



SPOTSWOOD FOOTBALL CLUB 2015

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SPOTSWOOD FOOTBALL CLUB



AGM REPORT 2015

www.spotswoodsfc.com.au



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**Under 18s Back to Back Premiers 2015
Congratulations**



2015 Board of Directors

President

Alan Given

Vice President

Rod Orchard

Administrator

Annette McLaren

Chief Financial Officer

Michele Langlands

Junior Administrator

Lorey Bentley

Directors

CHRIS MURPHY

LEN MURPHY

TONY WALSH

JIM XYDIAS



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

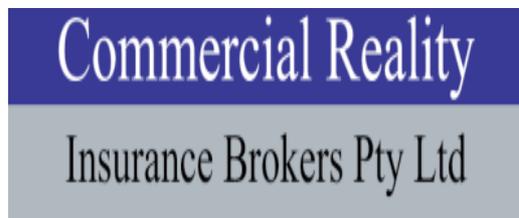
Life Members

Charlie Stephens*
Mick Cahill*
Jim Burke*
Lyle Tandy*
Jack Sutton*
Neil McPherson*
William Couch*
William Ross*
Vic Armour*
Alf Barnes*
Len Rowley*
Ray McKerracher
Ken Howarth*
Eddie Thomas*
Roy Picone
Nancy Tandy*
Mary Couch*
Ian McDonald*
Jim Cairns
Ed Short
Don Schmidt*
Ken Livermore*
Nev Smith
Royce Hewitt*
Eric Lucas*
Henry Lynch*
Brian Orchard*
Len Murphy
Keith Richards*
Shirley Lynch*
Alan Raymer
Paul Cairns

Terry Fogarty
Les Hinds*
Garry Hughes
Eileen Hinds
John Knight
Don Chapman
Harold Wakeling*
Celie Wakeling *
Patricia Richards
Michael Hinds
Glenn Smith
Gavin Langlands
Patrick Hinds
Les Goding
Gail Knight
Jason Lane
Graham Mayberry
Joan Murphy
Lindsay Howarth
Alan Mackey
Scott Stafford
Bill Bond
Brendan Curry
Maryanne Fino
Stephen Jamieson
Evan Rowe
Tony Walshe
Maureen Warren
Mitch Beattie*
Jeff Bunting
Peter Hinds
Annette McLaren



2015 KEY Corporate Partners



**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING****2015 CORPORATE PARTNERS**

A & B INTERIOR DECORATORS	Interior Designers	Tony Boyd	9397 6388
ABLE INDUSTRIES	Engineering	Steve Martin	9391 1522
ATR AUTOMOTIVE	Mobile Mechanic	Travis Rae	488324175
AUSSIE HOME LOANS	Mortgage Brokers	Matthew Wynd	410636057
COMMERCIAL REALITY INSURANCE BROKERS	For all your Insurance Needs	Tony Walshe	9397 4788
CONQUEST SPORTS - CONVERSE	Leading Sports Apparel	Ken Biddick	9417 4966
CONG THANH NOODLES PTY LTD	Specialists in Food Supplies	Lan Davis	410325729
DELPHI BANK	Financial Services	Bill Aidonis	437587226
DONKEY HILL OLIVE OIL	Olive Oil	Rod Gardner	417971160
DOORSPEC	Automatic Doors	Chris Murphy	413931391
EDISON LIGHTS GLOBES	Lighting requirements	Phil Greenwood	419879838
EPIC MANAGERMENTS	Management Compliance	Rod Gardiner	417971160
HI MARK PRESS GROUP	All your printing needs	Michelle Langlands	9397 1444
HINBRO MILK	Dairy and Food	Peter Hinds	9369 1666
HYDE STREET HOTEL	Bistro, fine dining	Loren Smith	9689 2163
GREG HOCKING ELLY PARTNERS	Real Estate	Wayne Elly	8387 0000
HOPPERS HEADS	Cylinder Head Sales	Trevor Carr	1300769466
INSPIRATIONAL HEALTH & FITNESS	Health Gym	Steve Irgl	9391 3881
JET COURIERS	Local & Interstate deliveries	Glenn Greene	9399 9999
L MACCIOCCA CONSULTING	Training	Leanne Given	438442204
METRANS TRANSPORT	Local & Interstate deliveries	Luke Searle	9399 9999
MONA CASTLE HOTEL	Bistro, fine dining	Gary Clough	9687 7636
ON LINE STRATEGY SERVICES	Website & Social Media Solutions	Joe Dorrington	409229952
PEARCYDALE ESTATE	Pyrenees Wine	Rod Gardiner	417971160
RANGEDALE DRAINAGE	Plumbing Specialist	Gary McLean	9687 3299
RAILWAY HOTEL	Bistro, fine dining	The Manager	9687 2034
WILLIAMSTOWN FOOTBALL CLUB	VFL Football	Trevor Monty	9391 0309



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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

CIP is a term used widely in a business environment and it's a philosophy used throughout the Spotswood Football Club, "continuous improvement program". The Spotswood Football Club has a proud history and although it is nice to reflect on it, what drives our success on and off the field is our commitment to look forward and build something even better.

The season just finished we witnessed a re invigorated junior program which started with a lot of work off field at the end of the 2014 season. The "Junior Development sub Committee" ably supported by Tony Schibeci as "Junior Coaching Coordinator" and all of the junior coaches have been able to increase participation and achieve some great on field results.

2015 also saw the handing over of the CFO baton from Jenny Walshe to Michele Langlands allowing Jenny to dedicate more time to functions and social media. We also saw Michael Walshe step up and take on the role of bar manager from Chris Murphy which was no small task. I have stepped into Chris Murphy's shoes some years ago and they are big shoes to fill.

Graham Mayberry took the lead in the kitchen, relieving Joan Murphy after years of dedicated service to the club ably supported by the ever green Gayle Patak and Jessica Allen. It's with great sadness that I say that unfortunately Graham won't be able to continue next season, on behalf of the Club and myself I thank him very much for stepping up, again big shoes to fill.

We talk about the improvement around and within the club, along the theme I have been on so far, the biggest notable difference today from ten years ago is the amount of volunteers we have available around the place. Like always we need more but more than ever we have dedicated volunteers with defined tasks that are small enough for the most part, for people to carry out without it taking over their life. Providing bite size tasks and roles increases our ability to attract those volunteers and hopefully those roles become smaller again.

A case in point would be the appointment of Jason Marks as social Media manager, managing Twitter, Facebook, SFC App and the website, taking over from Jenny Walshe. This leaves Jenny to concentrate on functions as well as developing an understudy to take over from her before too long (Succession planning), now that's a novel idea.

Special thankyou's to a few people;

- Leanne Given, my wife, love you heaps
- Annette McLaren, couldn't do the job without you.
- Lorey Bentley, also couldn't do the job without you either
- Rod Orchard, stepped up and performed in a way that no one even realized I was gone. Future Club President?
- Len Murphy, always a great sounding board and the wise old man of reason
- Tony Walshe, the more modern sounding board and a great confidant. Always keeps me looking in the right direction.
- Jimmy Xydias, the hardest working volunteer at the club (physically). It's hard to imagine how we ever survived without a trainer's coordinator.
- Michelle Langlands, a breath of fresh air and someone that has the same vision as me for the club in regards to compliance and governance.
- Michael Walshe, bar manager and leaning pole for Michele. A great pick up for the club
- Gordon Mutch, head Barman, nothing is ever too hard for this bloke
- Paul Cairns, Line marker extraordinaire and all-round top bloke.
- Glenn Davis, sponsorship manager and a great bloke to share a Murphy's with.

Also thanks to Joan murphy, Janine Mitchell, Garry Howell, Megan Smith, Jenny Walshe and Tony Schibeci.

In October 2010 the club and its members were involved in an independently facilitated interactive planning workshop. The purpose was to collectively discuss and agree on the clubs objectives for the period 2011 – 2015.

Time for some reflection.

We have become the benchmark for others to emulate and have great resources in volunteers. We have built on our rich history of having more AFL/VFL footballers than any other club in our area. We have done well to develop throughout the club, our core values; Leadership, humility, respect, commitment, honesty, professionalism and enjoyment. Work still in progress.



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The biggest sporting precinct in the western suburbs incorporating whole families, youths and adults, males and females, varied ethnic backgrounds playing football, cricket, netball and golf. Diversified revenue sources, expansion into new commercial areas such as a fully licensed venue and the ability to invest back into the community.

Our plan, mission and vision will always be a work in progress but we need to keep re visiting them and honestly assessing our success and our failures. "Fail to plan, plan to fail".

I am looking forward to 2016 with excitement; to continuing building one of the best Sports Clubs I have had the pleasure of being a part of. It's a lot of work for everyone involved, but being part of a great club and being given the opportunity to meet so many fantastic people is ample reward.

Alan Given

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Well it's amazing how things in your life can quickly change. At the start of July 2014, I was an assistant coach for our under 10's side and thinking about joining the soon to be formed Junior Development Group (JDG). I decided I would join the JDG to see if there was something I could contribute from my experience as parent, volunteer and board member from previous years. It wasn't until a few months later on duty at the baseball I had a chat with both Alan and Annette about the club and what we needed. One of the things discussed was the need for a new Vice President. A chat with my wife Dawn, followed by a long SMS chat with Annette had me thinking, maybe it's time to get back involved. With a belly full of butterflies like of never experienced before I attend the AGM and put my hand up for the role a role I'm very proud of holding. To later find out Alan was planning an overseas trip during the season had the butterflies come back, but now looking back, I feel a great sense of pride knowing that for the time he was away I got to play the part of President, something I'm happy I got the chance to do.

During 2015 we had 155 junior players take to field and for the first time in a long time we had a couple of girls take the field in our under 13 team. We had 106 players play in our senior teams (18s, reserves and seniors) and a total of 46 players played in our senior side. To all of you a big thank- you. Well done to the nine gentlemen and their assistants who were given the roles of coaching all our Woodsmen/women. Life has been pretty easy supporting our seniors over the last 8 years and not making the grand final this year was a shock to the system for a lot of people. We have been very lucky and unfortunately this year things just didn't fall our way, plenty of injuries to key players certainly didn't help, but I'm sure the disappointment from 2015 will have Tommy and Grant keen to make amends in 2016. Also thanks to Tony Walshe for all the effort in getting the senior team together. After a very testing 2014 the juniors had a great year with 5 teams playing finals with two the under 12c and 16a making grand finals, while the main aim with the juniors is to develop the players and not focus on winning it was great for them to taste finals footy. A special mention must go to Tony Dimkovski for the time and effort he put in with the under 16s. Pre-season for the under 16 boys started in November with great numbers of players showing up, something I hope will continue. The under 18 side under the guidance of Matty Dean and Trevor Carr once again stamped their authority on the competition winning the premiership in style. Congratulations to all our best and fairest winners including the inaugural Bachar Houli award to Stephen Symes and the Callan Ward trophy to Ethan Bentley and the Mitch Beattie memorial award to Will Stafford, and to those who were fortunate to represent the WRFL in interleague games.

To all our volunteers whether you cut oranges for the under 10s, ran water for the seniors or helped out in the kitchen/canteen, without your help the club cannot function and something the board is very thankful for. Thanks to Graham and Deb and ladies for doing the meals on Thursday also a special thanks to Christine Cardwell for taking on the role of looking after Friday night meals. Well done to Janine Mitchell and ladies for putting together the amazing Bogan Bingo evening and to Jenny Walshe for her work in organising the social calendar. I have had only good feedback in regards to this year's venues. A big big thanks to Joan for again taking on the canteen duties. The bar manager's role was this year taken on by Michael Walshe, after a few hectic first weeks which tested a few of us things ran a lot smoother and I'm pretty sure things will be a lot easier next year, thanks Michael. Last of all to Spud and the supporter's group a huge thanks for everything you do for the club. I was amazed years back when I was last on the board at the work you put in and now that the expectation is a lot higher what you manage to do is remarkable.



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To all our “sponsors” without your support clubs like ours and others have no hope of surviving so thank you for your support and I hope it continues for a long time to come. And I hope you are receiving support back from our members/supporters in recognition of your generosity. An extra advantage of our sponsor signs was that all of our senior games this season were filmed and available to view on the WRFL website. One of our new sponsors City Mazda have provided a \$500 sponsorship for two junior players for 2016 this year’s winners were Mitchell Coleman and Travis Chan they were presented with their awards at the under 16s presentation night.

To all my fellow board members congratulations on the year, thank you all making me feel welcome back on the board, and to for your support when Alan was away. I think one of the main reasons our club has been so successful and respected by others is because of the professionalism of the board, our two administrators Annette and Lorey would be some of the best in the league, the hours these two ladies put in to make sure that things are ok not only for game day but for events weeks ahead is unbelievable, their support and guidance to me this year is something I am also very grateful for. Last of all a big thank you to my wife Dawn for her continual support and guidance.

Looking forward to 2016
Go the Mighty Woodsmen
Rod Orchard

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

What a year - congratulations to Matt Dean and Trevor Carr and the under 18s on their Back to Back Premiership. What an outstanding effort by the coach’s and support staff, to all those associated with the 18s – well done.

Not the year that the seniors would have liked, but never the less Tom and Grant have done an amazing job in getting the team to the finals, given the amount of injuries we sustained during the year. To Anders and his team, it is a very hard job to come into the role at the last hour, but with a good pre-season no doubt the Reserves can have a great 2016.

Our juniors on the other hand all reached the finals, which was an outstanding effort. Our 16A had a remarkable year and unfortunately could not take home the silverware, but no doubt Tony Dimkovski and his team will be looking to make amends in 2016 – however 4 of our 16A polled in the top 5 of the league B & F with Stephen Syme winning the B & F – sensational year and congratulations. 16C what can I say about Ali Hamad, took this team to a preliminary final, outstanding effort for someone so young. 14B Travis Rae took over a team of young men who really did have a difficult year in 2014 with only 18 players most of the season took the team to a final – an amazing effort considering the amount of injuries sustained during the year, Ethan Bentley again polling in the top 5 for the league. 13B Travis Wheeler reached the first final and the team will no doubt be better for the experience and improve in 2016. 12C Rohan Stafford took the boys to a Grand Final, what an achievement for the coach and boys finishing in 5th position and unfinished business by all accounts. Under 10s Paul Geraghty, we don’t play for points or score, however no doubt Paul would have been told by the players what the score was week in week out – with 26 players and rotating week about is always a challenge. Well done to all coaches on what was a great season.

We cannot take the field without the support of our Coaches, Team Managers, Trainers and Support staff who work tirelessly week in week out. We appreciate the work all our volunteers do and they are vital to our ongoing success.

Our Sponsors, are pivotal to the club, we thank them for their generosity and continued support.

The Club has an amazing board of Directors who work tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure the club continues to prosper and evolve. Each Board member has a portfolio which they look after, along with various other duties they do week in week out, thank you to each and every one of you for your ongoing contribution to the club.



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Alan Given – President
Rod Orchard – Vice President
Michele Langlands – CFO
Lorey Bentley – Junior Administrator
Len Murphy – Supporters Group/Coterie/sponsorship
Tony Walshe – List Manager/Media Communications/Sponsorship
Jim Xydias – Trainers Co-ordinator
Chris Murphy – WRFL Rules committee and League Delegate

There are many others who volunteer their time and often gets un-noticed, thank you all for your contribution to the club.

- **Canteen** – Joan Murphy and her assistants
- **Friday Nights** – Christine Cardwell and the Junior teams
- **Thursday Night Crew** – Debbie McCulloch, Graham Mayberry, Jessica Allan, Gayle Patak, Loren McCulloch
- **Functions/Events** – Jenny Walshe
- **Website/Social Media** – Jenny Walshe
- **Football preparation – Seniors/Juniors** – Butch Knight and Rod Orchard
- **Washing** – Butch and Gayle Knight washed the seniors and reserves match day jumpers each week and to Joan Murphy who washes the training jumpers (in her spare time) – an enormous task
- **Bar** – Michael Walshe
- **Timekeeping** Stephen Jamieson
- **Database Coordinator** – Janine Mitchell
- **Junior Coach's Co-ordinator** – Tony Schibeci
- **Megan Smith** – Ladies Day and Social/Past Player memberships
- **Gary Howell** – Umpires Escort/Statistics

In Closing, this has been a special year for myself receiving a life membership, I am honoured and privileged to be a part of such a great club and would like to take this opportunity to thank Jenny Walshe for my nomination. My son started in Auskick and what a journey it has been and will continue to be, lifelong friendships have been made

Annette McLaren
Go Woodsmen



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CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT

Although the SFC senior team did not make it into the grand final this season the club has still had some outstanding success. All of our juniors participated and performed well and our incredible Under 18's went back to back in premierships wins. This provided the club with a platform for some extra functions to help us move forward a little more financially.

The hugely successful Ladies Day, Mr. Spotswood, Bogan Bingo, Reserves Backward Draw and more have all brought big dollars into the coffers once again along with the amazing fundraising the Supporters Group provide. All combined this has enabled us to turn the corner and post a net profit this year. Another pleasing result is the \$11,000 we have been able to repay against the Supporters Group Loan. A great effort by everyone involved.

It would be remiss of me not to extend a huge thank you to all our amazing sponsors who come aboard every year expecting nothing but a successful club that just keeps kicking goals – yes that grand final win is not too far away. We have been lucky enough, thanks to the ever-hardworking Tony Walshe, to have enlisted a couple of new major sponsors and also to Glenn Davis who worked tirelessly pre-season picking up some great new sponsors too. People, the more sponsors we can get on board the more great things can be done to our rooms in upgrading facilities, photo boards etc. I would also like to acknowledge all our Player Sponsors for their contribution to the club and to each and every one of you that have put your hands in your pockets every week in support of the SFC.

Two more acknowledgements must also be given; to the handful of people who man the car parks at the The State Victorian Baseball Centre over many weeks collecting money per car for parking of which we receive \$1.60 per car and also the Baseball Centre itself for offering the club the opportunity. To the people who sell raffle tickets at the Spotty Pub every Friday night of which a percentage is given to the club at the end of the season. These dual income streams alone bring into the club around \$5,000. A massive thank you to all those involved.

So, with season 2015 now behind us, I would like to thank the hard working board and committee of the SFC that I have had the privilege to work with and also to the “unofficial committee/volunteers” who work tirelessly raising funds to keep our proud club ticking along. I have been at this club for 38 years and involved in all areas of the club I am astounded how much the club has grown with the implementation of new procedures, streamlined reporting & accounting, meetings and more so that people like myself can jump on board and learn and grow and keep the momentum and growth going into the next season and beyond.

Yours in football & one very proud mum,
Michele Langlands



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SUPPORTER'S GROUP REPORT

To each of the Coterie Group members, thanks very much for your contributions, there were 41 members this year similar to last year. It is critical that we retain all of the current members and look out for others to contribute. We had a couple of great luncheons this year and I look forward to all members being part of the group again in 2016.

Thanks to the following for their contribution to the club.

Alan Given for his role as President. Alan has been is a great asset to the club and it is great that he continuing on next year..

Rod Orchard took on the role of Vice President this year and took on numerous roles. He did a sterling job as stand in President while Alan was away. Well done Rod

Annette for once again doing a great job as our Administrator. Annette does an enormous amount of work around the club and always steps up when a job is required to be done. We would be lost without Annette. Thanks Annette.

Michele Langlands for her role as chief financial officer, Michele certainly brightened up our committee meetings. She did a fantastic job and I'm sure with this years' experience she will be bigger and brighter next year.

Tommy Langlands found out what coaching is all about. The endless list of injuries certainly took its toll on the team. Tommy always leads from the front and I'm sure if we can keep the players injury free, we will have another great year. This year the team had 45 different players play in the senior team. That number is huge if you compare it to some of the other teams who only used 35 players. The team had 9 ex junior players play their 1st Senior game. Well done Tommy.

Thanks to Grant Smith for his role as side line coach for Tommy. These guys work really well together and spend a lot of time trying to get the balance of the team correct. Also, thanks to Tony Walshe for helping out while Grant was away for a couple of weeks. Thanks also to Jason Lane for being the Boardman and keeping reins on the sidelines. Thanks to Frank Pocervina as team manager and Luke Fitzgerald for being the senior runner.

Thanks to Reserves coaching group led by Anders Welsh, Bevan Uren & Scott Stafford. These guys stepped up to take on the role. It is a role that is vital to the club and I'm sure it was frustrating at times during the year when it was a battle to get numbers at training and having players available. Thanks to the other helpers, Glenn Davis & Paul McGarrity. Well done guys.

Lorey Bentley our Junior Administrator did another great job during the year. Lorey, like Annette is at the rooms most days / nights during the week as well as all weekends to make sure that all the juniors are geared up and ready without fuss. Thanks Lorey.

Last year (2014) the under 18s won the premiership and the seniors benefited by having 14 of the premiership team advance to the seniors list. Who would have thought that they could win the premiership again after losing so many players? Well they did, and they did it easily in the Grand Final. Their coach, Matty Dean and his assistant Trevor Carr did a wonderful job getting some new players to the club and getting the team to perform the way they did. They ended up with a list of 35 and it was a huge job rotating the players and keeping them interested during the year. Thanks also to Grant Bunting (Team Manager) George, Rod, Craig, Jackson Carr and the other helpers.

Thanks to everyone on the committee, club members, junior coaches, selectors, trainers, managers, timekeepers, runners, players and all the other helpers around the club.



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Congratulations to Craig Hardeman for being voted Best Club person for 2015. Craig has helped out at the club for numerous years and was a great help for our head trainer Jimmy Xyz. Well-deserved Craig.

Tony Walshe for his help in running the \$100 Raffle, Tony loves this day and makes it a lot of fun for all that attends. Everyone has a great day. He loves seeing my numbers come out!

Michael Walshe for taking on the role of Bar Manager again, this is a very important role at the club and I'm sure it was an eye opener for Michael this year. Michael is back next year and will have a greater understanding of the role. Well done Michael.

Thank you to Cackles, Debbie, Loren, Jessica & Gail for preparing and serving meals on each Thursday night and all the junior helpers who helped out on a Friday night.

Jeff Bunting for doing the 1st goal each week and recording all player payments.

Tony Walshe, Tommy Langlands and Grant Smith for getting the current players signed up and for recruiting new players. This is a very time consuming job and it didn't worry these guys. They just went about it in a professional manner.

Bring on 2016
Len "Spud" Murphy

CANTEEN REPORT

I would like to thank Madelyn Murphy and Riley Cairns for helping in the canteen all day on a Saturday home game, it helped me tremendously. Also thanks to the junior parents for assisting in the canteen on Sunday home games.

We are very lucky to have great Administrators in Annette McLaren and Lorey Bentley. Annette would come early on Saturday morning with Jess and make up rolls and wraps and if I needed help on a Sunday Lorey would come into the canteen and help out. Also thanks to Gary Howell for stacking the fridge each Thursday night and for cutting up all the rolls on a Saturday and Sunday. I really appreciated it.

Looking forward to next Year, bring it on

Joan Murphy
Canteen Manager



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SENIOR COACH'S REPORT

Well it finally had to end. 8 Grand Final appearances in a row, that brought 4 premierships.

2015 was surely a different year for the football club. But a year that was still very successful. I think we all know that the senior side faced some tough challenges this year and with the increased competition within the WRFL, which can only be a good thing, saw us finish up in August with a loss in the first semi-final.

We can look back and think about the many injuries we suffered. Broken arms, ribs and knee reconstructions (I wish those players with serious injuries all the best and hope to have them back ready to go next season) or we can look at the positives by which I mean the 44 players that performed on a Saturday for the senior side, some 7 more than any other club. We played a lot of youth and the youth is the future of the club, what an exciting prospect 2016 promises to be.

Training again this year has been challenging. Numbers on the training track were poor on occasions and this is something that the senior coaching group will have amended for the 2016 season. Having said that I would like to thank Grant and Anders and on the odd occasion, the great man Tony Walshe for their support during the week.

I have to thank Garry Howell for his Thursday night insights and hard work on Saturdays, Craig Hardeman for always offering his services to the players, Alex for her hard work not only during the week, but on Saturdays as well. Fran for coming on and working tirelessly every night, please don't rub the players so much, tell them to harden up. And of course, the players would be nowhere without Jimmy Xydias.

To the ladies and the gent in the kitchen, I applaud your hard work and thank you for providing us with much needed nourished on a Thursday night. The place wouldn't be the same without you.

I would like to thank the board, the coterie and the administration for providing an environment for young men to come and enjoy the sport they love. As players we do hope, win lose or draw we can provide entertainment and friendship to those volunteers and supporters who probably love the club more than we do. This club is beautiful, not because of the players who run around on a Saturday, but because of the lifetime bonds that are nurtured throughout the generations.

Tom Langlands

RESERVES COACH'S REPORT

I am extremely privileged to have coached the Spotswood Reserves team for season 2015. It was certainly a whirlwind start to the season after being appointed to the role on short notice. The first thing that stood out clearly was the young age of the playing list and plethora of young talent that has come up through the junior ranks of Spotswood.

The step up from juniors can be a tough transition and I am proud to say that after a slow start to the season the team really began to gel and get some wins on the board against some older and more experienced opponents.

The main aim was to make sure that the players were enjoying their football, that we kept a large amount of numbers attending training and being available for games each Saturday and that each player also learnt senior coach Tom Langlands game plan so that when called upon the players could step up and play a role in the senior team.



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As such, some key elements of the season were based around communication with players; ensuring players were given direct feedback about performance and areas of improvement to work on. On match days we followed the core of the senior team game plan, with slight changes to adapt to skill levels, weather conditions, opposition and match situations.

A pleasing aspect from the season was the amount of players that played in the senior team throughout the year and held their own at the top level. Due to the large number of injuries the club experienced during the year it certainly gave a significant number of the playing list an opportunity at the top level which can only help strengthen the entire squad as they now know first-hand what it takes to make that next step up to be a regular senior team player.

It was disappointing not to be able to make the finals but after a slow start and losing by two points at Port Colts the team did well to keep our mathematical finals chances alive until the third last round of the season. I cannot knock the players endeavour and the way they conducted themselves as soon as they put on the mighty green and gold jumper right up to the final siren of the last round.

I am extremely grateful and would like to thank all of the support staff that assisted the team and I throughout the season.

I would like to thank the committee for their support throughout the year and for putting their trust in me to once again coach the Reserves team for the 2016 season. I am hopeful that the reserves can go one step further and we can get ourselves into the finals for the first time in a number of years.

Anders Welsh

UNDER 18'S COACH'S REPORT

To state the obvious it was another hugely successful year for our 18's.

To go back to back premiers was a fantastic result and a credit to our squad of 35 players, our numbers at training were unheard of for under 18 level, 25 on most Tuesday's and full squad on the Thursday nights. This enabled us to have solid quality training sessions all season. Although we could only select 25 players on grand final day it was all 35 who contributed to our final result.

It was very pleasing to see some boys get a taste of senior football this year and acquit themselves very well so well done Nicky Ryan, Conor Daley, Tyron Bennett and James Beilby. This combined with the players that progressed from the 18's last year and the players coming through and the future is bright for the football club.

I'd like to thank my co-coach Trevor Carr, who without his help the last 2 years would not have been possible, Grant Bunting for being a fantastic team manager and our 2 assistant coaches for their great input Gary Turner and George Jaksic.

I would also like to thank the numerous volunteers who put their hand up each week and do the jobs no one really likes but enables the boys to have a game, Adnon Sulejmani-Blackwell, Brian Wilson, Jason Boyd and Rod Williams.

Thank you to the Spotswood Football Club for the honour of coaching the under 18's for the last 3 years, and I look forward to watching these young men be a part of the clubs next senior flag.

Cheers,
Matty Dean



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

JUNIOR COACH'S COORDINATORS REPORT

What an amazing year season 2015 was for the Spotswood Junior teams, 5 teams in 5 finals and the confidence that the teams can bring home flags next year.

Auskick – Adam Fenn and Craig Spurr

53 children registered for the 2015 Auskick season with 24 of those new to the Spotswood Football Club.

Sessions were once again held on a Saturday Morning with 2 x Friday night sessions proving to be a great hit. As a Result the club is looking to move its Auskick program to a Friday night from season 2016. Thanks to Adam and Craig for their work this year

Under 10's – Paul Geraghty

The Under 10's under the leadership of Paul have gotten right into their football this year and based on individual and team performances this year have shown that they will be an asset for the club in years to come.

Under 12C's – Rohan Stafford

After leading this group of young men in the under 10's last year Rohan and Rod Orchard took the majority of the group into their first of competitive football. While 18 of the 25 were still eligible for under 11's, four of the group were even younger and could have played u10's this year.

After a slow start to the season the team started to turn things around in the second half of the year finishing in fourth sport on the ladder at the end of the home and away season.

With wins over Caroline Springs, Albion and St Bernards in the first three weeks of the finals a Grand Final spot was grabbed up against the local foe in Williamstown Juniors.

The team played exceptional football against a side that had beaten them twice in the year and in the end only missed out by 3 points. The majority of this team will continue in the under 12 in season 2016.

Under 13B's – Travis Wheeler

Congratulations to Travis and his team for also making the finals in season 2015. Travis was a new coach to this team and fitted in really well with the squad. And for the first time in Spotswood history two young ladies participated with the squad for the entire year.

The 13B's were knocked out in the first week of the finals. Congratulations to Cameron Rains who finished equal fourth in the League Best and fairest

Under 14B's – Travis Rae

It was a tough year for the 14B's in season 2015 with the team struggling to get numbers into their squad meaning most weeks were played with less than 18 players on the field.

To their credit though Travis had the boys working well as a unit and in the end they made the Finals but once again a lack of number s and players qualified saw them take an undermanned team into the Elimination final and were subsequently knocked out. Congratulations to Ethan Bentley who finished equal second in the league best and fairest.

Under 16C's – Ali Hamad

Ali returned to the club this year to take on the role as under 16C's coach. And results would say that the team gelled pretty well with him as they got to a Preliminary final.

It was exciting to work with Ali this year, and as a young coach made mistakes but was willing to listen and take on board any constructive criticism sent his way. What Ali has learned from this year will hold him in good stead for seasons to come.

Under 16A's – Tony Dimkovski

The Under 16A's were an amazing group of Footballers put together in the preseason, and they were a group of young men who were determined to go deep into the finals and that they did; undefeated all year until the Grand Final, losing to St Bernards by 19 points. Testament to how good this group was four of the five best players in the league Best and Fairest were Spotswood Players and congratulations to Stephen Syme who won the award ahead of Toby Kopa, Zak Busuttil and Josh Drage.



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Also Congratulations to Tony Dimkovski for being nominated in the 2015 AFCA Coach of the Year Award in the youth division. Tony's preparation and work ethic with this group of young men was amazing and we look forward to Tony and the boys hopefully going one step further next year. On behalf of the Coaches I would like to personally thank all their assistants, Runners, Team Mangers, and all the other volunteers who step up each week to ensure our coaches can concentrate on the job that they do best and that's giving our young lads the best opportunity to perform their best football for the Spotswood Football Club

Tony Schibeci

JUNIOR ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

What a difference a year makes!

Reading over last year's report, I reflected on how we merged teams with other clubs to be able to field a team, and that none of our teams made finals. This year, all 5 of the eligible teams made finals, with two of them making the grand final. This is due to, not only the dedication of our coaching staff, but also the common vision of the club as a whole to develop players for the long term.

In 2015, Auskick numbers remained relatively similar to last year, about 50, with about 10 children old enough to play juniors next year. We fielded 6 junior teams, from under 10 through to two under 16 teams.

2015 saw the introduction of a few new ideas. Our Best and Fairest winners of the under 14 and Under 16A teams were presented with the Callan Ward and Bachar Houli Trophies respectively. This is a wonderful way to acknowledge some great players of Spotty while also recognising some future stars. City Mazda also came on board as a sponsor and introduced a scholarship for two players who show the Spotty spirit of determination and overcoming all odds. It was with great pleasure that Mitchell Coleman and Travis Chan won the inaugural awards, both very deserving winners.

The Junior Development Group welcomed new members and they are looking to expand even further next year with new members being recruited.

2016 will be one of our more exciting years as we will be fielding the first junior girls' team, which is creating a lot of interest. This will allow our club to once again be a leader of football in the West. Auskick will be moving to a Friday night, after the success of a few trials this year. This will allow for a greater link with the club as they will be able to see the 'big boys' training.

By the numbers:

2015 coaches:

- Under 10: Paul Geraghty
- Under 12 C: Rohan Stafford and Rod Orchard
- Under 13 B: Travis Wheeler
- Under 14 B: Travis Rae
- Under 16 A and C: Tony Dimkovski and Ali Hamad

Best and Fairest winners were:

- Under 12: Will Stafford (Mitch Beattie Shield)
- Under 13: Marwan El-Houli
- Under 14 B: Ethan Bentley (Callan Ward Trophy)
- Under 16 A: Stephen Syme (Bachar Houli Trophy)
- Under 16 C: Mitchell Coleman
- Mitchell Coleman and Travis Chan inaugural winners of the City Mazda Scholarships

Representing Spotswood at the WRFL B and F awards in 2015 were:

Tony Dimkovski short listed for 2015 youth coach of the year

Ethan Bentley: Under 14 equal runner up

Josh Drage and Zac Busuttill: Under 16 A equal 3rd

Toby Kopa: Under 16 A 2nd

Stephen Syme: Under 16 A Winner



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On a personal note, I would like to say a special thanks to all of the board of directors, all of the sponsors, all the tireless volunteers, all the parents and all of the players for participating in this great game. I would like to congratulate the under 18 team on their back to back premiership in 2015. Lastly, I would like to wish everyone well over the summer and would love to see everyone back in 2016.

Lorey Bentley

16A Report

Having coached plenty of these boys in the past I knew that there was talent in the group, but what was required to get this talent to shine. For many in the past, football or some sort of pre-season started late January early February. Season 2015 was going to be different and if we could prepare right and introduce structures and bring the talent up to the next level starting early was going to be the key. After a long 4-6 weeks of planning I decided commence pre-season training well before the new season and well before the x-mas break.

Pre-season commenced on the 12th November 2014 (Newport Lakes). Unsure what type of numbers we would get to pre-season, our first night saw 26 players attend. As each week past, a total of 42 players attended pre-season with a consistent number of approximately 30-36 attending every single session. We initially had 35 players on our list; we lost 8, but picked up 28 new players for season 2015. A total of 55 boys were on our Under 16s list for 2015.

Pre-season was successful (*Apart from trying to find a venue where would could have adequate space*) the talent we attracted and developed over a short period of time was looking very promising for the season ahead. With a large number of new players we did face the challenges of transferring players across. This was at times not easy as accusations of poaching etc... were being thrown around by others outside of the club. All player transfers could not have been possible without the support of Annette McLaren who did a tremendous amount of work for me and the 16s group in regards to transfers and fighting little battles for us.

With pre-season drawing to an end and 4 weeks out from the season commencing we finally moved back to Spotswood for training. Ali Hamad jumped on board and was to take the role of the Under 16C coach (*We lost our original 16C coach early in the pre-season*). With game plans and structures well under way and the group adjusting and working well together the hardest task was still ahead of me and that was naming a 16A & 16C team. This wasn't an easy task. Overall we played 32 players through the 16A team with a few unfortunate not to get a game or two. This all goes down to the strength and depth we had in this age group this year.

Unfortunately for the Under 16s our scheduled practice match the opposition pulled out the week prior to it and our only it out prior to the season starting was an intra club game. This probably wasn't the ideal situation never the less it was a hit out the teams needed.

Training back at Spotswood was obviously much easier and having our sets nights of Wednesday & Fridays and not switching days around due to grounds availability was indeed helpful. Even with a good number of boys training at the Western Jets & WRFL Interleague squads the commitment made by the group was enormous. Most training nights we had the full team attend training, which made drills, development and working on our structures a blessing, but most importantly the enjoyment of it as a large group. Credit goes to the group of boys who were willing & committed to do this and all the preparation in the background was worthwhile.

As mentioned earlier this particular team at training was full of talent but the unknown was going to be game day. The challenge was always going to get the group to gel and trust the game style and game plan that was put in place. To the teams credit this did not take long and the hunger and desire in the group to succeed was evident from Round 1 until the last game they played. The 16A finished on top of the ladder during the home & away season undefeated. So dominant was this team during the season playing in a grand final was now the goal we wanted to reach. We won our first final and went straight into the grand final as an undefeated side. As history will show that the grand final was the only game we would lose for the season. Unfortunately for the group we came



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up against a side that had set themselves up for us all season and had worked on beating us all year. As much as it was disappointing not winning the grand final for the team & myself knowing we got there with a fairly new group of kids was an achievement in itself.

As much as the team was dominant and from the outside it may have looked like clockwork, the number of players rotating through the bench was difficult. With 25 players in the team (7 players on the bench) it was not easy to control. Unfortunately with a situation like this not every player gets equal game time (as much as we tried) and players/parents get frustrated, as do coaches. This is the part of coaching that I did not enjoy but I do not know what the answer is.

Off the field it was very pleasing to see many of the 16A players come up to the rooms on a Friday night. On top of that the new families who came up there and supported the club, particularly the parents that helped out in the kitchen when the 16A were rostered. Many of the helpers were the new player's families that had joined the club. The Under 16s presentation night with the sit down dinner was once again a hit and the turnout was great.

Obviously there are many people to thank throughout the football club that have contributed to the success of the 16A this season. The Spotswood Football Club & Board members who once again gave me an opportunity to coach their top age juniors. I may be bias but I don't think there is a better place to coach juniors than SFC. Annette McLaren & Lorey Bentley who through their administrative work for all players has been exemplarily. As mentioned earlier, Annette for the support when all transfer etc... needed completing & Lorey for support throughout the season (especially game day) and organizing presentation night. Tony Schibeci and Junior Development Group for the support of the juniors & coaches throughout the season. The Junior Coterie Group who once again has been able to generate some money and reward our juniors with merchandise, especially passing on embodied bags to all the new players that last year's players received. This did not make anyone feel left out. Great job!

A special thank you to Fran Swan who helped out for a few matches as our team trainer when our regular trainer was unavailable. Your knowledge in preparation and looking after the group pre-game & during the game was something the group appreciated and learnt from. Jimmy Xydias who helped out as our second trainer during the finals was great. His support for the group was not only on game day but also throughout the season ensuring our trainer's kit was full & ready for game day.

To the Under 16A support group, Shane Drage & Vinnie Smart (Assistant Coaches) & Darren Busuttill (Runner), thank you for the help training & game day, the result of the season was a team effort. Not only do I appreciate the time you guys gave up but so do the 16A players who over the season built a solid relationship with you guys. Ian Chambers (Trainer) once again thank you for your support over many years now doing this role. Your preparation and care for the group in what you do has been second to none. Your care for the group is much appreciated by all. Ossie Hylton (Team Manager) thank you for just allowing me to coach and you worry about everything else. Your help throughout the year was one less role I did not need to worry about and allowed me to concentrate on the group. To all the families involved thank you for the support in doing different roles throughout the season. I know with pre-season it has been a long year of football but hopefully a year that was enjoyable.

To the 16A group. Well done on an amazing season. It's been a pleasure coaching a group that has been so talented and committed. Your solid work throughout the pre-season and the season itself has been first class. Unfortunately many outside of our club will remember us for the last game, which is fair enough. Within the club we are so proud of what you achieved, you boys are the future of the football club in years to come. Continue what you have been doing and I am sure with a bit of fire in the belly from what we missed out on will make us stronger and better in season 2016, you now have something to play for.

Thank you to all that supported the 16A.

Tony Dimkovski

12C Report

The boys had an amazing season this year. At the start of the season when the football club decided to run with an under 12 team, instead of an under 11 team, I thought if we won 7 out of the 14 games we



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were having a great year. With this outlook I focused on building the boys skills, developing their further, enjoying themselves and building a strong supportive group of boys. To make it into the Grand Final was an absolute amazing bonus. The boys played hard and yes we lost by 3 points, but I couldn't have been prouder of the boys. Superb effort.

Training:

Half way through the season when we had only lost 3 games, we reflected on our play and decided to see if we could increase the boy's fitness levels. We began training for 1 ½ hours twice a week. For ½ hour we concentrated on fitness levels. We pushed the boys hard and this was seen on the football field with the boys lasting four quarters of strong football. The improvements and confidence that was building in the boys was being displayed during training. We just needed them to take this into game day. The Wednesday night training was by far more popular with Friday night training only attracting 11 or 12 boys. This is due to other sporting commitments, namely basketball. Rod Orchard alongside many other parents helped out with football training and I am immensely grateful for all of the assistance I received. Parent participation and support during training was really strong. The extravaganza night with the senior players running the training for the juniors was well received and the boys had a great time. This provided a great opportunity to build connections with our juniors.

Game Day:

Having 26 kids to rotate in four quarters was a difficult task, but with Rod over seeing this, we attempted to be as fair as possible, with the exception of extremely close games and the finals. The boys did an amazing job, lining up to bigger, older kids as their opponents. Having only 7 under 12's, and the rest of the team being: 16 under 11's and 3 under 10's the boys did a tremendous job. We had done all the hard work during training; we just needed it to play out during the game. Confidence building, comradery, and seeing the finals had the boys play hard. Once again the many parents who put their hand up to help were fantastic and I was never short of volunteers.

Off Field:

For the people that attended the social nights, had a great night. However the numbers were very small. Pie and movie nights were had, but were again on a Friday night, families are juggling other sporting commitments and other children's activities. Presentation day was also very hard to get a day and time that will fit all families. It was suggested that a couple of teams join together: I.e: under 10, 11 & 12's for presentation and pie nights, to create larger social groups across the club.

Overall I had a great season. I thoroughly enjoyed being a part of the under 12's team. I had a great bunch of boys who wanted to improve and their belief in themselves kept growing each week. I am passionate about the footy club and hoped that I could instil in the boys what being a part of a team and bigger, a club is all about. I was surrounded by a great bunch of people assisting me in my role. Rod Orchard was not just my assistant coach but a great mentor. Phil Buck was always available to offer advice and assist me; Sharon Schwarz kept behind the scenes as the team manager ticking all the boxes and Chris Morris ensuring the boys were attended to if hurt. I had a strong group of parents who put their hand up to be boundary umpire, time keeper, runners, water people, goal umpire, inspirational speakers in final times and just all the parents who washed jumpers and cut up oranges. This all happened week in and week out.

Rohan Stafford

10s Report

The 2015 season was successful with some challenges along the way. The boys demonstrated great improvement as the year progressed and responded well to instructions. The improvement demonstrated by the boys was best picked up in the second half of the season when teams that they struggled against and how they played against them the second time round. At times I did not know if I was the best suited person to be coaching a young group but the positive feedback in which I got from parents gave me the confidence that I was doing a good job.

The focus for the year was for the boys to have fun playing football and experience what playing a team sport like footy was all about and develop their skills as the year progressed. In the first half of the year it was about the basics such as playing your position, hand passing and kicking. In the second half of the season it was more about team football and passing the ball off and looking for team mates



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in better positions. The way the ball was being moved towards the end of the season indicated that there was a significant improvement across the board.

In the first half of the season there was a two week period I would rather forget with the first being an incident involving West Footscray that ended up in front of the tribunal and the second week against Wyndhamvale where rough play was not getting managed. Both of these situations would have not occurred if the league both sent an umpire in the first instance and in the second instance sent an umpire that was capable of umpiring a game by himself. With reference to the later the league sent a young boy that was just out of his depth and failed to maintain control of the game and it is recommended that a mentor umpire is always paired with a young umpire or alternatively the home club is required to supply and umpire (an adult). With regard to the tribunal I was very disappointed with how that played out and the manner in which the tribunal panel questioned me, at no time did they introduce themselves, their role and what they wanted from me and believe that these are the basics that they need to get right.

I believe it was a successful season and look forward to being involved at either the U10's or U11's depending on the grade my son is playing in.

Paul Geraghty

Club Song

We're a mighty team at Spotswood
We're the mighty fighting Woods

We love our Club and we play to win
Riding the bumps with a grin *At Spotswood*

Come what may you'll see us fighting
Teamwork is the thing that counts

All for one and one for all
That's how we play at Spotswood

We are the mighty fighting Woods