



Boroondara Eagles FC Inc

## DRAFT 2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday 26 October 2021  
7.00pm

Via Zoom

### **Present:**

Chris Constantine (CC)	Graeme Smith (GS)	Manny Koutroulis (MK)
Leanne Lewis (LL)	Dilan Lomas (DL)	Andrew Alford (AA)
Marina Scherbanuk (MS)	Umberto Mecchi (UM)	Paul Tucker (PT)
Fil Simao (FS)	Jason Fraumano-Brady (JFB)	

### **Apologies:**

Aubrey Roga (AR)

### **Chair – Chris Constantine**

I begin today by acknowledging the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet today and pay my respects to their Elders past and present. I extend that respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples here today.

### **Open and Welcome by President –**

Chris Constantine introduced himself and welcomed everyone to the meeting. There was a proxy form received from Aubrey Roga who was unable to attend for this meeting.

**Acceptance of Minutes from 2020 –** Umberto Mecchi proposed that the minutes from the 2020 AGM were correct, and this was seconded by Chris Constantine, thus the minutes were confirmed as correct.

### **Presentation of Reports**

**President -** Chris Constantine.

Big thank you to the Committee and Staff for getting through the second year of a COVID affected season. Both years have been a long way from normal.

This year has especially highlighted our role in the community. Keeping the game alive and creating a social aspect for our members.

The resounding message from our membership is for us to keep trying to operate and run a season.

We also have a fiscal responsibility which in 2020 enabled us to offer a maximised refund to members however in 2021 we were able to deliver value to our membership and supported our coaching group which led to no refunds but an offer of credit for 2022. We will carry a loss for both years but can manage this.

We are excited by a new pilot program coming in 2022 from FC Select and given that facilities are always an issue, Council have undertaken to do a proper Masterplan of Macleay Park.

The clear focus of the Board is to:

- Undertake financial management
- Organisational capacity
- Not make football decisions but empower those that do

### **Treasurers Report**

Information supplied by our Treasurer indicates that we will be close to breaking even this season or perhaps a small loss. We will then have approx. \$100k to support some of these new initiatives.

We also need to ensure that we do not make it any harder for people to access football within our community.

There is a new set of auditors this season and our responsibility is that we manage members funds appropriately.

### **Appointment of Auditors for 2020/2021**

Your Accounting Team have been appointed as auditor and they are currently reviewing the accounts.

### **Introducing the Nominations – Chris Constantine**

All existing 2020 Board Members have nominated and been accepted to return in 2021.

We also welcome and accept the following nominations:

- Leanne Lewis
- Paul Tucker

Umberto would also like to recognise the efforts of our Sub-Committee Members. Especially Danni Stella for being a big part of supporting our Club and for keeping the Club Communications and socials relevant and up to date.

### **Questions from Members**

How is the JBNPL going? (Asked by AA, Answered by MK)

The greatest challenge to the Club is facilities and having an NPL compliant pitch. The Masterplan supports this together with the FC Select training model.

FV awarded 48 licenses in 2019 which was expanded from 30. With the season cancelled in 2020 and severely disrupted in 2021, FV won't be dismissing any underperforming Clubs and won't be accepting any new applications in 2022.

Instead, they are committed to giving everyone with a license the opportunity to have a full season. We will have NPL ready kids when the time comes.

Will there be an opportunity to enter JBNPL if any existing NPL Clubs become insolvent?

(Asked by UM, Answered by MK)

NPL Clubs are banking the money and saving it for a rainy day whilst re-trailing kids for the following years. Not expecting any insolvency issues.

The Masterplan can take years, where are we at it the process? (Asked by AA, Answered by CC)

BNA was awarded a substantial amount of money for new courts minus the discussion of where they would go. This fed the discussion for the need of the masterplan. Council voted to defer on the netball court decision but instead agreed to run their own masterplan of the facility. They have undertaken to complete this by 2022/23 FY.

We are committed to seeing this process through. Agree it's not a quick one but Council have agreed to produce an endorsed document. It will be our Women's program that will flagship this space.

We are currently working through a short-term solution around M3 by removing the cricket wicket and then reinstating it when needed.

How are our numbers going given COVID? (Asked by AA, Answered by CC & UM)

FV are suffering more than our Club. We conservatively budgeted and estimated for 600 but reached 686.

UM has been working on demand within our municipality. Lack of year-round grounds affects us. Other Clubs with grounds are already offering off-season programs whilst we are still looking for grounds.

Youths have also struggled to reconnect socially and get back into activities. We have been successful in gaining a grant for Mental Health in 2022.

Our approach has always been focused on the Community and what's best for them.

UM shared participation data slide & facilities data slide.

What is the general strategic direction for NPL – Seniors only or just JBNPL? (Asked by PT, Answered by CC & MK)

The intention is 100% around pathways. Our Senior Men players are also Coaches and all-round role models and great people at the Club. Juniors looking to test themselves at NPL have previously left the Club and we lose them as players, future Coaches, and role models.

Our Senior Women had a top tier team, won the league, the State Cup but lost the GF on penalties. After that, with no promotion available to them we lost 30 – 40% of our junior girls.

We probably missed this initially because we didn't want to separate NPL & Community streams as we felt they both go together. We are not looking to build an elite program that no one else has access to.

Pathways we offer also include those that may want to Coach or Referee.

NPL shouldn't be more expensive just because you can afford it, and this will be the Club's point of difference by not separating NPL and the Community.

NPL needs a course correction, however that is a discussion for another time.

From a cost perspective, we are keen to offer as close as possible to an elite program as possible.

Many of our players come to the Club 4 – 6 times a week to Coach & Play. It's a great club culture. Our division A teams deserve to be in the NPL, the top 48. We don't want to be elitist but want to provide our aspirational players a place in JBNPL.

The new training model steered by Arthur Papas (Newcastle Jets Coach) is very unique and very long. Our learning model gives everyone in the Club an opportunity to get some great learning out of it. FC Select will be invaluable to the Club.

### **Board Focus for 2022**

The Board will continue to focus on:

- Facilities and Masterplan
- NPL Pathways
- Coach Education – parent coaches also want to do certificates and be upskilled. FS will work through this and seek FV to come to the Club and run some courses.

We will have 6 meetings a year with a weekly Leadership Meeting with Staff and whichever Board Members would like to join in.

On a final note, I would like to congratulate the 2020 Board Members who have done an amazing job this year. Especially our President, Chris Constantine whose leadership has been invaluable.

### **Election of Directors/Board**

All Directors/Board positions were declared vacant in line with our constitution.

The following nominations have been received for the Directors/Board positions:

1. Chris Constantine – President, Facilities
2. Aubrey Roga – Treasurer, Reporting & Recommendations
3. Umberto Mecchi – Brand & Communications
4. Jason Fraumano-Braddy - IT
5. Graeme Smith – Councillors, Mayor & Philanthropy
6. Fil Simao – Coach Education & FC Select Partnership
7. Leanne Lewis
8. Paul Tucker – Community Focus

As there are 10 director positions available and only 8 nominations were received, all the above were automatically accepted as the 2022 Directors. There were no objections raised by anyone present.

**Annual General meeting closed at 8.20pm**