



2020 METRO CENTRAL ANNUAL REPORT



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2020 JUNIOR CLUB PARTICIPATION FIGURES

PERTH DISTRICT

816

Club NAB AFL Auskick participants

1215

Youth participants

1038

Modified Football participants

SWANS DISTRICT

1053

Club NAB AFL Auskick participants

1617

Youth participants

1458

Modified Football participants

EAST PERTH DISTRICT

784

Club NAB AFL Auskick participants

1217

Youth participants

1142

Modified Football participants



METRO CENTRAL - STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

ORGANISATION	NAME	POSITION
WAFC	Corey Ranger	Community and Club Development Manager - Metro Central
WAFC	Vacant	Competitions Team Leader - Metro Central
WAFC	Dee More	Competitions Administrator - Metro Central
WAFC	Ruth O'Donnell	Competitions Administrator - Metro Central
WAFC	Chrisitan Tuffilli	Coaching Coordinator - Metro Central
WAFC	Hayden Cobley	Development Officer - East Perth
WAFC	Vacant	Development Officer - Perth
WAFC	Vacant	Development Officer - Swans
WAFC	Georgia Saylor	Game Development Officer - Metro Central
WAFC	Brownyn Hansen	Game Development Officer - Metro Central
WAFC	Thomas Whittle	Game Development Officer - Metro Central
WAFC	Shanae Davison	Game Development Officer - Metro Central
WAFC	Marcus Trusso	Game Development Officer - Metro Central
WAFC	Lara Glendinning	Game Development Officer - Metro Central
Metro Central RDC	Hayley McNamara	Chair
Metro Central RDC	Shaun Hughes	Royals Delegate
Metro Central RDC	David Farthing	Swans Delegate
Metro Central RDC	Jo Warner	Demons Delegate
Metro Central RDC	Mark Thomas	Senior Delegate
Metro Central RDC	Tarryn Cuthbert	Female Delegate
Metro Central RDC	Darryl Carter	Treasurer
Metro Central RDC	Vacant	WAFL Delegate
Demons Umpires	Daniel Gibbons	Umpire Manager
Royals Umpires	Lewis Williams	Umpire Manager
Swans Umpires	Jeff Fahey-Gilmour	Umpire Manager
Swans Umpires	Jack Fahey-Gilmour	Umpire Manager
East Perth FC	Dean Turner	CEO
Swan Districts FC	Jeff Dennis	CEO
Perth FC	Russ Clarke	GM
WAFC	Anthony Jerkovich	Central Conference - Match Day Official
WAFC	Zane Crisa	Central Conference - Match Day Official
WAFC	Robyn Fitall	Central Conference - Match Day Official
WAFC	Robyn Rampant	Central Conference - Match Day Official
WAFC	Narelle Morrisey	Central Conference - Match Day Official
WAFC	Ryan Ramage	Social Media Coordinator
WAFC	Barry Nichols	Event First Aid Officer

RDC AFFILIATE CLUBS AND COMPETITIONS

JUNIOR CLUBS

Aveley JFC	Ellenbrook JFC	Lynwood Ferndale JFC	Noranda JFC
Ballajura JFC	Forrestfield JFC	Maddington JFC	Parkerville Junior Football Club
Bassendean JFC	Gidgegannup JFC	Manning JFC	Queens Park JFC
Bayswater JFC	Gosnells JFC	Mazenod JFC	Redcliffe JFC
Belmont JFC	High Wycombe JFC	Midvale JFC	South Perth JFC
Caversham JFC	Hills Rangers JFC	Morley Bulldogs JFC	Swan View JFC
Chidlow JFC	Huntingdale JFC	Mount Hawthorn Cardinals JFC	Thornlie JFC
Chittering JFC	Kalamunda JFC	Mt Helena JFC	Upper Swan JFC
Coolbinia JFC	Kenwick JFC	Mt Lawley Inglewood JFC	Vic Park JFC
Darlington JFC	Lesmurdie JFC	Mundaring JFC	

WAFL CLUBS

East Perth Football Club
Perth Football Club
Swan Districts Football Club

WAWFL CLUBS

East Perth Women's Football Club
Swan Districts Women's Football Club

SENIOR CLUBS

Ballajura FC	Dianella Morley FC	Lynwood Ferndale SFC	Pickering Brook SFC
Bassendean Senior FC	Eastern Hills Masters FC	Maddington SFC	St Norberts SFC
Bayswater FC	Ellenbrook FC	Manning SFC	Swan Athletic SFC
Belmont SFC	Forrestfield SFC	Midland SFC	Swan Valley FC
Bullsbrook SFC	Gidgegannup SFC	Mt Helena SFC	Swan View FC
Canning South Perth SFC	Gosnells SFC	Mt Lawley FC	Thornlie SFC
Carlisle SFC	High Wycombe SFC	Mundaring SFC	Trinity Aquinas SFC
Chidlow SFC	Kalamunda SFC	Noranda FC	Wesley Curtin SFC
Coolbinia FC	Kenwick SFC	Parkerville SFC	

JUNIOR COMPETITIONS

Metro Central Conference
East Perth District
Perth District
Swans District

SENIOR COMPETITIONS

West Australian Football League
Perth Football League
WA Women's Football League
Metro Football League
AFL Masters WA
Hills Football Association



RDC CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

It is trite to say that the inaugural year of the Metro Central Regional Development Council was not the year that anyone expected.

2020 will be remembered by many as an incredibly difficult and challenging year. But we are so very fortunate to have played a season of football.

At the beginning of 2020, as the Metro Central RDC prepared to meet for the first time and engage with the WAFC about the season ahead, the State government, WAFC and the community was grappling with the emergence of COVID19.

We were very fortunate that the WAFC took a proactive approach in taking steps to mitigate the spread of the virus across our community, whilst also balancing community engagement in Western Australia.

As a result, on 17 March 2020, the WAFC made the unenviable decision to suspend all senior and junior community football in both metropolitan and regional Western Australia.

Whilst the postponement of football was undoubtedly difficult for our stakeholders, players and families, we are very grateful for the way in which our Clubs within the Metro Central Region engaged proactively with their families and players. Club Presidents and Committees are to be commended for the way in which the suspension of football was swiftly enacted.

As an RDC, we worked with the WAFC during the suspension period to figure out how, and what, a Season 2020 could look like. Finally, on 11 May 2020 the WAFC announced a return to training for community football training from 18 May 2020.

From that date, thanks to the hard work of many volunteers and WAFC staff, the football season started on the weekend of 18 July 2020. While there was certainly some nervousness around the decision, watching the joy of the players return to the field helped cement that it was the right decision.

On field, while there were some rule changes introduced, football looked much like it always has. Off-field however, there were some noticeable changes. But the key to football remained – the importance of social connection and engagement. At its heart, football has always been about social connection – but this year, even more so.

As always, but more so this year, season 2020 would not have been possible without the tireless work of all of the volunteers and staff. Delivering football in any year takes a monumental amount of work from many people. This year, those volunteers and staff managed to do that whilst also facing the uncertainty and challenges of COVID19. We thank each and every volunteer for donating their time.

Thanks to the extraordinary effort by our community stakeholders, Metro Central Region saw fantastic retention



rates with 98.30% retention on 2019 numbers. As a Region, we have also seen the steep increase of female participation which is testament to the Clubs who are working with their communities to encourage our female players.

We should all be extremely proud of this achievement.

With the challenges that COVID19 brought to the season, the introduction of a new governance structure and model in football in the Metro Central Region, not surprisingly, took a back seat for much of 2020.

However, now as an RDC, we are tasked with ensuring that season 2021 is bigger and better. During 2021, the RDC will be looking to partner with our stakeholders in the Region to implement strategies to grow participation and community engagement. Football and football clubs in our Region are an important avenue for our communities to connect – through social engagement and physical activity. And in a time when communities are seeking better ways to connect, the football clubs in our Region are faced with an incredible opportunity to build on that connection and goodwill.

Given the challenges for the RDC to meet with our stakeholders during this season, we are looking forward to more opportunities to meet with our stakeholders in 2021.

I would personally like to thank each of the members of the RDC

– Joanne Warner, Shaun Hughes, David Farthing, Mark Thomas, Tarryn Cuthbert and Darryl Carter. Each of the RDC members donate their time, energy and expertise to help drive football in our Region. Each of the members embraced the challenges of 2020 and worked to help pull together a season, and are now working to improving participation and engagement for 2021. Thank you all.

Finally, I would like to thank the WAFC staff who have assisted the RDC during 2020. The staff, who faced increasing challenges and limited resources, worked tirelessly to make sure Season 2020 could occur. I particularly thank Troy Kirkham, Corey Ranger, Dee More, Ruth O'Donnell, Christian Tufilli and Hayden Cobley.

We hope that you enjoy the off-season, and we look forward to seeing you all back in 2021.

Regards



Hayley McNamara
Chair
Metro Central Regional
Development Council



WAFC JUNIOR, YOUTH AND COMMUNITY FOOTBALL REPORT

On behalf of the West Australian Football Commission, I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all the clubs, coaches, club committee members, club presidents and everyone else involved in this season of Football. It has been a season like no other, that would not have been possible without the hard work, flexibility and good will of every community stakeholder involved in the game.

The impact of COVID-19 has had a significant impact on the Football industry across Australia, and here in Western Australia it is no different. We have been fortunate to get a season away, however some leagues across the country have had to cancel or abandon their season all together.

We know the positive benefit that Football provides to the local community, and in particular the role that it plays in shaping our kids lives. We know, through the WAFC Social Return on Investment research, that football provides each player across WA approximately \$3,000 in social benefit. This is significant. As parents we put our kids into community sport because we believe in the value that it can provide them, whether that be in developing teamwork, leadership skills or resilience, and there has been no better example of this in 2020.

I want to acknowledge every single club across the Metro Central region for all your hard work in 2020 in getting teams on the oval, and players back playing the game they love. To all the



volunteers at clubs, we sincerely thank you for what you do, and what you have done this year.

To the Metro Central RDC, under the leadership of Hayley McNamara, your guidance and support in 2020 has been significant. It is never easy embedding a new governance model, but your work, effort and energy is to be applauded and recognised. You have gone above and beyond this year to support the strategic growth in the game, and I look forward to 2021 when we focus more intently on driving strategy across the region.

I also want to acknowledge Healthway for their ongoing partnership with Junior Football across Western Australia through the promotion of the 'Go for 2 & 5' message. This sponsorship is integral to our sport, and I would encourage all clubs and teams to promote this key message across their

networks. A key component of this partnership is to also ensure that our canteens continue to provide healthy alternatives to both players and spectators.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to recognise the WAFC staff who have worked tirelessly this year to ensure that we could get a season away. Without their hard work and dedication, the season would not have occurred. Every single one of them is passionate about the role that they play in Footy. Thank you!

All the best for the festive season and look forward to seeing everyone back in 2021.

Troy Kirkham
Executive Manager Youth, Community & Game Development
West Australian Football Commission



WAFC COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT

After one of the toughest years for football, the WAFC would like to pass on our thanks to all members and clubs of the Demons, Royals and Swans Districts, and formally acknowledge all of our hard-working volunteers at community football clubs across the region. After the period of isolation that we experienced throughout COVID-19, it was a great moment to see participants and their families reconnecting with their community clubs, keen to re-establish that sense of connection and belonging that we all know is so important to football in this state. Simply put it... how lucky are we in WA?!!

Supported by community football clubs and volunteers, the WAFC has implemented key engagement strategies and a clear Return to Play roadmap over the last six months, resulting in 92% of participants returning for the 2020 season. Auskick participation in WA has led the nation with a 84% return rate, while Junior (94%), Youth (99%) and Senior Football (86%) return rates in WA have been the combined highest of any State in Australia.

These results have been achieved through the hard work of everyone involved with WA Football and we should all feel very proud, given that only a few months ago, the entire 2020 season was in jeopardy. As we all know, our game means so much to our participants and communities, and you are all to be congratulated on your efforts.

The WAFC would like to thank the tireless efforts of the Metro Central Regional Development Council Board – Led by Hayley McNamara, our three Umpire Associations in Daniel Gibbons (Perth), Lewis Williams (East Perth) and Jeff and Jack Fahey-Gilmour (Swans), and our WAFL club CEO's and Board members for your support during the 2020 season. I personally would like to thank the Metro Central staff in Christian Tuffilli, Dee More, Hayden Cobley and Ruth O'Donnell for your incredible work in what was a difficult year for all commission staff. Our region is also indebted for the support we receive from WAFC Junior, Youth and Community Football Executive Manger - Troy Kirkham and WAFC Competitions staff in Maree Power and James Hunt.

To clubs, both Juniors and Seniors - Thank you for the hours of effort and support and please pass on to all members of your committee, your coaches, players and all the volunteers associated with your club, including the many individuals and families who support your club, our sincere thanks and appreciation.

Corey Ranger

Community and Club Development Manager – Metro Central West Australian Football Commission



DEPARTING JUNIOR CLUB PRESIDENTS

The WAFC and Metro Central Regional Development Council would like to thank all outgoing Junior Presidents for their contribution to the growth of football within the Central Conference. There are so many aspects of our game that just would not be possible without the dedication and commitment of our volunteers, so we thank you for your tireless efforts as Club President and wish you all the very best with your future endeavors.

JUNIOR CLUB	OUTGOING PRESIDENTS	DISTRICT
South Perth JFC	Travis Burrows	Demons
Lynwood-Ferndale JFC	Reno Boin	Demons
Thornlie JFC	Kristy Meechan	Demons
Vic Park JFC	Wayne Tinlin	Demons
Kalamunda JFC	Mike Davis	Swans
Darlington JFC	Kev Healy	Swans
Mazenod JFC	Ivan Adriano	Swans
Upper Swan JFC	Naomi Byrnes	Swans
Upper Swan JFC	Ross King	Swans
Ballajura JFC	Kevin Deverell	Royals
Morley JFC	Ross Condo	Royals
Coolbinia JFC	Robert Geersen	Royals



2020 VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR WINNERS



Demons District
Mark Longton – South Perth JFC

Mark started volunteering at South Perth Junior Football Club in 2013, as a Parent Helper. When he started coaching in 2016, he was approached by the club to join the committee as Vice President. Since then, Mark has held that role and will take the reins as President.

Recently, Mark has used his professional skills to assist in the club's transition to new facilities and clubrooms at Ernst Johnson. He was instrumental in setting up the canteen and

ensured the teams had new footballs, goal post padding, jumpers, and all the everything else required to play.

Mark promotes a culture amongst the players and parent group that is fair, inclusive and respectful which creates a positive environment. Mark spends hours each week preparing his training and games to ensure all kids are getting a fair rotation through positions and the bench. Communicating team selection isn't a part of the role Mark relishes but is one he makes sure is done correctly.

Mark's personality and methodical approach brings a sense of calm to the teams he coaches, instilling discipline and fair play into the players. His passion for the game and commitment to the team results in many parents helping with the management of the team; it would be unusual if there were less than 6 parents out at trainings.

Mark's coaching philosophy is simple and hasn't changed- to develop and encourage improvement in each player, relative to their ability. Off-field and after-hours, Mark works with parents and carers to ensure kids can get to games and training sessions. He ensures all parents are receiving team and club communication, helps through the registration process and offers financial support for player registration fees and uniforms.



Royals District Ross Condo – Morley JFC

Ross Condo is the President of the Morley Bulldogs Junior Football Club, but has been involved for 8 years when he started volunteering as Auskick Coordinator. Ross then took on Assistant Coach, Manager and Vice President. He spent the 2 seasons when he was VP learning as much as he could before taking the reins as President.

During Ross' tenure as Club President, team and player numbers have almost doubled, the club was able to weather the COVID impact, and girl's football has taken off. In just 3 years, the club has grown from 8 teams to 14. The girl's football program has grown from just 3 girls to 40. Ross has achieved this through working with coaches and managers, knowing all parents, engaging with local schools, and conducting clinics.

Ross worked secure government funding to upgrade the EB Browne Pavilion, adding showers, changerooms and extra storage. He is working with the Vice President and local governments to raise funds for a lighting upgrade to allow night games. The club is now an accredited AFL Quality Club, and in 2019 Morley won Auskick Centre of the Year and the Community Engagement Award.

Ross lives and leads equality, and everyone follows in his footsteps. Ross established the Girl's Football program, launched the Club's first ever Indigenous Jersey, and has worked hard with coaches to include foster kids, which requires co-ordination with the government and carers.

Ross has kept the cost for parents affordable. He's driven the financial stability of the club solely through running a well organised canteen, not player fees or sponsorship. Ross oversees our annual charity fundraiser rounds. The likes of the Jane McGrath Foundation and Headspace Osborne Park have been presented donations from the club.



Swans District Jeff Fahey-Gilmour – Swan District Junior Umpire Association.

Jeff Fahey-Gilmour is the current Umpiring Manager with the Swan Districts Junior Umpire Association, having been in the position since 2016. Jeff sets the tone for what it means to go above and beyond. Jeff became involved in the Association, became an Umpire while his sons were playing. In 2015, the Umpiring Association approached Jeff with the temporary role of Treasurer. Since then, Jeff stepped into the Umpire Manager role, a role which he has now held for 5 years, all while still finding time to continue umpiring. He works quietly and competently without a fuss, never asking for recognition or accolades.

Jeff is critical in mentoring; ensuring a smooth transition between committee positions each year, coordinating all handovers and providing education sessions where needed. Jeff is the first point of contact for new umpires, assisting with organising their schedule and educating them on the administrative tasks associated with umpiring. This fosters the Swan Districts' culture of umpires taking responsibility for their own involvement.

Jeff handles education sessions with great patience and perseverance, setting all umpires up for success. He doesn't leave them on their own, mentoring young or inexperienced umpires on game day or letting them get more umpiring experience by forgoing his game-day umpiring.

Jeff understands what footy can do for the people who are involved in it. He encourages diversity within the club, encouraging and supporting everyone, ensuring they gain the very most during their involvement with football. Jeff creates an environment where people can express themselves safely and uses football as a common interest to help unite people. Jeff often organises social events that exceed the game itself, generating a community with a shared passion.



PERTH DISTRICT REPORT

I think we can say this was a season like no other! How lucky we are to have a completed season given all that has transpired. Without the tireless efforts of our club presidents, their committees and game day volunteers this would not have been possible, and it has been a pleasure to have worked with you all. The game is only as good as you – the people in club land make it, and I thank you for the passion and commitment that you give in making our great game and the Perth District one we can be proud of. To the presidents stepping aside, thank you and good luck and I hope you all stay involved with your club or the District.

A massive thank you to the retiring Daniel Gibbons for heading up our umpiring department. Daniel's input into the Perth District has been world class and the development programs provided by Daniel and his coaches is the best in WA football. Well done to all umpires on a very good season and I thank you

for all the commitment you have made each and every week. A special mention to those umpires that umpired the junior grand finals, this is a just reward for your hard work and consistent good performances with the whistle. Good luck for all your future endeavours Daniel.

The Perth District is continually looking to provide new programs, new ideas and initiatives to continue to try and grow and retain numbers of boys and girls playing football. Female football is growing exponentially and is still largely untapped. The future of female football in the Perth District is unbelievably exciting and I personally can't wait to see how it unfolds.

We continue to see facility and lighting upgrades throughout the district, which can only improve our numbers as it opens up options for girls or to play night football at most venues. There are several more clubs with submitted applications that will hopefully



be approved and continue the efforts of our club and WAFC administrators to grow our great game. The more options we have with ground availability can only benefit our growth as our ever increasingly busy lifestyles impact on our kids playing sport.

Thank you to Corey and the WAFC staff for their continual support of the Perth District and under extremely trying conditions, managed get a season up and running and completed. This has been a long year that has brought many challenges and without the good governance and the strategic direction the WAFC provides, such a successful year would not have been possible.

Lastly, congratulations to all teams that made it through to Grand Finals, success in football is measured in many ways, with one of those playing in a Grand Final and are a great time to celebrate the achievements of the year. A massive thank you

to the Maddington Junior Football Club and the Gosnells Junior Football Club for successfully running 2 ovals and 10 Grand Finals on the one day. This was a huge effort for both clubs and their volunteers, and they pulled off an amazing, cohesive Grand Final day that was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

I look forward to continuing to grow the game in the Perth District in 2021 and beyond.



Joanne Warner
Perth Junior Club Delegate
Metro Central Regional Development
Council



ROYALS DISTRICT REPORT

Coronavirus, Covid-19, Lockdown are all terms that came from nowhere and had a significant impact not only on our lives, but also our love for football. In mid-March all the early effort was halted, with no length of time known until we could train & play and only the extremely positive had the optimism that we would have a season!

April passed with mumblings that a season was going to happen. No-one knew what (if at all) the season would commence and even if it did, what would it look like. Behind the scenes we welcomed Matt Debarro, Dee More & Ruth O'Donnell to lead the competitions. Still nothing was certain. There were standdowns with our WAFC staff and Matt moved on.

Slowly the restrictions were loosened. Yes! Training started, but with certain hygiene criteria & 'social distancing' became a normal thing, but at least the kids were touching the footy.

Then the news we had all been waiting for, we were finally going to have a season. How long would it be? Would there be finals? If so, how would that work? When do we need to be finished to allow cricket to start? Regardless, WE HAD FOOTY – a far better position than most of the country – How lucky were we!

July 17 – We had lift off!! Albeit with slight differences to previous, but footy either way, in East Perth, we started the night earlier, the 16th with the 'Light the Night' at Coolbinia as Rob Geersen led the celebrations as we welcomed another

venue with lights – Congratulations to Rob and all at the Coolbinia Bombers for getting this awesome addition the Coolbinia fields. I would also like to take this time to also shout out to Vince Connolly MP for the significant contribution to get the project off the ground and more importantly, finished.

We also had the completion of the lights at Kingfisher Oval at Ballajura, a little later than all had planned, but they are completed and ready to be used in the 2021 season. Big congratulations to Kevin Deverell, the Ballajura Junior Committee, and the City of Swan for their efforts in getting it completed.

On the playing front, we saw a massive increase in the female teams with Morley continuing their success in this area. A big shout out to the Committee of Bayswater who continue their successful move from Houghton to Hillcrest by fielding 3 female side across the 5/6, 7/8 & 9/10 age groups. Strong results in the female space also saw the transition of the Rogers Cup program into the EP Football Club and were superbly coached by Jason Bloom with great assistance from Gary, Jasmine & Gemma – all involved in either EP Junior Clubs or previous EP development.

The Comps team announced that we would in fact have a Grand Final allowing for an 11-round season, with a 'normal fixturing' for teams outside of 1v2 to be played at the home venue of the higher placed team. Who would've thought, given where we were in March & April!!



Mid-way through the season we announced the intention to play the EP hosted Grand Finals at Leederville Oval over the Queen's Birthday Long weekend. A huge thank you to both Corey Ranger & Hayden Coble for the assistance in proof reading schedule after schedule – as is normal. Congratulations to all the teams who made the GF's and a special mention the Premiers of each Division. We also tried something a little different with the 18's and through the support of Front Row Screens we live streamed the 4 GF's.

Another question to arise – Best & Fairest Awards for the conference. Do we have them? Where do we have them? What format, as it can't be anything like we had in 2020. The B&F awards were held at Leederville Oval in 2 sessions, on 'Bathurst Sunday', 18th October. Only the recipients and their families could attend. Congratulations to all the recipients, it will certainly be remembered.

2020 also saw the first year of the Metro Central Regional Development Council – the amalgamation of the 3 District DFDC's that will allow a stronger & more unified voice to ensure the issues of grassroots and community football are heard. It is made up of volunteers who raise issues across Female Football, Amateurs (PFL, MFL, HFA, Masters), a delegate from one of the WAFL Clubs. To all the 2020 members of the inaugural Council, thank you for the support and input.

As the 2020 season draws to a close, I'd like to thank all the volunteers involved in the running of our clubs from the Presidents

& Committees, the parent coaches, managers and other team volunteers, those who are involved in the operation of canteens. I'd also like to special mention Dee and Ruth who somehow managed to keep our competition running. Ladies, thank you!

2021 brings great optimism. I have no doubt that we will have a season and even if it slightly different to 2019 normal, we are certainly in a solid position to learn from 2020 and make it successful.

As our clubs have completed their AGM's and have started planning for 2021, I would like to welcome Michael Bassett (Ballajura), Kyla Tilbury (Coolbinia) & Todd Zani (Morley) for stepping up into the role of President of their respective clubs – I am looking forward to building on past achievements and celebrating future successes. To Kev, Rob & Ross, I'm sure we haven't lost you completely to football and thank you for what you have managed to achieve at your clubs.



Shaun Hughes
 Royals District Junior Club Delegate
 Metro Central Regional
 Development Council



SWANS DISTRICT REPORT

Hello to all Metro Central RDC members.

2020 started with great anticipation of a new era in junior football in the Swan's zone. We had completed the hand over from the old DFDC to the RDC model. 3 full time competition staff, Community & Club Development Manager, Junior Club, Senior Club, WAFL clubs and Women's football representatives all in place.

I was excited about this new beginning and by March the whole season was thrown into a holding pattern due to COVID19. During the next three months many of us in football land were unsure if we would have any sort of season in 2020. Due to the good work done by the State Government, WAFC Staff, and the football community in general we managed to get an 11-week season. I would like to thank personally the competitions staff members Dee More and Ruth O'Donnell for their tireless work in not only getting the season off to a start with limited time, but to continue this for the whole season was a mighty effort.

To all the Swans Junior clubs that also had the start/stop commencement to 2020. I thank you for your efforts. Not only in keep all your members informed but again getting all you

teams on the park week after week. Unfortunately, COVID19 did see the closure of one of our clubs. To all the people involved in the Guildford Junior Football Club, I wish you all the best in your future endeavours. The closure of Guildford did require some player movements and I thank all the clubs that made all the Guildford player feel welcome in their new football homes.

With the unknown nature of the COVID19 pandemic many of the staff at the WAFC were placed on reduced hours and this saw the departure of Matt Debarro our competitions team leader. To fill the void left by Matt a lot of the competition's workload was spread amongst the Junior Club Delegates. I wish to thank Shaun Hughes and Jo Warner for all your help this year. Its pleasing to see that regardless of which WAFL zone you may be aligned to, we just seem to get it done. We also lost Allana Dickie to greener pastures. Thanks to Christian Tufilli for stepping up and taking on the Coaching Coordinators role for 2020.

What was very pleasing this year was that when the football started, the skills on display for the players was exceptional. The only disappointing aspect was that we only had the 11 weeks to enjoy this. To all boys and girls that will leave junior



football I wish you all best with your football journey in 2021 and beyond.

The festival of the boot to finalise the season was fantastic. 3 days of grand final football played over 3 different venues. Thanks to East Perth for the use of Leederville oval. To the Hills clubs that came together to put on Swan's zone Grand finals at Gidgegannup a huge thank you. I would like to make special mention the Nathan Van Beek from Gidgegannup juniors for the mountain of work he did to pull the day together. Thanks Nathan. To Maddington and Gosnells for coming together to have the 10 games at Harmony Fields a big thank you.

Hopefully 2021 brings us back to some normality and I look forward to working with all the members of the RDC, the Swan's junior clubs and the WAFC staff. 2020 certainly threw us some curve balls but if we can manage our way past COVID19 and have a season like we did then look out 2021.

In finishing I would like to personally thank a few people. Tex, you were a rock, your unwavering resolve to get a season up and going was something to behold. To Dee and Ruth, how you

got through the work that you did is a credit to you both, To Shaun and Jo thanks for being available during the season and always having each other's backs.

To all the clubs - I wish all the departing committee members the best for 2021 and I look forward to working with the new committees in 2021. To all the RDC members thank you for your efforts in 2020 and will be looking forward to an even better 2021.

I wish a safe and prosperous end to 2020 to our entire football family, and I will see you all for the start of the 2021 season.



Dave Farthing
Swans District Junior Clubs Delegate
Metro Central Regional Development
Council



FEMALE FOOTBALL REPORT

With season 2020 done, we really did see what dedication and hard work looks like. What started out as an unpredictable year, we celebrated the successes, and we also had the heartbreaking task of saying our goodbyes.

The WAFC staff faced issues like no other, but they really did show us what they are made of and hats off to all involved. This thank you does not stop at the WAFC, but extends to our footy family throughout the community network who were instrumental in creating season 2020.

The pandemic had an unexpected effect on female footy in the metro central with record numbers throughout with Junior Female retention rates at 115.3% and Female Youth retention at 119.78%.

Female PFL took the cake with a massive 135.55% overall retention rate. With the 6 clubs already hosting female footy within our conference; namely Curtin University Wesley, Hills Rangers, Nollamara, Bayswater, Gosnells and High Wycombe; Metro Central clubs welcomed our newest additions with 2020 being their inaugural female season - including Kenwick, Kalamunda, Canning, East Perth and Swan Athletic.

These numbers are a great sign of things to come for female

footy and shows the direction we are heading towards, considering the difficulties this year put forward.

Coolbinia JFC took the title of the first club in the Metro Central region to host female teams from Auskick all the way through to 11/12s, while Hills Rangers FC were also creating milestones, hosting Junior Girls through to Amateurs.

Bayswater JFC and Huntingdale JFC both celebrated debut female seasons with an impressive line-up of 3 x all female teams. Morley JFC must be commended on the creation of the 'Spirit of Football' award, presented by the 7/8 girls to an opposition player that 'showed the best spirit for the whole game', promoting positive game day environments.

Facility upgrades have presented more opportunities for continuing growth of female engagement. Next year will see further clubs look at upgrading their facilities to cater to the unique situations that come with hosting female football for a welcoming and supportive environment.

Over at Steel Blue Oval, our Swans girls are leading the way! After taking the McSherry Medal, Shanae Davison has been selected by the West Coast Eagles with pick #18 in the AFLW



draft along with ex-East Perth and newly drafted Docker, Mikayla Morrison who took Rookie of the year. She was picked up by Freo on the recent draft with pick #30 overall.

Swans Reserves player Kaitlyn Beaton took home the Helen Wheeler Medal after only playing footy for about a year and half, and Caitlin Appleford was the winner of the Chelsea Randall Medal for the Rogers Cup fairest and best player.

In what was a transitional season with limited access to AFLW players Swans played the season with a young and inexperienced line up. With 17 players under the age of 21 (including 2 x 15 year old's) and 13 debutants, Swans were able to regenerate their list, create opportunities, continue to develop young talent and still play finals in the WAFLW League competition.

The success of the on-field football programs was only part of the Swans story in 2020, with the opening of the clubs brand new female changeroom facility being a welcome highlight off the field.

Season 2021 is looking positive with a new head coach on board and a continued investment in resources on and from the field Swan Districts Women's Football is looking to continue to grow and improve.

East Perth FC Rogers Cup girls have had a lot to celebrate, having their first win during round 4 against the Swans girls finishing with a 1-point margin, thanks to scoring the winning goal on the siren.

The girls are looking strong for season 2021, with the 9 outgoing players no longer eligible to play in the Rogers Cup age division all are looking to continue their footy dreams! The girls are also fortunate enough to have 2 of these players returning in coaching roles for next season.

Female footy in the Metro Central Region in season 2021 will be focusing on communication whilst also supporting pathways, connection, and growth throughout our community.



Tarryn Cuthbert
Female Football Representative
Metro Central Regional
Development Council



2020 CENTRAL CONFERENCE - BEST AND FAIREST AWARD WINNERS

The WAFWC Metro Central region delivered the 2020 Conference Best and Fairest awards presentation on Sunday 18th of October at Leederville Oval.

Over 350 community football representatives attended the two Best and Fairest events, which featured a record-breaking 20 youth competitions included in the vote count.

In a COVID-19 affected junior season, votes were counted for the first 10 rounds of football, with Round 11 matches showcasing 1v2 Grand Finals and 3v4/5v6 matches.

Metro Central Regional Development Council (RDC) Chair Hayley McNamara congratulated those award winners by saying "Well done to all of the award recipients for a fantastic 2020 season.

Each of the award recipients have displayed great dedication and consistency in effort across the season, and should be rightly very proud of their achievements."

Mrs. McNamara went on to say "The awards highlight the successful 2020 season for the Central Conference in what was, at times, a challenging season."

The WAFWC would like to thank RDC board members Shaun Hughes – East Perth Junior Club Delegate, and Dave Farthing – Swans District Junior Club Delegate for reading out all votes on the day. The region is also indebted to the support of WAFWC Competition Administrators Dee More and Ruth O'Donnell for organising and delivering the event.

2020 CENTRAL CONFERENCE AWARD WINNERS.

YEAR 8 GOLD – Runner Up

Denzel Mansur - Forrestfield JFC

YEAR 8 GOLD - Best & Fairest

Matthew Jenkins - Mt Lawley Inglewood JFC

YEAR 8 BLACK – Runner Up

Jai Hewitt - Huntingdale JFC

YEAR 8 BLACK - Best & Fairest

Liam Grieve - Upper Swan JFC

YEAR 8 BLUE – Runner Up

Aaron Hubert - Noranda JFC

YEAR 8 BLUE - Best & Fairest

Caylon Seelander - Manning Rippers FC

YEAR 8 WHITE – Runner Up

Tyson McGuire - Belmont Redcliffe JFC

YEAR 8 WHITE - Best & Fairest

Beinfait Kihusa - Ellenbrook JFC

YEAR 8 RED – Runner Up

Kye Austin - South Perth JFC

YEAR 8 RED - Best & Fairest

Joshua Rossen - Bayswater JFC

YEAR 9 GOLD - Runner Up

Harrison Creighton - Mazenod JFC

YEAR 9 GOLD - Best & Fairest

Ali Al-Shuweli - Kenwick JFC

YEAR 9 BLACK - Runner Up

Lopudo Opio - Ellenbrook JFC

YEAR 9 BLACK - Best & Fairest

Latrell Morgan - Morley JFC

YEAR 9 BLACK - Best & Fairest

Harrison Webster - Mt Lawley Inglewood JFC

YEAR 9 BLUE - Runner Up

Leonard Blurton - Bassendean JFC

YEAR 9 BLUE - Best & Fairest

Connor McEwan - Bassendean JFC

YEAR 9 WHITE - Runner Up

Bryden Duffy - Hills Rangers JFC

YEAR 9 WHITE - Runner Up

Thomas Cathcart - Caversham JFC

YEAR 9 WHITE - Best & Fairest

Alexio Yiannakis - Coolbinia JFC

YEAR 9 RED - Runner Up

Adam De Masi - Coolbinia JFC

YEAR 9 RED - Best & Fairest

Brandon Cappeau - Noranda JFC

YEAR 9/10 GIRLS GOLD - Runner Up

Chloe Hamer-Mathew - Coolbinia JFC

YEAR 9/10 GIRLS GOLD - Best & Fairest

Porsha Jetta - Caversham JFC

YEAR 9/10 GIRLS BLACK - Runner Up

Kitt Catulpos - Thornlie JFC

YEAR 9/10 GIRLS BLACK - Best & Fairest

Abbygail Bushby - High Wycombe JFC

YEAR 10 BLUE Runner Up

Michael Durack - Manning Rippers FC

YEAR 10 BLUE Best & Fairest

Lucas Naylies-Pereira - Ballajura JFC

YEAR 10 WHITE - Runner Up

Patrick Parker - Bayswater JFC

YEAR 10 WHITE - Best & Fairest

Harry Micallef - Noranda JFC

YEAR 10 RED - Runner Up

Liam Marriott - High Wycombe JFC

YEAR 10 RED - Best & Fairest

Blake Saaban - Bassendean JFC

YEAR 11/12 GIRLS - Runner Up

Hayley Baker - Caversham JFC

YEAR 11/12 GIRLS - Runner Up

Kyah Chirichilli - Caversham JFC

YEAR 11/12 GIRLS - Best & Fairest

Daisie Stack - Coolbinia JFC

YEAR 11/12 BLACK - Runner Up

Myles Walker - Bassendean JFC

YEAR 11/12 BLACK - Best & Fairest

Dylan Van Der Heyden - Thornlie JFC

YEAR 11/12 BLUE- Runner Up

Dylan Walker - Mt Lawley Inglewood JFC

YEAR 11/12 BLUE - Runner Up

Cyril Ugle - Midvale JFC

YEAR 11/12 BLUE - Best & Fairest

Aniello Pizzolante - Mt Lawley Inglewood JFC

YEAR 11/12 BLUE - Best & Fairest

Steven Overton - Forrestfield FC

YEAR 11/12 WHITE - Runner Up

Darcy Jones - Kalamunda JFC

YEAR 11/12 WHITE - Best & Fairest

Adam Brock - Caversham JFC

YEAR 11/12 WHITE - Best & Fairest

Benjamin Weymouth - Caversham JFC

YEAR 11/12 RED - Runner Up

Jarrod Sturch - High Wycombe JFC

YEAR 11/12 RED - Best & Fairest

Jacob Neville - Upper Swan JFC







SPIRIT OF JUNIOR FOOTBALL - NAIDOC ROUND

Originally scheduled to take place in July, NAIDOC Week was held from the 8th to the 15th of November 2020 this year as many State and Territories had gathering restrictions in place due to COVID-19. To ensure WA Football was still able to pay our respects, the WAFC invited all clubs across our State to join in with the celebration and acknowledgement of the vast contributions of Indigenous People to our great game during the weekend of the 28th - 30th August. The Central Conference football community came together in Round 7 to promote the positive spirit of junior football and united to celebrate WA Football's NAIDOC round.

Clubs from the East Perth, Perth and Swans zones used the hashtag #SpiritOfJuniorFootball to promote positive game day environments, and to celebrate NAIDOC round, which included teams lined up pre-game side-by-side in a stance against racism of any kind. Redcliffe Auskick Centre Coordinator, Peiye Truong organised for one of their families to perform a smoking ceremony and Welcome to Country.

In Noongar culture, a smoking ceremony is a traditional ritual used to not only cleanse and purify a specific area but it cleanses the spirit, body and soul whilst you are on Noongar Country. It also helps to ward off warra wirrin – bad spirits and to bring in the blessings of the kwop wirrin – good spirits.

An initiative started in the Central Conference in 2019, that has now expanded out to the many different leagues and associations in Western Australia this year, thanks to the guidance and support of WAFC Aboriginal and Inclusion Leader Brad Collard.

Brad Collard said, "This year's theme for NAIDOC week 2020 is 'Always Was, Always Will Be'. It will be fantastic to have the entire WA Football community come together to acknowledge Aboriginal People's contribution to the game of Australian Rules Football and provide a strong statement that racism is not to be tolerated in our communities".

We thank all teams and clubs for their involvement this year.



OUR PURPOSE:

Umpiring WA exists to create a great environment to develop great people.

OUR VISION:

Umpiring WA will have more engaged Umpires than Football requires.

OUR CULTURAL CHARTER:

Umpiring WA put People First by:

- Being open, honest and accountable
- Valuing everyone's thoughts, feelings and contributions equally
- Supporting and empowering our people
- Demonstrating a commitment to learning
- Celebrating success
- Being PROUD



2020 JUNIOR UMPIRE AWARDS

SWANS

Coach's Award
Best First Year Umpire Award
Junior Football Encouragement Award
Boundary Umpire Encouragement Award
Best Boundary Umpire Award
Most Improved Umpire
The Marika Lynn Hinchliffe Memorial Goal Umpire Encouragement Award
Sav Borg Clubman Award
Brett Rogers Goal Umpires Award
Dale Donnes Umpire of the Year Award
The Kevin Williams Memorial Mentor of the Year Award
Laycock Golden Whistle Award

Nicholas Italiano
Noah Wilson
Connor McEwan
Clancy Quick
Lucy Bastin
Jack Neuman
Halle Blair
Deklan Burns
Rik Fowler
Matthew Laycock
Cassidy Bodenham
Bray Loveridge

PERTH

Umpire of the Year
Red & Black Medal
Golden Whistle Award
Dean Margetts & Brett Rosebury Trophy
Most Valuable Umpire – Modified Rules Squad
Rising Star Award
Coaches' Award – Open Rules Squad
Coaches' Award – Modified Rules Squad

Liam Wyatt-Smith
Joanne Walker
Deacan Leete
Kyle Winnett
Billy Barnett
Will Turner
Thomas Hindmarsh
Jack Sutton

DDFUA Grand Final Umpires Sponsors

Year 7 Red - Sponsored by Hon Kate Doust MLC
Year 7 Black - Sponsored by Hon Kate Doust MLC
Year 8 Gold - Sponsored by Ben Wyatt MLA
Year 9 Gold - Sponsored by Bill Johnston MLA
Year 10 Blue - Sponsored by Chris Tallentire MLA
Year 11/12 Blue - Sponsored by Hon Matthew Swinbourn MLC
Year 11/12 White - Sponsored by Hon Matthew Swinbourn MLC
Year 11/12 Red - Sponsored by Hon Matthew Swinbourn MLC



EAST PERTH

Ellenbrook Best First Year Umpire
Ellenbrook Most Improved Umpire
Ellenbrook Most Dedicated Umpire
Ellenbrook Umpire of the Year
Modifieds Best First Year Umpire
Modifieds Most Improved Umpire
Modifieds Most Dedicated Umpire
Modifieds Coaches Award
Warren Haley Modifieds Umpire of the Year
Open Rules Best First Year Umpire
Open Rules Most Improved Umpire
Open Rules Most Dedicated Umpire
Open Rules Coaches Award
John Kaciuba Best Clubman Award
Golden Whistle Award

Riley McCabe
Mitch Peters
Caidan Stevenson
Zachary McCabe
Benji Matuszkiewicz
Lachlan Hall
Nicholas Bowden-Jones
Oscar Bengier
Oliver Diaz
Declan Kennett
Charlie Gordon
William Day
Spiro Kalafatas
Liam Grosse
Jack Trotter



SENIOR CLUB REPORT

The 2020 season has come to an end and despite the restrictions and uncertainty brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, overall, it has been a great success for both clubs and players.

Early concerns surrounding player numbers following the break were abated, with football proving popular with those looking for a social environment after COVID-19 prevented many other sporting competitions going ahead. The closure of many council-run social sport competitions such as indoor soccer and basketball, which have in recent times drawn player numbers away from football, meant many returned to the sport - some not having played football for many years. In addition, the cancellation of many country football leagues brought many country-based players back to the local metropolitan leagues. The ability of clubs to retain those coming back to football this year will be a strong factor in their success going forward, as some clubs may lose key players back to those leagues.

Financially, clubs performed strongly with financial assistance from the leagues allowing clubs to offset the loss from traditional sponsorship and bar takings. This assistance was made possible from cash reserves held by the leagues, however if clubs' income streams continue to be affected in 2021, it is likely that clubs will need to absorb this themselves. Some councils also assisted with the reduction in ground hire and clubroom leases, which further helped the bottom line.

Due to the late start to the season, competitions had to be amended to fit in with a condensed schedule. The Perth Football League halved the round robin with 9 rounds plus finals, which was largely driven by the requirement to complete the season before grounds were required for the cricket season. The Hills and Metro competitions, which had more flexibility with their grounds, delayed their finals to allow the full season to be completed and finished in mid-October.



Although this year has not been easy and has thrown many difficulties our way, clubs and league administrators made changes to ensure our season was able to proceed. Most of these changes will no doubt revert to a pre-COVID approach next season, however some may be a glimpse of the future. Football will need to assess whether any of these changes would benefit the future of the game.

Next year we will be introducing an award to acknowledge and encourage clubs in our region to build on being a football club to become vital and contributing members of their community. This involves engaging not only with other football clubs but also community groups and could involve supporting a fellow local/community group or establishing MOU's with surrounding junior and master's clubs. The more involved our clubs are with the greater community, the more support we will receive from local businesses and government, and they will become a core social environment for those in our area.

Finally, a special commendation needs to be made to the committees and club officials who, after months of planning, had everything put on hold with no guarantee of a season. With limited notice and ever-changing regulations, their ability to prepare their clubs for the season and have it completed successfully was something all should be proud of in 2020.



Mark Thomas
Senior Club Representative
Metro Central Regional
Development Council



WAFC JUNIOR COMPETITIONS REPORT

Football in the Metro Central Region continues to grow and we are in a strong position moving forward into the 2021 season.

In 2020, the WAFC delivered a new competition structure which provided additional staff and support. We commenced the year with much anticipation and enthusiasm before quickly being faced with a period of uncertainty due to the COVID-19 crisis that impacted us all. Months of season preparations were soon brought to a sudden halt. Not only state-wide, but across the country and reaching far beyond our borders, resulting in many staff being placed on stand down during this period.

Despite the news and challenges we faced, the community remained strong and optimistic. After two months there were positive signs in sight, and we were pleased to see the implementation of the first of a series of progressive steps towards a return to football. Whilst these heavily relied on stringent safety protocols and compliance, clubs embraced the opportunity to be back on the park.

In late June, the WAFC and Metro Central Competition team were thrilled to receive the news we had all been waiting for. Finally, we would welcome a return to junior football. Preparations continued and whilst restrictions eased, much work was continuing in and around our game rules to ensure everyone's safety was at the forefront. The commitment of our stakeholders ensured we were all focused on our football family.

By July, season planning had recommenced and despite the challenges of a fine timeline we all worked tirelessly to compile and deliver an eleven-week season fixture.

The reduced season saw the introduction of six team divisions, with 1 v 2 playing off for the Grand Final in round 11, as opposed to the traditional final format.

The Region had a total of 39 Junior community clubs, East Perth (8), Perth (12) and Swans District (19).

A total of 385 teams were fielded across 27 Youth divisions (175 teams) and 17 modified rules competitions (210 teams). We introduced a new female age group structure this year, allowing us to provide a complete female pathway in an exciting and emerging competition space. The new structure incorporated five dual age groups (each combining two school year cohorts) beginning with Year 3/4 and continuing through to Year 11/12.

Our female football pathway experienced strong growth and this year we welcomed new teams from Bayswater JFC and Kenwick JFC. Female participation was represented by 5 youth divisions (31 teams) and 2 junior modified divisions (18 teams), an impressive total of 49 female teams.

This year our Grand Finals were held at Leederville Oval (East Perth), Harmony Fields, Maddington (Perth) and Gidgegannup



(Swans District). The venues were hosted admirably in their respective regions by Mt Hawthorn, Morley & Ballajura (East Perth District). Maddington & Gosnells (Perth District) and Gidgegannup JFC, Chidlow JFC, Hills Rangers JFC, Mount Helena JFC &, Mundaring JFC (Swans District).

It is wonderful to be involved with young people playing football and sharing in the many benefits it delivers to them. Developing teamwork, personal confidence, becoming part of a community and maintaining good health.

Each week we provide support for over 190 games of football, that are officiated by approximately 600 umpires. Together with the support of a massive 1000 club volunteers, we work together to continue to establish positive Game Day Environments in our region.

All clubs, players, parents, spectators, and officials are bound by the WAFC's Junior and Youth Policies and True Sport Codes of Conduct and are subject to penalties at the discretion of the WAFC for any breach.

The Laws of the Game are applied and enforced in each sanctioned match of the season, and the Competition Team review all disciplinary breaches that arise. These are typically match day and incident reports. Overall, the season was very positive.

Thank you to all clubs for your tremendous efforts in 2020 especially all the volunteers, players, and their families. We look forward to maximising participation/retention and focusing on promoting quality environments to empower our volunteers who play a crucial role in our game.

We continue to work to improve all environments within football from volunteer training and education, coach and umpire support and the continued development of policies and procedures to enhance our game day environment, ensuring quality competitions for all involved. Our continued focus in these areas make it possible for young men and women in the community to continue to play football each season.



Dee More & Ruth O'Donnell
Competitions Administrators – Metro Central
West Australian Football Commission



WAFC COACHING REPORT

Coaching in 2020 was like no other, from preparing for the football season early in the year to going ahead as per usual, for it to be then knocked over due to a global pandemic. We then moved into the period of uncertainty of not knowing if there would be a football season at all, but during this period community coaches took this time and continued to plan for the season and kept in touch with players checking in on a regular basis via zoom and skype group calls, which was a positive outcome for all involved.

Once the green light was given to return to training, teams and clubs followed the correct return to play guidelines and commenced training in smaller groups focusing in on fitness and touch work. Once the start date was locked in for all competitions, coaches and volunteers hit the ground running to deliver the shortened 2020 season, which is a credit to all involved.

It was a hot start to the season with the game day environment from coaches a little concerning with poor behavior such as,

umpire and opposition abuse, field encroachment, and removing teams from the playing field.

In saying that there were several examples of great coaching/ great sportsmanship throughout the season from several clubs, some of these included teams awarding a football to the opposition in a show of strong sportsmanship after each game. Coaches rotating players through opposition teams to even up where needed and Coach to coach communication prior to games and during, went to another level with positive conversations taking place. This helped break down barriers between coaches, and coaching staff on game days and in the lead up to weekends.

With no opportunities to deliver club based coaching workshops and education sessions during season 2020 due to COVID-19, we will look to re-establish these in season 2021 along with the successful WAFL coaching academies. The Tackle your Feelings program for mental health was delivered successfully across several clubs throughout the metro area, it was received very



well by those coaches who attended, providing them with an understanding of the illness and been able to take this back to their community clubs and share the content.

Some great work throughout the season was done by the club coach coordinators and club committees, who continued to support and develop coaches by running their own club based coaching workshops, and monthly coaches meetings. Some of these workshops included effective tackling, managing team rotations and breaking training into pod groups.

The Coach.AFL platform has been improved for season 2021 with a range of high-quality resources including RM coach, mental health programs and a suite of online modules, with more to become live next year.

Looking to next season, level 2 coaching courses will be run again early in the year and all youth coaches are strongly encouraged to undergo their Level 2 accreditation. Along with Level 2 courses, plans for future education workshops will include modules such as effective tackling, kicking, match day

coaching, coach communication and fun and engaging training sessions.

In closing, the Metro Central team would like to thank Allana Dickie for all her hard work and dedication for her time in the coaching coordinator role. We wish Allana all the best with her move east, her passion for coaching will be missed by the team and the community.

Thank you to all coaches and clubs who made season 2020 an enjoyable one for myself, providing great hospitality when visiting your clubs on match days. Let us hope season 2021 is back to what we know with no interruptions and smooth sailing.

I would like to wish everyone an enjoyable offseason, stay safe and well and we look forward to working with you all again next season.

Christian Tuffili

Coaching Coordinator – Metro Central
West Australian Football Commission



DEVELOPMENT OFFICER REPORT

Season 2020 was one unlike any other, and will be one remembered for many years to come. In March, the idea of reaching Grand Final Day 2020 seemed an impossibility with the season placed on hold and WAFC staff stood down. For several months, our dedicated Club Presidents and their Committees were challenged with the task of maintaining a connection with their players, families, coaches and volunteers through virtual means only. Without the possibility of physical contact or training groups, our Clubs had to reimagine how football can connect with the Community and our Clubs did a sensational job of thinking outside the box.

As the pandemic continued to evolve restrictions were slowly lifted and we were given the green light to recommence group training - much to the delight of thousands of players who had also missed not only training with footy friends but also attending school. Thanks to the hard work, flexibility and dedication of the WAFC staff, Club Committees, officials and umpires we were able to hold a successful season – albeit a slightly shorter one than normal.

Season 2020 required significant resilience and patience from

everyone involved and those efforts are certainly valued and acknowledged. Although it was a challenging year for all, there are a few highlights from the year that was. The Nicky Winmar & Kirby Bentley Carnivals saw a positive performance by the Metro Central regions of East Perth, Perth & Swans District squads at UWA Sports Park on Saturday, Feb 28th and Sunday, 1st March. Despite fielding young and undersized squads, the boys and girls represented their respective jumpers proudly under the guidance of District Development Officers, Hayden Coble (East Perth), Kris Shannon (Perth) & Christian Tuffili (Swans District).

East Perth were strongly represented on both days with 38 boys attending Sunday's Nicky Winmar Carnival – the most of any district at the carnival. Perth & Swans District also had strong numbers with 25 and 35 respectively. The Nicky Winmar and Kirby Bentley Carnivals are designed to draw Indigenous boys and girls, aged 13 to 15, to junior community football and subsequently WAFL Development Squads.

The Metro Central Region is indebted to the dedicated coaching staff and the sensational support of the secondary schools who



donated significant resources to make it a positive experience for all players. Special thanks go out too coaches Kristen Nelson, Kye Willcocks, Shaq McKenzie, Jack Cox, Nelson Waite, Hayley Cole & Clinton Young for coaching the next generation of East Perth, Perth & Swans District indigenous players.

Over the last few years Auskick has been given a makeover with the successful implementation of a new, modern and engaging program which launched nation-wide in 2018. Prior to the COVID-19 shutdown: Auskick was tracking +543 participants ahead of the same time last year (+8%). Across the Metro area, we were able to retain 85.58% of our participants post COVID-19. This includes retaining 83.37% and 85.07% of our boys and girls respectively within the Auskick program. The Metro Central Region would also like to thank Daniel Cook for all his hard work over the last few years as he concludes his time at the WAFC in the Auskick Coordinator position.

2020 has been a difficult season for our staff with not only being stood down early in the season but then having to get a season back up and running in a very short time frame. Thank you to Corey Ranger, Matt Debarro, Dee More, Ruth O'Donnell,

Allana Dickie, Christian Tuffilli, Hayden Cobley & Kris Shannon for all your efforts this season.

We would also like to thank our Game Development Officers who assisted our Metro Central team throughout 2020 in a variety of different roles such as delivering school programs, Auskick check-ins, AFL 9's assistance and competition support. Football is more than employment, it takes a real passion to do what you do both during and after business hours for local footballers, volunteers and stakeholders and the Metro Central Region are incredibly fortunate to have such a selfless and hardworking crew.

In what has been a difficult and disjointed season filled with additional challenges and responsibilities, we hope 2021 will see the return of a more traditional season but we hope all volunteers take the opportunity to enjoy a well-earned break from football! Before you know it, the 2021 season will creep up on us again so stay safe and enjoy your break.

Hayden Cobley

District Development Officer – Metro Central
West Australian Football Commission

RDC LIFE MEMBERS



Ross Leipold
 Sharron Murray
 Terry Murray
 Joe Wieclaw
 Reno Boin
 Anne Latter
 John Dorazio
 John Ottaway
 Amber Hazel
 Glen Burton
 Kirsty Drew
 Joanne Warner



Bill Forrest
 Jo Davies
 Ken McCallum
 Joe Barbaro
 Laurie Kennedy
 Lyndall Jones
 Ang Barbaro
 Troy Starcevich
 Geoff Abbott
 Vince Del Prete
 Brett Richardson



Ian Foss
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