



Blue Mountains Football Club Inc.

e-mail: contact@bmfc.com.au

website: www.bmfc.com.au

phone: (02) 4739 5121

PO Box 235, GLENBROOK NSW 2773

President's Report 2018

As I report on the 2018 season I am thinking of all the great things that we were able to achieve this year, despite at times difficult circumstances. The season started without the use of Knapsack Park and was testing for everyone – in May we were able to return to Knapsack and things settled down.

For the third year we must all thank and recognise the generosity our fabulous sponsors – as part of our Club, their contribution provides benefits beyond financial.

eBay as major sponsors lead the way and, in addition to that organisation, we have numerous team and Club sponsors:

- BBSM Services
- Café au Go Go
- Cartman Bricklaying
- EduMortgage Solutions
- Glenbrook Butchery
- Lower Mountains Speech Therapy
- Nomel Logistics
- RAMS Home Loan Centre - Hawkesbury/Blue Mountains

... and a new team sponsor for this year, Skyline Landscaping.

As sponsors of teams that had their logos imprinted on the Club playing strip the value to our sponsors continues as we will be using the current playing strip for another season. The garment has held up extremely well and its continued use provides the Club with financial advantage as to replace the playing strip is in excess of \$35,000.

Again, I can report that whilst our growth has slowed we have continued to grow – 769 registered players played for the BMFC in 70 teams – 10 senior teams and 60 juniors. As a point of reference in 2017 we had 737 players, 714 in 2016 and 627 in 2015 (our 50th anniversary as a Club).

We did not have a team finishing as competition winner yet we had some close seconds – we had seven teams play in the final of the Championship series with the U16G.1 team winning a hard-fought match in extra time. The same team plays in the final of the Nepean Cup today at 17:00 and I wish them all the very best in that match. Our Prems Reserves team were also winners at the final of the Championship series.

The cause of the disruption at the start of the season was the capital works of a new irrigation system, top soil and turf. This work was largely funded by the Asian Cup fund, the Blue Mountains City Council and the Federal Government. Due to timing and governance processes the works did not commence until January, so once completed as turf “took”, Knapsack Park was unable to be used. Whilst this was not an ideal situation and if the turf had had several weeks longer, it would have perhaps seen more of the season. The top soil is sand based, so it drains rather quickly so whilst the turf did die off toward the end of the season the pitch finished in far better condition than in previous years where we had more dust than grass.



The management of the playing strip is a key task but the reality is that the facility is used 7 days a week. We have been fortunate to secure some use of Glenbrook Oval – Friday night games and some training takes place there and the reasoning is to reduce the pressure on Knapsack Park. My expectation is that during the off season the turf will establish itself far better and will be able to withstand the high usage better than this season.

Again I report that the desperately needed works on the carpark is front of mind and the Blue Mountains City Council and the Federal Government have been working to bring this development to reality.

After a competition by Caltex (Caltex Club competition) BMFC was able to “earn” gift vouchers to the value of \$10,250 to be used at Summit Sport – this money has been used to purchase balls and equipment for the Club – thanks to all BMFC members and friends who uploaded receipts.

As always, a thank you to Nepean Football Association staff and Board – another job well done this year and at all times supporting and working with the Club.

Thank you also to the referees in Nepean Referees Group – referees continue to develop in the group and whilst coverage is not always a given we appreciate how key referees are to the game.

Thank you to all players, parents and supporters who are part of Club community. I know not everyone is able to Coach or Manage a team but thank you to those that do and over the years I have seen many parents step into those roles unsure if they are up to the task but they always are and have a lot of fun along the way.

Parents that help with Canteen and BBQ again I know everyone is busy but all money from the canteen/BBQ is returned to the Club, thus benefitting members. We also did a chocolate fundraiser this year and the funds raised were able to be applied to the presentation day activities. As the first several weeks of canteen sales were down considerably as we were at Glenbrook Oval and we were not able to use the whole day for canteen.

I sadly report that we finish the season without one of our own. Board Member, life member, senior team representative and all-round good guy, Barry Summers sadly passed away after illness in August. Affectionately known as Baz, or the “Taxman” to many of the senior players, Baz was as much a part of the Club as the Club was a part of him. Barry was a regular figure on weekends at Knapsack and as our resident handyman fixed many parts of the Club house without complaint. Always a true gentleman, it is rare to find such honest, good people and Baz was all of that. He will be forever missed by us all.

Every year our jobs get that much harder and the work that is done by the Board and Committee is immense. Many things would not happen without that work – thanks Gordon, Len, and Sandy of the Board – committee members Margaret, Sarah, Sue, Adam, André, Ian and Richard. Thank you to our grading helpers at the start of the season your assistance is greatly appreciated

As we have grown over the past several years the challenge is managing the workload, the problem is that too many times this falls to the same people so we are always on the lookout for helpers. Decisions will soon have to be made as to how the workload is managed into the future - if some tasks have to be handled by professional service providers to take the pressure away from already overloaded volunteers than that may be required.

With the above in mind if we were to put a measure in place and it could be the happiness and fun that all our players and supporters have had this season I would say we achieved our objective – getting players out on the field and providing a fun, safe environment for our players.

Thank you again to everyone, take care.



David Smith
BMFC PRESIDENT