

# FREE KICK



**Granville Waratah SFC Newsletter**  
**2017 season - Vol. 03 - April 03, 2017**



## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

I would have loved to have seen in this newsletter a bunch of match reports from the coaches praising their team's weekend performances, highlighting great goals and big efforts across the park. Unfortunately Mother Nature has not been kind and instead we are suffering serious withdrawal symptoms and frustrations of not being able to train and play the world game we love.

It is clear we are not truly ready for our first games, but to be fair, no club is. I can assure you we are not the only club that has some teams without coaches! In fact until last week there were many teams that have not even trained yet!

Please be mindful that we must be very patient with the circumstances we have to deal with. Things may be a little disorganized within our club and our opposition clubs but we still need to be respectful, sporting and work towards getting the desired the outcomes. Remember we are all volunteers!

I will leave you all with this thought... things can be much worse. In 1989, it rained so much that only one game was played all year. Yes, just the one game the entire season!!!

Go the 'Tahs!!



## **VACANT CLUB POSITIONS**

The following positions are currently available and any help would be hugely appreciated. These positions are:

**CANTEEN MANAGER:** The role is exactly what it states. Our previous manager is studying for her HSC and can't commit to being there every week due to studies, but will help out when possible. The role includes organising food to sell, preparing and running the canteen on match days. The manager will work with Vince (our treasurer) and offers front row seats for all games on the main field.

**EQUIPMENT MANAGER:** The role is basically making sure that our teams receive all relevant equipment and that they return it at the end of the season. Equipment includes jerseys, balls, cones, ball bags and anything else necessary.

**MINI-ROOS COORDINATOR:** The role is to oversee what is happening with the Mini-Roos teams. These are U6's to U11's. The role is to be a contact person for anyone, preferably coaches and managers, to speak to in regards to any issues, suggestions or matters that have come up and report them to the committee.

**WEB DESIGNER:** the club would like to give its web page a fresh new look. If we have any talented web designers within the Waratah family, here is your chance to make your mark.

For all positions you will receive the whole support of the committee as well as the satisfaction of knowing that you are helping your child/ren, their friends, team mates and your community. To volunteer, please speak to any committee member who will gladly explain more detail if necessary and/or get you started.

## CHANGES TO THE LAWS (RULES) OF THE GAME

As you might have seen from our website, the "laws of the game" (the rules of football) have been changed for this season. Some 90 changes were made! Most are just clarifications or improved English. But some are significant...

The most obvious: a kick-off can now go backwards, as many would have seen in A-league and international games. Many of the others are subtle and a few are quite complicated. Our website has all the relevant links including to the online course which is the beginning of becoming an official referee. Why not give it a go!

Official refs are paid, so if you looking for a bit of income you should investigate this option. The Referee Association allocates refs to games around any games the ref themselves are playing or coaching so you can play and ref! This applies to age groups 14 years and up.

Given the number of changes, it is important to realise that it will take a bit of time to learn them - even for the official refs who have been going to training sessions on them.

For the mini-roos, the rules need to be brought into line with the full field game. The most obvious change needed is the kick-off. Hopeful the updates will be made in time for round 1 - but I expect other things will get in the way. If they don't happen in time, coaches and refs might need to talk about them prior to a game. Ideally we should play the new kick-off style, since it would be silly to teach the kids something that is going to change, but this would need to be agreed between the referee and both team's coaches.



## MINI-ROOS COACHING CLINIC THIS THURSDAY

Weather permitting, we will be hosting the Mini-Roos coaching clinic run by NSW FFA. We encourage not only coaches, but other parents to stay and attend. We will need some parents to referee games, others to help the coaches if they can't make it, so as many as parents as possible should come along. These are normally a bit of fun, as well as teaching you what your kids will be learning and why. From 6pm onwards.

## TEN QUESTIONS

Welcome to a regular feature in upcoming newsletters! This is where we ask totally random (but coincidentally prominent) people some questions to see what they make of the world... to kick us off, we're going with the club prez...

Our Club President Noel Dona has been with the club since 1999. He has coached at least 1 team every year and 2 teams for over a decade. He coaches his daughter Amalie in the under 13s and they are both passionate Wanderers fans. We want to know what makes him tick, so we are asking him 10 questions!

1. Favourite A League player:

*Brendan Santalab*

2. Favourite International Player:

*Lionel Messi*

3. Favourite breakfast cereal:

*Cornflakes with warm milk*

4. Kebab or pizza?

*Kebab...with Chilli source!*

5. MacDonaldis or KFC?

*KFC*

6. Your favourite superhero?

*Roger Ramjet*

7. If you were an animal what would you be?

*A Lion*

8. Favourite song on the radio right now:

*Touch*

9. If you could have dinner with anyone in the world, who would it be with?

*Donald Trump...it would be huuge.*

10. If you had only 24 hours to live, what would you do?

*Empty my bank account and give it to the poor*

11. Your favourite Granville Waratah moment?

*Celebrating Amalie's first ever goal by running onto the field and lifting her like the scene out of the Lion King!*



## THE COACHES AND MANAGERS SITUATION

We are a very old club that has managed to survive purely via volunteers for over 119 years. I just doubled-checked that figure, it's correct! Granville Waratah SFC has existed since 1898 and we're planning on being around in 2098 too. Due to the weather and the sudden growth of our youth teams, we've been struggling more than usual with recruiting the required amount of coaches for all our teams.

I am happy to announce that we have found three more coaches since emails went out informing teams without coaches about the situation. Thanks to Jane, Shoaib, and Andrew! Our under 9 teams look to be okay now, although we had to go outside of the under 9 parents to find a coach for the U9 Blue team. If Andrew, our new coach, could be a joint coach with a parent of one of the players, this would be the most ideal outcome in this situation.

But we're not of the woods yet. We still need two more coaches: one for our U10 / 1 team, and one for a new U13 team which we will most likely be registering due to the amount of players we have in that age group. And we also need managers for all the teams!

### **Is there anyone out there who has a family member or a close friend who can coach?**

They don't need any experience, in fact the best experience can be found in parents! Parents already have the skills in handling children -- you do it every day and have done so for many years!

Whoever can step up to coach will get all the support we can give you. We can help you devise the drills and help come up with the entire season's training plan. All we need is a parent to put this all into practice. I can say from experience that it is a very rewarding experience!

Is there anyone who can take this on? If you are unsure that you can do it each week but can do it some of the time, this is better than not having anyone at all. So, part-time coaches are more than welcome, we will try to find someone else to do what you can't.

**Also, we need team managers!** The main role of the manager is to organise the jersey cleaning roster. There are very good reasons why the team jerseys remain with the club, and so the normal situation is that after each Saturday game, whoever is next on the roster takes all the jerseys home and washes them all at once. You will only do this 2 or 3 times a season so it really is a good deal -- it beats washing jerseys every week! The manager job is really easy but it needs doing. Maybe 2 or 3 parents could share the job.

The other thing the manager organises is the half-time oranges. Your children LOVE eating something at half-time, it gives them the energy for the 2nd half. Oranges are the traditional food but I've seen fruit smorgasbords in the past, it's up to you guys. So, for well organised teams, the manager reminds whoever is next on the roster for jerseys and for half-time oranges (usually not the same parent).

**Can all interested people who want to coach or manage, or if you are already a manager (I have no-one down to manage any teams yet except one U8 team), please get in contact with the club registrar Andy on 0424 540 562 or email [registrar@granvillewaratah.com.au](mailto:registrar@granvillewaratah.com.au)**