



Monthly update from the Chairman's Desk

June /July 2016

As a follow on from last month's half yearly contact with all our members and member clubs on behalf of the Board and the Office I am planning a monthly "catch up" newsletter with updates on any current issues or items of interest from the latest Board Meetings.

Firstly thank you to all the clubs that participated in Silent Saturday and Referee Recognition Round.

It was a resounding success in particular for the Junior Silent Saturday.

The Board and office is investigating the possibility and practicality of having graded teams in Junior competitions next season beginning with the Under 12's and will be seeking expressions of interest during the rest of the season from our member clubs with the potential for having zone competitions for those that are interested in playing at a higher level and aspiring to higher pathways in our game.

We are also keen to invest surplus funds back in to the "grass roots" clubs with some specialized coaching clinics for in particular some of our smaller clubs with guest coaches during the off season and early next season and as we forward plan into next year and beyond to give our club coaches more support.

We are as a Board also looking to set up some form of scholarships or hardship funds to support those players or officials that may find themselves in times of hardship or financial constraints but still keen to play Football and participate in our broad social infrastructure.

We are having meetings with interested people from the NPL and WPL in an effort to set up independent standing committees for the representative competitions so that these teams can have more say in how they are run and funded and take some ownership of their own destiny and decision making.

Those meeting dates will be sent out in due course and listed on our web site.

Further to that we will be having our Northern and Southern Competition club meetings next month as well our mid-season Premier League Club meeting.

I encourage you to bring any items for discussion to the office's attention prior to those evenings in order to be able to allocate sufficient time and also have any information at hand that may be needed to respond to any questions or issues you may have as a club.

Bruce Potter our General Manager has had many meetings with local government at both ends of our Zone and endeavoring to get more support for lit fields down South in particular as well as a fairer share of amenities and infrastructure for our registered players and stakeholders in general.

We are still investigating and getting reports back from suppliers and legal advice on the non-supply and late supply of our SAP, NPL and WPL playing strips. An issue that was totally out of our control and the subject of poor communication and contradictory advice from our suppliers.

As a result of this the office will be bringing a report back to next month's board meeting with recommendations for further actions and any avenue for compensation.

Once again my heartfelt and sincere apologies to all those players and teams that where and still are in some cases inconvenienced.

We are working on a business plan and staffing requirements as we move forward and plan for the end of this season and the beginning of next season and hopefully with staffing stability in the office will be professionally prepared for 2017 and have a "cracker" finish to what has been generally a fabulous season so far.

In terms of next season we are pre planning an end of year function for season 2017 and beyond as a joint Zone presentation/awards evening at a central venue for all clubs all together on one night of entertainment and celebration for all grades and all clubs.

Watch this space as they say!

I look forward to your support for this initiative that was fully supported and endorsed by your board and your General Manager.

We are also reviewing our Referee mentoring and assessing processes and will be running an Assessors course in July in order to be of more assistance to our Referees and in particular our juniors as well as continuing our efforts to encourage as much consistency as possible throughout our refereeing ranks and better assess our future training and appointing criteria.

Once again my personal thanks to all the board members this year that have shown a diversity of involvement and expertise in, our game, your game and have acted with integrity and shown a genuine passion to evolve and develop the game at all levels from Grass Roots, to High-performance Football and Premier league Football through our Zone.

We are in the business of providing not only a game of Football but to be responsible in the way that we do that and also provide improved methods and structures and facilities as we move on and continue to grow.

Thanks for taking the time to review this brief summary and I look forward to seeing you out and around the grounds.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Parsons', with a large, loopy flourish above the name.

Mike Parsons

Chairman Football Mid North Coast.