

President's Report 2008

The 2008 year has certainly had its ups and downs for the Springwood Football Club, both on and off the field. The most significant downs were as follows;

- During the past 18 months in excess of \$8,000 in promised sponsorship has failed to be delivered.
- On operating loss has been incurred for 2008.
- Player numbers for senior football were a concern for the entire 2008 season.
- This resulted in player fees and clothing costs being absorbed by the club in many instances.
- Ground maintenance costs were incurred outside of budget.
- The lack of on-field success resulted in a significant reduction in turnover.

On a positive note;

- Despite the lack of senior player numbers we were able to field 2 teams for the entire year.
- An U/18 team was fielded and gained success by reaching the Division 2 finals.
- The juniors continue to develop with most teams achieving success by either playing finals or competing at a higher level.
- Masters/Supers numbers continue to grow and the support of the club from that base is increasing.
- A number of sponsors have continued their support of the club and my personal thanks go out to those organisations.
- A small number of volunteers and the committee have continued to dedicate a significant amount of their time to the ongoing viability of the club and again my personal thanks go to those people.

Whilst 2008 is a year we could say that we want to forget, I can only be inspired by the resolve of many individuals who have already joined in ensuring 2009 is a better year for the club. These include;

- The appointment of our senior coaching panel which is second to none in the Pineapple Cup.
- In excess of 40 senior players at training each night and a playing list already exceeding 50 players.
- A renewed 2-year sponsorship agreement with Financial Integration which will net the club in excess of \$25,000 over the 2 years.
- Many of our long-term sponsors committed to continuing their support of the club.
- Ground maintenance fees being imposed on all players.
- Senior and U/18 player registration fees being imposed.

I am confident that 2009 will produce a better result for the club both on and off the field given the commitment of our committee and volunteers. Having said that, the load that is carried by so few can only continue in the short term, and the long term viability can only be ensured with increased participation. I encourage all our members and supporters to attend and support the club at every opportunity and share in the successes that will come our way.

Andrew Hickman
PRESIDENT