



April 2019

Hi to all of you in our Football Family!

I don't know about you, but I can't wait for the season to start for our local competitions.

To see the joy and excitement from all those new under 6's as they take up our sport for the very first time to those of us that have been around for what seems and is a "lifetime" of involvement it is a special time indeed.

To all the club volunteers and our own office staff that have contributed to the planning and successful launch of season 2019 a massive thank you!

As I write this report Justin (Macca) has been hard at work putting together the various competition draws which is a massive and somewhat complicated and intense process. So on behalf of all of you I pass on my personal thanks for the efforts required to put our boys and girls and men and women on the park each week.

Our Referee recruitment and training and mentoring is going to plan and we continue to have a much better structure of education, recruitment and retention moving forward so again my thanks to all involved in this much needed revision of the way we operate and support our officials.

The NPL and WPL High performance competitions have already commenced and ably supported by our Technical Director Larry Budgen and the various coaches and associated personnel.

Our SAP programs (Skills Acquisition Program) for the Junior players is also in full swing and has been well supported and is encouraging for our aim of providing the best experience and coaching for those participants.

We continue to put programs and coaching clinics on throughout the year and also to encourage and support clubs to achieve accreditation and register and train their coaches and administration personnel. The Board, Bruce Potter our General Manager and our team in the office and I, continue to work on your behalf to secure better infrastructure, facilities and funding across our Zone.

We are indeed linked by one common thread and that is our love of our family and the love of our brand of Football. This can only be a recipe for goodwill and harmony.

In a year that will see our “Matildas” playing in the World Cup. The Matildas are arguably the most talked about and respected National team of any Code. Our game is in great shape and a proud time to be associated with our sport.

We continue to champion the cause for improved infrastructure, better grounds and drainage, lighting and in particular female friendly changing and rest room facilities as well as more security lighting and even match officials’ rooms suitable for male and female use. Despite our game being not only Australia’s number one participant sport but also locally here in our footprint we still are in desperate need of better facilities.

There have been inroads made due to recent grants to many of our clubs through various government levels and for that we are appreciative, however there is still far more work to be done.

To all of you that volunteer thank you, without you, we would not have the ability to supply the administration and the fundraising required to facilitate matches for our children and our grandchildren to play.

I would encourage others to follow in your footsteps and lighten the load just a little.

To the mums and dads and grandparents, caregivers and supporters I wish you well and hope to see you out and around the grounds this year.

*Most importantly to all of you that are playing and officiating this season;*

*To all the Referees thank you for being actively involved!*

If this is your first ever time on the park with a whistle, be willing to learn and grow in your confidence.

To all the players and supporters please be mindful that without referees there is no independent adjudicator on the pitch and without them the overall enjoyment of the game is lost.

Be supportive and proactive in your encouragement of especially our younger Referees, treat them as you would your own children or grandchildren. Sensitivity and self-esteem does not leave them when they have a whistle!

To those of you returning to Referee thank you for your past service and I wish you enjoyment and fulfilment as you provide that most necessary role.

*To the players,*

From the Aldi Mini-roos to the Premier leaguer and over 35's, to all the boys and girls and men and women.

Thank you for participating in our sport and turning up to play the game you love.

Not only for playing but enjoying the social interaction and all the benefits that team sports bring to you as an individual and to the community as a whole.

*My personal best wishes for the season ahead and thanks again for being part of our Football family that is Football Mid North Coast!*

See you out and around...

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized loop followed by a short horizontal line and a diagonal stroke extending downwards and to the left.

Mike Parsons

Chairman FMNC