

## **Claremont Football Club (Inc)**

Minutes of the 90<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting held at the Claremont Showgrounds

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2015

Chairman, Kevin Somes opened the meeting at 6.10pm and welcomed everyone to the 90<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting. He declared a quorum present.

### **1. APOLOGIES:**

Sam Drabble John Townsend, Ian & Heather Haggerty, Jim Clarko, Nigel and Tracey Wilson, Vicki Reynolds, Mike Atkinson, Jeff Massini

### **2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

The Chairman advised that the minutes of the previous AGM were circulated on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2015, and called for a motion for them to be adopted. This motion was proposed by Ed Coyle, and seconded by John Bell

Matters arising from the Minutes:

Peter Beck requested that in future a more comprehensive set of minutes be recorded under general business items. The CEO gave assurance that this would occur in the future.

### **3. PRESIDENTS REPORT:**

- The President congratulated the colts for winning the 2015 Premiership.
- He advised that the construction of the new club facility was scheduled for a December 2016 completion.
- He advised the Club's loss for the year was \$49,775 which in his opinion was excellent result given the difficult circumstances in which the club is currently operating.
- He confirmed the appointment of Graham Moss as acting CEO and congratulated him on that appointment.
- He congratulated Nat Fyfe who was recruited from the Club's Great Southern Zone on winning this year's Brownlow Medal. He also congratulated Jesse Hogan for winning the AFL's Rising Star Award for 2015.
- He commented that in his opinion the football department was functioning extremely well and wished them every success in 2016.

### **4. RETURNING OFFICER'S REPORT:**

The CEO advised that the Returning Officer was unable to attend the meeting and had requested the CEO to read his report to the meeting.

The Chairman congratulated the successful candidates, being Kaye Maskiell and Grant Povey and invited Peter Higgins to say a few words.

Peter Higgins congratulated the successful candidates and advised that he had enjoyed his time on the Board. He felt that the Club should now move forward in anticipation of the new facility being completed which will place the Club in a very strong position.

## **5. FINANCE REPORT:**

The Chairman advised that the Financial Report for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> October 2015, had been circulated in the 90<sup>th</sup> Annual Report. He re-iterated that the loss of \$49,775 was a wonderful achievement in view of the difficult operating circumstances by the Club.

He thanked former CEO Dean Horsington for capping operation costs. He also thanked Ken Gray, the Club's accountant for the wonderful job he does in preparing our accounts.

He commented that the WAFC Management and Coaching Grants had only increased by approximately \$5000 on the previous year, however he expected a slightly higher increase in 2016. He commented that the amount of the grants in 2017 and beyond may depend on who is successful in securing the rights for the new Perth Stadium.

At this point Mr Peter Hollins requested that he be permitted to address the meeting and speak on a report titled "Questions for the AGM".

The Chairman agreed to his request and Mr Hollins then outlined a number of questions raised by a group of Club members who share a concern for the accountability and future direction of the Club.

He then tabled the document and request the answers contained therein be responded to in writing within 10 days. He advised that should this request not be adhered to he would take the necessary steps to call an Extraordinary Meeting.

Ken Mann commented that in his opinion the 10 day time period was totally unreasonable and that this had been an unnecessary disruption to the AGM.

The Chairman advised that the questions will be answered within the requested time frame or as soon as practicable thereafter.

Sue Knowles commented that the minutes of the 2014 AGM contemplated a loss of \$200,000- \$250,000 over the year 2015-2016. Members had been advised in August 2015 that the anticipated loss would be in order of \$157,000. She asked why the actual loss had been reduced to \$49,775, and why did the Club approach the WAFC seeking financial assistance.

The Chairman advised that the CEO had reported the Club's anticipated financial position to the Commission and that the Football Commission had requested further information regarding the Club's financial position before considering financial assistance.

He further advised that Landcorp had provided \$110,000 of further funding in recognition of the additional costs the club was incurring by virtue of its relocation to the showgrounds. This in effect reduced the anticipated loss of \$157,000 to the actual loss of \$49,775.

Peter Beck commented that at this point in the meeting we are in the process of accepting the audited financial report. He then moved that this report be accepted. This was seconded by Ken Casellas and this was accepted by an overwhelming majority of the meeting.

## **6. FOOTBALL REPORT:**

Darrell Panizza presented the Football Report

- He thanked Peter Higgins for his contribution to the Board.
- He congratulated the Colts on winning the 2015 Grand Final.
- He advised that one CFC Player had been drafted in the AFL draft. He commented that this would be a benefit to the Club as it keeps home grown players in the team to assist in the future development of younger players. There was a good opportunity for the Colts players, ie. Sam Seaton, Alec Waterman to come through next year.
- He advised that the Club had implemented high performance coaching programs to assist with the development of younger players in the senior and colts squads.
- He congratulated Darcy Coffey and the Football Department on the great work they have done this year under difficult circumstances.

## **7. LIFE MEMBER AWARDS:**

The following persons were nominated for Life Member Awards:

Phil Crabb – Proposed Ken Casellas, Seconded Bob Johnson

Ken Casellas provided a comprehensive outline of Phil's involvement in football and more importantly the Claremont Football Club.

Phil responded and thanked the Claremont Football Club for this award.

Anne Kyle – Proposed Ken Casellas, Seconded Ken Venables.

Ken Casellas advised that Anne was an apology for the meeting and that she will be presented with her Life Membership Award at the club's first home game in 2016.

Ian Richardson – Awarded Life Membership by virtue of playing over 150 games for the Claremont Football Club.

Roger Barns- Proposed by Darrell Panizza, Seconded by Ken Casellas.

Darrell Provided a comprehensive outline of Roger's contribution to the Claremont Football Club as Team Manager over many years.

Roger responded by saying that he was deeply honoured to be awarded Life Membership and thanked the Football Club for the award.

## **8. GENERAL BUSINESS:**

Peter Beck raised the following issues:

- There was a need for unison on the Board
- The Club needed to address its current financial situation.
- There was not enough communication between Club administration and members.
- He queried the Club's current administration structure.
- He hoped that the Club would address the above issues and that we move forward as a Club.

Sue Knowles raised the following issues:

- When will the club adopt a new constitution;
- When is electronic voting to be introduced.
- Membership list appeared to have inconsistencies.
- Sue queried why annual report showed that there was more revenue from membership subscriptions, but less members.

The Chairman advised that the WAFC were looking to introduce a common constitution for all WAFL clubs which would address the current inconsistencies between WAFC Governance requirements and current WAFL Club Constitutions. He further commented that electronic voting would be addressed in a new Constitution.

The Chairman advised that he would provide an answer to Sue's query in relation to membership.

Kerry Sprigg asked the following questions

. When the Club is required to vacate the Showgrounds in September what provisions are in place for this relocation?

. What provisions are in place for the CFC Oval re-surfacing, provision of gates and scoreboard?

The Chairman advised that these issues would be addressed during the 2016 season.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.15pm and invited fellow members to join together for some refreshments.

Kevin Somes

Chairman