

# **Essential Energy T.A.F.L.**

## **Executive Meeting**

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2012.

Held at 143 Denison Street, Tamworth.

**Meeting commenced at 7.05pm.**

### **PRESENT:**

Josh McKenzie, Gerry Griffiths (chair), Graham Nuttall, Shane Douglas, Nick Baird, Colin Moore, Adrian Walsh (phone), Lindsay Brash (phone).

### **APOLOGIES:**

Nil.

### **1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:**

Minutes of previous meeting were circulated.

Moved J. McKenzie that, "the Minutes as circulated be accepted."

Seconded N. Baird.

CARRIED

### **2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:**

#### **2.1 Presentation night.**

With the revised draw, the Grand Ballroom at Wests Diggers has been booked and confirmed for the 11<sup>th</sup> of August 2012.

#### **2.2 Budget.**

Discussion deferred to the Treasurer's report.

#### **2.3 Prescribed penalties.**

N. Baird was following up if a simple report was able to run to identify the members of each Club with a recorded tribunal history, with a view of allowing Clubs to know where their players stood in relation to the deregistration policy. Further enquiries may be made if this possible, however each club can access their own players tribunal records in the Sporting Pulse system.

#### **2.4 Rule change.**

J. McKenzie indicated that approval had been granted by the AFL NSW/ACT Commission for the insertion of rule 7.2.A into the League's by-laws as proposed at the previous meeting.

### **3. FINANCIAL REPORT:**

G. Nuttall provided a report with little change to the accounts, with cash available at \$27598.66. Confirmation was still required from Essential Energy in relation to their continued involvement, but there was possibility that their sponsorship may not be renewed. Gerry Griffiths indicated his support was pending confirmation of the number of advertisements that the television would run for the year. G. Nuttall to clarify with Prime7 in that regard. The impact of the withdrawal of Narrabri on the budget still had to be taken into account. It was raised that under their licence agreement and with the lateness of their withdrawal, the Eagles were still liable for the year's affiliation fees. This was put forward not on the basis of

punishing the Eagles, but if the Club was to fold the League could make a claim for that money rather than see it distributed elsewhere.

Affiliation for 2012 may be raised to \$2500. J. McKenzie to advise Clubs of this possibility, to allow for Club budgets to take it into account.

Moved G. Nuttall that, "the financial report be accepted".

Seconded J. McKenzie.

CARRIED

#### 4. **CORRESPONDENCE:**

##### **IN:**

**Matt Crawley (AFL NSW/ACT) – Deregistration policy**

**Matt Crawley (AFL NSW/ACT) – Rule change approval (7.2.A)**

**Inverell Saints – proposed Sunday match round 2**

**Wests Diggers – booking confirmation for Presentation night**

**Burnside Productions – Club song recordings**

**Rod Gillett – 50 years of history of UNE AFL**

**Matt Crawley (AFL NSW/ACT) – Generic by-law changes**

**Kate Grills – coordination of Eastern University Games**

##### **John Ficarra – request for TAFL records**

John Ficarra is an AFL historian who has requested copies of the 2011 League Record publications. J. McKenzie indicated he would reply that these were put together only for the 2009 season and offer same if required.

##### **Illawarra Junior AFL – potential U/18s match v South Coast**

This was a potential match for U/18s on the Queens Birthday long weekend in Nowra. It was agreed that the league was unlikely to be able to put together a side.

##### **Tamworth Kangaroos – request for draw changes**

This has been dealt with by email prior to the meeting, with it agreed that the draw would remain as set at the previous meeting. J. McKenzie clarified that the email was sent prior to the March meeting, but for some reason was not received until the day after.

##### **AFL NSW/ACT Commission – insurance for Nomads and Bulldogs**

The Nomads and Bulldogs had not completed their JLT registration for 2012 prior to the first match. It was agreed that they would be required to complete this registration prior to taking part in their respective round 2 matches.

##### **OUT:**

**Matt Crawley (AFL NSW/ACT) – approval for rule change (7.2.A)**

**Libby Sadley (AFL NSW/ACT) – AFL9s resources for Uni games**

**All Clubs – revised 2012 draw**

**Inverell Saints – proposed Sunday match round 2**

**Muswellbrook Cats – no Masters for Akermanis weekend**

**Muswellbrook Cats – Tamworth match v Nomads (rnd 2 or 12)**

**Tamworth Kangaroos – re: request for draw changes**

**Wests Diggers – booking for Presentation Night**

**All Clubs – revised by-laws**

**Inverell Saints, Gunnedah Bulldogs – Sunday match round 2**

## **5. GENERAL BUSINESS:**

### **5.1 Gunnedah v Inverell match in round 2.**

It had been settled that the match will be held on Sunday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April. Inverell had requested a 12.30pm start, which Gunnedah agreed upon. This was indicated to be okay with the umpires and was approved.

### **5.2 Generic by-law changes.**

A memo from December 2011 was brought to attention with State-wide changes to the generic by-laws. Many of these changes are cosmetic, with one change to the team list procedure for players not at the match at half time actually proposed by the Tamworth AFL after last season. These revised by-laws were adopted by email prior to the first round, and this was ratified at the meeting.

### **5.3 Eastern University Games.**

The Eastern University Games will be held in Tamworth in the first week of July 2012. An AFL 9s competition will be involved in the games. J. McKenzie was approached to find a competition manager and umpires, and will take on that role unless an alternative is found. Some information had been sought in relation to the AFL 9s format, which is apparently taking off in Sydney. It had not been available in a DVD format from the AFL NSW/ACT Commission as hoped, but may be available on the internet. It is expected two fields will run for up to four days, with umpires to be sourced where available closer to the date.

### **5.4 Uniform.**

It was raised prior to round 1 that the Bulldogs and Swans were experiencing supply issues with new uniform. Despite attempts to correct and cover with available stock, there may be some instances of players in different uniform for the early rounds until the supply issues are resolved.

### **5.5 Secretary Computer.**

J. McKenzie indicated that subsequent to the last meeting, his laptop had died and had to be replaced. Given the cost involved and the necessity to have access to a computer to perform the role, he requested that consideration be given to the League contributing to this cost. He stipulated that this was only if there was fat in the budget, and that he did not want any increase in affiliation fees to be considered to cover that cost.

### **5.6 Akermanis gate charge in Muswellbrook.**

The intent of the Cats to charge an entrance fee to the Akermanis match on the 19<sup>th</sup> of May was identified in a publicity release from the Club. Discussion was had as to the merits of Clubs charging entry to matches, and the rights of the Cats to attempt to recover their outlay in paying for Akermanis to travel to the region.

Moved J. McKenzie that, "the charging of a gate fee by Muswellbrook for their match on the 19<sup>th</sup> of May be approved, on the condition that fifty free tickets be provided to the Tamworth Kangaroos as the visiting Club, and no entry be charged for umpires or League officials."

Seconded N. Baird.

CARRIED

### **5.7 Umpire's comments from first round.**

It was raised that Clubs need to be mindful of the audible obscenity rule, and that players can be yellow carded for foul language that can be heard at the boundary line. It was also requested that Clubs consider this extends to huddles at breaks in matches. Courtney Harrison did her first match as a field umpire in Inverell, and from all reports did a good job.

### **5.8 Tamworth double headers.**

There are double headers in Rounds 9 and 10. It was agreed that on the basis of the team travelling the furthest plays in the latter match, the fixtures will be:

Round 9: 1pm – Kangaroos v Cats, 3pm – Swans v Saints

Round 10: 1pm – Kangaroos v Bulldogs, 3pm – Swans v Cats.

### **5.9 UNE history.**

Rod Gillett sent a request that a document he provided be published on the League website to outline the pre-TAFL history of the game in the region. Some points in the document were queried and may need clarification for accuracy. It was suggested that some further information be sought from Brian Lenton (Gunnedah), Tony Gillies (Tamworth) and Mike Montgomery (Moree) to provide histories relevant to those towns.

### **5.10 Approval for junior player Mitchell Black.**

The Inverell Saints sought approval for 15yo Mitchell Black to play. It was raised and confirmed that the minimum age was dropped to 15 with the introduction of the generic by-laws.

Moved G. Nuttall that, “approval be given for Mitchell Black to play seniors.”

Seconded S. Douglas.

CARRIED

### **5.11 Student permits.**

N. Baird queried if the Executive wanted him to follow the procedure set out in the by-laws for Student Permits. It was suggested that this process was over-bureaucratic, but it was pointed out that the requirement for a university calendar validated the legitimacy of the permit. It was also raised that the home Club for the player on permit had rights to approve or deny providing him with the permit under some circumstances. It was agreed that the procedure would be followed as set out in the by-laws.

### **5.12 Cats juniors.**

The Cats had experienced some issues when putting their junior players into seniors, as this required a clearance from the Black Diamond League to the Tamworth AFL. N. Baird had advice that it can be set up for an instance clearance to be provided specific to those circumstances.

Moved N. Baird that, “an instant clearance be provided for players between the Muswellbrook junior and senior teams”.

Seconded J. McKenzie.

CARRIED

### **5.13 Cats results in Footyweb.**

It was raised that the Cats were late in entering their results into Footyweb. Apparently they had issues with player lists, but it took to Monday for their quarter by quarter scores to be entered. It is not clear if they had attempted to enter the results by 9am Sunday, but it appeared as though it had not. It was raised that similar issues had been experienced through last season, and the issue of fines for those not complying was raised again.

Moved G. Nuttall that, “all Clubs be warned in relation to failing to fulfil their Footyweb reporting requirements”.

Seconded G. Griffiths.

CARRIED

#### **5.14 Juniors.**

C. Moore provided a verbal report on the progress of the juniors. Some issues were experienced in Armidale with Darren Ryder returning to Western Australia on short notice, but a replacement organiser for their team may have been found. At the moment there had been no response from Clubs as to their numbers. It was possible that the Swans and Kangaroos may not field individual teams, and a combined team from Tamworth will be put together if necessary.

**Next meeting: Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2012, 7pm at 143 Denison Street, Tamworth.  
This is an Executive Meeting.**

**Meeting closed at 8.30pm.**