

Presented at  
**THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**22 November 2017**  
**7.30 pm**  
BULLEEN PARK  
175 Bulleen Road, Bulleen



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# YARRA JUNIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE

## NOTICE OF MEETING

The twenty-first Annual General Meeting of the Yarra Junior Football League will be held at Bulleen Park on Wednesday 22 November 2017 at 7.30pm

## BUSINESS

To confirm the Minutes of the twentieth Annual General Meeting held on 23 November 2016; to receive and consider the twenty-first YJFL Annual Report and Financial Statement, Election of Office Bearers, Statement of Rules and By Law Changes, General Business.

## YJFL OFFICE BEARERS - SEASON 2017

President	Mr P Haddad
Vice President	Mr J Hooper
Board Member –Umpires	Mr I Gray
Board Member – Conduct	Ms L Langley
Board Member - Football	Mr D Miller
Board Member - Club Relations	Mr A Vickery
Board Member - Sponsorship	Mr P Norris
Board Member – Club Relations	Mr T. Murray

## CLUB - DIRECTORS

Ashburton United JFC	Mr S Carlisle
Balwyn JFC	Mr A Schafe
Banyule JFC	Mr G Simpson
Beverley Hills JFC	Mr D Ryan
Boroondara Hawks JFC	Mr D Lambert
Brunswick JFC	Mr G Banova
Bulleen Templestowe District JFC	Mr D Sticca
Bundoora JFC	Mr S Watt
Camberwell JFC	Mr G Roker
Canterbury JFC	Mr P Townsend
Carlton JFC	Mr P Behrendorff
Doncaster JFC	Mr C Hatwell
Fitzroy JFC	Ms C Lester
Glen Iris JFC	Mr J Gnat
Greythorn FC	Mr R Martin
Hawthorn Citizens JFC	Mr S Russell
Heidelberg JFC	Mr G Campbell
Ivanhoe JFC	Mr A Roberts
Kew JFC	Ms K Coppock
Kew Rovers FC	Mr A Kift
Macleod JFC	Mr R Corelli
North Brunswick JFC	Mr J Armstrong
Parade St Damians	Mr D.Hall
Park Orchards North Ringwood Parish JFC	Mr M Powell
Parkside JFC	Mr T Carrigg
Preston Bullants JFC	Mr W Malkoun
Richmond JFC	Mr L Mosely
St Mary's Greensborough JFC	Mr G Costello
South Yarra JFC	Mr B Hill
Surrey Park JFC	Mr R Sutherland
Templestowe	Mr A Harrowell
Warrandyte JFC	Mr J Vaughan
Whitehorse Colts JFC	Mr A Bertacco



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# YARRA JUNIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE

## LEAGUE PATRON

Mr David Parkin

## INDEPENDENT TRIBUNAL CHAIRMAN

Mr M Matheou

## CONDUCT INVESTIGATION TRIBUNAL CHAIRMAN

Mr W Tyrrell

## JUDICIAL PANEL

R Caplikas, T Cleary, N Cust, G Fisher, G Laurie, D Miller, P. Perri, J Urwin

## REPRESENTATIVE TEAM COACHES

Rick Daniels, Jeremy Dickson, Joe Mezgec, Mike Casabene, Jeff Hooper, Gabby Mahoney, Darren Moulder, Jono Black, Julia Haleseh Russo, Ameesha GIII

## UMPIRES MANAGER

Mr. David Hannan

## LIFE MEMBERS

Mr S Arnold	Mr L Bale	Mr A Beames	Mr L Berner
Mr C Blain	Mr J Broadford	Mr D Boyd	Mr K Bursill
Mr D Charter	Mr T Cleary	Mr A Connolly	Mr N Cust
Mr R Digney (dec)	Mr D Doherty	Mr D Dozzi	Mr J Edwards
Mr L Fehr	Mr B Frayne	Mrs S Frayne	Mr S Gitsos (dec)
Mr J Gnatt	Mr A Grace	Mr T Gray (dec)	Mr I Gray
Mr P Haddad	Mr P Hansen	Mr J Hunter	Mr R Ibbott
Mr C Jackson	Mr J Jenkins (dec)	Mr R Johnston	Mrs W Johnston
Mr W Johnston (dec)	Mr R Langdon	Mr R Leahy	Mr P Mannes
Mr I Marsden	Mr M Matheou	Mr G Mathews	Mr R Metcalf
Mr A Mills	Mr D Mongan	Mr M Moran	Mr R Morrison
Mr L Newham (dec)	Mr D Parkin	Mr L Quarrel	Mr D Ramsay
Mr R Rennison	Mr L Robertson	Mr G Rowland	Mr J Rudland
Mrs M.Seaburgh (dec)	Mr P Smyth	Mr S Stevens	Mr J Tasker (dec)
Mr J Tyrrell	Mr W Tyrrell	Mr W Urwin	Mr W Wallace
Mr J Webb	Mr D White	Mr K Wright (dec)	Mr D Wyatt

## LEAGUE STAFF

General Manager	Peter Nicholls
General Manager, Football	Michael Wigg
Football Operations Manager	Shaun Dowling
Finance Manager	Michelle Pantano
Football Operations Assistant	Joe Crabtree
Female Football Assistant	Olivia Atwell

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

### NEW CHALLENGES IN 2017

With the initial season of the AFL women's competition kicking off in February, the YJFL female competitions, which had been growing steadily over the previous six seasons, soared to new levels in 2017. The growth of the YJFL female teams has been incredible but increased from 52 in 2016 to 83 in 2017. There were now competitions in seven different age groups as girls of all ages realised that there was an opportunity to play AFL football as seen on television in the AFLW.

### FINALS

Another successful finals series was conducted over the last three weekends in August. The League is very appreciative of the support received from the clubs who nominated to host finals as it becomes more difficult to find host clubs for finals each year. As always, the clubs who hosted did a great job of presenting their venues in the best possible way.

Twenty eight clubs participated in finals and on Grand Final Day on 27 August twenty three clubs were represented across the 38 competitions. Clubs who won more three or more premierships were Kew Comets (5), Bulleen Templestowe (3), Greythorn (3) and Whitehorse Colts (3). It's a great experience to play in finals so congratulations to all the players who had that opportunity.

### REPRESENTATIVE FOOTBALL

The League aims to provide an opportunity for as many players as possible to play representative football, and 2017 saw the most representative matches in the one season in the history of the YJFL.

### AFL Victoria Metropolitan Junior Championships

2017 was another very successful year for the YJFL Championships Program. The League entered two teams in each of the Under 14 Boys, Under 15 Boys and Under 15 Girls Championship competitions. The boys Under 15 teams were both undefeated throughout the championship s and both had comprehensive victories in their Grand Finals against .... (Division 1) and ..... (Division 2). Both Under 14 teams also made the Grand Finals but both went down to South Metro JFL teams - never the less a terrific effort. The Under 15 Girls Division 1 team also went through to the Grand Final where they were beaten by the Northern Football League team, who they had

beaten earlier in the Championships, in a very tough game. The Under 15 Girls Division 2 team was very competitive and had one win out of their three games. Overall, it was another very successful Championship season for the YJFL.

The contribution by our coaches Rick Daniels, Jeremy Dickson, Joe Mezgec, Mike Casabene, Jeff Hooper and Gabby Mahoney and all of their many assistants was again of a very high standard and ensured the YJFL teams were all extremely competitive and well coached, and I would like to thank them all sincerely for the hard work put in beginning with the Field days in February and through the training and matches from early April to early July.

### Under 13 Interleague Carnival

This year's carnival was played at Narre Warren North where the host League was the South East Juniors. It was a great venue and the day was very well organised by the SEJ. In the Girls event the only two teams entered were both from the YJFL, so our two teams played a representative game which was of a very high standard. After watching the match comments from the other Leagues were that they would definitely be entering a team next year (which will be at Bulleen Park) so that we will have our first fully competitive girls Under 13 Interleague.

In the Under 13 Division 1 boys competition there were two teams entered - the South Metro Junior Football League and the Yarra Junior Football League. Again, this was a high standard match with the YJFL running out the eventual winner by a solitary point. In the Under 13 Division 2 Boys competition there were three teams, South Metro Junior Football League, South East Juniors and the YJFL. There were three games played and the results were truly remarkable. In the first match the SEJ triumphed over the YJFL by one point. The second match was between SMJFL and YJFL and the result was another one point win this time by the YJFL. In the final match, there was a draw between SEJ and SMJFL which meant the SEJ won the Shield with a win and a draw, ahead of the YJFL which had a one point win and a one point loss.

Many thanks go to the coaches involved – Darren Moulder, Jono Black, Julia Haleseh Russo and Ameesha Gill and all their assistants who put in a tremendous amount of time and effort over a ten week period to ensure a terrific experience was had by all the participants.

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## **Under 16 Representative Teams versus AFL Goulburn Murray Region at Shepparton**

The previous two years had seen an exchange of football trips with the North East Metropolitan Junior Football Association in Adelaide. However, with the NEMJFA being taken over by the South Australian National Football League these trips were no longer available, so the League cast its net wide and found a Region in Victoria willing to play representative matches in Under 16 Boys and Girls – The AFL Goulburn Murray Region.

The matches were organised to be held at Shepparton on 7 July 2017. A busload of Under 16 boys and girls headed off from Bulleen Park in the early afternoon and arrived in Shepparton in time for the first of the two matches which involved the girls. The Boys match followed soon after. The girls were outclassed in their game by the Goulburn Murray Girls, while the boys had a comprehensive victory. Arriving back in Melbourne late in the evening, all agreed it had been a very enjoyable and memorable day.

## **Colts Team of the Year Match**

The annual Colts Team of the Year match against South Metro Junior Football League was held at Bulleen Park two Sundays after the Grand Finals. Despite a very short preparation and a few injuries, the YJFL team, under Coach of the Year Dale Mayne from Banyule, were very keen to show their wares. After an even first half in which the Yarra boys got to know each other, they turned it on in the second half to run out comfortable winners.

## **SUMMER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS**

In 2017, for the fourth year, the YJFL has offered skills programs for the younger age groups of the League during the September to November period. This season the programs were offered for Under 10, Under 11, Under 12 and Under 13 boys; and Under 13 and Over 13 girls. A total of 325 players have undertaken the skills training with over 200 boys and over 110 girls partaking. The aim of the program is to provide YJFL players an opportunity to develop their skills regardless of their abilities.

## **LEAGUE PATRON**

After seventeen years as YJFL Patron, Mr David Parkin OAM has retired from this position. David has been a great support to the League throughout this period, providing guidance to Presidents and the Board, imparting his knowledge and experience to each year's crop of

Under 8 and Under 9 coaches and speaking at various league functions. David was made a Life Member of the League in 2016 and the League will always be grateful for his contribution. We look forward to an exciting announcement of a new Patron in the very near future.

## **UMPIRES**

For the first time over 400 Umpires registered with the YJFL in 2017. Umpires Manager David Hannan together with his team of coaches and administrators – John Taylor, Julian Murphy, Russell Morris, Angus McIlroy, Patrick Cincotta, Isabella Farchione, Alex Christie, Lachlan Streat and Alex Morris – have again ensured that every week the required games are covered and young umpires are being developed appropriately, so thanks to them for their hard work. Many thanks go to the Ashburton Junior Football Club for hosting umpire training at Burwood Reserve on Thursday nights throughout the season. The numbers there have grown to be the equal of the number of umpires who train at Bulleen Park on Wednesday nights.

The Umpires Academies at three schools continued to prosper in 2017 with Damien Hannan and Angus McIlroy at Camberwell Grammar School, Patrick Cincotta at Genazzano College and Tom O'Connor in his first year at Ivanhoe Grammar School all doing great work in developing young umpires many of who go on to umpire in the YJFL or elsewhere. Many thanks to those young people for their contribution.

## **PRESENTATION NIGHT**

On the Tuesday before the Grand Finals the Annual Presentation Night was again held at The Centre Ivanhoe with 1500 people attending over the two sessions. The captains of the representative teams called the top vote getters onto the stage and then announced the winners and place getters. The winner of the Northern Knights Rising Star Award (male) was Jaden

Collins of St Marys and (female) Ellie McKenzie of Fitzroy and the winner of the Oakleigh Chargers Player of the Year was Sam Tucker from Kew Rovers. The Youth Girls Team of the Year and the Colts Team of the Year were announced and each player presented with a framed copy of the team. A special thanks goes to Collingwood players Chris Maine, Darcy Moore and Henry Schade for helping out with the presentations.

Congratulations to all of the award winners on your outstanding seasons.



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## COLTS GRAND FINAL BREAKFAST

It was back to the Manningham Club/Hotel for this year's YJFL Grand Final Breakfast. For the first time in YJFL history the focus was taken away from the Colts Grand Finals with the Breakfast being focussed on celebrating all the Grand finals across all the age groups.

With nearly 270 people in attendance this was the biggest Grand Final breakfast ever, and it was great to see everyone supporting the new format. Special guest speaker was Luke Power, formerly of the Brisbane Lions, and his interview with Under 15 Representative Captain Will Phillips was a highlight of the morning.

## CONDUCT

As is the case every year, conduct across the League was generally very good, with a few exceptions. Unfortunately on a small number of occasions people forget that we are providing a sport for young people to enjoy and develop their skills. In 2017 a new system of automatic penalties offered by umpires for on field discretions was implemented with the result that there were eighteen reports of players of which only three did not take the prescribed penalty and were sent to the Tribunal. Two of those who opted for the Tribunal appearance were subsequently found not guilty. The number of umpire reports of players in 2017 was similar to the last three years (17 in 2014, 16 in 2015 and 12 in 2016) despite the change in reporting procedures this season. There were four reports of officials by umpires and all appeared at the Independent Tribunal and were all found guilty and received penalties.

There were four hearings by the Conduct Investigation Tribunal who found seven players and five officials guilty of various offences. Two players appealed with one successful in having his penalty reduced from three matches to one. Two clubs are on Bonds until the end of the 2018 season as a result of these investigations.

## BUSINESS PARTNERS

The League is grateful to the following business partners who continued to support the League in 2017:

- Global Sports, Blue Gum and TLA Worldwide as the YJFL's three licenced apparel providers;
- A Grade Club Supplies and Sherrin for the provision of footballs and other equipment;

- SEDA Group for their ongoing support;
- Colbrow Medics for their support and the provision of medics at YJFL events;
- Complete Sports Management for their provision of the YJFL App which covered the Colts 1, Under 15 Div 1 and Youth Girls competitions; and
- Photography Matters for their photography and donation of the Colts Team of the Year framed teams.

## YOUTH COMMITTEE

The Youth Committee of 2017 consisted of Keegan Vickers (Parkside), Shenae Dixon (Bulleen Templestowe) Jack Hart (Fitzroy) and Leo Garrick (Warrandyte).

Early in the season they decided to raise this year for Kids Under Cover which aims to help homeless youth. The Committee ran a BBQ at the YJFL's Under 8 and Under 9 day, shook collection tins, ran raffles at the League Presentation Night and were assisted by some clubs particularly Parkside and Fitzroy, who raised funds at their own club functions.

As a result of their efforts the Youth Committee was able to hand over a cheque for \$6000 to Kids Under Cover. The hard work and commitment shown by the group was outstanding and the Board is very proud of them.

## VALE

It is with sadness that we note the passing of John Tasker in October. John was a Life member of the League, mainly for his contribution to the former Doncaster and District Junior Football League, but was also a valued Tribunal member over many years with the YJFL. On behalf of the Board of the YJFL I would like to extend our condolences to John's wife Lois, son Rick (formerly a YJFL umpire of many years) and the Tasker family.

## THANK YOU

This brings me to the end of an era as I will be retiring at the Annual General Meeting this year as President of this fantastic organization. I have been fortunate to have served on the board for the past 21 years including the past 8 years as President. To have been part of the massive growth of the league has been immensely rewarding. There are many, many people who I would like to acknowledge and I am fearful of omitting someone if I start naming people. However, my two past Presidents in Steve



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Stevens and Bob Rennison cannot go unnamed, together with our retiring League Patron David Parkin. Their support and wisdom has been invaluable.

To my fellow board members over the past 21 years...you have all made invaluable contributions which has eased the burden of my role as President. The long standing current Board members such as Lesley Langley, Ian Gray and Jeff Hooper - always there, always listening, always advising, always willing to roll up their sleeves and get their hands dirty. Also to my other current Board members in Alan Vickery, Tim Murray and Peter Norris who's level of professionalism and enthusiasm has not gone unnoticed.

I have enjoyed a very close working relationship with various executives of AFL Victoria over a long period of time and it would be remiss of me not to thank Michael Daniher, whom I have known for twenty-seven years, Peter McDougall, Brett Connell and Darryl Collings plus numerous other AFL staff who have been most helpful along the way.

To our Finance Manager, Michelle Pantano; Umpires Manager, David Hannan; and Catering Manager, Judith Barr and all your support staff - thank you for your incredible contributions.

To our Tribunal and Independent Hearing Committee leaders in Mat Matheou and Wally Tyrell and their support crew thank you for guiding the League through what can be difficult circumstances at times.

To Joe Mezgec and all the coaches involved in the football programs of the League, thank you for the huge efforts in educating our young members about our great game of Aussie Rules Football.

To Peter Nicholls, Michael Wigg, Shaun Dowling, Joe Crabtree, Olivia Atwell and all those who worked diligently for the League, my sincere appreciation for your efforts and support over a long period of time. Peter Nicholls and I have worked together in junior football for 27 years and his commitment to our journey has been incredible. Peter has been my left arm and right arm on many occasions, and has taken on board all of the wild ideas I have thrown at him along the way.

The success of the League is hugely dependent upon the significant contributions of all our members clubs and the numerous volunteers involved at all levels. You should all be immensely proud of what has been achieved over the past 21 years. Thank you all for your undivided

cooperation and support.

To the incredible youth of the League you make us very proud every time we see you both on and off the footy field. The introduction of the Youth movement some 6 years ago has shown just how much our young members care about the community and the needs of their peers....I hope that the Youth continue to lead the way as they grow to become the future leaders of our country.

I am personally very proud of the achievements of everyone involved with the league over the past 21 years and none of my contributions would have been possible without the full support of my wife Penny and our four sons.

As I approach my last couple of weeks as President there is a massive degree of emotion running through my mind when I reflect on all the fantastic people with whom I have made contact over 21 years. I am looking forward to a more relaxed lifestyle going forward, however in the short term I have a battle with leukemia to win, and for many of you who know me well I am a fighter who does not like to lose!!

For those of you who attended the Presentation Night or Grand Final Breakfast you would have heard my comments about the three most valuable things as a volunteer in a junior sports organisation:

1. Above all the most important thing we can do in life is have positive influences on the lives of children of any age;
2. Ensure we provide the best possible coaches for the kids---a winning coach is not necessarily the best coach but the best coach is one who educates and keeps the kids playing football year after year;
3. As a volunteer each of our roles are a privilege not a right...we are serving and shaping the lives of thousands of young members.

Thank you to everyone who has crossed my path over the past 21 years, where many long term friendships have been forged, and I would like to take this opportunity to wish all the future Executives every success with taking the League forward.

I would like to extend my best wishes for a very happy Christmas Season and may 2018 be a safe and successful year for you all.

Remember "IT'S ALL ABOUT THE KIDS"

Peter Haddad  
President







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## PHOTO CONTRIBUTION FROM CLUBS

## LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

ATTACHMENT	SUBJECT	PAGE
A	YJFL Clubs/Teams	10
B	Player Registrations	11
C	Ladders After Final Round	12
D	Premier Teams	16
E	Grand Finals – Scores	17
F	Best & Fairest Winners	18
G	Interleague – Coaches/Scores	22
H	AFL Victoria Metropolitan Junior Championships – Detailed Results	24
	Championships – Team Photos:	
	Under 14 Div. 1 Team	25
	Under 14 Div. 2 Team	25
	Under 15 Div. 1 Team	26
	Under 15 Div. 2 Team	26
	Youth Girls Under 16 Team 1	27
	Youth Girls Under 16 Team 2	27
I	Game Milestones	
	200 Games	29
	150 Games	29
J	Colts Team of the Year	30
K	Premiers and Best and Fairest Winners	31
L	Financial Statements	37



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**YARRA JUNIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE**  
**A.B.N. 99 078 869 953**

**FINANCIAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31 OCTOBER 2017**

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**CONTENTS**

<b>Committee's Report</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Income Statement</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Balance Sheet</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Statement of Cash Flows</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>Notes to the Financial Statements</b>	<b>42-47</b>
<b>Statement by Members of the Committee</b>	<b>46-47</b>
<b>Auditors' Report</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>Certificate by Members of the Committee</b>	<b>49</b>







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