



Hornsby Heights Football Club

"Home of Football Development"

Chairmans Report – 2015

2015 will certainly go down in the history books as one of our most successful years. Whilst there were plenty of on field success stories, progress off the field in areas such as infrastructure, ground operations, communications and the creation of a football development culture were equally as important.

Of course the big ticket item for season 2015 was our brand new playing surface. Montview Oval has been transformed from the butt of many jokes about the vagaries of the infamous "Montview Bounce", to the premier playing precinct in the NSFA. The work done to improve drainage was a spectacular success and despite some early conservatism our Montview playing and training time was drastically improved compared to previous years. All HHFC players who had the pleasure of playing and / or training on the new surface will agree that the game of football became just that little bit easier to play. Thanks to Mayor Steve Russell and Hornsby Council for this wonderful project. And a big and ongoing thank you to our ever supportive Club Patron and local member Matt Kean.

Even more pleasing was the sheer volume of positive commentary from visiting players, coaches, parents and supporters. This feedback wasn't limited to our playing surface but went as far as including our coffee, BBQ and the exceptional customer service provided by HHFC teams. To this end I would like to express my sincere thanks to the Witham family who really did make a superb contribution to the Montview ambience by providing superb coffee, outstanding service and a nothing is ever too much trouble attitude. In 2015 we "in-sourced" our BBQ service and the tireless efforts of Craig Becchio in making this a cash flow positive fundraiser for the club are greatly appreciated by all. The BBQ was manned by HHFC teams as we stepped up our focus on creating a volunteer culture. The level of customer service was exceptional throughout the whole year and helped many families from across the north shore experience the joy of football at Montview Oval.

I would also like to take the time to single out three more individuals who helped us achieve operational excellence in 2015. Marcis Morgan is one of the most naturally enthusiastic people I know. In 2015 that enthusiasm manifested itself in his consistent and un-yielding presence at Montview Oval at 7am on a Saturday and Sunday morning to ensure that our fields were dressed appropriately. Often times he would find himself back at Montview at 5pm to pack away as well. We will certainly be looking for some extra support for Marcis in 2015 but from all at HHFC we thank you for your tireless efforts. It does not go unnoticed.

Adam Buttenshaw joined our committee in 2015 and has made an immediate impact. His work on taking over the girl's team photography project was a wonderful opportunity to mix his passion behind the lens with our intractable problem of professional photographer's refusing to do Sunday Team Photos. He did such a wonderful job we have asked Adam to run the entire club's photography in 2016. Adam has offered to do this as a 100% fundraiser for HHFC which is a gesture that we truly appreciate. Adam has also assisted us with IT, Social Media and Web related projects in 2015 and is the person most responsible for dragging us into the digital age. Thanks Adam – a very handy addition to the team.

In 2015 I started writing a weekly wrap up of the important events from the football weekend. Maxine Edwards was kind enough to provide me with feedback suggesting I was being a bit bland. In the spirit of presenting solutions and not problems she kindly took over the process of formatting the Weekly Wrap and we now have a communication tool that the majority of our members can digest every week. Maxine has also been an incredible support creating marketing materials for schools, pre-schools, newspapers and newsletters. Thank you for your support.

Before I touch on the playing side of 2015 I would finally just like to thank all of our club's members – players, parents, supporters, coaches, managers and other volunteers. The HHFC Committee feels like we are on the cusp of creating something special at our football club. If I could quote directly from Darryl Kerrigan (The Castle 1997), "the vibe your honour" is feeling pretty damn good at the moment. A culture like this is only possible with the support of our club members. In the recent NSFA Club Satisfaction Survey we achieved a Net Promoter Score of 63%. For those of you who have had exposure to NPS you will understand that a score this high is incredibly hard to obtain. So thanks to those who responded so positively to the survey and to everyone who has contributed to the progress at HHFC.



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On the field the biggest change was our move to professional coaching and development squads in 2015. Overall the philosophy and ideas were exceptional. The execution can and will be improved a little in 2016. As with any change there are a few kinks that we need to iron out but the HHFC committee is 100% committed to providing a development pathway for all community footballers. Our membership grew by 9% in 2015 as word began to spread about our new initiatives. Thank you to T3 Australia and Fernando Clarence for their contributions in 2015.

In 2015 we fielded a total of 43 teams with 545 registered players. Our teams once again ranged from Under 6 to Over 45. Included in these totals was seven girls only Sunday teams with the emergence of G8 and G9 teams a very pleasing development.

Over the course of season 2015 HHFC teams played in over 800 games of football. I can happily report on the following teams who achieved premiership success:

Over 45s: Grand Final Winners

Under 12B: Premiers

G12: Diamond League Champions

In addition, we had five teams who were successful on Gala Day. These teams were our **U7**

Cobras, G11 and G12 Diamond League Teams, the Under **13Bs** and the Under **18As**.

Congratulations to these teams. This was one of our most successful Gala Day results in a number of years and definitely just reward for a season of hard work on the training pitch.

Our cumulative results throughout the season enabled us to finish third in the NSFA Club Championship. This was our best result for many years and highlighted the competitiveness of our junior and senior competition teams. We are hopeful that our development programs will contribute even further to consistently good results in the years to come.

As coach of the G12 Diamond League team, I know much was made of their success during the year. I would just like to thank the fourteen girls in that team who delivered for HHFC only it's third Champion of Champions title. Girls Football continues to grow in both quality and quantity at our club and we will continue our initiatives to ensure that we are the home of girl's football development on the upper north shore. Well done girls.

So that's it for another season. Thanks to every member of the HHFC Committee who willingly give their time for the greater good of their community. Please consider putting your hand up for a committee duty in 2016 as sharing the load dramatically increases the number of projects we can take on each year. Finally, thanks to my co-chairman, Campbell Watt. The sharing of responsibilities over the last two years has worked a treat and without Campbell our achievements would be insignificant.

Malcolm Waldock

2015 Football Section Co-Chairman