

LANGHORNE CREEK F.C. interview Jan Bache 11/10/17

Prior to world war one Langhorne Creek appears only to have engaged in scratch matches against teams from nearby towns such as Belvidere and Strathalbyn. The club first joined a formal competition in 1922 when it was admitted to the Alexandra Football Association but its involvement was spasmodic, as it was in the Hills Central Football League’s A2 Division to which it crossed in 1932. Langhorne Creek continued to compete in A2 on and off for over three decades, claiming a total of half a dozen senior grade flags. In 1967 the club was a founding member of the Hills Football League where it remained until 1978 when it transferred to the Great Southern Football League. In their first season in the GSFL the Hawks enjoyed emphatic premiership success at the expense of Encounter Bay, winning 18.7 (115) to 11.16 (82).

Since the turn of the century Langhorne Creek has been a consistent competition pace-setter, contesting seven grand finals between 2001 and 2016 and winning four of them. Their most recent premiership success came in 2012 when they accounted for Yankalilla in the grand final by 21 points, 14.9 (93) to 11.6 (72). This was actually their second successive such triumph as a year earlier they had overcome the grand final challenge of Willunga by a margin of 56 points, 15.13 (103) to 6.11 (47).

Interesting interview with Ken Follett. Ken first started playing footy at 12 years of age and his career spanned until he retired from footy in 2013, his latter years participating in the Over 35 years competition which he played, umpired and represented his state in interstate competitions. Ken had a 2 years career at Norwood’s U18 side but returned to his home zone. Ken’s career with the Langhorne Creek F.C. he was a tall, fit, centre half forward who was captain coach ‘A’ grade at the age of 19 years, whilst his club was affiliated in the Hills F.L. He was Coach of the 1966 Strathalbyn ‘A’ & ‘B’ grade sides, and won a premiership against Goolwa by 30 goals. . In 1967 Ken was approached to Coach at Goolwa F.C., and result first game against Strathalbyn was a big win, one of the best games he remembers. In that year he was awarded the ‘Mail Medal’ Best & Fairest in the league’s competition. Ken played in Association sides for 5 years and 1966 was Coach. When L/Creek affiliated with GSFL in 1978 his side won the ‘A’ grade Premiership. In 1985 Ken was awarded Player Life Membership of the GSFL and in 1986 was fortunate to play a game alongside his son Roger participating in ‘A’ grade. Ken is still on the committee of Langhorne Creek F.C. and was Vice President for 20 years. Conditions that players had in the earlier days Ken remembers the L/Creek change rooms was a Brush Shed upon a Tank Stand, and no shower facilities. One good thing the oval was flat and good, perhaps not when a big rain fell. Ken has wonderful memories of matches played and guys he respected in his own team were Jamie Warren, Greg Cotton (100 goals kicked for 4 successive years) and Dennis Elliott. Opposition players once again Brenton Smith (Strath) and Brenton George (V/H) paid respect to.

During this wonderful football career Ken’s wife, Marlene has fully supported him, also she has officiated and still does as a Trainer for the L/Creek F.C. a combined 22 years commitment. Congratulations to Marlene.

Investigation is underway to find out how many games Ken has played.

**subject to change**