

From the Chairman



May/June 2017

Hi again to all of you in our Football Family and friends of Football!

Well our season is well and truly underway..

At the time of writing we have currently 6,493 registered players which is much in line with last year however with some registrations still outstanding and still open we may still see an incremental increase for this year.

However after two record years and still under maintained and overused fields and available time slots and a lack of sufficient lighting in many of our areas this is a great outcome for our sport and perhaps sees us at optimum levels.

We press on with our reasonable desire to succeed with our wholehearted agenda to get increased lighting and improved grounds and allocations of grounds so that we can adequately cater for the certain growth of our numbers moving forward.

It still is a source of amazement that despite our sports huge numbers and associated supporters out numbering all of the other major team sports to the extent of up to 6 to 1 we remain iniquitous in terms of facility maintenance and upgrades and additional grounds to cater for our growth and the ability to play our game on adequate playing surfaces.

I do hope with elections due in the Southern area in particular we may be able to leverage our huge voting power towards that aim.

With the prospect of a new Mayor in Port Macquarie we hope and pray that our suggestions and extremely positive liaison with council staff and councilors alike will still bring about some major infrastructure improvements in the Hastings locality and the dream of our own Regional Facility at Thrumster will be supported in principal so that we can go about the funding through grants and government agencies at all levels.

We are also in touch with the Kempsey council and having some substantial conversations along similar lines.

As well as the registered player numbers we also have over 700 registered active coaches, managers and volunteers. A special thank you to all of those Football community minded people that have put their hand up for the very first time or those that have served for a lifetime.

A reminder to all clubs to save the date.... September 30th

Don't forget to put in your diary as we hold our first ever Gala End of Season Dinner and Awards night for all clubs in the entire Zone.

Please make sure you avoid holding any of your own clubs presentations or events on that evening so that all clubs can be represented.

Otherwise for this month it is pretty much business as usual and I hope that at all levels from the under 6's to Premier League, our NPL and WPL representative teams, our SAP programs and all the Men and Women and boys and girls that play our great game that you all continue to enjoy your season whether you win lose or draw, it is all about the spirit of community and being good sports and being active and healthy.

As a Sydney FC fan it was a great A- League season!

As a supporter of the Newcastle Jets as my "second team" we are currently in talks with Lawrie McKinna to try to get an A- League pre-season match locally or at the very least some Clinics for our Juniors to be run by the Jets.

My only concern is that we may not have a suitable venue to cater for this potential A- league trail match in September this year.

The Jets have made some early signings and it looks like hopefully a better season ahead for them and their involvement with community Football in our Region.

We are also looking to get some more high profile clinics as well as those provided by our own high performance technical director and the like.

Our aim continues to be to have a 100% qualified coaches and education at all levels of our game and we are making good progress to that end.

We have a master business plan looking towards the next 5 years and beyond which is available if you wish to view it by contacting the office.

This plan was shared at the seminar at the season launch and continues to be our road map as we strive to give you our stake holders the very best return for your love and involvement of our brand of Football.

Once again my thanks to our GM and all the office personnel and my fellow board members who continue to represent you with educated views and passionate participation and input in to our conversations and plans as we continue to offer a complete package to all of you in Community Football as well as delivering talent identification and pathways to improve the overall enjoyment and standard of Football on the Mid North Coast and beyond.

That's about it from me for another issue of this newsletter.

Till next month stay safe and be kind to one another.

Yours in Football

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized loop followed by a horizontal line and a short vertical stroke.

Mike Parsons Chairman