

TROPHY PRESENTATION 2015



Welcome Spiders Supporters

Welcome to our 2015 trophy presentation evening and joining us in celebrating the culmination of yet another successful football season and the continuation of a successfully developing netball program.

The year has been one of evolution for the club, and although Clinton stepped down at the end of last year, we have been able to progress and continue the great work he



was involved with throughout his tenure.

The committee remains committed to continue developing the club and the program's it provides.

Please do take a minute though to remember the committee is voluntary. It is quite often a misconception we hear that we are funded as part of a school or such,

which is not the case. Everything we do, from arranging the buses; running the canteen; washing jumpers and shorts; liaising with FIDA, Netball Victoria, sponsors and Council; running the games and training; notices; the website; putting on functions and so much more, is provided by a dedicated group who do it for the enjoyment in seeing our participants grow and develop their skills, friendships and lives.

If you would be interested in joining the committee, the AGM will be held at our Christmas barbecue late in November, but please speak to us before then - there is always plenty to do, even during the off season.

Please continue reading this program to gain a further snapshot of our year as we now look forward to continued development of our netball competition and to a great off season program to see the year out.

Thanks for your support.

Ringwood Spiders Committee

Ringwood Spiders All-abilities Sports Club's Vision:

'To provide and promote active participation in community sport and social activities for people with a disability',

Ringwood Spiders All-abilities Sports Club Mission Statement:

'To provide people with a disability an opportunity to interact, participate and build social skills and leadership within the community'

Year in Review: Chairman's Report

Where has the year gone... the end of another successful and rewarding year for the Spiders. Congratulations to the Reds for winning their first grand final against Williamstown. Also congratulations to the Blacks for playing their 2nd grand final in a row; it is a fantastic achievement by all. This of course is in addition to the Blacks premiership last year and our two previous premierships in 1994 and 2009 when we had just the one team.

Success is never easy and is something not to be taken for granted, and we could not have achieved our success without the guidance and coaching of both John Kingma and Michael Baldwin, as well as the efforts of all the players and your support.

This is my first year as Chairman, and watching the club continue to move forward and grow, and the opportunities we provide is something I am proud of. While success on the field is fantastic, it is the success off the field that is just as important.

The team spirit and the commitment of all Spiders team members in netball, the junior development squad, football, their families, our committee and volunteers is the foundation stone of our club.

The Ringwood Spiders All-Abilities Sports Club is supported by seven pillars of strength:

- Sponsors / Principal Supporter
- Volunteers
- Club supporters
- Coaches and support team
- Players in netball, juniors and football
- Committee
- FIDA / Netball Victoria



These seven pillars are entwined with each other. Take away just one pillar and the common thread that binds us together would be loosened. So we can all benefit, both on and off the field, it is important that your support continues to allow us to grow.

As a club we gratefully acknowledge the support of our sponsors LJ Hooker, APS Printer Services and Bendigo Bank East Ringwood. Their financial support allows us to wear our colours, travel to the games together, as well as helping subsidise our activities. The support from Maroondah Council is also invaluable and we thank them sincerely.

Chairman's report...

Taking a phrase used so often by Frank Sullivan; "things don't just happen; we need to make them happen". That is just what the Spiders committee and our volunteers do; 'make it happen'. The smooth running and the behind the scenes efforts in putting it all together every week is due to the teamwork of a great committee.

I would like to thank John and Michelle Kingma, Gavin and Sue Ross, Michael and Leanne Baldwin, and Frank Sullivan for their hard work and valuable support.

A special thank you to Cathy McDonald for coaching and mentoring our Junior Development Squad. This provides the participants with the opportunity to develop skills and work towards playing with the 'big' boys in the future.

To Kelly Ross, thank you for your coaching and support of our netball athletes, and for providing them with the skills needed to be competitive and successful within the new Eastern All-Abilities Netball competition.

Also a special thanks to ex-player Jeremy Zandt for his assistance to the coaches.



The relationship we have with the Yarra Valley Old Boys has once again been fantastic. Assisting both John and Michael with our training and helping to develop player skills. All this and more got us to a successful result... Grand Final Winners! As we grow so has our reputation as a respected, fair and well organised club.

Not only with other sports clubs but also within the Maroondah community. The Maroondah City Council has been a friend to the Spiders from the beginning in 1992 and is a relationship we treasure dearly.

Our player's leadership group is also up and running and a number of events are scheduled; movie night for September, and interclub netball later in the year.

Our first 'Developing Lives' initiative; the Understanding Alcohol evening, was a great success and we plan to introduce a couple more education nights next season.

On behalf of our committee, thank you for your support the Spiders, your involvement is the key to our success.

Paul House

Netball

Continued Development

It became apparent earlier in the year that to sustain our netball competition with the Whitehorse all-abilities netball team, it needed to grow. Therefore a change was needed. Since moving to Knox early 2014, participant numbers in the competition had dropped – not so much within our squad, but within the competition in general.

We identified one of the main reasons for this was due to the Knox centre being inaccessible to public transport and tucked away in Ferntree Gully's back blocks.

After looking at alternatives, we have returned to Sportlink in Vermont South and host a new Friday evening competition: 'Eastern All-abilities Netball'.

Netball Victoria have been a great support in assisting with the move, as have the coordinators at Sportlink who are also keen to develop the competition.

The aim is to grow the competition by adding more players to the existing teams (Spiders and Whitehorse) and also add a couple more teams to provide more variety.



It has been very pleasing to see all of our players continue their development. Under the guidance of coach Kelly Ross, they have become much more intense and demanding as their confidence and game-play skills have improved.

We will once again be participating in the Netball Victoria State titles to be played in Bendigo later in the year. This will be a great opportunity to see how far we have developed and hopefully be rewarded for all the hard work.

We must also mention the fantastic on-going support we receive from Vermont South Special School who support us with use of their gym for our training sessions; their support is invaluable and we thank them sincerely.

Junior Development Squad

More Fun and Games

We had a great juniors program in 2014 with a good number of participants. Unfortunately, despite assurances of participants returning, some didn't this year. So our numbers were down slightly, but that didn't stop the fun and games though, and with a couple of brothers and sisters joining in, we have still had a successful year. Cathy McDonald was once again on-hand to provide her wonderful guidance at each session and get the kids hearts pumping and hands warmed up on the cold Sunday mornings. Not that the kids needed much motivation though.



With her previous Auskick experience, Cathy has provided a structured program to teach the various skills needed to play football and provide the foundations for those that would like to continue and perhaps one day play for the Spiders like David McKeddie and Hamish Barnard, who have made a very successful transition from juniors to Spiders. Of course friendships are made and social skills developed, which is just as important.

As is becoming a tradition, we also held a grid game prior to a Spiders home game. Unfortunately, Vermont South Auskick clinic who usually join us couldn't make it this year, so this time we included the parents. What can we say other than it was great fun and as crazy as ever. It is amazing that no matter the age or skill, the competition is just as fierce; probably even more so when parents are involved...

We sincerely thank Cathy for her support. Thanks also to the mum's and dad's that joined in and helped out. It all adds up to making the juniors sessions something that is very special.

Spiders Initiatives

Developing Lives

We've introduced a 'hook' to our logo this year: 'Developing Lives'.

Why? Well that's a very big part of what we do and we hope it will give people who know little about us some insight into the philosophy behind our activities.

We have many stories of positive outcomes by our participants dating back more than 20 years when Frank started it all. We are proud of this and over recent years have held various activities to continue the theme.

Our off-season program is a unique initiative designed to keep friendships together and provide activities, some of which our players may not normally choose.

This year during our off-season we once again rode the Lilydale-Warburton rail trail, played tenpin bowling, gave trampolining a go and held a wonderful cricket day with the Jubilee Park co-tenants (Ringwood Rams cricket club and Ringwood Redbacks football club). The cricket skills of some Spiders even impressing a few Rams players.



Another initiative during the season was an Understanding Alcohol evening.

Not many people know the effects alcohol has on the body and a young brain: Nor do many people understand the concept of a standard drink.

Representatives from Eastern Metropolitan Region Alcohol & Drug Strategy Group along with Ringwood Police and Maroondah Council hosted the evening to help explain these issues and many more regarding the use of alcohol. We had a great response to the evening and our thanks to all that participated.

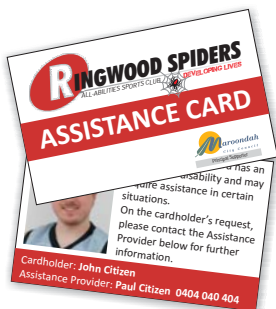
Our off-season will commence after a short break from football – netball continues through to the end of the year – and we may just ramp it up a bit!

...Spiders Initiatives

Ringwood Spiders Assistance Card

We are proud to introduce this important initiative. Designed to provide a support-net to Spiders members, most of whom have a mild intellectual disability, the Assistance Card is simple and effective.

As mentioned, as part of our 'Developing Lives' philosophy, we encourage our participants to be independent as much as practical. However, sometimes a situation may arise where they may not be sure on what to do, or how to get help.



Many people with an intellectual disability appear no different to anyone else which is great, but when it comes to dealing with many situations it can make it difficult for others to comprehend the need for that extra bit of patience and understanding.

The Assistance Card started as an idea by one of our parents.

She was concerned that if her son was questioned by an authoritative person, he might not be able to cope with the situation, or answer questions.

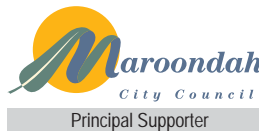
There is a chance the officer may also not comprehend her son has an intellectual disability and instead think he was intoxicated, for example.

So in a situation such as this, he could hand the officer his Assistance Card. The officer would then realise the person has a disability and if required, contact the assistance provider listed on the card to enable the situation to be settled in a calm manor. This provides confidence to people with a disability and brings independence to their lives.

The beauty of the Assistance Card is its simplicity. It only contains a brief message advising why the card has been presented, the cardholder's name and a photo; to ensure the card holder is the person presenting the card.

Importantly, also included are an assistance provider's name (parent, carer, etc.) and their phone number: That's it!

The Ringwood Spiders Assistance Card is proudly supported and endorsed by Maroondah City Council.



Spiders Reds

2015 Division 1 Reserves Premiers!

To be perfectly honest, about half way through the year we were worried about our Reds. Due to the Blacks huge season last year, they moved to Division 1. That meant the Reds had to follow an play in the Division 1 Reserves.

At the halfway mark, the road ahead looked daunting as most of the other teams they were playing seemed to be a level above our Reds. While the players were down, we remained encouraging, and with effort comes reward, and a bit of good fortune.

A mid season fixture reshuffle helped; Simon's Wednesday training efforts helped; and several Blacks players put their hand up to also help. This seemed to make a difference, and while those couple of Blacks players didn't dominate on the field, what they did was provide some structure, leadership and motivation.



This then grew confidence. With confidence came effort and from effort came results. So at the end of the home and away season, only three teams were left in Division 1 Reserves. Top placed Kananook were way ahead of equally positioned Williamstown and Spiders. So Kananook made the wonderful gesture to play the top Division 2 Semi final loser in a special Grand Final. That left Williamstown and the Spiders to fight it out for the Division 1 Reserves Grand Final.

In a nutshell, the Reds were on the up and Williamstown were probably on the down, carrying a few late season injuries and running out of legs. But that takes nothing away from a courageous Reds who at the beginning of the season could hardly score. Now they had skills, they had confidence and they had an opportunity, and they took it!

A best on ground performance by David McKeddie was supported by best of season

...Reds

performances by Andrew Firth, Dani Phillips, Daynah Hopkins, Hamish Barnard and most all other reds players. Special mention to Adam Law, who in his 23rd year is now a triple premiership player, what a fantastic achievement. Congratulations everyone!

Final Score: Ringwood Reds 7 - 8 - 50 def Williamstown 4 - 5 - 29



Spiders Blacks

Continued Success

After an amazing undefeated and premiership 2014 season, the Blacks were always going up a division. So the challenge was; could they continue the success of 2014 or would the move prove too much? That was a question no one actually put to the players and they didn't seem to show any concern and were ready for the challenge, so they just continued where they left off, at least in Round 1.

Round 2 was a different story when they met a very good Kananook. The reality was though, they could have easily won the game but just needed the confidence.

And that was how the season panned out; regain the confidence, learn from the losses, and enjoy the wins along the way.



...Blacks

The return game against Kananook later in the season did go the other way, so we new the Blacks can win. Similar with Williamstown; wins and losses, and North Ballarat; all wins. All of a sudden those teams that seemed to be daunting 12 months ago were now beatable: Game on!

Fast forward to Round 10 and top spot is up for grabs with Kananook and The Spiders poised on equal points and the Round 10 game to be played against Kananook at Kananook. Unfortunately, as Kananook have done so often, when challenged they get a bit physical and an incident saw the game turn their way to take the points and a couple of players get reports. Another learning experience.

The semi final saw second placed Spiders play third placed Williamstown, and like their reserves team, Williamstown were down with injuries. That didn't stop them putting up a very gallant effort, but at the end of the day the Blacks were 'on'; and once they get their confidence up and their running game going, no one is going to stop them.

The big day arrived with a very strong north wind blowing straight down the ground adding at least 20 metres to a kick. With the wind we started well, but Kananook were able to get a couple also into the wind. Looking back, it was the second quarter where the game was lost, with Kananook kicking four goals with the wind to our couple of points. The second half was much better and our work rate returned after a hesitant first half. We were able to match Kananook but just couldn't close the gap and in the end Kananook won by 27 points. For the Blacks to go up a division and play teams very experienced in Division 1 is a fantastic effort and one everyone at the club is very proud of. With our core of young players the future is looking very bright indeed!

Final Score: Ringwood Blacks 3 - 6 - 24 def by Kananook 8 - 3 - 51



EFL Umpires Association

Raising the Bar

We say this every year, but there is no denying the fact that the support we receive from the EFL Umpires Association raises the umpiring standards to the highest level. Our Blacks home games are the only games within FIDA that feature a full compliment of qualified umpires (field, boundary and goal). Ours are also the only games where the game day football is presented to a best-on-ground player. And ours are the very few games that are conducted with the highest level of professionalism.

This is entirely due to the support the EFL umpires bring and we cannot thank them enough for the time they give us at our games.

We are led to believe the umpires enjoy participating as much as our players love playing, which is hard to believe...

We can't emphasise enough the importance of strong and fair umpiring at any level. An experienced umpire can sense the 'mood of the game' and quickly bring it under control. This is what the EFL umpires bring.

We know that our Blacks home games are the bench-mark and hope the role of umpiring is further addressed throughout the competition so we can all be rest assured the games will be conducted to the highest possible standard.



To Trevor Finch and everyone at the EFL umpires association we sincerely thank you for your commitment to our home games and the FIDA competition. We look forward to this relationship continuing long into the future and hope you are as proud of your involvement with the Ringwood Spiders, as we are to have your support.

Thank you all.

Yarra Valley Old Boys

The Spirit of Community Continues

2015 is the third year the Yarra Valley Old Boys football club – The Bushrangers – have been involved with the Spiders. What started as a one-off joint training session has now evolved into their leadership team conducting our Wednesday training sessions. Under the guidance of Simon Yeo and other helpers, they have done a wonderful job lifting the intensity and enthusiasm at training to another level. This was also reflected in the fact we had our highest participant attendances for training and not the usual drop off throughout the depths of winter. It is also great seeing the players come off the track panting and bathed in sweat, an indication of a good workout.

Importantly, the rapport that Simon (and the other guys) have been able to very quickly develop with our players has been great to witness. We are also sure Simon and the team has had a big part in our on-field successes this year.



Once again we were guests to a joint training evening where the Bushrangers players hooked up with our players and had a great time participating in the various drills, challenges and games. These are great fun to watch and the cheering is as strong as if a game is on the line with only seconds to go!

A delicious dinner was put on thanks to the Bushrangers crew. It was another great evening and a real positive community initiative that we look forward to each year.

We thank everyone at Yarra Valley Old Boys for their wonderful support and for taking the time to come out each week and train our players.

In particular, our sincere thanks to Simon who is to be congratulated for his dedication and enthusiasm, which is appreciated by everyone at the Spiders.

Collingwood Football Club

Training at the Westpac centre

During the year, long time Spiders supporter and Collingwood player Clinton Young invited us down to the Westpac Centre to have a look around and join with a couple of other Collingwood players in a training session out on the Olympic Park Oval.

Unfortunately for Clinton he has had a terrible run of injuries, but that wasn't enough to stop him getting out have having a kick along with Jack Crisp and Sam O'Dwyer and the large group of Spiders players.

The weather wasn't the best when we were last there two years ago, and on-cue the heavens opened up as we took to the field, but that didn't stop everyone having a great time, as our players impressed the Collingwood boys with their skills.



Last time, coach Nathan Buckley held the Collingwood players back which meant we didn't get a tour of the Westpac Centre, but Buck's was in a better frame of mind this time and the players were treated to a viewing of the inner sanctum of Collingwood's training facility. Then they all got to hold the 2010 premiership cup.

Also fantastic was while we were waiting in the Café for everyone to arrive, many of the Collingwood players and coaching staff would come up and ask us who we were and what we were up to. Once they new, they spent a good length of time talking to everyone. Even Nathan Buckley spent at least 15 minutes talking to a group of our players which was just fantastic to witness.

Everyone at the Collingwood football club is to be congratulated on this wonderful initiative, their conduct and warm welcome.

We thank Clinton, Jack, Sam and everyone at Collingwood for a great afternoon.

Beyond Home & Away

FIDA National Carnival

For many years, an annual 'State of Origin' match has been played between Victoria and South Australia; hosted in Victoria one year and in South Australia the next.

Many Spiders players have represented the 'Big V' over the years, which is a great honour and something not many people experience; at any level.

Over the last few years, this initiative has expanded to where it is now a truly National competition, with a representative team from each State and two from Victoria – Vic Country and Vic Metro – as we have the largest participation. Victorian players also support Tasmania who have a small but developing all-abilities football program.

The competition is held over four days, and those with an eye on Channel 9 News may have seen the report on the players participation in a training session at Whitten oval with some Western Bulldogs players; a further great experience provided by an initiative such as this.

Three Spiders players participated in the National Carnival; Heath Snooks – Tasmania, Josh Marslek – Vic Metro and Jordan Smith – also Vic Metro.

Congratulations to the boys on this great experience.

For the record, the grand final was played

between Vic Metro and NSW, with NSW probably going in as the favourites. However, a Victorian always love to beat a new South Welshman and that was the case, with Vic Metro winning by 10 points and becoming National champions.

Congratulations to all who participated and to Logan Whitaker and all at FIDA for taking the lead and providing another level to all-abilities football.

North v South under 21s game

FIDA also conduct an annual representative game for under 21s in the North v South game. Held at Sandown for the first time, Spiders players Andrew Firth, Jordan Wynne and Brenton Goodwin joined the South team and had a great time. South won the day with plenty of goal scoring from Andrew. Congratulations to all participants.



Our Sponsors

LJ Hooker Real Estate - Major Sponsor

LJ Hooker has more than 80 years experience in the real estate market and is one of the largest real estate agency



franchise systems in Australasia, with 700 franchises across Australia and New Zealand, and a growing platform in Asia. If you are in the market for a new home we encourage you to speak with the LJ Hooker team as they are the experts in real estate and offer a number of competitive services; and don't forget to tell them your part of the Spiders.

APS Printer Services - Junior Development Squad Sponsor

Doug and Kathi from APS are long-time supporters of our Junior Development Squad and all we do at the Spiders. 2015 is their 6th year as sponsors and we truly thank them.

APS printer services provide support to individuals and companies small and large with laser printer sales, service and repairs. Hopefully they can assist you; give them a call on 1300 138 066.



Bendigo Bank, East Ringwood & Heathmont - Club Sponsor

Bendigo Bank - East Ringwood and Heathmont's ongoing support with the community bus has been invaluable, as it allows the team to travel to away games as a group, which is important in team development. The East Ringwood and Heathmont branches have returned over 1.6 million dollars to the community, which is what community banking is all about. If you're looking to open an account or take out a loan or mortgage, speak to the Bendigo staff - and let them know you're with the Spiders, as that will help us as well.



Maroondah City Council - Principal Supporter

Of course we would not be here without the support of everyone at Maroondah Council who have been with us since our inception in 1992. Council's professionalism and support for our programs is greatly appreciated. We thank the Mayor Tony Dibb and Councillors for their support.



For further information about the Ringwood Spiders All-Abilities Sports Club:
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