

From the Chairman's desk March 2017

It's been another busy couple of month as we prepare for season 2017.

The office has been at full capacity as we plan and launch this year's Football.

Bruce and I are continuing our club visits and apologize if we have not got to you yet due to so many commitments in and out of Football for me at the moment. Rest assured we will get to you and in the meantime if you have any burning issues please contact the office.

We recently held our joint Northern and Southern competition zones seminar at Lauriton Services Club. I wish to thank everyone who gave up there time for what was an extremely well attended and well received day.

We have learnt a few lessons on the timing and structure and will be looking to improve the flow and the information we deliver on such days in the future. Having said that there were some very positive outcomes and feedback from the day.

Bruce is planning to launch some on line training packages in the near future to assist your clubs and volunteers even more and keep you up to date with changes and improvements.

I look forward to the nomination nights where hopefully we have another record number of teams entered across all age divisions.

A special thanks to the High Performance committee led by Kathie Bestwick for what was an outstanding season launch for our High Performance boys, girls and women's teams this month.

Saying that I wish all our representative players good luck for the season ahead. You have been well trained and schooled by your coaches and support crew, now the job is up to you to do your best and represent Football Mid North Coast with pride and dignity win lose or draw.

Bruce and I and the Board are working diligently with the various council areas to get better and improved facilities across the zone and in particular I have addressed Port Macquarie Council twice now in order to prioritize improvements to our existing fields and to develop a concept for a Stand-alone Regional Football stadium that will accommodate A League and International standard Football as well as our local community and High Performance teams.

We have had support from the Newcastle Jets CEO and have had a lot of positive press on this one. It is a work in progress but a concept that I hope to see to reality in the next few years. At least it is on the agenda!

We continue to work with Kempsey and Mid Coast Councils and also with the various Grants available for your clubs as we put the final touches on our Grants assistance team to provide professional advice on your potential grant applications and available Grant possibilities.

The Referees administration is now being run out of the office of FMNC under the control of Larisa and with the assistance of a newly formed coaching and development panel from the Referee's.

Payment for all Referees will be made direct to your bank accounts this season with no cash changing hands on match days which should free up both clubs and Officials to get on with game day without unnecessary interruptions or issues.

Please ensure all Referees put their names on the match sheets and to the clubs return those match sheets or a scanned copy to the office so that these payments can be verified and made promptly.

We are also levying a small fee to cover the administration of the Referee's body that will be taken out of the match fees directly.

Please give the Referees all your support this season as we continue to improve the training and education and assessment of our Referees this season and beyond.

Abuse helps no one and has no place in the principals of fair play and good will that we promote for our sport.

I also attended and chaired our first Premier League Club meeting for the season ahead and am confident that we have a great product and a solid season ahead of us at the top level of our Zone.

We are also planning a massive Grand Final day with Zone championships to be decided between the winners of Grand Finals Northern and Southern competitive teams going head to head for the title of Zone Champions prior to the Reserve Grade and First Grade Grand Finals.

The Premier league Grand Final will be played under lights and will be a fantastic showcase for our game.

I can't wait for the season to kick off as we begin that journey to the finals.

Special News save the date....September 30th

I can't wait as we plan to hold our first ever Gala End of Season Dinner and Awards night for all clubs in the entire Zone. This promises to be a massive evening with top class entertainment and fine dining and a chance to share some stories and meet up with one another as we wrap up what hopefully will have been one of our best seasons ever!

My special and sincere appreciation to all the volunteers and to Bruce and Larry and Amanda and Larisa in the office as well as the entire board of Football Mid North Coast.

While I am at the front-line in terms of publicity and promotion it is these people that do the actual hard yards and I am proud to be in the position of representing all of you and will continue to keep you up to date throughout the season of upcoming events and news.

Stay safe and may life be kind to you all.

Best wishes

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

Mike Parsons