wing this year with his gut running and competitiveness a highlight and this was particularly evident in the biggest game of the year. For Black it would be his second premiership and his first as Captain.

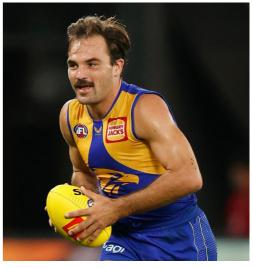
The good news for Falcon's fans is that Black still has unfinished business and is set to add to his footballing resume into 2023 and beyond.

## WHAT A YEAR FOR AARON BLACK

"Aaron Black has a football resume most people only dream of. Prior to the season he was a Premiership Player, A three-time Breckler Medallist (Fairest & Best) and had represented Western Australia on 6 occasions."

#### **Shown here:** Co-Captain Aaron Black





## NELLY JOINS 200 CLUB

In Round 13 this year Shane Nelson became just the 22nd player in the Clubs history to play 200 senior games for the West Perth Football Club. By season's end Nelson would move into 18th position on the all-time games played table finishing the year on 208. He had a terrific season winning his 5th Breckler Medal in a tie with fellow midfielder Mitchell Peirce and winning his second premiership medal as the Falcons defeated the Tigers in this season's Grand Final.

The Club celebrated Shane's achievement holding a "Testimonial" on Saturday 16 July. The event was well attended by over 130 people and drew past and current players together to share stories including some memorable and humorous moments over Shane's 200 games.

Hosted by former team mate Cameron Branch the Roast & Toast panel included former team mates Mitch McPhee, Rohan Kerr and current team mates Aaron Black, Mark Hutchings and brother Scott Nelson.

With the support of his wife Anita and his family we have no doubt that Nelly has many more games left and hopefully more premierships await.

	I		
Player	West Perth FC		
	Senior Games		
Mel Whinnen	371		
Bill Dempsey	343		
Les Fong	284		
Alan Watling	284		
Paul Mifka	283		
Ray Schofield	277		
Wally Price	256		
Andrew Strijk	245		
Aaron Black	241*		
Peter Menaglio	236		
Ted Flemming	229		
Ted Tyson	228		
Bill Rainoldi	228		
Ken Ashdown	218		
Norm McDiarmid	210		
Max Tetley	210		
Chris Keunen	209		
Shane Nelson	208*		
Jim Craig	203		
Brian Foley	202		
Len Harman	201		
Eddie Wylde	200		





Andrew Anderton
Pam Ashdown
Andy Gorton
Connie Howells
Larry Lopez
John Matticks
Adam Myers
Danny Netrelis
Todd Stewart
Caffieri Family
Elsegood Family
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RAISING THE BAR

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2022 bought the return of Darren Harris as Senior Coach and with that he delivered the Club its 20th League Premiership, his second as Senior Coach having previously coached the Club to the 2003 Premiership. It was to be his third for West Perth overall as he also famously captained the Club to the 1995 Premiership with his best on ground performance.

Harris now joins the likes of John Leonard (1934 & 1935) Stan "Pops" Heal (1949 & 1951) Graham Farmer (1969 & 1971) & John Dimmer (1995 & 1999) as the only men to become dual Premiership Coaches in the history of the Club. No one has coached West Perth to three premierships.

Darren's contribution to the Club has been enormous since arriving in 1992 from his home town in Wodonga, Victoria. Harris would play 109 games between 1992 – 1996, winning a Breckler Medal, Simpson Medal and Premiership all in the same year (1995). During his five seasons as a player he was instrumental in changing the culture and the fortunes of the club, playing in four consecutive finals campaigns (1993 – 1996) including two Grand Finals (1993 & 1995) and Captaining the Club in 1995 & 1996.

Harris's first stint as Senior Coach commenced in 2002 and he had immediate impact lifting the team to the Grand Final in his first year only to lose the decider to East Perth.

The members and supporters didn't have to wait too long for success, with Harris going one better in 2003 leading the Club to its 18th Premiership as Senior Coach. Harris coached for a further two seasons in 2004 & 2005 before the AFL came knocking.

Harris moved to the West Coast Eagles in 2006 joining the senior coaching staff helping to Coach that Club to the Premiership in his first year. Harris would spend two more seasons at West Coast before moving back to his native Victoria to take up a coaching role at Carlton. In all, Harris spent 7 years in the AFL with both the West Coast Eagles and the Carlton football clubs' before returning to his adopted home in Perth to resume his career in corporate leadership consultancy.

## HARRIS SITS COMFORTABLY ALONGSIDE THE GREATS

"2022 bought the return of Darren Harris as Senior Coach and with that he delivered the Club its 20th League Premiership, his second as Senior Coach having previously coached the Club to the 2003 Premiership"

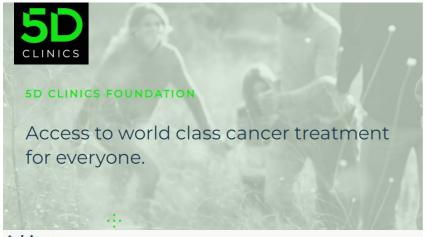
It wasn't long before he was back coaching, with the WAFL quick to announce Harris as the State Coach for the 2015 & 2016 seasons. He was successful in both years guiding the Black Swans to victory on both occasions against South Australia and Tasmania.

In 2017, Harris was appointed Senior Coach of the Claremont Football Club taking them from the doldrums to premiership contenders in his four years at the helm only to fall agonisingly short (3 points) in the 2020 Grand Final.

Harris's return to West Perth in 2022 has been a coup for the Falcons, and in Round 18 Harris notched up another milestone coaching his 100th game at West Perth in a clinical 70-point thrashing against archrivals East Perth. By season's end Harris now sits 5th on the all-time list of games coached at the club. With Darren committed for 2023 he is likely to pass his mentor and former coach, John Dimmer by next season's end.



	WAFL	National	WAFL	WAFL	WAFL	Win
	Games	Games	Finals	Grand Finals	Premierships	%
Bill Monaghan	214	5	16	3	1	55%
Stan "Pops" Heal	133		15	5	2	71%
Graham Campbell	122	8	5	1	1	53%
John Dimmer	111		9	3	2	67%
Darren Harris *	104		8	3	2	62%



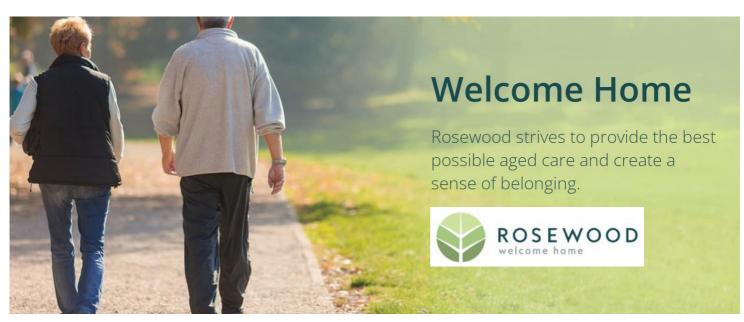
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### TALENT REPORT

"2022 was a successful year for the West Perth Colts group, which saw the colts team make the WAFL Colts Grand Final after a 19-year absence."

> **Kris Shannon** Talent Manager

2022 was a successful year for the West Perth Colts group, which saw the colts team make the WAFL Colts Grand Final after a 19-year absence. It was fantastic to see 47 players earn the opportunity to put on a West Perth Colts jumper this year with 6 players playing senior football in 2022. Whilst the result on Grand Final day didn't go our way, the players, support staff, coaches and supporters should be very proud of their efforts this year.

Well done to Kane Bevan, Griff Jullian, Daniel Gathercole, Jasper Scaife and Luke Michael on making the WA State 18s squad, with all players getting the opportunity to represent their state. Congratulations to Jack DeMarte, Riley Sprigg, Kane Bevan, Jasper Scaife and Luke Michael made the WAFL Colts Team of the Year with Ryan Lasscock named the Colts Coach of the Year. Congratulations to Kane Bevan for winning the Jack Clarke Medal as the competition's fairest-and-best player and Ryan Lasscock for winning JJ-Leonard medal as the coach of the year across all grades.

A huge thank you to the coaching team lead by Ryan Lasscock and assistants Jay Carroll, Ryan Fong and Paul Downer. Your efforts this year were invaluable, and you should all be very proud of all your efforts this season and I look forward to working with you all next year. Thank you to Jess Fordham, Nathan Stephens and the rest of the medical team for all your efforts in keeping the players on the track this year and lastly to Bryce Williamson from Athletic Institute. Our players said this was the toughest pre-season and the fittest they have ever been, well done on running such an elite Strength and Conditioning program. You have set the standard for years to come.

While we would have liked a few extra minutes on Grand Final day, the year as a whole from team success and individual success was outstanding and everyone that has helped this group should be very proud of season 2022.

#### **Talent Squads**

The 14's, 15's and 16's development squads make up the talent squads and although we don't focus on winning games, a congratulations must go to the coaching group and players for their efforts this year.

Ash McKeown and Mark Hutchings co-coached the Futures group this year in the lead up to the WAFL season. Across the six matches, 40 young West Perth men pulled on a West Perth jumper and 8 of those players came out of our country zone. Congratulation to Baylee Payne, Kayde Sherwood, Kayle Gerreyn and Trent Hiscock on being selected in the WA State 16's squad. Thank you to Josh Wooden and Steve Chapman for all your efforts this year as assistant coaches.

Our 14's and 15's development squads changed in season 2022. With talent back at the football club we decided to go with only 1 squad in each program rather than 2 squads like previous years. Both programs ran for 8 weeks and then playing games in the July and September school holidays. Both squads were very strong and whilst the games were a little one sided, I believe it was a huge success this year. Thank you, Steve Chapman, Luke Richardson, Aidan Lynch, Josh Wooden, Ben Horgan, Michael Luca, Mitch Drewitt and Jayden Williams for your efforts this year.

A last thanks goes to everyone at the West Perth Football Club, thank you for all your support and efforts this year and I am looking forward to season 2023.







## YILGARN FALCONS

Our Yilgarn Falcons program is delivered each year to our regional zone in Western Australia's wheatbelt. Our Club has two competitions with this zone, the Central Wheatbelt and the Eastern Districts Football League's.

Our Yilgarn Falcons program is delivered each year to our regional zone in Western Australia's wheatbelt. Our Club has two competitions with this zone, the Central Wheatbelt and the Eastern Districts Football League's. The program is targeted at talented 14 & 15 year-old boys and provides them with similar opportunities that our metropolitan based junior footballers have access too.

This season our General Manager of Football Operations, Steve Trewhella took on the role as Coach of the program which ran over two months taking West Perth football to the region. Training sessions where conducted every fortnight in Meridan which was a central hub for the participants and their families. The boys received expert coaching from our Strength & Conditioning team (Corey Green and Megan Kaffman) at Athletic Institute as well as athlete education on a range of topics from current senior player Mark Hutchings at Complete Athlete Australia. The program concluded with a two-day camp in which the boys came down to Joondalup, where our Club was able to give them experiences at both the West Coast Eagles and the Fremantle Dockers Football Clubs. The final day provided an opportunity for the players to play a game against our metropolitan development squad and it proved to be a highly competitive match that will lead into some of the players being invited to our Futures (U16s) program in 2023.

This club has a rich history of engaging with our regional zone and over many decades, have through the Yilgarn program we have identified and provided opportunities for junior footballers to be the best they can be and aspire to league football. We have current players on our senior list including co-captain Dean Munns (Beacon), Zac Guadagnin (Southern Cross), Darcy Dixon (Nukarni) & Ryan Hudson (Kalannie) who all came through this program in previous years and we look forward to providing continued opportunities for our regional based players in years to come.





#### Shown here:

Nathan Alexandre and Mitch Antonio shooting hoops

## COMMUNITY

Our Club has a strong commitment to our community stretching more than 130 years. Our players, coaches and staff are always looking for ways in which we can contribute in a positive and meaningful way. In 2022 our Club was proud to be involved in the following initiatives;

**School Holiday Coaching Clinics** – our school holiday clinics ran in the April, July & October School Holidays. Led by Mark Hutchings and a host of other senior footballers the clinics provided specialist coaching for boys and girls aged 6 – 14 as well as let them experience all the facilities of the Falcons. Hundreds of kids participated connecting aspiring future Falcons to our Club.

**NAIDOC Round** – In this season's NAIDOC Round we hosted Peel Thunder FC. Former player Len Yarran kindly attended and talked to the players of the importance of NAIDOC Round before performing the smoking ceremony and welcome to country bringing both clubs together. Players from all three grades proudly wore the specially designed jumper by artists Shannon Taylor and our very own Sasha Kernutt.

Oversees Student Exchange Program – with international borders back open, our Club was able to host three students from James Madison University who spent two months immersed in our football program in June and July of this season. Caroline Ong, Steven Fonner & Kelly Irwin worked alongside our Strength & Conditioning team led by Corey Green as well as our Medical team led by Physiotherapist, Aaron Thomas and the fantastic team of trainers led by Maddy Simon.

**Junior Club Week** – During our bye week in Round 17, our entire senior playing squad returned to their junior clubs to coach the next generation of footballers from our local district. We visited 9 different junior clubs and coaches over 20 teams. It's important that our players continue to give back to their community and getting back to their roots is important and hopefully inspires our junior footballers to follow their passion and dreams.

**Secondary School Work Experience** – The Club hosted Charlie from Georgiana Molloy Anglican School in September for work experience. Charlie worked across all areas of football operations and even helped the coaches on training nights too. Although Charlie's experience lasted just a week, he is now connected by Red & Blue for life and he was spotted several weeks later supporting all three grades on Grand Final day at Leederville Oval.

**Think Mental Health Round** – Mental Health is critical to everyone's general wellbeing and in Round 14 our coaches, players and staff were involved in the Think Mental Health Round. Spending time together to check in with a mate and sharing what's going on outside of football is important. The week ended with the sharing of a cup of soup prepared by our Property Manager, Ray Garcia which was appreciated by our senior playing group.

**Nicky Winmar Cup** – Senior players Sasha Kernutt, Joseph Hinder and Aidan Lynch volunteered their time to coach young aboriginal boys in the Nicky Winmar Cup which was held in October. The boys did a fantastic job representing the Falcons competing against other clubs in a lighting carnival format.















### **AFL PLAYERS REPORT**



#### **Heath Chapman - Fremantle Dockers**

Drafted by Fremantle in the 2020 National Draft, Heath played 15 AFL games this year for the Dockers including two finals bringing his tally to 21 games in his first two season of AFL. Chapman looks to have cemented his position in Fremantle's back line and has shown his versatility this season taking on the competitions best forwards.



#### **Connor West - West Coast Eagles**

Taken by West Coast in the 2021 Mid-Season Draft, Connor played 14 games in 2022 taking his career tally to 19 AFL games. Injury halted Connor's run toward the end of the year when he broke his wrist but up until then he showed plenty of spirit in what was a tough year for the Eagles.



#### Jaxon Prior - Brisbane Lions

Jaxon has now completed his third season with the Lions playing 12 AFL games in 2022 including one final, taking his career tally to 30 games with Brisbane. A utility Prior has played in most positions across the ground including forward, wing and back and he regularly finds the scoreboard.



#### Oscar Allen - West Coast Eagles

Unfortunately, Oscar did not play a game of football in 2022 and was placed on West Coast's inactive list after suffering stress fractures in his foot before the season commenced. Drafted in the 2017 National Draft, Allen has emerged as a promising key forward and in his 59 games for West Coast he has kicked 66 goals. We are sure that 2023 will see Allen return to full health and he will be back on the big stage again.



#### Liam Baker - Richmond Tigers

Baker played every game for Richmond in 2022 including one final for 23 games. Baker was awarded the AFL's Most Courageous Player Award this year after his stellar season and takes his tally with Richmond to 87 games. He is a two-time Premiership Player with the Tigers after being drafted as a Rookie in the 2017 Draft.



#### Josh Rotham - West Coast Eagles

Josh was recruited to West Coast in the 2016 National Draft and after completing his 7th season with the Eagles and added 13 AFL games to take his career tally to 46 AFL games. Rotham has been played mainly as a defender but late this season West Coast moved him forward and in Round 19 he kicked two goals against the Saints.



#### Marcus Adams - Brisbane Lions

Marcus played 18 games this season for the Lions as a key defender taking his AFL career tally to 73 games after being drafted in the 2015 AFL National Draft. Becoming a contested marking specialist, Marcus dazzled AFL fans this season with his ability to intercept and was a major factor in the Lions reaching finals again. Spending his first three seasons with the Western Bulldogs where he played 27 games, Adams has added 46 with Brisbane since heading north and looks set to add to that with the Lions in 2023.



#### **Blake Acres - Fremantle Dockers**

Acres had a stellar season with Fremantle playing on the wing adding 20 games including two finals. Drafted in 2013 AFL National Draft, Blake has now played 120 AFL games with both St Kilda (75 games) and Fremantle (45 games). 2023 will see Blake move back across the continent to play for his third Club after he was traded during the recent AFL trade period to Carlton FC.



#### Bradley Hill - St Kilda

Originally drafted in the 2011 AF Draft, Hill has now completed his 11th season in the AFL with his third Club. Bradley played 21 games this year bringing up his 200-game milestone and by seasons end take his career tally to 211 games. Known for his sheer pace and outside run coupled with his brilliance, Bradley transitioned from wing to defence this year. Hill previously played with Hawthorn (95 games) winning three premierships, Fremantle (54 games) winning a Fairest & Best) and now has played 62 games for the Saints.



#### Jack Darling - West Coast Eagles

Drafted in the 2010 AFL National draft, Jack played 21 games for West Coast in 2022 taking his career tally to 257 games. The key forward continued to impact the scoreboard kicking 34 goals in a tough season for the Eagles taking his career tally to 484 goals, just short of the magic 500 mark, which he is sure to reach in 2023.



# 2022 - SENIOR SQUAD

Mitch Antonio, Tyson Moulton, Brock Lewis, Zac Fleiner, Rohan Scurria, Lachlan Cox Back Row L-R: Mitch Dobson, Koopah Todd, Ben Johnson, Jared Cole, Alec Johnson, Nathan Alexandre, Lochlan Paton, Rowan Garlett, Rudy Riddoch,

3rd Row L-R: Mitchell Peirce, Kellen Johnson, Connor Klemke, Tom O'Donnell, Noah Pegoraro, Ben Delaporte, Zak Patterson, Michael Mallard, Troy Yukich, Ryan Hudson, Mark Hamilton, Sam Rotham, Tyler Mouritz, Anton Hamp, Corey Rundle

2nd Row L-R: Jack Burke, Trent Manzone, Aidan Lynch, Zac Guadagnin, Shane Nelson, Tyler Keitel, Dean Munns (Captain), Darren Harris (Senior Coach), Blake Arnold (Reserves Coach), Aaron Black (Captain), Blake Wilhelm, Luke Meadows, Tristan Hobley, Mark Hutchings, Callum Johnson

Front Row L-R: Tom Boyes, Darcy Dixon, Conal Lynch, Scott Nelson, Saverio Marafioti, Luke Reilly, Sasha Kernutt, Joseph Hinder, Keegan Knott

Absent: Logan Foley, Nathan Murray, Josh Munns, Dylan Yem



**2022** COLTS

Back row - (left to right) Paul Downer (Assistant Coach), Toby Prunster, Cooper Sinclair, Taj Ross, Aiden Nelson, Oliver Tomljanovich, Camden Pires, Bailey Long, Daniel Gathercole, Harry Cabalzar, Tama Poharama, Tom Rance, Noah Vanderwiel, Ryan Fong (Assistant Coach)

Second Row - (left to right) Kris Shannon (Talent Manager), Bryce Williamson (S&C) Dane Biglin, Liam McWha, Isaac Hewitt, Sam Brunton, Callum Smith, Eli Alexander, Isaac Riccadonna, Luke Foster, Jye Skender, Riley Sprigg, Jasper Scaife, Riley Hill, Jay Carroll (Assistant Coach)

Nathan Stephens (Physio)

Third Row - (left to right) Zoe Courtney (Trainer), Codan Daddow, Jake Kennedy, Alex Campbell, Mitch Lonnie, Jack DeMarte, Kane Bevan (Captain), Ryan Lasscock (Head Coach), Jacob Templeton, Jesse Taylor, Hudson Sadgrove, Tom Rintoul, Joey Calorio, Tjad Gianoncelli, Adele Macdonald (Trainer)

Front Row - (left to right) Ashton Waters, Kayden Vearing, Keiran Shore, Luke Michael, Griff Jullian, Nate Dimanlig, Byron Sherwood, Blake Garraway, Lachlan Godden

**Absent** - Saverio Marafioti, Tyler Mouritz, Cooper Smith, Clayton Taylor, Kyle Willcox, Nicholas Davidson, Noah Farrow, Odin Jones, Brandon Goodman(Trainer), Jess Fordham (Head Trainer)



## **2022** FUTURES

Back Row (left to right) Callum Downey, Jett Martin, Jacob Short, Zac Aiken, Byron Sherwood, Lachlan Pleitner, Seth Bruins, Jack Wooden, Max Zivkovic, Josh Grant, Bailey Snelling, Darcy Keenan

Middle Row (left to right) Mitch Drewett (Development Coach), Damian Verazzi (Development Coach), Jayden Rigoll, Will Munns, Trent solly, Andrew Avery, Patrick Atkins, Trent Hiscock, Judd Major, Ethyn Taylor, Jaxon Callcott, Andrew Lockwood (S&C)

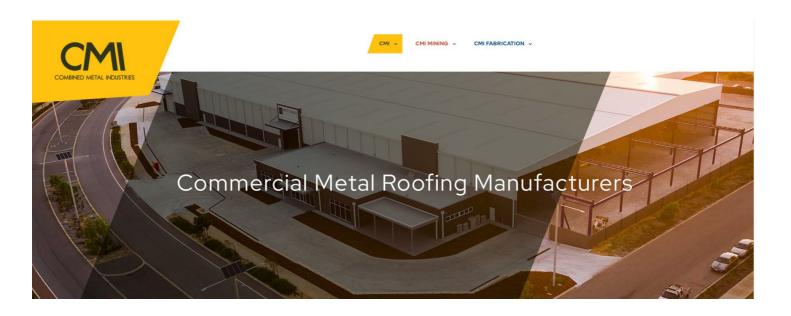
Front Row (left to right) Josh Wooden (Assistant Coach) James Phillpott, Owen Capes, Thomas Rooke, Mark Hutchings (Head Coach), Ash McKeown (Head Coach), Marcus Burns, Baylee Payne, Lachlan Acres, Steve Chapman (Assistant Coach) Kris Shannon (Talent Manager)

**Absent** Riley Smith, Lance Griessel, Tyrell Bropho, Riley Stringer, Tyson Phillips, Kai Richards, William Wall, Kayle Gerreyn, Luke Ward, Zac Sprigg, Jo Fuchbischler, Jullian Munns, Campbell Gardiner, Flynn Crisp, Tyson Bell, Jake Heasman



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#### **WOMENS FOOTBALL REPORT**

2022 was a challenging year for our Inaugural WAFLW Season. Led by Stephen Hazell, the clubs' first WAFLW Head Coach, it was a season to take stock of our clubs' youth, consider developmental opportunities across our program but more importantly get pivotal WAFLW-minutes into the bodies of the developing young talent

With the inclusion of Athletic Institute as the Women's Program Strength & Conditioning provider, the players were exposed to elite level testing and conditioning throughout the pre-season period with a forward goal to be one of the competitions more elite-runners; Fittest team within the competition.

It was a season which highlighted the need for further investment in resources and support for our players and committed coaching panels as the expectations grow for a more competitive 2023 campaign.

The second half of our 2022 season saw massive leaps forward in our development with key internal measurables being hit each week. We were able to see improvements in our ability to gain more possession, execute better and have more critical contests. These were key indicators that our young list were acclimatising to the rigours of WAFLW League football and the expectations on it.

The club's post-season, external review highlighted areas for improvement within our program and this feedback has already seen changes afoot. We have already promoted our new-look coaching panel which will see an injection of strong women with the football knowledge, tactical-nous and approachability that can only benefit our playing group.

What's been noted by the review and unanimously agreed upon by all involved is that in 2022, we were simply too young. Working closely with the club, we formed a robust List Management Committee which saw about providing in-depth analysis of the existing WAFLW list and highlighting the 'holes' that sit within our list.

As I write this report, we have already promoted significant player signings for the 2023 season on the clubs' social media accounts. Our club is excited to be welcoming home our Ex-Falcons in Katherine BENNETT & Brooke HONGELL, both of which are Claremont Premiership Players with immense experience that can help lead our list into its new chapter and fill much needed voids within our midfield and defensive stocks. Along with these two, we have also announced the return and alignment of our own Bianca WEBB who has spent the past 3 seasons with Fremantle FC, aligned to Swan Districts.

We have also announced the exciting signing of goal-sneak Tarnee TESTER. A policewoman during the day, Tarnee spent 2 years in the AFLW system at both West Coast Eagles and Fremantle Dockers and averages 2.06 goals per game.

I am immensely proud of the efforts by our new and returning playing groups who returned to Pentanet Stadium for November 14 to commence pre-season. A newly invigorated, hungry playing list partnered with a newly appointed coaching panel backed by the oldest, proudest WAFL Club in Western Australia is the perfect combination to have our WAFLW side sing our song come Round 1 in 2023.



#### STATISTICS TO NOTE:

2022 saw 44 women debut for the West Perth Football Club, up from 38 players used in the 2021 Reserves Competition. West Perth Football Club WAFLW Average Age 17.84 with the competition average sitting at 21.45.

#### 2022 LEADERSHIP GROUP

Teal BENNETT – Inaugural WAFLW Captain Jaymee DUKE – Inaugural WAFLW Co-Vice Captain Erin O'BRIEN – Inaugural WAFLW Co-Vice Captain Elissa PRICE – Emerging Leader Megan NORBURY – Emerging Leader

#### 2022 AWARD WINNERS

Megan NORBURY – WAFLW Fairest & Best Keely BYRNE – Runner Up WAFLW Fairest & Best Jeevna HEER – 3rd Runner Up WAFLW Fairest & Best Chanel SCOTT – Leading Goal Kicker Jaymee DUKE – 2022 Falcon of the Year (Players' Player



#### **ROGERS CUP**

2022 was a year for our Rogers Cup squad to defend its 2021 Premiership Title against a competition which is seeing exponential leaps in skill-level and viewership. The granting of a WAFLW League License by the WAFC saw a large percentage of the Premiership Rogers Cup side elevated into the League squad which saw an influx of new and exciting, young talent.

This new talent was pulled in from far and wide with specified talent identification processes used to invite young women from across Perth's northern corridor. The feats of this young list continue to impress our club even beyond the 2022 season with 41 players used/debuted, up from 31 in 2021.

Scott Kounis was selected to lead our Rogers Cup team for the 2022 season after serving as Steve Hazell's Midfield Coach through Steve's Rogers Cup tenure. With such a young and new list, Scott saw it pertinent to focus on the basics of skill development with his coaching panel with the plan to build strong foundations for this group heading into 2023 – 'Back to basics', if you like.

What came as a surprise to most was this groups' ability to absorb new information and act on it effectively during competitive matches. What we are now benefiting from, as a club, is an influx of 'natural footballers' – Young women who have played since Auskick and have been bouncing the football alongside siblings for more than 10 years. The West Perth Football Club has full faith in its Junior Football Clubs to continue to develop the youth of the Northern Corridor and we will continue to support these clubs on their endeavour to provide better programs for their communities.

Finishing 5th, just 2-points outside the top-4 and a finals campaign, our 2022 Rogers Cup list continued to show outstanding growth and this came to fruition through the second half of the season which saw West Perth defeat 3 of the top 4 sides with narrow losses to the eventual Premiers in East Fremantle.

This becomes all the more impressive when we look at the numbers and see that our side averaged an age of 15.72 which sat below the competition average.

2022 also saw some of our very brightest stars take to the State-Representative stage and compete in Victoria. Ella FEIST, Leuca KRMPOTIC and Mia RUSSO contributed significantly to WA's victories over-East with Mia RUSSO being awarded the Fairest & Best Award which is awarded to WA's most Valuable player across the State 15's Carnival.

We also saw our own Jamarah WALLEY be selected to compete in the National Woomera's Competition which was played at Geelong's GMHBA Stadium on the same weekend as the State 15's Carnival. Jamarah was awarded Best on Ground honours in what was the catalyst for Jamarah to return to West Perth and light up the competition.

To cap-off a successful year for Mia RUSSO, not only did she receive accolades during her State Representative Carnival and receiving the West Perth Football Club's own Rogers Cup Fairest & Best Award, Mia was also the recipient of the 2022 Charmaine Rogers Fairest & Best AND 2022 Rising Star award at the WAFLW Awards Night hosted by the West Australian Football Commission.

We now look ahead to 2023 which will see the core of our Rogers Cup side remain which is a welcomed outlook for Scott Kounis and his newly appointed coaching-panels. The only changes of any significance within this playing group will be the influx of 2022 league players who will return to Rogers Cup football to hone-in their craft and look to impact in a competition more aligned to their own abilities.

The foundations have truly been built with expectations on this side to now take the next step on their football journey and move deep into finals-football for 2023.

#### 2022 Leadership Group

Abbey BRIMSON – Captain Keeley OAKES – Vice Captain

#### 2022 Award Winners

Mia RUSSO – Rogers Cup Fairest & Best Sophie FISHER – Runner Up Rogers Cup Fairest & Best Hayley BIDEFLED / Maddison TAYLOR – Equal 3rd Olivia NEAL – Volunteer of the Year



















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## **FALCONS ACADEMY**

#### **ACADEMY**

In 2022, the club relaunched it's Female Talent Academy which was piloted in 2021 with 17 participants. This academy, now known as the Moora Citrus Female Football Academy, is designed as an opportunity for identified individuals within the West Perth zone to experience elite-level coaching and skill development, access to Strength and Conditioning via Athletic Institute and education around nutrition and diet, resilience, leadership, and professional habits

It was identified early on that there wasn't an existing program available to the football-mad female youth which can provide holistic development and a visible pathway to higher-honours football as representatives of the West Perth Football Club.

This program ran once a fortnight from April to October which meant we were able to compromise with our hard-working junior clubs to ensure they have access to their talented youth-aged girls to continue to help grow the female game within their own clubs.

Led by former West Perth Football Club Premiership Player Ray Bartholomew, the Moora Citrus Female Football Academy went from strength to strength under Razor's watchful eye and mentorship which resulted in a hugely successful Metro Development Squad Carnival in October. Razor was provided with critical coaching support by Inaugural WAFLW Captain Teal BENNETT and 2022 West Perth District Youth Coach of the Year, Jen DWYER, who worked together to innovate the developmental pathway space for young women.

Krystal McCluskey's Educational Sessions which covered topics of Mental Health, Nutrition, Social Media and more were a key pillar in our program. It was important that our players were being developed as good people too and providing them with the resources to continue to be the best they could be was what made our Academy seen as "best practice" by industry.

Athletic Institute were also on-hand to provide elite-level Strength & Conditioning testing and support at each session for our Academy athletes. Sharni Burgess, who headed up our Academy's S&C program conducted significant testing which is data our club can now use to better inform both our own coaches or minimum expectations but its data we can also share to our junior club community who are looking to provide further assistance to their developing female programs.

We were also privileged with the opportunity to travel to the Moora Citrus Orchard, some 2-hours North of Perth and learn about the integral role our Major Partner plays In supplying fresh produce across Western Australia and beyond.

Oranges are synonymous with sport, and I am personally incredibly thankful to have such strong support from Moora Citrus and it's team.



#### STATISTICS TO NOTE:

31 Participants in 2022, up from 17 in 2021. 3 Dedicated Coaches in 2022, up from 1 in 2021. 2 Fixtured Matches in 2022, up from 0 in 2021.





#### PREMIERSHIP PHOTOS

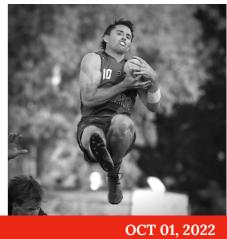












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CENTURY 21. Gold Key Realty









## INAUGURAL HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES



## HALL OF FAME PRESENTATIONS

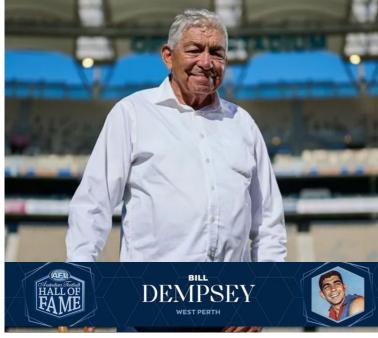


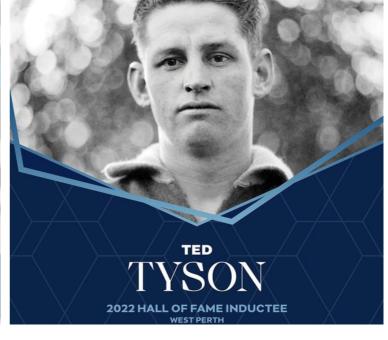
## Life Member & Past Player Association











#### **West Perth Past Players & Officials**

What a year we have all enjoyed across all grades. Winning the League Grand Final and making the final in all grades after finishing on top of the ladder is a credit to players and staff alike.

As I mentioned last year, the emergence of local talent reinforces the strength of our junior football clubs and the great depth of talent to come. Darren Harris has reinforced his position as a great leader and promoter of the West Perth values that are inherent in our culture.

The Past Players and Officials have had another productive year and continues to assist the club with fund raising.

The BBQ bandits have continued their support of the can bar and around the club. We have also continued to sell First Goal Kicker Raffles at all home game functions. Many thanks to those members who provided their assistance with BBQ's, gate raffles and luncheon raffles.

This year we provided sponsorship for a player in both the men's and women's teams and hopefully will continue to be in a position to provide this extra support on an annual basis.

Once again, our thanks go to Viv Higgins and Sandy Hasler for their continued support with the catering of delicious sandwiches for our half time functions.

As a combined association we continued to meet for the annual Quiz night, Raceday at Ascot and Christmas Luncheon. The Combined Association provide funding for Colts and Reserves presentation nights, Country Football and the Colts Coaches award run via the budget.

The club has had a year to remember, and has had some amazing functions throughout 2022. What a great year to introduce our Hall of Fame and congratulations to the inaugural recipients on their recognition. Best wishes to all members and supporters for the coming season and we look forward with great anticipation as the 2023 season approaches.

Congratulations to our Past Players and Officials award winners Shane Nelson - League Players Player Tom Boyes - Reserves Players Player Zac Fleiner - Reserves Encouragement Award

**Stan Broom West Perth Past Players & Officials Association** 





### 2021 Life Membership



#### **Laurie Richards**

1966 - 1970 & 1977 - 1979 - West Perth FC - 119 Games 1969 Premiership Player 2 x Club Leading Goalkicker - 1966 & 1969 1971 - 1974 - Fitzroy FC - 79 Games 1975 - 1976 & 1981 - Woodville FC - 50 Games Vic State Games - 1 WA State Games - 1



#### **Troy Longmuir**

Total - 250 Senior Games

1997 & 2001 - 2004 & 2007 - 2009 - West Perth FC - 101 Games 1 x Premiership Player (2003) 3 x Club Leading Goalkicker - 2004, 2007 & 2008 1998 - 1999 - Melbourne FC - 17 Games 2000 - 2004 - Fremantle FC - 55 Games 2005 - 2006 - Carlton FC - 11 Games WA State Game - 1 Total - 185 Senior Games



1990 - 1994 - West Perth FC - 105 Games 1990 - Club Leading Goalkicker 1993 - West Coast Eagles FC - 2 Games 1995 - 2000 - Geelong FC - 74 Games 2001 - 2003 - Peel Thunder FC - 50 Games WA State Games - 5 Total - 236 Senior Games



#### John Duckworth

1977 - 1978, 1981 - 1983 & 1985 - West Perth FC - 117 Games 1978 - Club Captain 1970 & 1974 - 1976 - Fitzroy FC - 58 Games 1979 - 1980 - Central District FC - 42 Games WA State Games - 3 SA State Games - 3 Total - 223 Senior Games



#### Ray Boyanich

1964 - 1968 & 1977 - 1980 - WAFL West Perth FC - 108 League Games 1970 - 1972 & 1976 - VFL Richmond FC - 66 League Games 1973 - 1975 SANFL - Woodville FC - 22 League Games WA State Games - 3 Total - 199 Senior Games



#### **Kris Shannon**

2012 - 2021 - 121 League Games 83 Reserves Games Total - 204 Senior Games



#### **Callum Chambers**

1998 & 2003 - 2004 & 2007 - 2010 - West Perth FC - 110 Games 1 x Premiership Player (2003) 1999 - Claremont FC - 13 Games 1999 - 2004 - West Coast Eagles FC - 54 Games 2000 - 2001 - East Perth FC - 19 Games 1 x Premiership Player (2000) 2005 - 2006 - Carlton FC - 12 Games Total - 208 Senior Games



#### **Darrell Kent**

- 2001 2002 Cardinals Club Secretary (Coterie Group) (2 seasons)
- 2003 2004 Cardinals Club President (Coterie Group) (2 seasons)
- 2003 2004 & 2009 2018 Secretary to the Board of Directors (12 seasons)
- 2005 Current Match Day Reporter (17 seasons)
- 2018 2021 Heritage Committee (4 seasons)

#### **Gavin Lambert**

- 1985 1997 Sports Trainer Colts, Reserves & League (13 seasons)
- 2011 2016 Reserves Runner (6 seasons)
- 2017 Current Reserves Interchange Steward (5 seasons)

In total Gavin has completed 24 years of volunteer service for the Club in a variety of roles.





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