



# **FLAGSTAFF HILL FOOTBALL CLUB INC**

2018

## Annual General Meeting Report

Wednesday 21 November  
held at the  
Flagstaff Community Centre

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# **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

This is my 16th and final annual report to you as President. In 2002 I was a junior parent who'd never played community club footy, who'd never been on a community club committee let alone the Flaggy committee, yet overnight I found myself president of the Flagstaff Hill Footy Club and began one of the most challenging, exhilarating, occasionally heartbreaking, always educational and unbelievably joyous times of my life. What a ride it's been.

To say I have mixed feelings about stepping down after 16 years is a massive understatement. It's really hard for me to imagine NOT being the President of the Flagstaff Hill Football Club. It has become part of my DNA. It has meant so much to me in that time and I can proudly say that an ocean of my blood, sweat and tears has gone into helping to build Flagstaff Hill into a Club that I am so incredibly proud of and is the envy of so many other organisations who now aspire to have what we have.

We don't mind other clubs improving but it is the collective duty of all current and future custodians of our Club **to make sure that Flagstaff Hill always remains ahead of the others.**

I don't believe in cycles. I don't believe it was "our turn". Everything we currently enjoy we have earned through hard work, talent, persistence and an absolute commitment to some core values.

There is NO reason why this success can't continue... it only comes to an end if we allow it to come to an end.

There is EVERY reason why we can continue to be a dominant Club within our league and an incredibly positive destination for all footballers and their family and friends to flock to.

Getting to this point was within our control. Staying here is also within our control. But more on that later.

## **IT'S ALL ABOUT PEOPLE**

We must never lose sight of the fact that any club or organisation is just another name for a "group of people"...a group of people who have combined for a common interest. It's the way that that group of people combine together over a long

period of time that determines the level of success of the club.

I'd firstly like to take this last opportunity to personally acknowledge some of the most influential of those people during my 16 year tenure. I could write a chapter on the contribution that each of these people have made to our Club (and maybe one day I will) but for now I'll have to restrict it to a few brief but very heartfelt words. My apologies for anyone I miss...it's been a long time involving hundreds of people.

### **Our Junior Program**

Junior Development was one of 3 core values we committed to from the start and for this to happen we needed outstanding junior coaches. Every single junior coach in my time played an important role but the following four were especially influential during their time with us.

**Paul Marriott** was an exceptional junior coach who was appointed in my first year and helped to set a new standard during his 3 year involvement. **Colin Willoughby** followed soon after for 5 years positively setting higher expectations for junior players...and they rose to his challenges. **Craig Burfitt** won his first junior premiership in his first year co-coaching with Colin. Burf went onto coach Falcon juniors for a massive 11 years winning multiple premierships across the grades and helping to develop many fine players. What a long and fantastic contribution Burf has made. As has **Graham Tomkins** who started as a coach of our first ever Sunday Team, progressed to be a multiple junior premiership coach and positively impacted on the lives and footy development of many of our young men.

All these man raised the bar for junior coaches and left an indelible mark on our Club and the players they coached. Thank you guys for your important contributions.

The path they, and others, pioneered have helped ensure we now have 3 outstanding Junior coaches continuing on in 2019 in **Craig Bunworth, Paul Hollands** and **Marty Clifton**. These 3 men are coaches of the highest order who have already made a big impact and I'm confident will continue to do so.

### Our Sub Junior Program

My son Kain brought me to the Club when he was an Under 14 so I knew very little about our Sub Junior program. When I first took on the role it quickly became obvious that the Sub Juniors was where it all started and that any Club culture change had to start there. We needed the right people to help bring this about and we were blessed to find them.

**Paul McGuire** and **Rick Green** (affectionately known as Dumb and Dumber) set a new standard early on, focussing on bringing people together and promoting strong family values. Finding high quality people who shared these philosophies became a high priority for us when selecting Subbies Coordinators and each subsequent one has built on the outstanding work of their predecessor.

Following Paul and Rick, there was **Donna O'Brien** then **Thea Hollands** and now **Mel Haslam**. They have all raised the bar and done outstanding work. Every person was made welcome, no-one was turned away and our Club ethos of Strong & United was constantly reinforced from day one to new players and parents.

Our Coordinators sought out Coaches who were educators, role models and above all else were a positive and unifying influence on the young people in their care. That has to be the continuing way for the future...and we need to continue to place a very high value on the quality of our Sub Junior Coordinators and Coaches. That's where it all starts for the Club.

My deep thanks to all the Coordinators and Coaches who have made our Subbies program the best and laid a bedrock foundation for our Club.

### Our Trainers

We struggled for regular trainers in the early years. Many helped out to get us through but it was a constant battle.

One bright and sunny Family Fun Day over 10 years ago, a lady approached me in response to my plea on the microphone for more trainers and said she was keen to get involved. What a pivotal moment that was. Her name was **Julie Harrington**. Around that time we also managed to recruit an experienced trainer from Noarlunga, a gentle giant named **Frank Rismondo**. That was the start of a wonderful union.

Together, slowly and steadily, Julie and Frank built a strong team of trainers and when Frank pursued higher challenges in the SANFL, Jules took over the reins as Head Trainer. We now have twice as many teams as we had back then and remarkably 3 times as many trainers...a testament to the work these 2 have done.

What was once a weakness for our Club (and most Clubs) has turned into an amazing strength. Thank you to all our trainers for the vital role you play. Thank you Frank for helping to get the ball rolling, for mentoring and setting standards... and thank you Julie for leading the way with such care, unity, stability, strength and high standards within our Trainers ranks for so long now. You have been a pleasure to work with. May you continue for many more years.

### **Our Senior Program**

When a Club decides to rebuild their culture from the ground floor up the Senior side of the Club is likely to be the last to experience success. And that's how it proved to be with us. But that didn't mean we didn't try to accelerate this process. Each Senior Coach we brought in played an important part in this journey and a couple of A Grade Coaches were particularly influential to our end goal.

One of the more exceptional coaches of his day **Ian Cox** was lured to Flaggy Hill in 2006/2007. He loved playing "kids" and the enthusiasm and fearlessness they bring and he exposed a lot of our younger players to A Grade footy earlier than many would have thought. A core group of those went on to become very important senior players and recognise Coxy as being pivotal to their development.

**John Ramage** was enticed back to the Club as A Grade Coach for 4 years from 2010 and laid a strong foundation for what has followed since 2014. John was also a huge reason why I got involved in the first place. My son Kain played in the Club's first junior premiership under John in 2000 and that experience gave both Kain and I a taste for the Flaggy Footy Club and gave me a desire to get involved and help out. Ramma was also responsible for recruiting Rod Mitchell to our Club in what has proven to be a milestone appointment. On so many levels John's influence has been far reaching on our Club. Thanks to Coxy and Ramma.

### **Our Sponsors**

Sponsors have played an invaluable role and I'm very thankful for the contribution each and every one has made. I know it's a cliché but we wouldn't exist without them knowing that it costs well over \$200,000 per year to run a footy club our size.

We had just a handful of sponsors 16 years ago and now we have over 70 and growing. We are indebted to loyal past sponsors like **Isaac Auto Electrics, Southern Cross Cleaning, Forty Winks, Olliecom** and many others who made high-level contributions and were incredibly loyal for many years long before our stocks were on the rise.

Today we have the likes of **Radical Torque Solutions, Stratco, the Flagstaff Hotel, Holdfast Insurance Brokers, Harcourts Tagni** and **TechDry SA** as our Gold and Silver sponsors... and I love the fact that every one of them has a personal connection to our Club.

I must highlight one Silver Level sponsor who has been there from the very start 16 years ago and is still there today. **Gus Stewart from Cellarbrations at Flagstaff Hill** has been the most remarkable, most loyal, most easy-going, most generous of sponsors through the tough years as well as the successful ones.

I deeply thank ALL our sponsors for their generosity and support since 2003 and I reserve a very special personal thanks for Gus and Cellarbrations.

It would be remiss not to thank and acknowledge my company Charlesworth Nuts, for 16 years of sponsorship, during which time I calculate (and don't tell my brother) that we have contributed over \$160,000 in cash, products and vouchers to the Club. Charlesworth Nuts will continue its sponsorship in 2019 and beyond.

**Attentis** will be named as our major sponsor for the next 3 years before the start of next season so while I have the chance I also want to extend our great appreciation to **Cameron McKenna and Attentis**. Cameron is a fantastic, community-spirited bloke and I really hope this proves to be another long and proud collaboration.

And while we're talking sponsors and influential people, I want to say a massive thank you to **Kym Mitchell** who took over

the sponsorship role from me in 2014 and during his 4 years took it to another level, attracting many new sponsors and putting important processes in place. Kym's blue-sky thinking, pro-activeness and ability to get the job done have impacted very significantly on our Club in recent years. Thank you Kym... you're welcome back anytime.

### Our Unsung Heroes

There have been hundreds of "unsung heroes" along the way but I'll attempt to highlight a few special ones in my time who were there through the tough times and persisted long enough to bring about the great times.

Many of these people are represented in that special group we have come to know as the Old Farts although their contribution started well before that name was adopted. Guys like **Tim O'Malley, Greg Kearsley, Dicky Hunter** and **Scott Murfitt** have been making a major difference for years and years in many and varied roles and have been a constant source of strength, stability, innovative ideas and not a small amount of absurdity and humour. I thank them, and all their cohorts, for their important contributions and their belief over such a long period.

There are many other people at our Club who had made their mark long before I arrived and are still making their mark today. People like **Wade Stone, Michael Haslam** and **Stephanie Dempsey** who have all bled red and blue for decades. Both Wade and Michael are C Grade Premiership coaches and have a very long history on the committee and as volunteers. Steph was secretary for 8 years, has been an SFL delegate forever and often been a part of our trainers' team. People like these are the lifeblood of our Club.

No tribute to Unsung Heroes can be complete without acknowledging **Gavin Haese** who pre-dates just about everybody. Gav has given me heaps over the years and I'm pretty comfortable I've returned the favour but all jokes aside this man has given almost 40 years service to our Footy Club and deserves a very special place in our history. Gav this Club wouldn't be the same without you. You're a remarkable man and a source of inspiration and on behalf of all of us, thank you for your ongoing contribution.

To all the Unsung Heroes I've shared time with over the years, we have a long history together, each one uniquely different and each one I cherish deeply. Thank you all.

### Our Players

Some of my greatest joy has come from watching young, mischievous boys grow and develop over the years into outstanding young men. There are so many examples. I look through our playing lists and I can't find one I wouldn't be proud to call my own. From veterans like **Steve Gater, Pete McMaster and Saul Abbott** ...to our current senior leaders including **Michael Shearer, Brad Kirk and Sam Tharaldsen**...to young guns like **Shane Heatley, Casey Davies, Brad Patterson, Josh Vandermeer, Mark Hollis, Sam Osmond, Angus Fisher, Blaise and Declan Tomkins** and so many others. Many more have come and gone too...and there are so many more coming up through the ranks like **Leith Mitchell, Taine and D'Arcy Mitchell, Macca Short** and the **Buersch** boys **Chris and Alex**.

This is not meant to be a definitive list by any means just a handful of examples to highlight the quality of the young men (and now girls and women), right across our grades that continue to come through our Club.

If our Club environment and the values we espouse has contributed in some small way to the character development of our players over the years then I walk away feeling a father's pride that all the hard work and effort has been rewarded a thousandfold.

**Paul Petrov** holds a special place in my heart. If you could bottle his raw passion for the club we would be unbeatable forever. From my first year Paul always showed faith in me and believed in, and was grateful for, what we were doing... and that meant a lot to me... more than he probably realised. The night he received life membership of our Club remains one of my most special memories. Thanks Paul.

There are 2 more players I hold in the highest esteem. I admire them greatly for their leadership and what they have achieved on field but just as importantly it's their work off field from when they were junior players that marks them as very special men. It's that and the way they have always conducted themselves, which really sets them apart.



**Leigh O'Malley** and **David Kearsley** have been a constant source of inspiration, motivation and pride for me over the years. My original goal was to help build the best Club in the League for my son Kain and the young players like Kears and Omaz, who were his contemporaries. There were many setbacks along the way but the determination, work ethic and Club Spirit always on display by Omaz and Kears (who were both committee members as Under 18s) always kept driving me forward determine to achieve our goal. If they were prepared to do whatever it took and were never going to give up... then there was no way I was going to.

Thank you to Omaz, Kears and all our players, past and present, you have always been, and continue to be, my inspiration.

### **Our Committee and Officials**

Behind the scenes and on the committee I have had the joy of working with many amazing people over the years, way too many to name them all here but I deeply thank each and every one of them.

**Craig McMaster** was the Chairman with me in the early years, helping to lay an important foundation. Craig and his wife **Helen** continue to be consistent and important volunteers and sponsors to this very day. My traditional post-game "whizzy" of Helen, following a particularly memorable triumph, was always a highlight. I treasure and greatly appreciate their involvement.

Our Chair for 7 years from 2008 to 2014 was **Jo Collins**. Jo's impact on our Club's culture and development during that critical period was second-to-none and was absolutely pivotal to the success we enjoy today. I'm very grateful for Jo's contribution and never lose sight of the impact she made. It was enormous. It was an absolute pleasure working with Jo over those 7 years.

This year also sees the retirement of 2 exceptional people who have long served the Committee and the Club. They are good friends and are bowing out together.

**Mel Ready** has been our Secretary for the last 7 years and **Kim Nash**, our Merchandise Coordinator for 8 years. Both ladies

have worked tirelessly in their roles and have always had the Club's best interests at heart. I thank you ladies for your service, for the impact you have had in your roles and for the loyal support you have give me in that time.

### **My 3 Amigos**

And lastly to **Rod Mitchell, Deb Osmond** and **Grant McAvaney**.

**Rod Mitchell...** Mitty's amazing record at our Club speaks for itself... 4 x A and B Grade premierships in 8 years as a Senior coach... equalling the number that had been achieved in the previous 50 years. Mitty deserves to be a Club legend now and forever.

On a personal level I can't speak highly enough of Mitty. Not only has he enormously impacted the playing group, he's positively impacted every area of the Club and gone way above and beyond what the usual A Grade coach does. I've never seen a coach work harder or longer, or with more creativity and lateral thinking, looking for the one percenters that build a champion team. He has been a Club leader, a passionate advocate of our values and a total professional.

Achieving goals and having success is fantastic but when you do so with good mates who you greatly respect and admire, it's even sweeter. It's been really sweet. Thanks Mitty.

**Deb Osmond...** I often describe Deb as a Club treasure and she is that and so much more. She took on the Junior Footy Director role in 2007 (I think) and brought with her a level of organisation and communication that was second to none. She set new standards.

When Jo Collins stood down as Chairperson in 2014, the only person I wanted in that role was Deb. Her leadership and willingness to tackle any task she needed to and then execute it to perfection has been inspirational. No-one has worked harder than Deb or deserves more respect... and no-one has had a greater impact on our Club, it's culture and our results. But as much as I admired her work, it is the amazing support and loyalty she has always shown me that I will forever remember and appreciate. It has been one of life's great joys to work side by side with her and achieve the things we have. Thank you Deb.

**Grant McAvaney...** Grant is an icon of our Club. He was a Life Member when I first became president, he's been a constant rock throughout my whole journey and remarkably he's still there, contributing even more than he ever has, as I bow out 16 years later. It's hard to put into words what Grant means to our Club. As the years have gone by my respect and appreciation for Grant has just grown and grown.

Just like my brother Mark at work, Grant brings skills and perspectives to the table that are not my strengths, but together like 2 halves to a whole, we keep each other honest and focused and I think make a pretty potent combination. Again like my brother, we are chalk and cheese in just about every way but I can't conceive of a more perfect person to have partnered me over all these years and I count myself incredibly fortunate to have shared that time with him. Thank you Grant.

### **Our Lost Mates**

Along the way we have tragically lost some young men and boys well before their time. During those times I have been very proud of the way our Club has supported those grieving families, and while nothing could ever diminish what they had lost, taking them in our collective arms, sharing in their grief and embracing them with all the love we could, hopefully offered some small comfort.

Those times have helped to define our Club.

We come to the Club to play footy and have fun, and maybe win a few premierships along the way, but it's how we look after each other as a community at painful and difficult times that truly measures our success. I hope we never lose that humanity.

### **Thank You**

To all the people I have named, and to the hundreds of others it hasn't been possible to include, it has been my honour, my privilege and my absolute pleasure to have served with you. Thank you all.

### **OUR FUTURE**

I can't complete my tenure comfortably without turning an eye on the future. So here goes.

People often say to me, "Did you ever believe that we'd win 3 A Grade premierships in a row?"... or "Did you ever think we'd win 4 individual premierships in 3 consecutive years?" ... or "Can you believe we won the SFL Club of the Year 3 times on the trot?" or any number of similar questions.

My answer, hand on heart, is "YES" I did believe all those things were possible and more. Maybe not the exact specifics, but certainly the magnitude of those achievements. And that's the key to it. You have to believe... and you have to keep on believing... NO MATTER WHAT.

We were talking about being the best Club in the League...about being a powerhouse Club...about building a dynasty...from the very early days when most people, including many within our Club, thought it was a pipe dream. We described what that dynasty looked like and made it quite clear that while A Grade premierships were essential to that goal they weren't going to be enough. We had to have strength, unity and success across all grades and all areas of the Club, not just the A Grade, to be the absolute best. And it needed to be consistent success.

It's vital for our future that we understand that our success is not about a "cycle" and it wasn't just "our turn". We achieved success because we believed... we kept on believing... and we never stop believing no matter what obstacles got in our way and no matter what temporary setbacks we endured.

We had challenges, we had tough times and we had more than our share of kicks in the guts. We had divisive issues occur within the Club that threatened our strength and unity at times, but we met those challenges, addressed them honestly, fairly and positively, and stayed true to our values and true to our goals. We never took the easy road... we took the right road.

The belief is what gives you the strength to keep trying, to keep improving, to keep overcoming, to keep finding the answers, to never giving up until you achieve your goal.

We did that. And we need to keep doing that.

We haven't arrived at our destination. We never will. We are still on the journey. We need to keep re-setting our goals. We need to keep redefining what our "best ever year" looks like and believing we can achieve it.

There are ALWAYS new goals. There are always higher mountains to climb. We don't have to look elsewhere for those challenges. We've never won more than four premierships across all grades in a single year. Four A Grade premierships in a row is better than three... and five is better than four. No-one in our league has ever won five in a row. Let's be the first. We haven't won a Girls premiership yet... why not 2019? The list of goals yet to be achieved goes on and on. There are ALWAYS higher mountains to climb.

We have lost a few Senior players this year who are seeking out new challenges. That's their right but they are mistaken to think there weren't bigger challenges here than what they have taken on.

**We are now in a position to achieve things that most other Clubs can barely dream about.** Why lower our sights and our standards now?

It doesn't matter we have lost those guys for now, it doesn't matter that our skipper and spiritual leader is out for a year with a knee recon (although I wish he wasn't)... they are just obstacles and setbacks for us to overcome yet again. We just find ways of turning those negatives into positives like we've done so many times before. Our success proves we can do it.

I am supremely confident about our future. Our Club is our people. Our people have made our Club the great success that it is... and our people will lead us into an even more successful future.

For stability at the top we have 2 exceptional people in **Deb** and **Grant** continuing on in their roles plus a raft of other experienced committee members continuing on to support them.

We will have a new President, either **Justin** or **Neil**, who will bring in freshness and excitement and whoever is successful, I am confident will also treasure the values and philosophies we hold dear.

Within the President's role there are many tasks to perform, **but the single most important role of the president is to promote, protect and enhance our culture** and I believe these men will strive to do just that.

Our Senior program will be led by **Darren Vanzetta** who has been at Mitty's side, contributing to our A Grade success to date and who will now stamp his own brand on the program to ensure we keep moving ahead and are never stagnant. Alongside him is **Don Aldridge** as Senior Footy Director, but so much more. Don is a great footy man, family man and an exceptional administrator. I have no doubt he will play a pivotal role in our future success. I'm looking forward to seeing what **Bill Kelsey** and **Julianne Mitchell** bring to their key roles as Junior Footy Director and Secretary respectively. I believe they each have a huge amount to offer.

Importantly **Mel Haslam** continues in her vital role as Sub Junior Coordinator. A number of other key positions have opened up though that will attract more new, high quality people to them.

Many of the exceptional leaders and senior players we have across our grades will still be there continuing to set the example to their team mates and acting as role models for our juniors.

We are entering a transformational and very exciting time for our Club.

I repeat, a Club is just a group of people. People have brought us to this high point... and people will lead the way forward to even higher points.

EVERYONE has a role to play. EVERYONE has strengths to bring to the table. Together we have come this far... together we will go further.

May the Flagstaff Hill Football Club be forever "**Strong & United**"...

... and may there be many more "**Best Years Ever**" to come.

Thank you from the bottom of heart for the absolute honour and privilege of being your president these last 16 years. Keep soaring higher.

**Brett Charlesworth**  
**PRESIDENT**

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Once again 2018 was an enormously successful year for Flagstaff Hill Football Club both on and off the field. For the third year in a row the club was named SFL Champion Club of the Year, an honour we all feel very proud to share.

Equally impressive was the A Grades Back to Back to Back victory against Reynella Football Club 21.16-142 to 6.6-42. The 100 point win was the highest ever winning margin recorded in the Southern Football League's history and an impressive achievement for this talented group of players.

Congratulations to retiring A Grade Coach Rod Mitchell, all Senior players, Assistant Coaches and support staff who made winning 3 Premierships in a row look easy!! FHFC members, supporters and families were thrilled to witness your history making win.

Our B Grade team, coached by B Grade Premiership player Kym Dooley had an unforgettable season and achieved the ultimate title of undefeated premiers. This is not an easy task at Senior level but our players never wavered from their goal. Congratulations to everyone involved with this team.

With the memory of a one point loss still fresh in their minds the C Grade players were determined to go one better in 2018. Their win against Hackham Gold made it a Senior trifecta, a feat never easy to achieve. Congratulations to Wade Stone, C Grade players and support staff.

The Open Women, coached by Peter Cavouras, enjoyed another great season. After the loss of some key players to the next level of competition, our inaugural premiers recruited well and welcomed new players into the team. The girls had a competitive season resulting in them playing finals footy but unfortunately a loss in the Preliminary Final ended their dream of Back to Back glory.

Junior numbers increased this year with the introduction of an U14 girls team. This group of talented young girls, coached by Michael Hegarty and Luke Beenham, had an amazing first season. The girls went from strength to strength and played in a grand final in their first season. Unfortunately, they were

beaten by Lonsdale but they will learn from the loss and come back stronger next season. These young girls have a bright future ahead and I am keen to see what they can achieve in the future. Thank you to the support staff and parents who willingly took on tasks each week.

Our Saturday Under 15 team, coached by Paul Hollands won Back to Back flags after a close win over Christies Beach. The Sunday Under 15 team, coached by Neil Williams played in the Sunday Grand final but lost to a stronger Christies Beach team. Well done to everyone involved in these two teams.

Craig Bunworth coached the U13 boys again this season. At the start of the year the U13 numbers were down slightly whilst our Under 12 numbers were high. Craig worked closely with Donny Aldridge (Junior Football Director) and Mel Haslam (Sub Junior Football Director) and the two Under 12 coaches, Dave Smith and Dave Hodgson to manage player numbers. Juggling numbers and game time is never an easy task at this level but with good communication between Juniors and Subbies, the goal of Club Spirit, Constant Improvement and Junior Development was successfully achieved.

17 teams played football at FHFC this season and every week they were supported by dedicated volunteers. In addition to the match day support staff we also have volunteers who help with set up and pack up duties, canteen and BBQ duties, guernsey washing, weekly fundraising, home game meals etc etc. At FHFC we are very fortunate to have wonderful volunteers who take great pride in what they do and it is their amazing dedication and efforts that enable us to be the professional club that we are.

Special thanks must go to our team sponsors and player sponsors. We feel very fortunate to have so many kind people willing to offer their financial support, so many thanks to each of you for your generous support.

At the 2018 SFL Mail Medal Night our club had a record number of representatives eligible for awards. Congratulations to each of you on your successful season and special mention to new recruit Chelsea Farr winning the Open Women Best & Fairest Stephanie Dempsey Award. Congratulations also to B Grade player Nick Bailey and Under 15 player Rhys Galliford for winning the Leading Goalkicker's Award in your respective grades.



On Senior Presentation night 4 new Life members were announced. Congratulations to Paul McGuire, Matt Green, Daniel Butcher and Rod Mitchell on receiving this special honour and thank you for your many years of loyal service to the Flagstaff Hill Football Club.

At Junior Presentation Day club favourite Oli Nash received the Junior Club Person of the Year award. Oli has been helping at the club for many, many years and it was very special to see him rewarded for his efforts.

Many thanks to everyone involved on the committee for your outstanding efforts this season. I feel very fortunate to be involved with such a hard working group and I look forward to working with you all again next season. It was encouraging to have new Senior players join the committee this season - your opinions and new ideas were refreshing and I hope you will all stay involved for many years to come. I am very proud to be a part of the Flagstaff Hill Football Club Committee and I look forward to what we can achieve together in 2019 with new committee members and a new President.

Now for the last time in an official capacity I must thank our Club President, Brett Charlesworth, who for 16 years has been the leader of this amazing, family friendly, successful club. You have worked tirelessly and achieved so much during your 16 year reign including Life Membership, 5 time Club Person of the Year, 4 SFL Club of the Year Awards, 9 Senior Premierships and 16 Junior Premierships. Be proud of your achievements and for the positive environment you have created at our club.

Thank you Brett for persuading me to join the committee back in 2007 or I may have missed this amazing journey. Working with you and learning from you over the past 12 years has been an absolute pleasure and to say I will miss our close working relationship is an understatement.

**Deb Osmond**  
**CHAIRMAN**

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

During 2018, receipts totalling \$235,033.79 were issued. Expenditure was \$246,367.76, just short of a quarter of a million dollars, and \$11,000 more than what was received.

This meant that the balance of \$35,000 at the start of the year was reduced to \$24,000 at the end of the season. There are some moneys still to come in, and some to be paid out, but that is always the case at this time of the year. The result is satisfactory, and a credit to all of the volunteers at the Club. Every item on the Receipts side of the Balance Sheet required planning, organisation and a commitment to see the task through, and all who helped should be quietly pleased with their efforts.

Some of the pluses were a rise in Subscriptions, a big increase in Sponsorship, a resurgence in Meals, a strong and profitable Social Program, initiatives by a couple of players in selling Beanies and Warm-Up Tops, and a late season On-line Auction that proved a money-spinner.

On the expenditure side, Affiliation Fees rose as a result of a couple of clubs leaving the SFL with a resultant loss of revenue to the League, and disappointingly, the Insurer raising its profits by charging premiums for Sub Junior teams with 12 players per side, where it had previously advertised ethically in years gone by that a team would consist of a squad of 26 players. And of course there was the usual rise in Umpires Fees. Elsewhere there were small price rises here and there, but nothing too drastic.

Each year the club always strives to make the year better than the last, and next year is already heading towards that. The Electronic Scoreboard is awaiting erection, which should bring more supporters through the Gate, and the new Clubroom renovations are ready to go.

As a Club, we are looking at four Premierships in a row in the Premier Grade and yet another year as the SFL Club of the Year.

Bring it on!

**Grant McAvaney - TREASURER**

## **SENIOR FOOTBALL DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Wow, what a year. I feel privileged to have been a part of the early building blocks and experience the journey to our best year ever.

Within weeks of our 2017 success the coaches went about their planning, interviewing players, preparing pre-season training, talking to new recruits. Player retention has always been a focus and again we were successful in this department along with 2 new quality recruits choosing our club ahead of others. I think this is a great reflection of our culture and status as a Football Club.

Marty Clifton took over the reigns of the U17.5s and I congratulate him and David Kearsley on a stellar job. At times it was a very trying year for them and they just missed out on a preliminary final spot.

Stoney once again took on the C grade coach's job and took the premiership in style. C grade is critical to our overall club success and many players are required to back up to fill a team. It is also difficult to get volunteers and so it was very rewarding for Stoney and his Team Manager Ben Mitchell to get the ultimate prize.

Dools took on the B grade job again and Andrew Shearer joined him on a mission to go one better than 2017, and that they did with style, a convincing win in the Grand Final and an UNDEFEATED season. Coaching B grade is difficult. You have to prepare players for a call up to A grade and will have over 50 players play during the season, but unfortunately only 21 can play on a Saturday. This means some tough decisions have to be made and it can cause some sleepless nights. I am rapt to say Dools is going for back to back in 2019.

A club motto driven by the Prez is continuous improvement and after back to back A grade premierships, complacency could have been a threat. But not with Mitty, Vanny and Donny. They worked as hard as ever in the pre-season, they prepared training, improved methods, brought in new ideas and the rest is history. I have heard a saying that good teams win 2 premierships, GREAT teams (and clubs) win 3 in a row. We now have some very good leaders amongst our playing group and they are a tight knit bunch. Personally, this is one the most

rewarding aspects I've witnessed over the last 8 years and you can't put a value on it.

We also had 12 players represent the SFL from a 9 team competition and 7 players in the Southern Zone team playing in the country championships. Congratulations go to Mitch Johnson on his selection in the State Country side.

Finally, a big thankyou to all the team managers, all the trainers, all the volunteers and in particular to Donny Aldridge who helped me out and took the reigns when I was away or unavailable. Due to work, I missed all the finals this year but was fortunate to have Donny to rely on and was also fortunate to listen to the A grade games on Tribe FM from Rome. I can truly say this year was not only the most successful, but the most seamless I have experienced over a number of years in the job, and that is down to the quality and efforts of all those involved. The A grade is in good hands with Vanny and his cohorts, and they are well into planning and preparation for 2019.

Back to back to back to back.....has a nice ring to it .

Good luck to everyone in 2019.

**Bill Matheson**  
**SENIOR FOOTBALL DIRECTOR**

## **A GRADE COACH'S REPORT**

I write this report very proudly as we have achieved not only a Three Peat A grade premiership for the club but we have also delivered a B grade and C grade premiership in the same year. Our work over many hours by our coaching staff, playing staff and administration team has culminated in these wonderful achievements.

I was "drafting" this report by pouring over previous reports and came across the paragraphs below from my 2015 report I submitted at the AGM; if only we knew how prophetic these words were to be and what wonderful times we had in front of us. Our success since I wrote this 2015 report is a text book example of how "the harder we work the luckier we get" which is the philosophy I have built my home, work and football club life around.

### *2015 AGM Senior Coach's Report*

*"What the 2015 season has provided is both the proof and belief that we can match and beat the stronger clubs in this competition with our best football being good enough to achieve our ultimate goal of that elusive A Grade premiership. Our plans for 2016 are now in place with player retention complete (our first priority), recruiting on and off field completed, with majority of last year's players now on contracts and our senior coaches appointed plus a full review of 2015 undertaken and our findings written into an action plan ready to be executed in 2016. Season 2016 is going to be very exciting and as much as I love summer I cannot wait for the next campaign to begin.*

*I look forward to leading the club on this next stage of our maturity as a force in the SFL and urge everyone to get on board as it will be a wonderful and fulfilling ride, if we all make that extra effort that is required. We all must ensure we remain loyal, dedicated, focussed and energetic to our goal of an A Grade premiership as it now within our reach."*

Onto another successful and enjoyable season in 2018.

We started the club's pre-season with a real spring in our step after two Premierships in a row and a home-grown list that had minimal changes other than the addition of quality players such as Ben Rossi and Toby McAllister plus Sam Tharaldsen, Jerry John, Jake Vandermeer and Max Renfrey returning. We had engaged PEAQ fitness to assist and invested in new GPS technology and introduced drones for filming training but unfortunately after one session at the Reynella Primary a drone collided with the top of a tree, which put an end to our "drone project". We also had new technology for match day for our magnet board and managing our team statistics.

Our pre-season training was well attended and this was due to the senior players dedicating themselves to training to prepare for 2018 with a real drive to succeed in the new season. Our quality team of trainers, led by the dedicated Julie Harrington, kept our guys on the track even though we had one or two getting wobbly in the heat. I can confidently say that this preparation contributed greatly to our season success especially early in the season when we were clearly fitter than our opposition who already had doubts in their minds if they could match it with the best.

Season 2018 for our A Grade team was one of strong on field success and although we did drop two games, we did achieve fourteen wins in the minor round with once again our finals success ratio being outstanding. With the senior coach going on midyear leave, the club was magnificently led in this period by future A grade Coach, Darren Vanzetta, who not only supported me when I went away, but during the year when I had to be absent for training due to my work commitments in the mining communities. Darren did a great job and I am very confident our results will not drop going forward with him at the helm, he is his own man which will come out over the next season and I know he will leverage off the good work we have done over many recent seasons to keep getting results for our club.

I would like to drop straight into our historic grand final win right now but I know I need to acknowledge the success we had in getting to this great day.

The season overall had many highlights including a win over Noarlunga in the Anzac Day clash at home, a win over Reynella where we kept them goalless for the whole game, comprehensive

wins over Morphett Vale that were in complete reverse of what they used to do to us and a character building win over Noarlunga at their home ground where we kicked seven goals to nil in the last quarter to win by a small margin that truly portrayed the character of our A grade playing group. We had many wins with large margins in our favour that we now take for granted but it was not that long ago we were on the wrong side of the ledger in these high scoring games. In saying that, the two easy wins over Happy Valley are nearly still my favourites as I know how much our club and President love beating our neighbours with one anonymous keyboard warrior renaming them Flagstaff Hill South during the year on social media which we found quite amusing in the coach's box.

I must mention the representation we had at SFL level with an unprecedented twelve players from our club playing for the SFL in the A grade on the June long weekend and then seven of them being picked for the Combined SFL/GSFL team. Special mention goes to Mitch Johnson who was also picked for the State Country team, an excellent achievement for a nineteen-year-old footballer to be recognised with this selection.

In regard to our individual achievements, I would like to congratulate Michael Shearer on winning our Best and Fairest award again in a very even season on field by our players. To see the young players in the season improve so much such as Declan Tomkins, Nash Mitchell, Brayden Heyward-Ferors and Luke Beenham was up there with our individual highlights.

We made changes as a coaching group, which may not have been so obvious to our supporters. We played some senior players in different roles to add some freshness to our list and reinforce our mid field, we played many young players in the A grade when we had an opportunity to do so, we introduced changes to our game plan inclusive of more ball control going forward and getting deeper into attack, pace behind our forwards to make us not so one dimensional, introduced an additional number of set plays and reinforced our defensive structure of basing our game on a very heavy press. Our intention as coaches was to keep our game plan fresh although we knew we had a good base so not needing to make changes for the sake of making change. Defence is the key to our game plan and this is a successful formula we have built now for some time.

I would like to thank the playing group as a whole for working with me as their Senior Coach, their discipline and desire to achieve further Premiership success certainly made my role easier. A special thanks to the leaders of the team, especially Michael Shearer, who led the team with great maturity, not only on field but also off field. He was ably supported by David Kearsley, Brad Kirk, Sam Smith, Josh Vandermeer, Casey Davies and Sam Tharaldsen. Our playing group has matured overall and are as tight a group that I have ever come across contributing to our success over all senior grades.

A special mention to Peter Cavouras and his Senior women's team - you have brought another dimension to our football club and keep doing what you are doing as you are contributing to the success and culture of our proud club. Remember we have won fifty percent of the premierships available to this team to win and we can increase that ratio next season!

Our A grade coaching panel for season 2018 had a steady look about it with minimal change that certainly contributed to our premiership success in A grade for 2018. The entire coaching group have a passion for this club and their support to the playing group and me was first class. With the ongoing support of assistant coaches Darren Vanzetta and Don Aldridge plus our runner Michael Haslam, our coaching panel was clearly the best in the SFL with such great depth. In addition to the A grade Assistant Coaches we had the popular Kym Dooley leading the B grade to the undefeated B grade Premiership, new coach Andrew Shearer assisting Kym with player conscious advice, Wade Stone coaching another C grade premiership plus many behind the scenes coaches working with the group. Thank you to all Coaches with and without official titles for your efforts in 2018 with the senior squad. I also need to mention Marty Clifton and his assistant David Kearsley working with the U17.5s. If you keep making the progress you made in season 2018 going forward, we are in for a wonderful period of success from this grade. Well done on your persistence, professionalism and support to coach the game style that we coached at the club in your grade, you will be rewarded by your top of the shelf approach to coaching the most difficult grade of all in the U17.5s.

Although this report is based on the senior component of the club I would also like to congratulate all involved with our junior teams at Flagstaff Hill. Once again our club provided



a wonderful environment for our young Falcons to train and play their football as they had top level coaching and administrators at all levels from U15s down to the subbies. Special mention to our U15s Premiership teams and their coaching and support staff.

There are many people who assisted our A Grade team to play each week and this year was such a special one and I would like to thank you all for your support including Julie Harrington, Ric Green and our great team of trainers, Bill Matheson our Senior Football Director, Ben Mitchell our Team manager, Michael Haslam our Runner, Justin Richardson and the team of staticians, our water men Brett and Michael plus others, the Old Farts for nourishing our players and their advice at selection, our timekeepers plus everyone else who has assisted in some way at this level inclusive of our wonderful supporter base and Sponsors. Special mention to team sponsor Neil Williams and his team at Tech - Dry SA. Finally, a special thank you to the committee so well led by Brett, Grant, Mel and Deb who have provided the great stability required for club success which has been reinforced by our Club winning the SFL Club of the Year again and every Senior premiership other than the women's team that was available to win.

I am very proud to be an A Grade Triple Premiership coach, and it is not the fact I am an A Grade Triple Premiership Coach but the most satisfaction I get out of that title is that I am the Flagstaff Hill A Grade Triple Premiership coach. I consider myself to be very fortunate to have been the senior coach of our great club over a five year period and was provided the opportunity to lead us into this successful era.

To be treated as I was at the Presentation night this year and receive the recognition and gifts from the club was a very proud but humbling experience for both Fiona and I. To be awarded a Life Membership left me feeling very honoured and satisfied in what had been achieved and it was fitting Fiona was with me when we were recognised by the club. That home support, which I am very grateful for, enabled me to contribute to the club the time and energy I had over my years as a FHFC coach.

When I started in the role of A grade coach at FHFC in 2014 I dreamed of achieving the success we have had but I also knew that to achieve this success we had to get the best people

around us at the club and work as hard as we could to achieve our goals with structure and planning coming from top.

To work with a fantastic enthusiastic team of people and to achieve the success we have is extremely satisfying but what I must close out with is that the foundation has only been laid and we need to keep building on what can become the greatest dynasty of football success at our level of football in South Australia.

You hear others talk about leaving a legacy when you leave a club and I am very proud to leave my legacy at Flagstaff Hill FC as one where we are now recognised state-wide as a powerhouse club with success built from within and not from our cheque book. Our A grade team trademark of Structured, Aggressive and Relentless have been cornerstones of how we have built the club to what we are now.

My final paragraph I dedicate to my great mate Brett Charlesworth. Many people recognise players and coaches for senior success but at our club Brett, and rightly so, is the first mentioned when it comes to what we have achieved recently. The harder you work the luckier you get applies so much to your approach to what you have done over many, many years at both our football and community clubs. I am very proud you shared your exit year with me and at times to be honest I felt I was in the wrong spot sharing the limelight that you should have received individually. Well played mate, you are our Best and Fairest many times over.

To do what you have done to lead our club to where we are now has no peers at many levels. You, as I am, should be very proud of where we are at right now. Enjoy your new life as not being a President but we all know you will keep contributing at Flagstaff Hill.

Keep Soaring Falcons; let's keep rewriting the history books.

**Rod Mitchell**  
**A GRADE COACH**

## HEAD TRAINER'S REPORT

2018 has been an excellent year for the Flagstaff Hill Football Club, both on and off the field. Rick Green returned to the Club, which further boosted the great support from fellow trainers - Stephanie Dempsey and Megan Patterson. We were fortunate to welcome new trainer Chloe Myers to our fold and she has done a wonderful job, assisting from very early in the morning on Saturdays to also being a Trainer and Player for our U14 Girls and Open Women. On that note, Rick also took control of the U14 Girls and Open Women, which he thoroughly enjoyed. We said goodbye to Physio Vanessa Alvaro, who left us and returned to Uni to do some further study. Meg finished her Remedial Massage course and came up when she could to do some massage for our Senior Players and later in the season assisted Steph with our C Grade. Rick, Steph and I took on a mentoring/teaching role with 4 Uni Students from UniSA doing a placement as part of their course within a Football Club. They attended training nights and game days to learn the role of trainer, taping and decision making of player injuries. All four students learnt a lot and we were fortunate enough that Daniella decided after completing her hours of placement, she would like to continue on. Hopefully, in 2019 she will return to us again.

Family Fun Day 2018 - it was decided not to have a Trainers tent as in the past, but I was there to answer any questions anyone had that may have been interested in becoming a Trainer for 2018.

The FAST Conference was held at Adelaide Oval again in February 2018, where we could learn from speakers on how to treat an injury, the latest information regarding Concussion and liaise with suppliers about their goods and things we may be interested in. It is also a great day to get to know other trainers from around the State.

Pre-season commenced at Reynella East High School on Monday and Thursday evenings for the Seniors with the Juniors commencing in February once school had returned. Their training schedule was Monday and Wednesday. Training recommenced at the club once a week on Tuesday and Thursdays after cricket season and finals were over.

Trial games were arranged for 2018 just prior to the commencement of the season proper.

Training nights were covered every week.

Thank you to Stephanie who put her hand up to look after the C Grade team - who were successful in 2018 in winning another C Grade Premiership after narrowly missing out in 2017. We were fortunate to have a Sunday U15 team this year, and I was there for the young men. They were just beaten in their quest for a Premiership after having a very strong team. Our U14s Girls played in their first Grand Final, but were beaten on the day, after also having a very good season.

Once again we are on the look out for new trainers. You may be a parent of a child playing and if you are attending their games, why not volunteer your services and help out as a Medical Trainer. All you need to begin with is your Senior First Aid Certificate, then if you feel you want to continue you can do your Level 1 Trainers course. Both of these courses are paid for by the Club and there are many courses throughout the season that can be done e.g. advanced taping, massage, concussion etc. If anyone has ever thought, I could do that, but didn't know how to go about being a Trainer, please come and talk to me, or one of the other Trainers.

I would like to say thank you to all the Trainers for their efforts during a very successful 2018. It's not every day you can boast that Flagstaff Hill Football Club are the Premiers for U15, C Grade, B Grade and A Grade.

I would also like to say a big thank you to Rick Green for all he has done during 2018 to assist me and also wish him all the very best in his new role as U18 Head Trainer for the South Adelaide Football Club. Flaggy's loss is South's gain.

## **Julie Harrington**

**HEAD TRAINER**

# 2018 SENIOR TROPHY AWARD WINNERS

Senior Club Person of the Year

*Deb Osmond*

A GRADE	OPEN WOMENS
<b>Best &amp; Fairest</b> Michael Shearer	<b>Best &amp; Fairest</b> Catherine Cavouras
<b>Runner Up Best &amp; Fairest</b> David Kearsley	<b>Runner Up Best &amp; Fairest</b> Riley Mitchell
<b>Runner Up Best &amp; Fairest</b> Ben Rossi	<b>Best Team Woman</b> Karen Galliford
<b>Most Improved</b> Declan Tomkins	<b>Emerging Talent</b> Chelsea Farr
<b>Rising Star</b> Mitchell Johnson	
<b>Best Team Man</b> Sam Smith	
<b>Most Consistent</b> Brad Kirk	

Grant McAvaney Club First Award

*Jarrad Lo Basso*

B GRADE	C GRADE
<b>Best &amp; Fairest</b> Sam Napier	<b>Best &amp; Fairest</b> Nick Hiosan
<b>Runner Up Best &amp; Fairest</b> Nick Bailey	<b>Runner Up Best &amp; Fairest</b> Dan Crisa
<b>Best Team Man</b> Angus Fisher	<b>Best Team Man</b> Tom South
<b>Coach's Award</b> Blaise Tomkins	<b>Most Consistent</b> Chris Buersch
<b>Most Improved</b> Matt Hunter	<b>Coach's Award</b> Ali Baltagie

## **JUNIOR DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

2018 was again another strong and successful year for our juniors at Flagstaff Hill.

Pre-season began early in February at the Flagstaff Hill Primary School for the U13s and U15s with the U17.5s starting a few weeks prior at Reynella East College with the Seniors. We welcomed many new players to our club from U13s to 17.5s.

Like every year 2018 presented different challenges in regards to numbers and player number management. We had strong numbers in the U15s and low numbers in both the U13s and U17.5s that needed constant monitoring throughout the year.

All junior teams made the finals in 2018 with both our U15 teams making it through to the Grand Final. Our Saturday U15 team took the win going back to back.

The junior presentation was held at the football club on the 14<sup>th</sup> of October and we were joined with the U17.5s and U14 Girls' sides.

### **UNDER 13s**

Craig Bunworth returned as the U13s coach for 2018 with the support of two assistant coaches in Dave Smith and Simon Johnson, Bill Kelsey as Team Manager, Pete Newall as Runner and Nat Bunworth as the Social Coordinator.

The U13s started the year with very low numbers but with the support of some U12 players, their families, Mel Haslam and the two subbie coaches Dave Smith and Dave Hodgson, we were able to put together a strong U13 squad. Craig and myself would like to thank everyone for their support to ensure that we were able to field a side each week with strong numbers.

Our 13s used 30 different players throughout the year with 12 of those being U12 players.

The U13s finished the minor round in 5<sup>th</sup> position, made it through to the second week of the finals and finished the year in 4<sup>th</sup> spot.

## **U13 PLAYER ACHIEVEMENTS**

- 6 players represented our club at SANFL level
- 4 players made the SFL Team of the Year
- Samuel Burbridge made the SA State School side

## **UNDER 15s**

Paul Hollands returned as head coach for 2018 with another strong squad with good numbers. Paul's support staff remained very much the same as 2018 with Luke Beenham and myself as assistant coaches, Graham Hackett as Team Manager, Michael Galliford as Runner and Nichola Mehrstens as the Social Coordinator.

The U15s used a total of 48 players between the two sides this season and 34 different players played in the Saturday side.

After a very dominant season in 2017, our U15s went back to back after only losing one game but in a much tighter competition. Many of the boys have been lucky enough to experience up to 3 junior Premierships with Paul and an U10 Carnival win back in 2013 over the years.

The Saturday U15s finished the year as Minor Premiers and went on to defeat Christies Beach by 10 points in the Grand Final.

## **SUNDAY UNDER 15s**

In 2019 we saw Neil Williams join the coaching ranks for the first time. Neil and his family are great supporters of our club as the A Grade team sponsor with his family business Tech Dry.

Neil was supported by some familiar faces with Craig Bunworth as his assistant and Bill Kelsey as his Team Manager and with the assistance of Paul as the U15s head coach.

Both Neil and Paul worked closely and effectively to manage the 46 players that played Sunday football for the U15s in 2018 with 3 of those players being from the U13 team. Due to the high numbers in this age group, our club was one of the only clubs to field a genuine Sunday side.

The Sunday U15s finished the minor round in second position and made it through to the Grand Final. Unfortunately they went down to Christies Beach.

This was a fantastic achievement by the boys and the coaching staff as this shows the depth in the squad for this age group. With such high numbers, no kids played in two Grand Finals this season and we unfortunately had some players who missed out on playing in a Grand Final.

## **U15 PLAYER ACHIEVEMENTS**

- 9 players represented our club at SANFL level
- 6 players made the SFL Sunday Team of the Year
- 3 players made the SFL Saturday Team of the Year
- 5 players made the SFL U15 Association Side
- 4 players made the SFL U15 Academy
- Jackson Roberts made the SA State School side
- 2 players made the SA All Nations State Team
- Ben Burbridge made the AFL World Team
- 2 players made the PAFC Next Generation Academy Elite Talent Pathway
- Rhys Galliford won the U15 SFL Leading Goal Kicking award

## **UNDER 17.5s**

Marty Clifton took on the role as the U17.5s head coach in 2018. David Kearsley as his assistant, Simon Foord as Team Manager and Stuart Knuckey as runner assisted Marty.

The U17.5s started the season with very low numbers and Marty was very proactive in player retention, recruitment and development of U15'.

Even with low numbers and a young U17.5s side Marty and his team were able to get the best out of the boys with some memorable wins against Christies Beach and an undefeated Noarlunga at Noarlunga.

The highlight for most people in regards to the U17.5s would have to have been the speeches from Marty at Saturday presentations.



Our 17.5s used 34 different players throughout the year, with 8 of those being U15 players. The U17.5s finished the minor round in 4<sup>th</sup> position, made it through to the second week of the finals and finished the year in 4<sup>th</sup> spot.

### **U17.5 PLAYER ACHIEVEMENTS**

- 7 players represented our club at SANFL level
- 3 players made the SFL Team of the Year
- 5 players made the SFL U15 Association Side
- 3 players made their senior debut for the Flagstaff Hill Football Club

We enter 2019 again with strong numbers and stability with our Saturday coaching team as Craig, Paul and Marty will be returning to coach their respective grades.

I would like to thank all volunteers that assisted in helping in various roles from match day staff, BBQ, canteen, gatekeeper and oval maintenance. Without you the club would not be the great club that we are.

As a club we are looking forward to 2019 and to continue to improve and be the best club that we can be across all grades. We will see a new President and new A Grade coach for the first time in a long time and this will bring fresh ideas to our club as we continue to lead the way in the SFL.

I would like to thank both Brett and Rod for all the work that they have done over the years for our club. Both Brett and Rod have played a big part in the club's recent success including winning our third straight SFL Club of the Year award.

The last people I need to thank are my family and beautiful wife. I do spend a lot of time at the club or working on football issues and without their support I could not do it.

See you all again in 2019.

## **Don Aldridge**

**JUNIOR FOOTBALL DIRECTOR**

# 2018 JUNIOR TROPHY AWARD WINNERS

Junior Club Person of the Year

*Oli Nash*

UNDER 17.5	Girls UNDER 14	UNDER 13
<b>Best &amp; Fairest</b> Matt Reed	<b>Best &amp; Fairest</b> Charlie Scutchings	<b>Best &amp; Fairest</b> Lachlan McNab
<b>Runner Up Best &amp; Fairest</b> Leith Mitchell	<b>Runner Up Best &amp; Fairest</b> Ebony Scanlan	<b>Runner Up Best &amp; Fairest</b> Sam Burbridge
<b>Rising Star</b> Sol Drozd	<b>Most Consistent</b> Indiana Roberts	<b>Best Team Man</b> Ethan Johnson
<b>Most Valuable Player</b> Taine Mitchell	<b>Best Team Player</b> Sienna Chapman	<b>Most Improved</b> Cooper Clifton
<b>Best Team Man</b> Jake Bunworth		<b>Encouragement Award</b> James Keating
<b>Coach's Award</b> Macca Short		<b>Most Courageous</b> Cooper Newall

SATURDAY UNDER 15	SUNDAY UNDER 15
<b>Best &amp; Fairest</b> Ben Burbridge	<b>Best &amp; Fairest</b> Trent Brockhurst
<b>Runner Up Best &amp; Fairest</b> Tom Van Jaarsveldt	<b>Runner Up Best &amp; Fairest</b> Jye Dooley
<b>Most Consistent</b> Rhys Galliford	<b>Most Consistent</b> Adam Bunworth
<b>Best Team Man</b> Tyler Warren	<b>Best Team Man</b> Ned Spurr
<b>Most Improved</b> Tristan Smith	<b>Most Improved</b> Mitchell Tasker
<b>Coach's Award</b> Nathan Stephens	<b>Coach's Award</b> Kaine O'Brien

## **SUB-JUNIOR COORDINATOR'S REPORT**

A very successful season from the Sub-Juniors this year.

Numbers continue to increase and we gained more families than we lost.

The changes to the age groups did impact us a little with the U12/U13 rotation of players. However as soon as it was brought to our attention the situation was handled as fairly as possible.

Going by the current numbers we will be nominating 10 teams in the 2019 season to ensure more on field time for the players.

Great to see a lot of parents step up this season, more often than not it is the same families though. This is something I would like to address in the lead up to the 2019 season.

Would like to see the reintroduction of the home game sub junior coordinators so I can step back a little from the canteen set up and back up on home games and spend more time out on the oval interacting with the players and their families, and on a more personal note, watch my son play an entire game.

Overall a very successful season and looking forward to what 2019 will bring for the Flagstaff Hill Football Club.

**Mel Haslam**

**SUB-JUNIOR FOOTBALL DIRECTOR**

# CLUB HISTORY

- 1963 Club started as Brighton Methodist FC
- 1967 1st Premiership - A1 Res EJ Thomas Memorial Trophy
- 1974 A Grade Premiership Div 2
- 1975 Moved from Mitchell Park to Mawson High School
- 1977 Changed name to Brighton Tigers, omitting 'Methodist'
- 1978 Changed from Uniting Church to Glenelg South Football Association
- 1979 Changed name and incorporated as the Flagstaff Hill Football Club
- 1981 First year on Flagstaff Oval  
Clubrooms opened by Mayor Geoff Simpson
- 1982 First year with 3 sides
- 1983 Introduction of U16s side
- 1984 Introduction of U18s side
- 1985 Changed Associations to Southern Football League  
Changed uniforms to Red & Blue (Norwood)  
Introduction of U14s side  
A & B Grade sides both Undefeated Premiers  
Highest Score A Grade - 65.30 to 2.0, an Australian record
- 1986 Promoted to A1 Division - finishing 6th  
C Grade Premiers
- 1987 A Grade missed out on Grand Final by 6 pts in only their 2nd year in Div 1
- 1991 Introduction of U13s side
- 1994 Changed from 'Bushpigs' to 'Falcons'
- 1995 Clubroom Expansion and Renovations
- 1996 Clubrooms Re-opened
- 1998 Introduction of U11s and U9s teams (Modified Rules)
- 1999 Introduction of U13s team (Modified Rules)
- 2000 First Junior Premiership (U14s)
- 2003 U14s - Undefeated Premiers Div 1
- 2004 Back to Back - U14s Premiers Div 1
- 2005 New oval lights unveiled
- 2006 New Oval Drainage system completed  
U18s played in Grand Final - runners up  
Upgrade to home change rooms by players and club supporters
- 2007 First ever U16s Premiership  
C Grade Premiers - 1st Senior Premiership in 21 years  
Year 6/7 team won Sub-Juniors Lightning Carnival  
Audio Visual System installed - initiated through FHFC grant and sponsorship

- 2008 U14s Premiership  
Past Player Adam Cooney won AFL Brownlow Medal playing for Western Bulldogs
- 2009 Wade Stone breaks the FHFC record for most number of Senior Games played for the Club  
U14s & U16s Sunday Teams introduced for the first time  
Both teams played in finals  
U18s played in Grand Final - runners up  
Gym constructed for use by club members through donations and grant payment
- 2010 Gym and Strengthening Centre officially opened for use by Club members  
U14s played in Grand Final - runners up  
U16s Premiership
- 2011 Awarded SFL Champion Club of the Year  
U16s Premiership  
All 5 Saturday teams played in Preliminary Finals
- 2012 Erection of new AFL standard goal posts  
All 8 teams made finals, 5 of which made the Preliminary Finals  
U18s Premiership  
U16s miss out on Premiership by just 2 points  
B Grade played in Grand Final - runners up
- 2013 5 Saturday teams made the Finals  
Won 2 out of a possible 3 Sub-Junior Carnivals  
U18s Premiership - back-to-back  
B Grade Premiership
- 2014 7 teams made the Finals  
Wade Stone played his 400<sup>th</sup> game  
B Grade played in Grand Final - runners up
- 2015 5 Saturday teams made the Finals  
3 Sunday teams made the Finals  
2 teams played in Grand Finals  
U14s won Premiership
- 2016 EVERY team made the Finals  
Sunday U14s Premiership  
C Grade Premiership  
U14s Premiership  
A Grade Premiership - the 1<sup>st</sup> Div 1 win for the As  
SFL Champion Club of the Year  
Most successful year to date
- 2017 Sunday U15s Premiership  
Women's Open grade win inaugural premiership  
U15s Premiership

2018 A Grade Premiership - back to back  
SFL Champion Club of the Year  
C Grade Premiership  
U15s Premiership  
B Grade Premiership  
A Grade Premiership - 3 in a row  
SFL Champion Club of the Year - 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year

# FLAGSTAFF HILL FOOTBALL CLUB

## LIFE MEMBERS

J Browne	G Noakes	M Fletcher
P Browne	K Noakes	K Stone
G Davison	D Nuttman	M Fisher
D Degenhardt	R Pavlovich	W Stone
C Dewar	C Podzuweit	C Bradley
K Dohring	M Podzuweit	G McAvaney
G Drechsler	K Priest	L Ellison
B Ellery	B Rowe	DA Smith
W Ellery	D Rowe	S Murfitt
N Farrell	P Stacey	T Taylor
R Farrell	D Stewart	M Haslam
D Heard	S Pavlovich	L Evers
D Hooper	G Kearsley	S Dempsey
B Jaehne	S Horrocks	J Robshaw
V Jaehne	A Heatley	B Charlesworth
P Jaehne	N Fishpool	P Petrov
T Mace	R Hunter	J Strout
D Miles	G Haese	S Abbott
C Monks	J Rumbelow	C Burfitt
D Size	D Crisa	L O'Malley
P McMaster	M Lendrum	K Abbott
D Kearsley	D Osmond	T O'Malley
M Fuss	P McGuire	M Green
D Butcher	R Mitchell	

# FHFC GAMES RECORDS

## MOST SEASONS PLAYED

STONE, WADE 31  
ROWE, DARRYL 30  
DEGENHARDT, DOUG 24  
PETROV, PAUL 22  
HEATLEY, ANDREW 21  
FISHPOOL, NEIL 21  
BROWNE, JEFF 20  
ABBOTT, SAUL 20  
O'MALLEY, LEIGH 20  
HASLAM, MICHAEL 19  
LAVENDER, DREW 19  
SMITH, DAVID 19  
LENDRUM, MATTHEW 19

## MOST SENIOR GAMES

STONE, WADE 453  
ROWE, DARRYL 336  
DEGENHARDT, DOUG 326  
HEATLEY, ANDREW 319  
PETROV, PAUL 304  
CRISA, DANIEL 276  
O'MALLEY, LEIGH 274  
ABBOTT, SAUL 274  
BRADLEY, CRAIG 268  
BROWNE, JEFF 268  
FISHPOOL, NEIL 259  
LENDRUM, MATTHEW 245  
DRECHSLER, GEOFF 238

## MOST COMBINED SNR & JNR GAMES

STONE, WADE 480  
O'MALLEY, LEIGH 342  
ROWE, DARRYL 336  
HEATLEY, ANDREW 333  
DEGENHARDT, DOUG 326  
LENDRUM, MATTHEW 321  
ROBSHAW, JAMES 316  
KEARSLEY, DAVID 314  
ABBOTT, SAUL 306  
PETROV, PAUL 304  
FISHER, ANGUS 285  
LANGCAKE, CRAIG 280  
CRISA, DANIEL 276

## ASSOCIATION LIFE MEMBERS

M Fletcher (SFL)

DA Smith (SFL)

C Bradley (SFL)

W Stone (SFL)

D Kearsley (SFL)

P McMaster (SFL)

S Gater (SFL)

S Dempsey (SFL)

PLEASE SEE OUR CLUB WEBSITE FOR  
COMPLETE INFORMATION OF CLUB GAMES RECORDS  
FOR INDIVIDUALS, JUNIORS AND SENIORS

[www.fhfc.com.au](http://www.fhfc.com.au)

(located under the 'Stats & Records' tab)