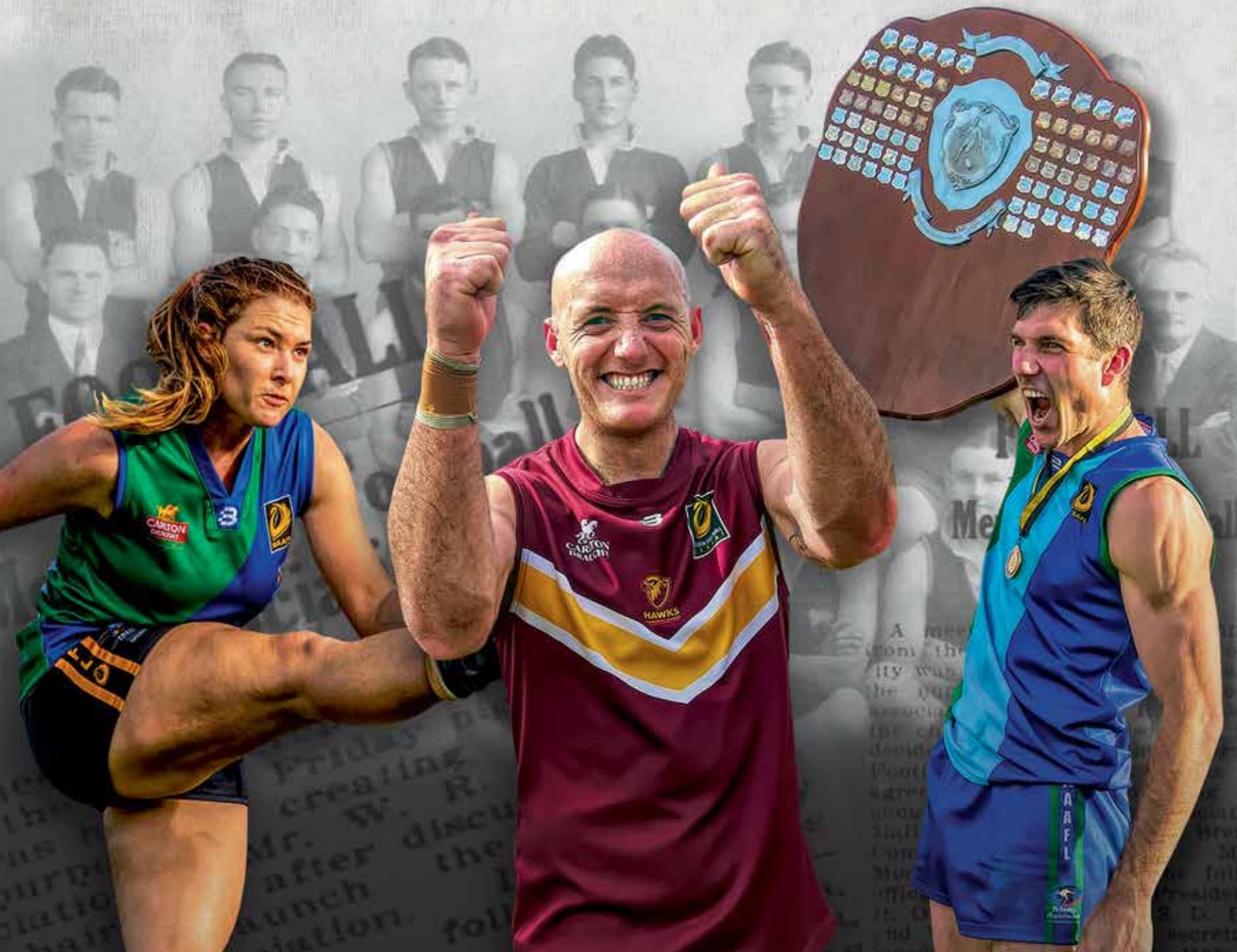
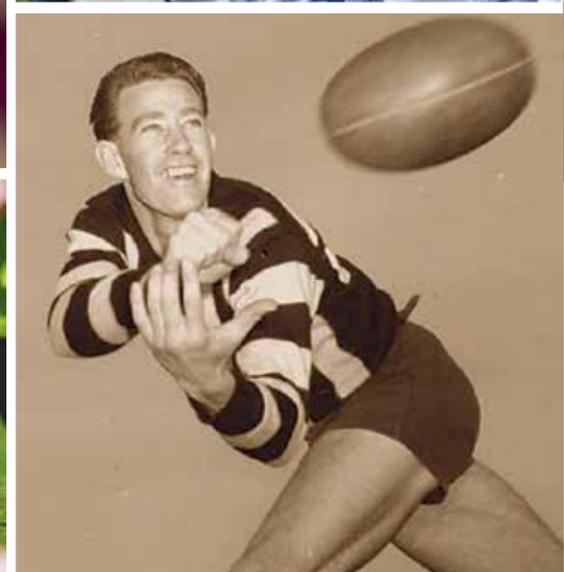


100

YEARS OF AMATEUR FOOTBALL 2021
PERTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE





SHAPING TRADITION ON AND OFF THE FIELD

The history of amateur football in Western Australia goes well beyond the recollection of record goal scorers, dynastic teams and best and fairest medals, it is a window into the values we cherish as a nation.

Shaped by Australian ideals of rugged determination, mateship and an adherence to a fair game, the sport has in turn helped inform and reinforce these cultural traits in our society. For 100 years, the Perth Football League (PFL) has been a stronghold of football tradition in WA. Generations have moved through its ranks, with many notable names and leaders nationally having kicked the ball in the amateur league throughout its storied history.

Beginning in 1922, the league has grown from a small six-team competition to the single largest organised football league in WA.

The league caters for males and females 16 years

and older to provide a high-standard competition, while accommodating considerable numbers of volunteers and supporters.

For many players, the league provides a competitive competition for those not wishing to undertake the commitment required by the WAFL training, whether it be due to study and career commitments or simply a desire to pursue football as a recreational pursuit.

The league is also the beginning point for many well known WAFL and AFL stars, starting their careers in amateur football and becoming the football champions of tomorrow.

The PFL has had many names throughout its history – Mercantile Football Association (MFA), Perth District Football Association, WA Amateur Football Association and WA Amateur Football League, before arriving as PFL.

The MFA's humble beginnings came under the direction of WA National Football League Secretary W.R. (Billy) Orr, when six senior men's teams played three matches on May 6, 1922 at the Showgrounds, Zoo Grounds and Victoria Park, with the competition won by Mallocks.

In 2018, with the league by that stage called the WA Amateur Football League, 16 senior women's teams joined a newly minted competition – today that number has grown to 52 teams.

As it stands today in 2021 across all genders and abilities, the PFL has 71 clubs and 301 teams (183 senior men's, 55 colts, 52 senior women's, 11 integrated) in 30 grades.

The history of the league is filled with great (and some not so great) players, those who revelled on the pitch and those who enjoyed the festivities off it – the experiences they found together created the bonds of friendship and community that are still evident today.

In the PFL's early days, the Commonwealth Bank won the second A-Grade premiership in 1923, then between 1924 and 1926 it went to the Teachers College.

The first premiership for University of WA in 1929

CONTENTS

- Looking back on the history of the PFL..... 3
- Big names who started in amateurs..... 4-5
- 100 notable Western Australians of amateur football.....6-7
- Centenary Round 8
- Partnering with Carlton Dry 9
- Women's amateur football 10-11
- Commemorating 100 years 12
- Old and new clubs..... 13-14
- Integrated Football 15
- State footy 16
- New initiatives..... 17
- Club directory 18
- Calendar of events 19

heralded a new era of domination and competition, as Postals and Sandovers would trade blows with University, until Wembley accomplished a three-peat between 1938-40, only stopped by North Fremantle in 1941.

North Fremantle would also accomplish three titles in a row – it just took seven years, as World War II forced a stop to the league.

In the 63 years since North Fremantle completed its three-peat in 1947, the A-Grade title has gone to University (16), North Beach (13), Wembley (11), Mount Lawley (8), North Fremantle (3), Trinity Aquinas (2), CBC (2), South Perth (2), East Perth (2), West Coast (1), Midland Junction (1), Curtin Wesley (1) Mosman Park (1), and the most recent champions to Scarborough (5).

This year, the tradition will continue, with thousands of Western Australians running around local community ovals on a Saturday as family and friends watch over, just as they have done for decades and will likely continue to do so, hopefully, for another 100 years more. Until then.



OUR PARTNERS

Premier Partners



Official Partners



Supply Partners



Beginning in 1922, the league has grown from a small six-team competition to the single largest organised football league in WA.

LOVE OF THE SPORT ROOTED IN AMATEURS

RICK ARDON

Rick Ardon is Perth's most recognisable news anchor, having presented alongside Susannah Carr for 7NEWS for more than three decades. Mr Ardon joined amateur football at the age of 19, the same year he joined Channel 7.



"I wanted to play footy for East Perth but because of my work schedule, I couldn't. So, I played amateurs and it was a lot of fun," he said.

Mr Ardon played amateur football for more than 30 years until the age of 50, playing nearly 400 games for Nollamara, Teachers Training College Churchlands and West Coast Amateur Football Club.

He was a tough defender before joining Scarborough Amateur Football Club as a full forward, where his fame made every game a battle.

"When I played in the forward line, you'd have guys going 'oh that's the guy on TV, let's whack him', but they weren't used to getting whacked back," Mr Ardon said. "So I'd find the occasional whack in the back of the head."

Mr Ardon says the culture of every amateur club he played for made him tough and adaptable to different playing styles.

"I learnt to go hard at Nollamara and then finessed my skills at Churchlands and West Coast," he said.

RICHARD GOYDER AO

Richard Goyder AO is a leading Australian businessman and sporting administrator who became chair of the AFL in 2017.



Mr Goyder played for University of WA in the 70s and 80s, and after struggling to be picked for the A-Grade, seconds or even thirds at University he moved to Old Scotch midway through the season in 1982. They would later meet Goyder's old University team in the A-Grade Grand Final in the same year.

The clash saw Old Scotch winning the Grand Final, with Mr Goyder ironically kicking a goal for Old Scotch in the process. In reminiscing about this moment, Mr Goyder said it was still one of his favourite amateur football memories.

COLIN BARNETT

Colin Barnett was the 29th Premier of Western Australia from 2008-17. Under Mr Barnett's leadership, the State Government began construction of Optus Stadium in 2014, with completion in late 2017.



Mr Barnett played in the amateur league for Collegians Amateur Football Club while completing an honours degree.

Mr Barnett was a nippy winger who played for the WAFL reserves for Claremont, which back then he said would get three to four thousand in the crowd by half-time and 10,000 by the end of the game.

Mr Barnett ended his career in 1978 after winning a Grand Final at Leederville Oval against a young Gary Buckenara.

He said high-level football taught him to win with grace and lose with dignity.

BILL DUCKWORTH

Bill Duckworth is a prolific name in Western Australian football, both as a player and coach.

Starting in the amateur football league in 1977 as a colts player for WAIT Amateur Football Club (now Curtin University Wesley) Mr Duckworth moved to West Perth. His football career took off, and Mr Duckworth became a Victorian Football League premiership winner in 1984 and 1985 for Essendon and picked up a Norm Smith Medal in 1984.



In 1991, he returned to West Perth before leaving to join North Beach Amateur Football Club. In 1996, at the age of 33, Mr Duckworth helped North Beach win the last game of the season to stay in the A-Grade before taking over as coach. What followed was nothing short of incredible, winning nine A-Grade premierships between 2001 and 2010.

"We got a good bunch of footballers in their prime who were 20 and didn't make it to the WAFL, but we were able to get them as 20 year olds and keep that core group together for 10 or 12 years," he said.



NIC REID

It was the feel-good story of the 2020 AFL season, Nic Reid climbed the ladder, from playing amateurs with North Beach Amateur Football Club, to playing three games with West Coast Eagles in the 2020 season.

He is now back to play with North Beach in the Perth Football League's (PFL) A-Grade this year, and he can't wait to get back on the field with his mates.

"It is something I really enjoy and obviously it is good to be back down again – I am looking forward to it," he said.

Mr Reid is keen to get back amongst the community he grew to love over his original 100-odd games for North Beach.

"I find myself quite lucky to be playing at North Beach, it is a super community club," he said. "We have a really big junior community and a lot of teams in our juniors, and that stems through to our senior and colt teams.

"For me, coming back to North Beach is probably the main reason. It is a family-based club and also I feel the PFL now is becoming more and more respected, as well as the competition. I feel like the training and games have lifted up a notch.

"I think it is a really good competition, and it will be quite a challenging year but I am looking forward to it."

Mr Reid said the best game of his amateur career came in the Qualifying Final against Fremantle CBC in the 2017 A-Grade season, despite the fact they ended up losing the final to Trinity Aquinas.

He is a revered figure at Charles Riley Memorial Reserve, with a bag of goals every season warming him to the crowd. In the 2018 season – his most recent with the club – he slotted home 48 goals.

Mr Reid obviously dazzled, as he played with the West Coast Eagles' WAFL team in 2019 and impressed enough to get a run of games with the AFL Eagles last year, with a particular goal on a rainy day at Optus Stadium against the Hawks a clear standout of his time with the club.

STARS OF THE GAME PAY TRIBUTE TO THEIR LOCAL LEAGUE ROOTS 5

TENDAI MZUNGU

A bit of a late bloomer, Tendai Mzungu didn't nominate for an AFL draft until he was 22, and started playing for Fremantle in 2011.

Before all that – before kicking Fremantle's first ever Grand Final goal, before his time with Perth Football Club – he was playing colts for Trinity Aquinas.

"I played two years of colts out of school in 2004 to 2005, then came back and played a couple of years after finishing with AFL," Mr Mzungu said.

"I have a heap of fond memories. I was very fortunate in my second year of colts to win a Grand Final by a point against Collegians – that was a very special moment.

"We had a 10-year reunion a few years ago."

Mr Mzungu said he remembered as a young colt watching the league side play and enjoying the strong community feel at the club.

"A lot of the older senior players embraced the colts and made us feel a real part of the club," he said. "On-field we had some success, but off-field the

relationships that we were able to build during that time were great."

The utility came back to Trinity Aquinas after his career in AFL and was delighted to play with some former colts teammates.

"It was very different from the AFL, you learnt to bring your own towel to the game," he said.

"A lot of things you take for granted at AFL level, you certainly don't get at amateur level.

"A lot of friends I played in colts with were back there, so that was a big driver to come back and play.

"I certainly wanted to come back, and I felt like I had a bit of football left in me.

"I still wanted to play well and contribute, but it wasn't about being the best player on the field or setting big goals – I wanted to contribute for the team.

"There wasn't a lot of pressure from my teammates. Certainly there was a bit of pressure from across the fence but that was part of the fun."

GARY BUCKENARA

Gary Buckenara is a legend of the game, and one of amateur football's greatest products.

All the proof you need is his four AFL premierships with Hawthorn in 1983, '86, '88 and '89 and the number of halls of fame he has been inducted to (hint: it is a lot).

Before playing in what is widely believed to be the greatest AFL Grand Final in 1989, or scoring the infamous after-the-siren goal in 1987 to take his team to the Grand Final, and before his time at Subiaco in the WAFL, Mr Buckenara was playing in the amateur league in Perth.

"At the time I was more interested in playing cricket, and I was playing first-grade district cricket with Scarborough with some famous names," he said. "I played footy for a bit of fun and my brother said come down and play at the amateur side at Churchlands, so I did that for three years."

That was in 1976, and Mr Buckenara went on to play 50 games in the then WA Amateur Football League (WAAFL) over three seasons.

In 1977, he was named the WAAFL's E-Grade fairest and best player and led the grades goal-kicking with 78 goals.

With his talent recognised, Mr Buckenara was chosen to play for WA against the Southern Districts Football League team in Albany, the South West Football League team in Bunbury and then South Australia at Subiaco Oval.

In 1978, he was a member of the Teachers Training College Churchlands premiership team and

represented WA once more – this time against the Great Northern Football Association and again against South Australia in Adelaide.

"While it was real basic footy, we had a terrific side and we didn't lose many games in three years, put it that way," Mr Buckenara said.

"It actually helped me get my love back for footy. To a degree I lost a bit of passion for footy as a young lad, then at 18 I went down and played amateurs with my brother and his mate and the social life was good.

"Being an 18-year-old lad at a teacher's college as you can imagine – on the same day there was netball and girl's hockey and the after matches were a lot of fun for an 18-year-old boy growing up."

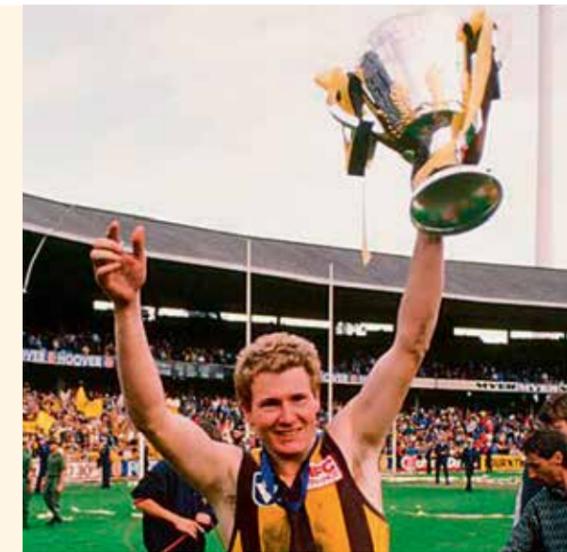
Mr Buckenara said the team wasn't the favourite in the grade due to their success. They did so well, in fact, that despite being in E-Grade, four players from Churchlands where in the state amateur side.

"There were a lot of characters in the amateur side, they were all studying different backgrounds," he said. "We had guys studying law, preparing to be teachers and some real characters on and off the field. I made some great mates there and I still keep in contact.

"You know I just really enjoyed the mateship of it – it was just really great fun.

"We won two premierships in the two years and should have won the third but we lost on Grand Final day after being undefeated."

Being a bit of a poster boy for amateur players



making it to the elite level, Mr Buckenara said the amateurs gave a great platform for young players.

"The amateurs gave me a great platform and that sort of set me up and made me believe in myself as a footballer," he said. "I probably had some doubts – thought I was a better cricketer than footballer – but it probably turned out the other way.

"Amateur footy kept me going and playing, and I think that is a thing to say to all players – stay involved in the game in some form. Amateurs or metro footy – get the love of it and if you are good enough and you want to have a crack at it, go for it."

1922

League formed March 19, 1922 as the Mercantile Football Association under direction of WA National Football League Secretary W.R. (Billy) Orr. Six senior men's teams played three matches on May 6, 1922 at the Showgrounds, Zoo Grounds and Victoria Park.

1924

Renamed Perth District Football Association.

1924-26

Teacher's College win a hat-trick of premierships.

1929

Renamed WA Amateur Football Association.

100 NOTABLE WA AMATEUR FOOTBALLERS

Premiers, Government Ministers, Mayors, Olympians, Sandover Medallists, AFL Premiership Players, Judges, Surgeons, Business Executives and Entrepreneurs – amateur football has brought together great Western Australians and those who have contributed greatly to the state.

As part of the Perth Football League's (PFL) 100 year celebrations in 2021, we have compiled a list of 100 notable high achievers that have passed through the PFL.

NAME	AMATEUR CLUB	NOTORIETY	ROLE	ERA
Tony Adamson	Mount Lawley	Australian Baseballer, Australian Baseball Hall of Fame	Player	1980s
Peter Annear	University	Orthopaedic Surgeon	Player	1970s-80s
Rick Ardon	Nollamara, Teachers College Churchlands, West Coast Cowan	Journalist, TV News Presenter	Player	1980s-00s
Drew Banfield	University	1994, 2006 West Coast Eagles AFL Premiership Player	Player	1990s
Colin Barnett	Collegians	29th Premier of WA 2008-17	Player	1970s
Richard Bayly	Collegians	Magistrate	Player	1970s
Simon Beasley	University	1985 VFL Coleman Medallist, 1980-81 WAFL Leading Goal Kicker	Player	1970s
Shane Beros	West Coast, Mount Lawley	2003 Sandover Medallist	Player, Coach	2000s
Gary Berson	Old Scotch	Managing Partner of Clayton Utz, Owner Victory Point Wines	Player	1980s
Chris Brockwell	Trinity Aquinas	Prominent WA businessman, Hotelier	Committee	2000s
Gary Buckenara	Teachers College Churchlands	1983-86-88-89 Hawthorn AFL Premiership Player, 1981 Simpson Medallist	Player	1970s
Robbie Burns	Collegians	Sports Journalist	Player	1960s
Greg Calcutt AM	University	Parliamentary Counsel	Player	1970s
Alan Carpenter	University	28th Premier of WA 2006-08	Player	1977-79
Hilton Cartwright	Curtin University Wesley	Australian Test Cricketer	Player	2010s
Michael Chaney AO	University	CEO Wesfarmers, Chair Wesfarmers, Chair Woodside, Chair NAB, Chancellor UWA	Player	1969-73
John Chaney SC	University	Justice of the Supreme Court, President State Administrative Tribunal	Player, Coach, Committee	1971-89
Richard Colless AM	University	Inaugural Chair West Coast Eagles, Chair Sydney Swans	Player, Coach, Committee	1965-82
Herbert "Nugget" Coombs	University	First Governor of the Reserve Bank of Australia 1960-68	Player, Committee	1929-31
Trent Cooper	Curtin University Wesley	Coach Fremantle Dockers AFLW	Player, Coach	2000s-10s
Jan Cooper	West Coast	AFL Womens Manager	Administrator, Volunteer	2000s-
Michael Corboy	Old Scotch	Supreme Court Judge	Player	1970s
Dr Wally Cox	North Beach	CEO East Perth Redevelopment Authority, Head of WA Water Authority	Player	1970s
Jeff Dalgleish	WAAFL	2015 AFL Grand Final Field Umpire	Umpire	2000s
Ian Dargie	North Beach	1991, 1994 Sandover Medallist	Player	1980s
Grant Donaldson SC	University	Rhodes Scholar, Solicitor General	Player	1993-2012
Bill Duckworth	WAIT, North Beach	1984, 1985 Essendon AFL Premiership Player, 1984 Norm Smith Medallist	Player, Coach	2000-20s
Luke Dwyer	University	Inaugural Coach West Coast Eagles AFLW	Coach	2010s
Sir Rod Eddington	University	1974 Rhodes Scholar, CEO British Airways, Director News Corporation	Player, Committee	1969-74
Xavier Ellis	West Coast	2008 Hawthorn AFL Premiership Player, Media Personality	Player	2010s
Andrew Embley	Trinity Aquinas, Cottesloe	2006 West Coast Eagles AFL Premiership Player, 2006 Norm Smith Medallist	Player	2010s
Chad Fletcher	Hammersley Carine	2006 West Coast Eagles AFL Premiership Player	Player	2010s
Dr Neale Fong	Nollamara	Director General WA Health Department, Chair WA Football Commission	Player	1980s
Graham Forward	Collegians	Orthopaedic Surgeon, Founder Australian Doctors for Africa	Player	1970s
Gilbert Fraser	North Fremantle	Politician, Postmaster, WWII Telegraphist	President	1930-50s
John Gelavis	North Beach	Executive Director Master Builders Association of WA	Player	1990s
Harry Giese AM MBE	University	Longest-serving member of NT Legislative Council 1954-73	Player, Committee	1940s
Peter Gilmour	Collegians	America's Cup Helmsman, 1987 WA Sports Star of the Year	Player	1970s
Tim Gossage	Wembley	Sports Journalist	Player	1990s
Richard Goyder AO	University, Old Scotch	CEO Wesfarmers, Chair AFL, Chair Qantas, Chair Woodside, Chair Telethon	Player	1970-80s
Tony Grist	University	Co-Founder Amcom Telecommunication, Principal Albion Capital Partners	Player	1980s
Antoni Grover	Mount Lawley, Kelmscott, Kingsley	Fremantle Dockers AFL Player	Player, Coach	2000s
Des Hedland	Mount Lawley, Nollamara	2002 Brisbane Lions AFL Premiership Player, 1998 AFL #1 Draft Pick	Player, Coach, Committee	2010s
Mark Heron	Dianella	District Court Judge	Player, League Board	2010s

NAME	AMATEUR CLUB	NOTORIETY	ROLE	ERA
David Hynes	North Beach	1994 West Coast Eagles AFL Premiership Player, 1990 Simpson Medallist	Coach	2010s
John Inverarity	Collegians	Australian Test Cricketer	Player	1970s
Colin Jamieson AO JP	Bayswater	Member of Parliament WA 1953-86, Government Minister 1971-74, Leader of the Opposition 1976-78	Player, Committee	1940-80s
Brett Jones	University	2006 West Coast Eagles AFL Premiership Player	Player	2000s
Ken Judge	West Coast	1983 Hawthorn AFL Premiership Player, West Coast Eagles Coach	Player, Coach	1980s
Ross Kelly	Maylands, Collegians	Inaugural Chair Fremantle Football Club	Player	1960s
Matt Kennelly	Canning Vale	Australian Baseballer	Player	2000s
Tim Kennelly	Canning Vale	Australian Baseball Captain	Player	2000s
Dale Kickett	Mount Lawley, Nollamara	AFL Player, 1991 Simpson Medallist	Player	1980s
Kieran Kinsella OAM	Mount Hawthorn West Perth	CEO Metropolitan Redevelopment Authority	Player	1980s
Professor Peter Klinken AC	University	WA Chief Scientist	Player	1972-74
Andrew Krakouer	Swan Districts, Bassendean	2010 Sandover Medallist	Player	2000s
Chris Lalor	University	Founder of Sons of Gwalia Ltd	Player	1970s
Quinten Lynch	Trinity Aquinas	2006 West Coast Eagles AFL Premiership Player	Player, Coach	2010s
Barry MacKinnon AM	Old Wesley	Member of Parliament WA 1977-93, Government Minister 1977-86, Leader of the Opposition 1986	Player	1960s
Arthur Marshall OAM	Curtin University Wesley	Member of WA Parliament 1993-2005, played in Wimbledon 1955-66, Football Commentator	Player, Committee, Old Wesley FC Co-Founder	1960s
Chris Mathews	Mount Lawley	Australian Test Cricketer	Player	1980s
Andrew Maughan	Mount Lawley, Trinity Aquinas	Magistrate	Player, Coach, Committee	1990s
Mark McCrory	Hammersley Carine	General Manager Telethon	Player	2001-17
Ash McGrath	Kenwick	2003 Brisbane Lions AFL Premiership Player	Player, Coach	2010s
Michael McLean	WAAFL	Executive Director Master Builders Association of WA	Umpire, A-Grade/State	1980s
Michael Moyle	Mount Lawley	Australian Baseballer, 2000 Olympian	Player	1980s
Tendai Mzungu	Trinity Aquinas	Fremantle AFL Player, 2005 A-Colts Fairest and Best	Player	2010s
Michael "Mick" Nanovich	Osborne Park	Mayor of Wanneroo	Player	1950s
Gerard Neesham	Teachers College Graylands, CBC	Inaugural AFL Fremantle Dockers Coach, Founder Clontarf Academy	Player	1970s
Professor Peter Newman AO	University	Professor of Sustainability Curtin University, Director Infrastructure Australia	Player, Coach	1964-69
Rohan Nichol	Curtin University Wesley	Actor – Star Wars III: Revenge of the Sith, All Saints and Home and Away	Player	1990s
Ray O'Connor	Maylands	22nd Premier of WA 1982-83	Player	1950s
Terrence O'Connor AM	University	QC, Chancellor Notre Dame University, Chair West Coast Eagles, AFL Commissioner	Player, Coach, Committee	1958-69
Shane Parker	North Beach	Inaugural Fremantle AFL Player	Player	1990s
Alistair Pickett	Nollamara	2002, 2004 Sandover Medallist	Player	2010s
John Prior	University	District Court Judge	Coach	1980s
Alan Quartermaine	University	1975 Sandover Medallist	Player	1970s
Professor Michael Quinlan AO	University	Chair St John of God Health Care, Chancellor Notre Dame University	Player, Committee	1960s
Seamus Rafferty	WACFUA	Chair WA Liquor Commission, Chair Combat Sports Commission	Umpire	2000s
Madeline Ratcliffe	Collegians	Hockeyroo, 2018 Commonwealth Games Silver Medallist	Player	2020s
Kevin Reynolds	Cockburn Lakes	State Secretary CFMEU	Committee	1970s
David Robb	University	Managing Director Iluka Resources, Managing Director Wesfarmers Energy	Player	1980s
Professor Bruce Robinson AM	University	Doctor, Scientist, 2013 Western Australian of the Year, Founder Fathering Project	Player, Coach, Committee	1973-89
Tony Ronaldson	Manning Rippers	Australian Basketballer, 1996, 2004 Olympian, 2006 Commonwealth Gold Medallist	Player	1990s
Johnny Ruffo	Stirling	Singer, Songwriter, Dancer, Actor and Television Presenter, Home and Away	Player	2000s
Nick Rynne	SNESA	Sports Editor The West Australian	Player, Committee	2000s
Mark Seaby	Cockburn Lakes	2006 West Coast Eagles AFL Premiership Player	Player	2010s
Craig Serjeant	Collegians	Australian Test Cricketer	Player	1970s
Brian Sierakowski	University	Lawyer, 1966 St Kilda VFL Premiership Player	Coach	1970s
Keith Slater	Midland Junction	Australian Test Cricketer	Player	1950s-60s
Kevin Sleight	University	Chief Judge District Court	Player, Coach	1971-78
Sir Billy Sneddon	University	Speaker of Australian House of Representatives 1976-83, Leader of the Opposition 1972-75	Player	1947-51
Dr Peter Tannock AM	University	Chair WA Football Commission, Vice Chancellor Notre Dame	Player, Coach, Patron	1959-71
Jamie Taylor	University	Founder ITS Management	Player	1980s
Michael Thomson	Secondary Teacher's College	Journalist, TV News Presenter	Player	1970s
Heather Timms	Fremantle CBC	Disability Sport Advocate	Volunteer	2010s
Diana Versace	WAAFL	Chief Financial Officer – YMCA	League Board	2010s
Charles Veryard	WAAFL	Lord Mayor of Perth for 39 years	President	1940-60s
Shane Woewodin	North Fremantle	2000 Brownlow Medallist	Coach	2010s
Keiran Wulff	North Beach, Mount Lawley	Managing Director Oil Search Ltd	Player	1980s

1936

First WA state team travel to Adelaide to play in Australian amateur football carnival.

1938

14 teams competed in a single division.

1939

17 teams graded into A and B divisions.

1942-45

WWII, no competition.

1946

University first club to field more than one team.



Fremantle CBC A-Grade Premiers 1967.



University A-Grade Premiers 1977.

BATTLE OF THE AMATEUR OLDIES AT CENTENARY MATCH

To celebrate its 100 years, the Perth Football League (PFL) will hold a Centenary Round from May 1-8 this year, with a centenary match to be played between the oldest continuing clubs in the PFL – University and Fremantle CBC – on May 7 at Fremantle Community Bank Oval (bounce-down at 7pm).

University proudly holds the record of the most A-Grade premierships in the history of the league (20). Neil Donaldson joined University as a first-year student in 1954 – the same year the football club had entered an U20s team. His legacy is as rich as the club's history, having been a player and a committee member, as well as the club's Vice President and President over his 66 years and counting.

The club formed in 1913 but they could not compete in any competitions, as they did not have a home ground, according to Mr Donaldson.

"What the University club used to do was play the schools," he said.

"We used to play the games at Lotus Park at Hale School and always had to try and find somewhere to play.



"It was only in 1928 that James Oval was going to be ready, so we joined the amateur league and started off in 1929 and went on from there."

It would be a hint of what would follow over the next 70 years, with the club winning the 1929 premiership in its first season.

After some time back and forth between B-Grade, University returned to A-Grade in 1961, which would begin an era of dominance in the 60s, winning six premierships in that decade.

"Since 1961, we've never been out of the A-Grade, yet we were so close in 1997 and 2020."

Mr Donaldson, who received an Australian Sports Medal from the Federal Government in 2000 and was awarded an AFL Recognition to Volunteers of Australian Football in 2003, said he was confident University could make it 100 premierships for the club this season.

"We'll be celebrating long and hard," he said.

Fremantle CBC started in 1932 and became a powerhouse club under the reforms of Tommy Naylor. This year, Fremantle CBC President Brad Grant will celebrate his 20th year as Club President and said the club really grew once it merged with Kardinya Junior Football Club.

"From there, we became one of the biggest amateur football clubs in Western Australia, fielding nine sides a week," he said.

Fremantle CBC have only won two A-Grade premierships in its long history, with the last one coming in 2000. However, Mr Grant said now was the club's most stable period in A-Grade.

"Since about 2012, we've been an A-Grade club and generally in the top three," he said.

University's long successful history will not make them favourites in this centenary match, having finished

second bottom with two wins, while Fremantle CBC finished third on the ladder last season.

Mr Grant said he looked forward to the game come May 7.

"I think there will be a pretty good crowd to come along for both teams. Being a Friday night, a lot of other footy clubs will come along in celebration of it," he said.

"We've never had a game like this focusing on amateur footy, so it will be great."



CARLTON SAYS CAN-DO

Perth amateur footy fans are being treated to a special commemorative Carlton Dry can to celebrate Perth Football League's (PFL) centenary season.

The anniversary celebrations are going to taste a whole lot sweeter, with Carlton & United Breweries (CUB) releasing the can mid-April, across independent retailers and PFL clubs throughout the Perth metropolitan area.

CUB have been the exclusive beer partner for the PFL for the past 20 years and this represents a new step in the partnership.

"CUB have been proud supporters of Western Australian footy for nearly 20 years. With such a fanatical base of Carlton Dry drinkers in the state, repositioning the brand to support local footy is a great opportunity, and what a way to kick it off than during PFL's centennial anniversary," CUB General Manager of Sales WA Danny Savage said.

"We don't do commemorative cans

very often, and we couldn't be more thrilled to bring this project to life together."

The PFL logo is blended onto the blue can with a descriptor celebrating the 100th year anniversary.

The partnership sees one of WA's most-loved beers work with the league to bring a host of match day and digital initiatives to life throughout the season, with some exciting activities planned to celebrate the PFL Centenary Round.

PFL Marketing and Communications Officer Adam Gileno welcomed the WA-loved brand on-board for the centenary partnership.

"We believed it was the perfect time to make the change to a more recognised and loved product here in WA," he said.

"PFL have worked collaboratively with CUB on a very exciting promotion to give back to everyone in the community who has been a part the league's 100-year history, which you will see when local footy returns on April 10."



In 1922, Perth Football League started with six teams. In 2021, the league celebrates its 100th year with more than 300 teams and 12,000 players. Carlton Dry congratulates the league on 100 years of amateur footy. #perthfooty.



Scarborough Amateur Football Club.

1947 C Division introduced.

1959 Colts (U20) introduced.

1960-70s University and Wembley dominate A-Grade with 17 premierships between them.

1971 Renamed to WA Amateur Football League. 75 teams in eight divisions.

1973 Sunday amateur division introduced.



Canning Vale Senior Football Club versus Canning South Perth Football Club.

NOT JUST A MAN'S GAME

Women's football didn't begin in 2018 in Western Australia – in fact, the first recorded women's game of football across the entire country was actually at the Western Australian Cricket Association Ground in 1915.

There was plenty of hard-fought battles waiting for women who wanted to play the game. But it proved a point – football isn't a man's game.

If you ever doubted the popularity of football among women, look no further than the Perth Football League's (PFL) introduction of a women's competition in 2018.

Originally starting with 16 teams, women's football has grown every year since to 25 teams in 2019, 37 teams in 2020 and 52 in the upcoming 2021 season.

Before the women's amateurs, there was only really one place for women who wanted to play Australian rules football – West Australian Women's Football League (WAWFL), and in 2017, the Australian Football League Women's (AFLW).

However, for those who just wanted to kick the ball around for fun, there wasn't really anywhere to go.

"It got to the point where you'd have your league, reserves and your Rogers Cup, but that was kind of it," WAWFL Football Operations Coordinator Ashlea Renshaw said.

"And if you didn't want to play at this high level, then there was really nowhere for females to go – that is unless you go down and play an AFL 9s on a Wednesday night, there was no other competition."

Ms Renshaw, who is a former WAWFL state player and oversaw the implementation of the women's competition into the PFL, said in October 2017 PFL General Manager David Armstrong told her they were thinking of bringing in a women's competition.

"We just put it out there for clubs who were interested in having a women's side, coming in 2018," she said. "We had restrictions, making sure they reached certain criteria to have one, because we didn't want it to start and then just fall over. "You want to make sure they're doing it for the right reason.

"It's not just a money-making scheme. It's getting the girls to buy in just like you would for any other player at your club."

Ms Renshaw said the response from clubs, players and fans alike was brilliant, but there were a few teething problems, like what day the women should play.

Some clubs wanted games played on Saturday – the traditional day for amateur footy – and some on Sundays.

For the first year, the games were played on either day but by the next season, the rule was set in stone – they will play on Saturday.

"If your men are playing on a Saturday, but your women are playing on a Sunday, how are you meant to find that one club culture?," Ms Renshaw said.

Similarly, former AFL National Manager for Female Football Development Jan Cooper knows the struggles of getting a women's competition off the



Kingsley Football Club versus Rossmoyne Amateur Football Club.

ground all too well.

Ms Cooper is widely credited with being the main driving force behind the AFLW's formation. Now at the West Coast Eagles as the Player Wellbeing and Pathways Manager, she can look back at the journey to include women in the elite level of the game, acknowledging that some outdated ideas on what women could do were present in the early days.

"Most of the decision-making was male, pale and stale," she said. "So it was a pretty tough environment to try and make them realise that this was the right thing to do and that women and girls do want to play the code because they've watched their brothers, fathers and partners play the sport – they love watching it but now they want to actually have a crack."

Ms Cooper said women were involved in all levels of the game before the leagues were implemented, running or volunteering at their clubs.

"I provided them with the data which was the

evidence to show the decision-makers that it was going to make a difference, it was going to increase volunteerism and it was going to increase income – if you're going to look at it purely from that point of view," she said. "But guess what? It's going to improve connection to community when they go into amateurs, and it's going to provide more employment if you're looking at talent pathway.

"It's going to improve family connection too because that now means that the family can go to one club and/or be involved in this common vehicle connecting them together."

Ms Cooper said before the introduction of the PFL Women's Competition, many in the WAWFL wanted to play for fun, not necessarily make it to the elite level.

It is this ethos that plays out at local Perth ovals each Saturday morning in the newly named Construction Training Fund Women's League.

Ms Renshaw recollected one particular player who seemingly embodied this ideal.

"I had a lady that played in a team, and she was 53 years old," she said. "She played the one game and I contacted her and asked the reason why she played one game.

"She said it was the first time she got to suit up and play footy, and she loved footy her whole life but just never really got the chance to play.

"When she got the opportunity to play, she said it was something that she wanted to do and achieve, and play the game that she loves. That was something which really stood out to me."

However, the PFL women's competition hasn't just created a league for fun, it has also widened the pathway for women who want to reach the elite levels of their football career.

Ms Cooper, whose two sons play for the West Coast Amateur Football Club, said when she watched the women's teams, she took notes on certain players – some of whom have been invited to the West Coast Eagles academy in the off-season.

"There will be some lovely stories about some women who started because it was purely to have fun and have come into the code late, maybe haven't done the Auskick up, but in coming to amateur level, they have shown great athleticism and then have been drafted," she said.

Ms Cooper said the implementation of a women's competition in the PFL has been terrific.

"It goes back to Ash Renshaw – the implementation of it was so important," she said. "She had ideas about what the amateurs should look like and had a minimum set of standards that were based on what other states and territories had success with.

"She held each club accountable for achieving those. "So, she didn't give any of them a licence unless they met a set checklist of criteria. That's not just rhetoric – she wanted to see investment."

It was paramount that clubs treated women's football properly, as it was important to the local communities which spring around these clubs.

"I think it's fabulous that they want to make it a

"It's getting the girls to buy in just like you would for any other player at your club."



Leadership Teamwork Tenacity Diversity

From supporting the talented women in the Perth Football League to helping talented women lead WA's building and construction industry into the future – CTF are building tomorrow's champions.

Construction Training Fund Women's League.

ctf.wa.gov.au



Nollamara versus Warnbro Swans.

really good community environment and try and get it right, so both genders can enjoy their footy, as well as each other's company," Ms Cooper said. "If you look at a normal game, it doesn't matter what standard or what level grade they're in, the dogs are down there, the children are down there, the partners are down there – it really has got the propensity to be a really rich community.

"Whereas AFL level it's all behind the fence and all you can only really do is look at them from afar."



1974

100th team playing.

1982

150 teams in 12 senior men's and three colt divisions.

COMMEMORATING 100 YEARS

Perth Football League (PFL) have opted to create a Virtual History website, which will cover the decades, clubs, premiers and all important information from the past 100 years.

PFL General Manager David Armstrong said they opted for an interactive website, rather than a traditional coffee table book, to increase the accessibility of the league's history.

"There have been so many people playing and volunteering at our clubs that we wanted to ensure as many people could look back at not only the last 100 years, but also the next 100 years," he said. "A virtual history provides this."

"We are really thankful to Lotterywest who supported our idea and have helped us capture some of the clubs' great stories."

The Virtual History website, which will be launched later in the season, will feature historic images, newspaper articles and stories.



COMMEMORATIVE ART PIECE

Kevin Bynder is a local indigenous artist who has painted a commemorative art piece celebrating the 100th year of amateur footy in Western Australia.

"Because it's the PFL, I have done a piece on Whadjuk country," he said. "I've implemented our coastline, pretty much from Joondalup down to Mandurah and then through the middle of Swan River."

"It looks pretty cool – it can be confusing and complicated with so many things happening but if you pinpoint what certain sections mean then you'll understand it better."

An avid football fan, Mr Bynder played amateur football for Nollamara and is the older cousin of Fremantle Dockers great, Des Headland, who is now Nollamara Football Club's President.

"I still go down – I only live around the corner, so I pretty much grew up around that football club with my younger cousin Des Headland," he said.

Mr Bynder previously designed the 2018 West Coast Eagles and Port Adelaide Indigenous Round jumpers, as well as having just completed next season's Fremantle Dockers Indigenous Round jumper.

Mr Bynder outlined the thought-through details of the art piece, which included the PFL logo and 1922 in roman numerals.

"Trailing the logo I've put the three seasons that the football season is played in," he said. "You've got



Kevin Bynder designed a piece on Whadjuk country to commemorate PFL's 100 year anniversary.

Djeran, which is April/May, in your greens. Then you've got blues, which is the winter season called Makuru. After that you have August/September, which is Djilba.

"At the very bottom I have the Darling Range, it's actually what Noongar people think is the resting place of the rainbow serpent. I put that in there because it's a special part of the Aboriginal land."

Mr Bynder also paid homage to the premiership teams of last year, who he says is a year many will look back on due to the shortened season resulting from COVID-19, as well as to those in the amateur football community who have passed.

"I've put some white circles around the Darling Range and that represents the past members who have passed and laid the foundations to what amateur football is now," he said.

Mr Bynder made sure to leave considerable room for University of WA Football Club, being the oldest and most successful club in the amateurs.

"I think it's significant for a club to have won, I think, 96 titles when the league has been around for 100 years," he said.

Mr Bynder said the art piece took around three days to complete, working on it five or six hours each day.

COMMEMORATIVE FOOTBALL

Burley footballs have a history dating back to 1907, when the ball was first used in a WAFL match before expanding to Victoria in 1913.

Burley have now worked closely with the PFL to design a commemorative 100 year football. The retro design includes a timeline of the league, the PFL 100 year logo and the names of all 300 clubs to have competed in the amateur league.

Burley Sekem WAFL and South Australian National

Football League Sales and Sponsorship Manager Glen Metherell said the ball was designed to best capture and celebrate the history of the PFL.

"We've honoured the heritage with a bit of a timeline of the league and then also put every single club that's ever been a member of the PFL on there as well," he said.

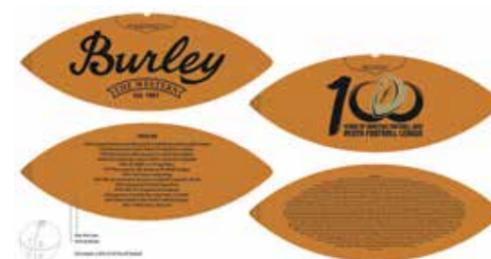
The ball, which will also be available for purchase by the public, provides a great reminder of how footballs looked around the time of the start of the PFL.

"Basically we dyed the leather to more of an older style-looking leather," Mr Metherell said. "The footballs used today are obviously a very bright red and a very bright yellow, so this is more of a beige tan that they used to have back in the day."

"We've branded it with an old school Burley logo, which is one of the originals logos from back in the day."

Mr Metherell said Burley had been sponsors of the PFL on and off for the past 100 years.

"We're proud to be associated with the PFL as a long-term sponsor, and we're about excited about their 100th year," he said.



PFL's 100 year commemorative football designed by Burley.



Wembley's 1968 A-Grade Premiership side.

A GAME OF SHIFTING FORTUNES

Over the course of 100 years, Western Australia's amateur football scene has seen many notable clubs and dominant eras.

Long-standing amateur league President John Davies, whose 20-year tenure ended in 2016, has seen his fair share in recent decades.

"Obviously Wembley in its hey-day – Wembley and University clashed at the top in A-Grade," he said. "Then Mount Lawley came along and they dominated for quite a few years, then North Beach dominated with seven A-Grade premierships in a row under coach Billy Duckworth."

Mr Davies, now 76, pointed to Ian Dargie and Shane Parker as two big names who came through amateur football and the WAFL before making their

mark in the AFL, playing for St Kilda and Fremantle respectively, proving the power of local community competitions.

"I hope the league stays intact and provides an outlet for community footy, allowing for people to play football in the right social environment," he said.

Dominant through the 60s and 70s, Wembley won the A-Grade premiership in 1971, '72, '73, '74, '76 and '78, concreting its legacy as one of the best clubs in the league's history.

Playing for the side in the 60s and becoming Club Secretary in 1969 before becoming Club President towards the end of the side's incredible run of premierships, Don Baker is proud of his former club.

"That was a pretty good run," he said. "The best run

the club has ever had was in that decade."

Mr Baker said the game had changed immensely since his time in the sport.

"It was tough times because we had to provide a goal umpire and boundary umpire for every game," he said.

"Now you have AFL players going back to amateurs – Quinten Lynch was a good player for West Coast, you don't expect those guys to come back to amateurs."

Off the field, Mr Baker said sponsorship in the 60s and 70s paled in comparison to the money the present-day league attracted.

Continued page 14...



Billy Duckworth coaches North Beach to victory in the 2010 A-Grade Premiers.

1983 Mount Lawley dominate the next 10 years, winning seven A-Grade premierships.

1986 55 clubs, 159 teams in 12 senior men's and four colt grades.

1988 Mount Lawley, Innaloo, Melville and Carlisle field teams in newly established WA Women's Football League.

1991 WA win Australian Amateur Football Carnival in Perth.



ECU Jets Amateur Sports Club.

...from page 13.

"When we started looking for sponsors we had a bloke who ran a lunch bar in Cambridge Street and the best player got a free lunch," he said. "One bloke in the 70s said he was going to play for us if we gave him two pairs of socks and two pairs of shorts. So it's all different now."

Part of the first side in the then WA Amateur Football Association to travel interstate, Mr Baker said 1963 was a whirlwind year for Wembley.

"We won the A-Grade flag in 1963 and went to Melbourne for 10 days," he said. "Trouble was we went there by train – we spent two -and-a-half days on a train."

The next dynasty to emerge, Mount Lawley won seven A-Grade premierships from 1983 to 1992, asserting incredible dominance in that period. Trevor Howard was Club President from 1985 until 1991 and was Secretary at the club from 1979.

"It was a really good time for the club," he said. "The success came out of our underage group of kids that came together in about 1980. I think they won a colts premiership in 1981, and then in 1982 a lot of the senior people left the club and these kids came up in the A-Grade."

"1983, they won their first premiership, but most of the players were all just 21 to 22, and they stayed together for the next dozen or so years."

Mr Howard said that Mount Lawley made up a large amount of the WA state amateur team.

"I think there was seven Mount Lawley players who got picked in All Australian teams," he said. "One of those guys from 1991 who helped WA win their first ever national carnival was Bill Armstrong, and he was the captain of the state team."

"He was one of those guys that came through the club from being a colt."

Mr Howard said of all the great Mount Lawley players, Lucio Baroni stood out for him the most.

"'Butch' Baroni was playing soccer at 15 before coming down to colts," he said. "Later he played over 200 games for East Perth and was runner up one year for a Sandover Medal."

Mr Howard added that the way the club functioned off the field played a big part in its success and recruitment.

"I think keeping the players in the club was the critical thing that meant we had a good club," he said. "We had a good social club – there was always a lot of stuff happening socially."

Neil Savage has been an integral part of North Beach since 1984, having been President, Vice President, Secretary, Football Manager, coached every grade and played for the club.

Mr Savage is currently the Operations Manager at the club and points to the great Bill Duckworth as being the main reason for the club's nine A-Grade premierships between 2001 and 2010.

"Bill played for us, came home from Essendon from 1993 to 1995, and then in 1996 he took over as coach of the A-Grade team, and history tells itself from then onwards," he said. "We were able to develop a very strong development program with colts coming through."



Mount Lawley's 1987 A-Grade premiership side.



Cottesloe Football Club Vice President Rebecca Johnston and President Hudson Wheeler.

Mr Savage said the club based its success around the success of Mount Lawley's junior development 20 years prior.

"Truth be known, we pretty much took Mount Lawley's model in the 80s and applied it to our own club and tweaked it each year," he said.

North Beach now has an incredible support and member base, which has allowed the club to benefit from upgraded facilities.

"It's a big club and we have well over 500 members now," he said.

North Beach has not been able to win an A-Grade flag since its run of form ending in 2010, which the club will be looking to rectify in the near future.

Cottesloe Football Club is one of the newly formed clubs in the league, having formed in 2013 under President Hudson Wheeler and Vice President Rebecca Johnston.

Mr Wheeler said the club was taking steps to grow women's football in the state.

"From day one the club has had a vested interest in women's football and is proud to be one of the first clubs to have been incorporated into the inaugural women's competition in 2018," he said.

MAKING FOOTY EVERYONE'S GAME

All Abilities Football aims to provide the opportunity for people with disabilities to be involved and participate in the game of footy, while gaining from all the social, intellectual and physical benefits which comes from community football.

Peter Grosser was part of the WA Amateur Football League Board and was instrumental in introducing All Abilities Football to Western Australia after watching a game over east.

"I went over to Victoria to watch the interstate U23s and whilst we were there we saw what was called Integrated Football, which I took some interest in because I have a disabled son," he said.

All Abilities Football came into swing in 2008-09, but Mr Grosser said the ideas and planning of Integrated Football in WA started years prior.

"I made some further enquiries that year – around 2006 – and we put together a working party to investigate how we could best set up Integrated Football back here and which model we would use," he said.

"We chose a club-based model, as opposed to team-based and then we got all the necessary approvals, and we started the Come-N-Try philosophy."

Mr Grosser said Come-N-Try days was tried in the early days, before the popularity of All Abilities

Football grew in numbers and teams.

"We had two or three Come-N-Trys throughout the year because up until we started there was no football for disabled people, so we then had to adapt rules so people with disability could play the game," he said.

Mr Grosser said there was much to consider when forming the rules and competition format for Integrated Football.

"The oval was a bit smaller, only because some of the players couldn't run that far, so we did two games on one oval," he said.

"It was along the lines of getting them up to speed and getting them fitter I suppose, so they could actually run out four quarters which were 15 minutes long."

"It's now got to the stage where there's several grades and lots of teams now."

WA All Abilities Football Association (WAAFA) Manager Hayden Marchetto said the Association used football as the vehicle to ensure people with disabilities had the opportunity to play football and be active, positive and connected within the community.

"One of the programs the WAAFA contracts the Perth Football League (PFL) to administer is the Integrated Competition," he said. "The Integrated Competition, established in 2009, has 11 teams from 11 different community football clubs. The 11

"The continued success and sustainability of the Integrated Competition is underpinned by club membership."



Kingsway Football Club and Lynwood Ferndale Football Club.



A North Beach Football Club player and a Coolbinia Amateur Football Club player.

teams compete for the Peter Grosser Cup by way of a 13-round fixture season and final series. In 2021 there will be a Division A and Division B final series – the first time in the competition's history.

"The continued success and sustainability of the Integrated Competition is underpinned by club membership. Players wanting to participate in the league must belong to one of the PFL member clubs."

Mr Marchetto said the Integrated Competition was treated the same as any other competition, with teams training at their community club grounds and playing their fixtures at home and away grounds.

WA have secured the rights to host the 2021 AFL National Inclusion Carnival in late October this year in partnership with the City of Fremantle.

The carnival will include teams of every state and territory, showcasing the growth of All Abilities Football in the state.

"This will be the first time WA has hosted such an event and it coincides with the celebration of the 100th year of amateur football in WA," Mr Marchetto said. "The carnival not only provides Australia's most talented footballers the chance to represent their state or territory, but it is also an opportunity to showcase the significant abilities of footballers with an intellectual disability to the broader community."

Mr Marchetto said the WAAFA would continue to challenge ideals and support people with disabilities.

"Our focus is not a celebration but an everyday opportunity with choice and identity being the key," he said. "We must continue to do, and not wait for the perfect solution, because our most recent idea will stop us from our next opportunity."

"One bloke in the 70s said he was going to play for us if we gave him two pairs of socks and two pairs of shorts."

1999

North Beach win the first of 10 A-Grade premierships over the next 12 years. Winning seven in a row between 2004 and 2010.

2003

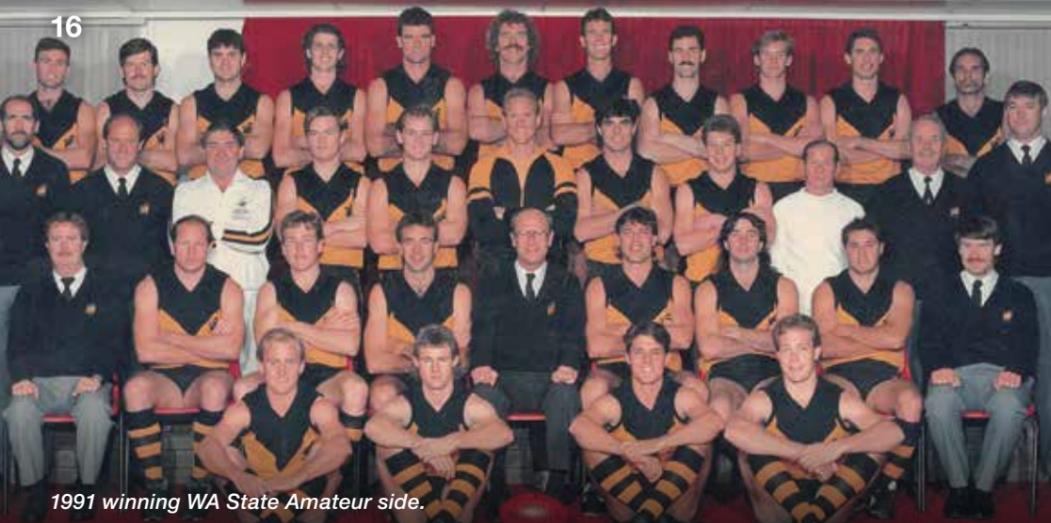
WA lose to Victoria by 173 points, triggering state football to be restricted to U23s.

2009

Integrated Football for players with an intellectual disability is launched.

2010

Remaining Sunday Football League teams join as that league disbands. Hall of Champions introduced.



1991 winning WA State Amateur side.

TWO SIDES OF THE SAME COIN

For the Perth Football League (PFL), state footy is the pinnacle of an amateur player's career, or the start of an elite one.

State footy stories are long and filled with inspiring victories, embarrassing defeats and bittersweet rivalries. It might be hard for some younger readers to imagine, but before the dawn of the AFL – it was all about state footy.

Since 1879, interstate games had been taking place, with Western Australia first fielding a team in the now traditional golden yellow and black in 1904.

From there, the sandgropers formed bitter rivalries with Victoria and South Australia, with many of the games between them arguably the best in state amateur footy history.

ACCEPTING DEFEAT

Kerry Coates was the state senior coach in 2003. On his side was Trent Cooper, who is now the Fremantle Dockers AFL Women's Team Coach.

First up in the state season was a match against WA Country Football League, who would take home the bragging rights for the night.

Up next was SA – the WA team played well in the first half, but a second half capitulation saw the opponent walking off the pitch victors.

The formidable Victoria side was the third and final match for the 2003 state season, however the only positive to come out of the game was that the WA players were able to play on Subiaco Oval before an AFL match. The team was thrashed by the fit, skilful and more experienced east coast team, with

Victoria finishing the game on 176 points and WA failing to get a goal, only managing three behinds.

Mr Cooper remembers playing in a fullback position, marking former Hawthorn player Brett O'Farrell. He wasn't the only ex-AFL player on the Victorian team however.

"They had John Stevens who played for Sydney, Paul Corrigan, Stewey Lowe was in the squad and didn't get selected," he said. "Their side was really stacked."

Despite playing well over the three state games and being awarded the Laurie Tetley Medal for the best WA state player that year, it wasn't the best game of footy he had been a part of.

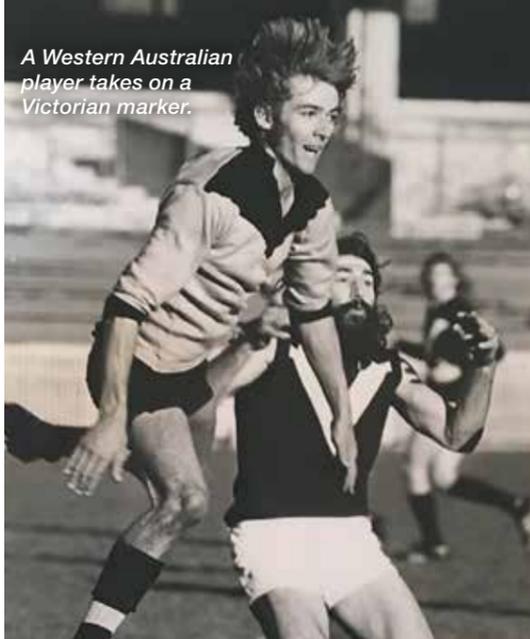
"I remember it was a reasonably warm day, and watching the ball go over my head an awful lot that day," Mr Cooper said. "I remember on the half-time siren, one of the guys from Victoria had a free kick on the boundary and he was literally, man on the mark was 65m out, and he went back after the siren and kicked a torpedo and it went through. I was on the line and it just went over my hand."

"I can still remember the grand announcer saying, 'and that just about sums it up'. It was 13 or 14 goals to zero at that stage – we couldn't do anything right."

"The last five or six minutes I got a message to go forward and try to kick a goal. So I went forward and O'Farrell had come with me. I said to him, 'what are you doing? You are up by 27 goals'. He said, 'there is no way I'm going to have the only goal kicked by my opponent'."

"So he followed me around. I had a shot on goal and I missed it."

A Western Australian player takes on a Victorian marker.



A TASTE OF VICTORY

Sport is always filled with highs and lows, and while 2003 might have been disappointing, at the Australian Amateur Football Council (AAFC) Carnival in 1991 it was anything but.

Winning for the first time on home ground since hosting the carnival in 1982, Bill Armstrong became the only victorious WA captain at the AAFC Carnival. Mr Armstrong has a long and storied career in amateur football at nearly all levels of the game, from 200 games with Mount Lawley to representing his state and being selected to play with the All Australian Amateur team on two occasions, and he remembers his time playing for the state well.

"Like all footballers know, they love the mateship and the comradeship, and that was one good thing about playing state footy – you got to meet a lot of other guys from other clubs," he said. "Strike up those sort of friendships, which made it a bit more interesting when you're playing each other. There was always a handshake after, but it was competition during the game."

Reminiscing on the AAFC Carnival, the first match against a strong SA side saw WA come out on top – 124 to 97. The next game against Tasmania saw WA cruise through 189 to 45. After the two games at Subiaco, the match against the Victorians was moved to Claremont Oval.

"It poured with rain," Mr Armstrong recalls. "So we just kept moving it forward. I remember after that game, we had won we could hardly believe it, we were just that excited."

If you want to see some amateur state footy action, then head out to the Metro v Country (PFL v WA Country Football League) game on July 23, 2021 at Fremantle Oval. The games will see the first ever state community women's teams.



KEEP UP WITH PERTH FOOTY

PERTH FOOTY LIVE!

A weekly online broadcast streamed live on the Perth Football League Facebook page brought to you by Carlton Dry. Keep your eye out for the tent that is set up at a game every week, with a group of panellists commentating and running through a range of segments during breaks. The successful broadcast has reached just under 200,000 screens during the interrupted 2020 season.

PODCAST

Perth Footy is a weekly podcast talking all things Perth Football League. Join Cal Walley, Jake Colvin and guests as they review the weekend that was and the weekend ahead. Guests throughout the year will be notable individuals who used to play in the amateurs (check the list on pages 6 and 7).

APP

If you are looking to stay up to date on all things amateur footy, check out the Perth Football League app that allows access to information such as fixtures, live scores and results, ladders, ground locations, news and more. Download via App Store or Google Play.

NEWSLETTER

Subscribe to our mailing list at www.perthfootball.com.au to receive a monthly EDM, which keeps you up to date with everything happening in the Perth Football League community.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook: Perth Football League
Instagram: @perth_football_league
Twitter: @Perth_Footy



2011

Amateur reinstatement rule abolished.

2014

All of Kingsway's five teams win premiership (C1, C1 Reserves, Ian Dargie Colts, E3, Integrated).

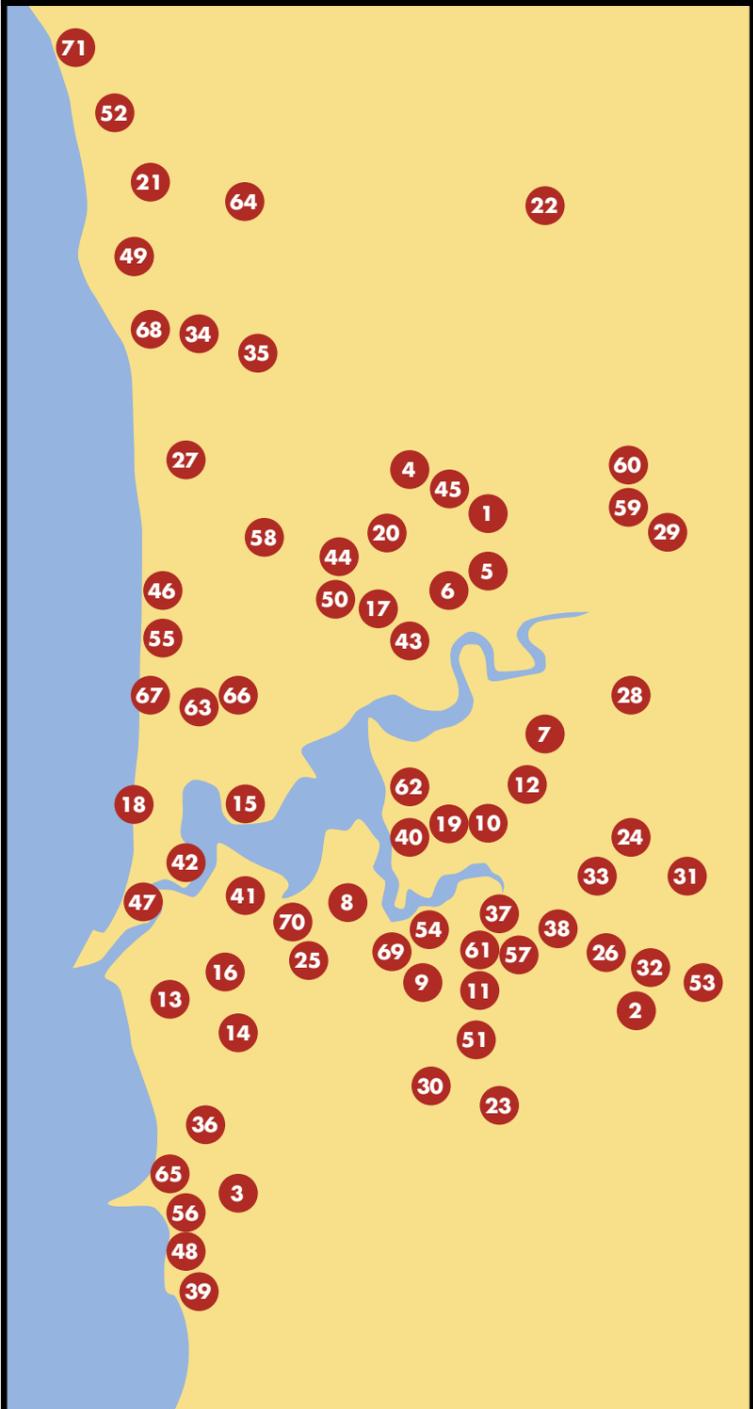
2018

16 senior women's teams join newly created competition in WA Amateur Football League.

2019

Rebranded Perth Football League. Player Points System introduced. Senior women's grows to 25 teams.

YOUR LOCAL CLUB



1. **ALTONE PARK WOMEN'S FOOTBALL CLUB** – Altone Park, Benara Road, Beechboro
2. **ARMADALE FOOTBALL CLUB** – Gwynne Park, Seventh Road, Armadale
3. **BALDIVIS FOOTBALL CLUB** – Baldivis Reserve, Fifty Road, Baldivis
4. **BALLAJURA SENIOR FOOTBALL CLUB** – Kingfisher Oval, Illawarra Crescent, Ballajura
5. **BASSEDEAN AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB** – Jubilee Reserve, Robinson Road, Eden Hill
6. **BAYSWATER FOOTBALL CLUB** – Hillcrest Reserve, Coope Street, Bayswater
7. **BELMONT DISTRICTS FOOTBALL CLUB** – Forster Park, Keane Street, Cloverdale
8. **BRENTWOOD BOORAGOON FOOTBALL CLUB** – Karoonda Reserve, Karoonda Road, Booragoon
9. **BULLCREEK LEEMING AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB** – Beasley Park, Beasley Road, Leeming
10. **CANNING SOUTH PERTH FOOTBALL CLUB** – Wyong Reserve, Baldock Street, Bentley
11. **CANNING VALE SENIOR FOOTBALL CLUB** – Clifton Park Oval, Crufts Way, Canning Vale
12. **CARLISLE FOOTBALL CLUB** – Carlisle Reserve, Cohn Street, Carlisle
13. **COCKBURN COBRAS FOOTBALL CLUB** – Davilak Reserve, Rockingham Road, Hamilton Hill
14. **COCKBURN LAKES AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB** – Anning Park, Thomas Street, South Lake
15. **COLLEGIANS AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB** – David Cruickshank Reserve, Beatrice Road, Nedlands
16. **COOLBELLUP AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB** – Tempest Park, Prospero Crescent, Coolbellup
17. **COOLBINIA AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB** – Yokine Reserve, Wordsworth Avenue, Yokine
18. **COTTESLOE AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB** – Cottesloe Oval, Broome Street, Cottesloe
19. **CURTIN UNIVERSITY WESLEY FOOTBALL CLUB** – Curtin University South Oval, Kent Street, Bentley
20. **DIANELLA MORLEY AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB** – Dianella Regional Open Space, Light Street, Dianella
21. **ECU JETS AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB** – Windermere Park, Candlewood Boulevard, Joondalup
22. **ELLENBROOK SENIOR FOOTBALL CLUB** – Ellenbrook District Open Space, Maffina Parade, Ellenbrook
23. **FORRESTDALE FOOTBALL CLUB** – William Skeet Oval, Armadale Road, Forrestdale
24. **FORRESTFIELD FOOTBALL CLUB** – John Reid Oval, Hale Road, Forrestfield
25. **FREMANTLE CBC AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB** – Morris Buzacott Reserve, Williamson Road, Kardinya
26. **GOSNELLS FOOTBALL CLUB** – Gosnells Oval, Terence Street, Gosnells
27. **HAMERSLEY CARINE AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB** – Carine Regional Open Space, Beach Road, Carine
28. **HIGH WYCOMBE AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB** – Scott Reserve, Newburn Road, High Wycombe
29. **HILLS RANGERS FOOTBALL CLUB** – Brown Park, Salisbury Road, Swan View
30. **JANDAKOT JETS AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB** – Atwell Reserve, Brenchley Drive, Jandakot
31. **KALAMUNDA & DISTRICTS FOOTBALL CLUB** – Ray Owen Reserve, Gladys Road, Lesmurdie
32. **KELMSCOTT BULLDOGS FOOTBALL CLUB** – John Dunn Oval, Third Avenue, Kelmscott
33. **KENWICK FOOTBALL CLUB** – Mills Park, Brixton Street, Beckenham
34. **KINGSLEY AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB** – Kingsley Park, Kingsley Drive, Kingsley
35. **KINGSWAY FOOTBALL CLUB** – Kingsway Sporting Complex, Sporting Drive, Madeley
36. **KWINANA DISTRICTS FOOTBALL CLUB** – Medina Oval, Gilmore Avenue, Medina
37. **LYNWOOD FERNDALE FOOTBALL CLUB** – Ferndale Park, Metcalfe Road, Ferndale
38. **MADDINGTON FOOTBALL CLUB** – Harmony Fields, Alcock Street, Maddington
39. **MANDURAH MUSTANGS FOOTBALL CLUB** – Rushton Park, Dower Street, Mandurah
40. **MANNING RIPPER'S FOOTBALL CLUB** – James Miller Oval, Jarman Avenue, Manning
41. **MELVILLE-PALMYRA FOOTBALL CLUB** – Melville Reserve, Canning Highway, Melville
42. **MOSMAN PARK FOOTBALL CLUB** – Tom Perrott Reserve, McCabe Street, Mosman Park
43. **MOUNT LAWLEY AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB** – Hamer Park Reserve, Second Avenue, Mount Lawley
44. **NOLLAMARA AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB** – Des Penman Reserve, Lemana Court, Nollamara
45. **NORANDA SENIOR FOOTBALL CLUB** – Lightning Park, Della Road, Noranda
46. **NORTH BEACH FOOTBALL CLUB** – Charles Riley Reserve, Kitchener Street, North Beach
47. **NORTH FREMANTLE FOOTBALL CLUB** – Gilbert Fraser Reserve, John Street, North Fremantle
48. **NORTH MANDURAH FOOTBALL CLUB** – Lakelands District Open Space, Mandurah Road, Lakelands
49. **OCEAN RIDGE AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB** – Heathridge Park, Sail Terrace, Heathridge
50. **OSBORNE PARK AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB** – Robinson Reserve, Royal Street, Tuart Hill
51. **PIARA WATERS FOOTBALL CLUB** – Piara Waters Oval, Wright Road, Piara Waters
52. **QUINNS DISTRICTS AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB** – Ridgewood Park, Ridgewood Boulevard, Ridgewood
53. **ROLEYSTONE FOOTBALL CLUB** – Cross Park, Jarrah Road, Roleystone
54. **ROSSMOYNE AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB** – Shelley Park, Koolan Drive, Rossmoyne
55. **SCARBOROUGH AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB** – Millington Reserve, Elliott Road, Karrinyup
56. **SECRET HARBOUR DOCKERS FOOTBALL CLUB** – Rhonda Scarrott Oval, Tangadee Road, Golden Bay
57. **SNESA FOOTBALL CLUB** – Queens Park Reserve, Treasure Road, Queens Park
58. **STIRLING AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB** – Richard Guelfi Reserve, Delawney Street, Balcatta
59. **SWAN ATHLETIC FOOTBALL CLUB** – Swan Athletic Oval, McDonald Street, Herne Hill
60. **SWAN VALLEY FOOTBALL CLUB** – Swan Valley Sporting Club, Great Northern Highway, Herne Hill
61. **THORNLIE FOOTBALL CLUB** – Thornlie Oval, Berehaven Avenue, Thornlie
62. **TRINITY AQUINAS AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB** – Bill Grayden Reserve, Murray Street, Como
63. **UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL CLUB** – UWA Sports Park, McGillivray Road, Mount Claremont
64. **WANNEROO AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB** – Wanneroo Showgrounds, Leach Road, Wanneroo
65. **WARNBRO SWANS FOOTBALL CLUB** – Warnbro Oval, Currie Street, Warnbro
66. **WEMBLEY ATHLETIC CLUB** – Wembley Sports Park, Selby Street, Jolimont
67. **WEST COAST AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB** – City Beach Oval, Fred Burton Way, City Beach
68. **WHITFORD AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB** – Macdonald Park, Forrest Road, Padbury
69. **WILLETTON FOOTBALL CLUB** – Burrendah Park, Albatross Pass, Willetton
70. **WINNACOTT FOOTBALL CLUB** – Winnacott Reserve, Winnacott Street, Willagee
71. **YANCHEP FOOTBALL CLUB** – Yanchep Active Open Space, Marmion Avenue, Yanchep



CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2021

- APRIL 10** – Round 1 – Men's Grades
- APRIL 24** – Round 1 – Women's Grades
- MAY 1-8** – Centenary Round
- MAY 7** – Centenary Match (University v Fremantle CBC)
- JUNE 5** – BYE – All Grades
- JULY 23** – Metro v Country Centenary State Match
- JULY 24** – BYE - Mens A-Grade, All Women's Grades
- AUGUST 14** – Women's finals commence
- AUGUST 21** – B to E-Grade finals commence
- AUGUST 28** – Men's A-Grade finals commence
- SEPTEMBER 4** – Women's Grand Final
- SEPTEMBER 6** – Medal Presentation Dinner
- SEPTEMBER 11** – B to E-Grade Grand Finals
- SEPTEMBER 18** – Men's A-Grade Grand Final
- OCTOBER 25-30** – AFL Inclusion Carnival



2020

COVID-19 pandemic reduces season to nine rounds.

69 clubs, 261 teams (166 senior men's, 48 colts, 37 senior women's, 10 integrated) in 28 grades.

Senior women's grows to 37 teams.

2021

Competition rebounds with nominations from 71 clubs for 301 teams (183 senior men's, 55 colts, 52 senior women's, 11 integrated) in 30 grades.

Senior women's grows to 52 teams.



CARLTON®
DRY

**PROUD TO BE THE
OFFICIAL BEER PARTNER OF
WA AMATEUR FOOTBALL**



**YEARS OF AMATEUR FOOTBALL 2021
PERTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE**



18+ FOR PEOPLE OVER THE AGE OF 18 ONLY