



NARRE SOUTH LIONS FOOTBALL & NETBALL CLUB INC.

Strathaird Reserve, Community Parade, Narre Warren South PO BOX 4029, Casey Central Shopping Centre,
Narre Warren South VIC 3805

ABN 82 006 009 237 Reg No. A0047426T

www.nsljfc.com.au

PRESIDENTS REPORT (Football) 2015

Having gone through a season of split venues for both training and game day, we were excited to think that this year would bring some normality back to the club, and with the bottom oval works to be completed over the off season as well as the club room development, things were looking great.

As the work in the off season began as normal with the planning of coaches appointments, team selections, registrations and planning ahead for the new season, we were seeing the date of the club room development being pushed further and further back from the initial planned October 2014 start date. When the New Year rolled over and the start of the works was still no-where in sight, we were forced to start planning for the worst case scenario, assuming that we wouldn't have use of the canteen as we required during the football season.

Again our teams started training at multiple venues as our use of the bottom oval during the pre-season was still on restrictions, and we were waiting for the official OK from council to move all teams back home.

In March we received word from council that the building works were to commence in April! Many discussions were had with council about how we could operate out of a venue with no canteen, and negotiations were made to ensure that we still had use of our office whilst the works were underway. Within a couple of weeks of being handed back the club, we had to make sure that everything was stowed away so that construction could commence. As an interim measure, a portable canteen was made available to the club to operate from, which in fact was no more than a ticket booth, that in itself created many issues for our canteen manager to work around, and also meant that we could only offer a restricted menu.

Midway through the season we lost the use of our office, this made the simplest things so much harder to execute, however a few weeks later when we were handed the office back, we were extremely pleased with the results, with so much more storage and a proper fitted out office, the prospect of what was to come with the rest of the development was looking very promising.





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The home and away season came and went so quickly, I would like to thank all the members on another fantastic season, there were some challenges early on in the year, but once the dust settled, the season panned out very well for our club as always. We were also lucky enough to get the use of the new canteen and community room just in time for our Grand Final Night celebrations and Presentation Day, this was definitely a highlight of the season.

With the works of the bottom oval and club rooms finally becoming a reality after many years of meetings with council to discuss much needed improvements to our venue, it was absolutely amazing to see it all come together, even though it was the end of the season, makes it all well worth the time.

Whilst we had planned to erect one, possibly two digital scoreboards this season, the committee felt that it was not the right time to be spending excessively, as we weren't going to be receiving the much relied on canteen profits, to support such a big spend.

Our illustrious time keeper boxes, are finally taking shape and the majority of the hard work was taken on by myself, along with some committee members, and a few of our families offering their assistance, to keep the costs down to an absolute minimum. This great asset will make the job of time keeping so much more enjoyable, than it has been in the past.

Next year is already starting to look good, two functioning ovals, brand new industrial kitchen, bigger facilities and couple of timekeeper boxes to add to our renewed venue. Some exciting times ahead for the club and our members. There are still some other additional items that still need attention, these include the second set of light towers for the top oval, and new coaches boxes, which will ensure better safety of the players and allow teams training on the oval, better use of the whole ground. It would be a good idea to apply for the grant to get the digital scoreboards that we so desperately need at the venue moving forward as well.

The last few years has seen nearly \$1 Million dollars spent on our venue to ensure that it is a great place for our members to play football. A great achievement for all of those involved.

Despite the interrupted season experienced with the redevelopment of our venue, there was an air of excitement amongst the members and the committee, about what was





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happening at the club, and what the finished product would look like. We worked hard at trying to keep a whole of club feel this season, but with the limited space in which to hold our presentation nights we decided, together with the coaches, that we would hold monthly presentation nights during the season.

Out of 9 competitive teams this season, we had 5 teams play off in the finals series, of these 5 teams, 3 were lucky enough to play off in a grand final. With two of them bringing home the premiership for 2015.

As in the past we have pushed for development of players and coaches especially in the younger non-competitive age groups to ensure all our members are given the opportunity to shine and a sense of fairness throughout. I would like to think that the football department will continue to work with the players over the years to come to ensure that each child is given the same opportunity as the next.

The committee is also continually reviewing and implementing new policies and procedures to ensure the clubs success in the years to come.

Our U17's this season were the first combined 16's and 17's team, bringing together two teams to play as one, a big change in how these teams were structured in the past. On the 4th of September we said farewell to our older age players as they now make the move across to senior footy. A great night was had by all the players and their parents. This team currently holds the record for the largest number of playing life members, being 12 in one team. I would like to congratulate all the boys who achieved such a monumental milestone, and wish all the boys the best of luck in their future endeavors in our great game.

I would like to thank all the hard working volunteers who have put countless hours into the respective playing groups, be it the coaches, the team managers, trainers, runners, and all the parents who gave up their time to do a little bit to ensure that our players took the field on game day, your contribution is much appreciated.

I would also like to thank the committee this year for their assistance in getting through a difficult time in our clubs development, and a special thank you to our committee members who are moving on this year and who have spent many years working hard to make the club the success that it is today. A special mention goes out to our longest





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serving Treasurer, Rohan Banks, thank you for all that you have done for our club over the past 7 years, to Erin McLean our Secretary, thank you so much for providing much valued experience on the executive committee. Lastly, I would like to thank my lovely wife for all the support and guidance you have given me over the last 5 years, and also for the great work you have done in managing the administration side of the football club.

We would like to thank our netball club, the Narre South Lions Netball Club – headed up by Sabrina Gammeri in working with us to make this club a great place for the whole family to be around.

I can't forget our canteen manager, Fiona Parlanti, who took on the role this year, eager to get into our new canteen, only to find out that it was not going to be ready, and had to re adjust everything to suit the make shift canteen we were given. A great job done managing the hiccups, with no power and water on game days, enough to drive anyone over the edge. Fiona however, adapted and just kept rolling on, your help this year was much appreciated. Thank you also for being the liason with the builder, and keeping a very close eye on the development of the new canteen, and making sure that we got what we needed in there.

In conclusion, another great season comes to an end, planning will begin for the New Year soon after the AGM. As always, the club is looking for new leaders to step up and get involved in the running of our club. We need new leaders to ensure that our club continues to be the force it has become and also ensure that our mission statement is adhered to at all times;

To actively support and encourage good sportsmanship and a sense of fair play in all participants, officials and parents associated with the Narre South Lions Football & Netball Club.

I would like to thank all of those I have worked with over the past five years to ensure the success of our club, whether you are on the committee, have coached, or assisted in another way, it's when people work together united they are able to achieve many goals.

To the new committee for the 2016 season, I wish you much success in the running of the club and offer my support where needed to assist.

Bert Andrews
President - Football

