



Hello Mornington members!

At the AGM held on Sunday 18th May, the new Committee of Management (COM) for 2014-15 was elected.

Nine out of the ten committee members have children currently playing in the program. The other has no children but, as a long term player and former Big V team captain, he will bring an invaluable player perspective to our discussions.

Amongst the COM of 2014-15 there is a vast range of experience and expertise in business, education, human resource management, finance, marketing and sport. More importantly there is a commitment and enthusiasm to roll the sleeves up and make a difference to the MDBA.

THANK YOU TO COM OF 2013-14

We take over from a COM that has governed since December 2012. In its numbers featured two very long serving MDBA stalwarts, Michael Ruddock and Christine Stewart. Both need to be acknowledged and sincerely thanked for their unbelievable commitment over so many years to the club. For the last eight months of their COM tenure they carried the load of the four executive positions between them. Michael also sat on the Breaker's subcommittee while Christine assisted with scoring at Big V matches.

Other COM members, Shane Power, Brendan Day, Craig Griffiths, Darren Murr and Luke Ryan also took on a number of other tasks be it another committee, team management, coaching, arbitrating a dispute, cleaning the stadium and so on.

Clubs do not exist without such volunteers. They provide the foundation of any club.

The COM OF 2014-15 wishes to acknowledge and thank each and every one for their tremendous commitment and contribution.

It must be also noted since our election we have approached a number of these members for their opinion and experienced advice. Without exception all have been incredibly obliging.



MOVING FORWARD

We take on the governance responsibility at the club with great pleasure and trepidation. It is our aim to ensure we have a "player first" focused program. The core of our tenure will be the player; not only as a basketball player but just as importantly as an individual. Decisions we make and programs we implement must have this focus at all times. A systemised pathway must be provided to maximise player potential and personal growth of the individual.

Lessons learnt in sport carry over to life.

LEADERSHIP

COM must provide the leadership, governance and direction to ensure each and every member of MDBA has a positive basketball experience. We must recognise the critical role and responsibility of the coach in player development. The best way to underpin this is a commitment to ongoing education not only in Basketball skill but in player management and communication. In many ways these are more important in ensuring a positive and productive player-coach relationship. Referees too must be supported in their development and acknowledged for their contribution.

COMMUNICATION

Communication to members will become a cornerstone of our governance. A couple of COM members are already reviewing the best ways of doing this be it us to you or you to us. We see communication as the best way to connect with another key stakeholder - the parent! Parents are very busy these days and we recognise the importance of keeping them informed and updated.

De Marcus Berry has completed a pathway of skill development and team play document that we are keen to support in its roll out. Moving forward we see great value for the player exposed to a systematic and consistent teaching and coaching approach that, will in time, become known as "MDBA way".

Our COM game-plan for the next one to two months is to complete a business review of the club. This is already well underway. A program review will follow. Time has taught us the value in doing some old fashioned homework and hasten slowly.



Our aim is to build upon what others have done before us and hopefully within our governance time frame lay a fantastic foundation for future generations of players, one that will make MDBA a first choice sporting club and one every parent would want their child to be involved in. Time will tell, and like in any sport, the score board will be our report card.

Working closely with COM are three sub committees, Domestic, Breakers and Big V. It is COM's responsibility to appoint people to these committees. A review of the best way for these to function and work collaboratively with COM is also underway. We do recognise the value and importance of these sub committees in the governance and growth of the club. It is essential we get it right.

In closing rest assured plenty of work is already underway. We would ask that you extend us some time as we get ourselves sorted.

The intent is getting things right for our "player first" focus.

Com 2014-15