

NORTHERN KNIGHTS FOOTBALL CLUB MEDIA RELEASE – *Tuesday 18th*



NORTHERN KNIGHTS - SEASON LAUNCH

Last evening (Monday 17th March) the Northern Knights held their Season Launch and Guernsey Presentation Night, with a crowd of over 150 people filling "The Grandstand" Function Room at Preston City Oval. Hosted by Talent Manager, Peter Kennedy, the Knights announced their Squad for 2014 and each player was invited up on stage to receive their playing jumper. The Player List for 2014 has 47 players made up of 5 19yr old, 25 U/18's and 17 U/17 Players.

The Club was pleased to welcome back former players and first round draft picks: Marcus Bontempelli (Western Bulldogs), Ben Lennon (Richmond) & Nick Vlastuin (Richmond) to present the Squad with their jumpers and share their experiences in the AFL environment so far. The Knights were also pleased to have Mark Galea, Managing Director of our Major Sponsor Technika Pty Ltd, in attendance and Mark and the Technika Company were recognised for their on-going financial support of football in the Northern Region and the Northern Knights Football Club, as they entered the 4th year of their partnership.

The Northern Knights new Head Coach Andrew Shakespeare, announced the Knights Captain, Vice Captains and Leadership Group for Season 2014:

Captain: Josh Iacobaccio

Vice Captains: Zac Ballard, Jordan Perry & Sam Switkowski.

Other members of the Leadership Group: Jade Gresham, Darcy Macpherson, Sam Peet & Jayden Short.

Shakespeare, also gave his thoughts on the Squad's Pre-Season which started in November 2013 with an four week block of training prior to Christmas, including a Training Camp at Camp Wyuna, Queenscliff. The Knights returned in mid-January for another 4 week block of training, before commencing Practice Matches and the TAC Cup Fitness Testing Day that was held on the Labour Day long weekend. He finished his address by stressing the importance of continual improvement in all areas, as the Northern Knights enter their 23rd TAC Cup Season.



2014 Knights Leadership Group



The Captive Audience



2014 Knights Captain Josh Iacobaccio & Head Coach Andrew Shakespeare



Marcus Bontempelli being interviewed by Assistant Coach Brian Cartwright



Knights Leadership Group together with Ben Lennon (Far Left), Nick Vlastuin (Far Right) and Mark Galea (Second from Right)