

Football Extra

The 2014 Annual Report that
people will actually read



Bentleigh Greens fairy tale

THIRTY years ago, a small group of Greek Cypriot football fans met at 15-17 Heffernan Lane, Melbourne with a vision: to create a club that would embrace their love for the game for generations to come.

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Photo: Scott Barbour. GETTY

Pride of Victoria

Alen Delic

Melbourne Victory women win maiden title

A landmark 2014 will forever stand out in the history of Victorian football as the Melbourne Victory women's team won its first Westfield W-League title.



BUT it wasn't just the team's title-success that saw 2014 become one of the most successful years in Australian women's football to date.

Yes, it started with a win in the 2013-14 W-League Grand Final, but the year also included a trip to Japan for the International Women's Club Championship, and finished with a semi-final appearance in the 2014 W-League competition.

But the greatest day in Victory's history came on February 23, 2014, where it

claimed its first piece of major silverware with a 2-0 win over Brisbane Roar.

Welsh international Jess Fishlock starred and was duly rewarded with the best-on-ground medal, while Lauren Barnes and Matildas legend Lisa De Vanna etched their names on the score sheet in front of more than 2,500 fans at Lakeside Stadium.

Beattie Goad, 16, became the youngest-ever Victorian to play in a national football league grand final and would go on to win Victory's Young Player of the Year award, while Fishlock claimed the club's best and fairest honours.

Jessica Samuelsson was voted as the Players' Player of the Year. Captain Stephanie Catley also added to her burgeoning trophy cabinet with a second-successive W-League Young Player of the Year award.

There was no rest for Catley De Vanna, Emma Checker and Brianna Davey during the off-season, as they represented Australia at May's 2014 AFC Women's Asian Cup in Vietnam, while Fishlock (Wales), Katie Hoyle (New Zealand) and Samuelsson (Sweden) also continued their fine form at international level.

Despite a shock 1-0 loss to Newcastle in Round 1, Victory clinched second spot on the back of three consecutive wins to finish the 2014 regular season.

It was a busy time for the team, who also had to contend with the International Women's Club Championship.

Unfortunately a disappointing loss to Okayama Yunogo Belle ended the team's Japanese campaign after just one game.

Back in the W-League,

ground availability issues meant Geelong's Simonds Stadium played host to Victory's first-ever home semi-final.

However, Victory wasn't to win back-to-back titles as they were knocked out by eventual champions Canberra United after a dramatic penalty shootout in oppressive conditions.

Regardless of the result, it was a successful season for Melbourne Victory, culminating in being nominated as a finalist in the 2014 Vicsport Team of the Year.

With brilliant off-field support provided by the staff at FFV, a talented and driven playing and coaching staff, Victory's team sponsors, and the biggest presence by far of any W-League club on social media, Melbourne Victory will continue to be a force in Australian women's football.

WEATHER

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Today: AFL front weakening
Tomorrow: Sun rising over football
Wednesday: Hot football expected

ODDBALL

A flower pot, used for years as a goalpost in children's games of indoor soccer in Grimsby, England, was sold at auction for \$1.2 million. Terry Nurrish, 68, was unaware a 150-centimetre "jardiniere" inherited from his father was a French "Japonisme" enamel, gilt and bronze ornament made for 1874's Paris Exhibition.

WIN

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\$300 worth of prizes up for grabs for completing the crossword and providing feedback.



News

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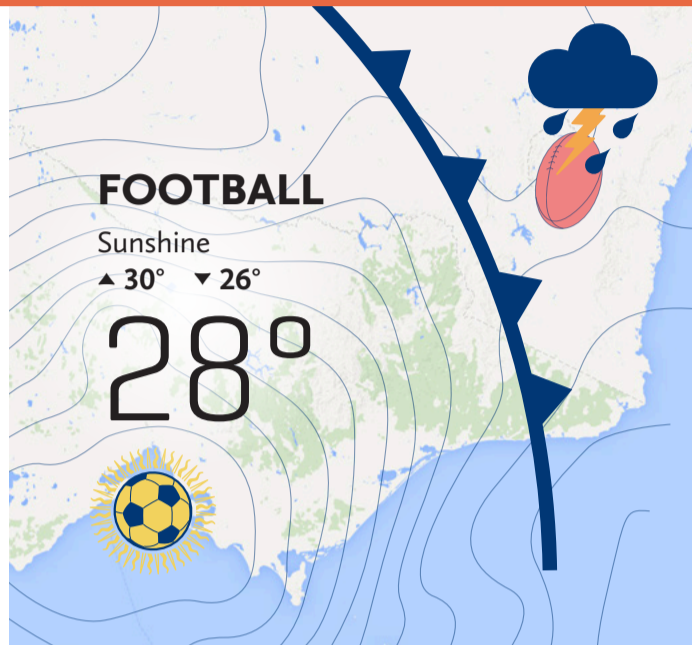
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nextbrand.com.au

Weather

The seasons are changing – enter the new spring for football.

THE recent consistent AFL warm front is weakening under a ridge of round ball high pressure sweeping in from all directions, pushing this weakening AFL front into an unexpectedly low trough. The heat of the world game is expected to continue to increase over the forecast period which will create uncertain conditions for other football codes. This high ridge global football pressure system will be accompanied by strong winds of change. This expected new weather pattern is likely to create idyllic weather conditions for the world game in Victoria for the foreseeable future but may be preceded by heavy rains on the AFL parade. Embrace the change!



FOOTY TRADE IN

IN a bid to sustain the excitement surrounding football after the Asian Cup success, Football Federation Victoria organised a footy trade-in weekend to further promote the 'round ball game'.

On February 14 and 15, Sportsmart offered over 2,000 people the opportunity to swap their old Aussie Rules ball at one of their stores for a real football... the world game football!

FFV chief executive, Peter Gome said the initiative was born as a result of the Soccerroos triumph on January 31 at the Asian Cup final.

"The purpose of the footy trade in initiative was to capitalise on the emotion and success of the Asian Cup and encourage kids to have fun by trading their AFL balls for a real football," Gome said.

Alex Gluyas,
sports journalist

"The promotion was some fun emphasising that this is a sport you can play for your country."

The program was aimed at kids under the age of 14 in order to inspire them to replicate the success of their Soccerroo heroes.

Gome talked about his idea to recycle the old footys and turn them into passport wallets for Soccerroos and Matildas players.

Gome quipped that this will be "the only way the AFL footy can truly go international".

FFV strives to provide opportunities to those who aspire to play for the Soccerroos or Matildas or just to enjoy playing football.

TAKEOVER TARGET

Participation boom sees football usurp Aussie rules

FOOTBALL has captured the imagination of Victoria's youth with recent government data revealing its dominance over Australian Rules football in both Victoria and Australia.

Alex Gluyas,
sports journalist

IN a state considered to be the AFL's heartland, the most recent Australian Bureau of Statistics data report that football has more participants than Aussie rules – 123,100 to 121,000.

While more than 650,000 people nationwide played indoor and outdoor football in 2013-2014 – making it the country's number one sport – Aussie rules only records 224,000 players according to the Participation in Sport and Physical Recreation Australia report.

But it is the Victorian numbers which are telling.

Football Federation Victoria chief executive Peter Gome believes football's international reach was key to attracting greater numbers.

"It is the world game and can be played by everyone, including our new arrivals for whom football is their favourite sport by far," Gome said.

More than 8000 people born outside Australia played football in Victoria alone highlighting the multicultural aspect of football.

Gome also attributed the popularity of football to the triumphs of the 2015 Asian Cup-winning Soccerroos, who put football back on the map in Australia following its world cup exploits in 2006.

"Australians get excited when our Soccerroos perform well," he said.

"Young kids go into their backyard and try to emulate their heroes such as Tim Cahill and his bicycle kick in the Asian Cup."

Such inspiration is evident among young Victorians as 40 per cent of players are aged between 12 and 18 years old,

while the 4-11-year age group accounted for 35 per cent.

These statistics indicate a significant shift according to FFV.

"Previously soccer was always popular in primary schools, but then was dropped," Gome said.

"But now, an increasing number of 12-18 year olds are continuing to play and enjoy their football."

In Victoria, the growing disparity between football and AFL participants is most noticeable at the adolescent level, and 19-year-old football enthusiast, Etienne Harburn has noticed this among his peers.

"Football is becoming more popular among my friends because of the culture – it's the world game and it's a basic and easy to understand sport," Harburn said.

"It's a cultural change I think. Soccer appeals to parents as a more mature sport, it's not as violent as footy."

The diversity in football compared to Aussie rules is especially evident in regards to female participation data.

In Australia, football boasts a 24.4 per cent participation rate among females, a statistic that far outweighs female participation for the AFL, which stands at a mere 5.7 per cent.

Gome admitted that while there was an increase in female involvement, the challenge occurred as women moved into their late teens and beyond.

"There is a large proportion of young girls who play, however that proportion declines into older age groups. We are working hard with various initiatives to keep older teenage girls and women involved in the game including offering variations of social football," Gome said.

The stats

Football in Victoria,
2013-2014 statistics

Australian Football

Australia players 2014

657,000

Female %

24.4%

Source: National Australian Bureau of Statistics
stats on sport/physical activity in last 12
months: Multipurpose Household Survey
2013-2014.

Australian Players

Male:

75%

Female

25%

Victorian Football

FFV total players

126,500

Breakdown

Outdoor:

55,993

Social:

6,972

Futsal:

10,157

School:

44,301*

Other comps:

9,078

Outdoor

Players:

55,993

Clubs:

332

Referees:

949

Coaches:

3,039

Volunteers:

So many to be
thankful for

Gender

Male:

81%

Female

19%

Player ages

4-11 years:

35%

12-18 years:

40%

19+ Years

25%

Catering for all

Indigenous:

247

Disability:

483

Born outside Australia:

8,482

*Excludes A-League programs, including
Kickin' Around with Victory and City in the
Community, involved an additional 40,000
primary-aged students.



Illustration: Michael Alesich



Cup triumph

Alex Gluyas,
sports journalist

THE debut of the Westfield FFA Cup in 2014 was a massive boost for football in Victoria.

The knockout competition was ultimately won by Adelaide United, who defeated Perth Glory 1-0 at a sold out Coopers Stadium in December, but Victorian teams shone throughout.

Three of Football Federation Victoria's sides, Bentleigh Greens, St Albans Saints and South Springvale, advanced to and beyond the Round of 16.

While the exploits of Bentleigh have been lauded, it was South Springvale that stole the limelight early on.

Plying its trade in State League 1 South-East didn't stop the self-confessed "pub team" from shocking Northern NSW side South Cardiff in a penalty shootout in the Round of 32.

They could not deny the odds again against Queensland NPL

side, Palm Beach on the Gold Coast in the Round of 16, with South Springvale going down 1-0. The spirit of president John Argyropoulos could not be dampened.

"It was massive for the club, we couldn't have dreamed it, to get where we did," Argyropoulos said.

Similarly triumphant was St Albans Saints after defeating Parramatta FC on the road in the Round of 32 thanks to Barry Devlin's long-range stunner.

The FFV senior competitions coordinator Brad Borsato, who travelled to Parramatta with the team, said the Saints' efforts should be lauded.

"Barry Devlin's superb long-range strike to send the Saints through, that was a screamer," Borsato said.

"The elation of the group after the match was fantastic to witness."

The backs-to-the-wall success earned the NPL1 club a dream home clash with Perth Glory at Knights Stadium.

The Saints pushed the A-League giants all the way and, at 2-1 midway through the second half, an upset looked possible, but the gulf in class ultimately told as Perth Glory ran out 4-1 winners.

Victoria's qualifiers stemmed from the time-honoured Dockerty Cup competition, where the semi-finalists of the Victorian knockout tournament also advanced to the FFA Cup.

And while Melbourne Knights would go on to lift the Dockerty Cup, it didn't have as much luck in the FFA Cup, going down to Brisbane side Olympic FC 3-1.

But head of NPL and WPL in Victoria Liam Bentley was quick to see the positive side of the Knights performance.

"Despite the result, the hard work that went into making the trip work and the professionalism shown is a mark of the standard achievable not only by Melbourne Knights, but by Victorian NPL clubs as a whole," Bentley said.

The fairy tale lives on

...CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Better known today as the Bentleigh Greens Soccer Club, none of the founders could ever have imagined that their second-tier outfit would one day be known as the inaugural Westfield FFA Cup semi-finalists.

The fairy tale run that began with wins in Sydney against Blacktown City and Sydney Olympic, continued with a come-from-behind quarter final win over Adelaide City and ended with a 3-0 loss to A-League giant Perth Glory.

But coach John Anastasiadis said he "could not be prouder of the boys" after holding their own throughout the semi-final at a packed Kingston Heath Soccer Complex.

"The boys pushed Glory the whole way," Anastasiadis said.

"Even at 2-0 down we didn't sit back and concede that we'd been defeated."

"We hope we've inspired a lot of other non-A-League teams to really take this cup seriously."

Home games for South Springvale and St Albans Saints in the first two rounds stole the limelight, but Anastasiadis' men coolly went about their business in dispatching two New South Wales heavyweights.

Both the 1-0 win over Blacktown City and 2-1 win over Sydney Olympic weren't without their anxious moments, but the end-result was deserved on both occasions.

If they had missed the publicity train to that point the Greens would not be left wanting in their quarter and semi-finals.

The perfect draw gave local sides Bentleigh and Adelaide City a golden opportunity to be the only non-A-League side to advance to the last four and the Greens,

finally, would have a chance to host an FFA Cup match.

A near sell out crowd at Kingston Heath was silenced when the visitors went ahead in the 48th minute courtesy of Alex Rideout, but with just two minutes to go they were celebrating boisterously after skipper Wayne Wallace sent the game into extra time with a bullet header.

Out on their feet, both sides had opportunities, but it was Jamie De Abreu who put his name up in lights - and Bentleigh in to the semis - with the late winner.

Greens chairman Ray Georgiou said afterwards it was "probably the biggest match we've ever had," but that was nothing compared to what was to come against the Glory.

Mainstream media coverage went through the roof.

There were several days' worth of double-page spreads in the *Herald Sun* and *The Age*. ABC's 7.30 Report had an inside look at the club and Channel 9's News and Today shows did live crosses from Kingston Heath.

The occasion would have sent lesser players into their shells, but Bentleigh's stars refused to go quietly as the aroma of the club's signature souvlaki permeated around the complex which was filled with 3,300 fans.

A stunning free-kick from Nebojsa Marinkovic made it 1-0 midway through the first half and then his second just after the break appeared to seal the result.

But the Greens fought back and carved out three genuine opportunities of their own, only to be hit with a late Chris Harold sucker punch.

Bentleigh's run would not continue, but the journey will live long in FFA Cup folklore.



St Albans' Ross Harvey (left) halts the run of Perth Glory star Youssouf Hersi in the Round of 16. Photo: Quinn Rooney. GETTY



Bradley Kanaris (right), Melbourne Knights. GETTY



South Springvale vice-captain Andrew Skledar. Photo: Graeme Furlong

The Irymple Nine

The forgotten men from WWI - Honouring the ANZAC Day Centenary



PRE-WAR soccer had not only grown in the metropolitan region. It took root in the country as well, including in Mildura.

Even when soccer was in decline in Melbourne in the 1890s, Mildura kept the flag flying, engaging in local scratch matches and playing irregular competition with Renmark.

The Mildura competition before the war involved two or three teams. While Merbein

dropped in and out, the Mildura and Irymple teams kept up a steady battle between 1911 and 1915.

Made up of many British migrants but, perhaps unusually, also many native born, the competition was a passionate little outpost of Victorian soccer, cruelly interrupted by the war.

Not cruel because it interrupted a sporting competition - that is merely unfortunate - but cruel because

Dr. Ian Syson, Victoria University

of the damage it inflicted on a community.

Indeed little Irymple, Mildura's satellite settlement, was ravaged by the war.

Of the 1913 Irymple team (pictured), five of the players were killed in World War I.

It was confusing because in the stories of sporting sacrifice circulated around ANZAC Day, soccer enlistments and deaths are rarely mentioned.

Indeed the club actually lost nine, possibly even 10, of its members.

To this extent it may well be that the Irymple Soccer Club lost more players than any other in Australia.

The Irymple players who

never returned from war service were: Percy Hamlin Beckett, R Brown, Jas Campbell, R.F. Campbell, David Lindsay Morrison (all pictured), Jack Hart, Robert Samuel Page, William Jefferies and Thomas Edwin Surgey.

A.B. Wadham also died at war but it is not clear if it was he or his brother who played for Irymple.

Like many clubs in many sports across rural Australia, members enlisted with gusto.

It is appropriate that the sacrifice of the Irymple Nine is acknowledged by the Victorian soccer community in 2015.

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Opinion

Looking back on 2014

OH, WHAT A YEAR

WHAT a remarkable year 2014 was, filled with many highlights for football in Victoria as we celebrated 130 years. The football family experienced the many benefits of connecting all levels of the game from amateur clubs to semi-professionals and the A-League.

There were outstanding achievements aplenty.

South Melbourne was crowned PlayStation®4 National Premier League champions, Melbourne Knights won the Dockerty Cup, South Springvale, St Albans and Bentleigh Greens made extraordinary runs in the Dockerty and FFA Cups, South Melbourne Women's FC won the Sportsmart Women's Premier League and Bulleen Lions the Women's State Knockout Cup.

The Westfield FFA Cup was a huge success as the benefits of linking all levels of the game came to fruition.

The media coverage that highlighted FFV clubs was unprecedented.

The major dailies at the *Herald Sun* and *The Age* were instrumental in providing a wave of excitement.

It was something to behold watching commentators from ABC Radio and Fox Sports perched onto scaffolding broadcasting live the Bentleigh Greens semi-final and sharing the excitement with the 3,300 spectators at Kingston Heath.

Only football can produce such magic.

The NPL was embraced in 2014 and, travelling around Victoria, you realise how much

the state government and councils have invested in top class facilities.

There are more grounds, more change rooms, more lights and more players than ever before.

The goal of the NPL centre on building premier clubs, not just men's teams.

For the first time in the history of Victorian football you cannot compete in the top tier unless you have the full complement of juniors, from under 12's to under 18's. This has provided clear pathways and will continue for generations to come.

The NPL is a journey that will see the bar raised every year for men, women, boys and girls across the state.

There was commitment to coaching with many clubs supporting and helping the development of their coaches.

I am confident Victorian clubs will continue to support the development of coaches who are the football educators of the next generation.

Socceroos coach Ange Postecoglou has shown that Victoria can produce world class coaches.

Victorian volunteers are the bedrock on which football is built and I thank each and every



Nick Monteleone
FFV President

volunteer whose dedication and commitment in over 300 clubs across Victoria remains vital to participation across the state.

The incredible number of sponsors in 2014 is testament to the growing popularity of the game and the commercial opportunity that football now offers in Victoria.

The media coverage through YouTube channel, FFVTV was first class and well received.

FFV is also the leader of all the other states in social media communication of focussed messages to our diverse stakeholders.

On behalf of the board, I would like to acknowledge the increasing and ongoing support of the Victorian State Government and the many councils which have made football a community priority.

FFV will continue to build

even stronger relationships with our government stakeholders in 2015 and beyond.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the great work done by my fellow directors and offer my special thanks to Zak Gruevski, Lynne Jordan and Steven Milicevic who have retired from the board this year.

FFV will continue to play its part in making the game affordable and competitive to other sports by again not increasing registration fees for 2015.

At the same time, we will build on the excitement of the Asian Cup by having increased investment in the game by clubs, FFV and Football Federation Australia in attracting commercial sponsors and even greater media coverage.

“FFV will continue to build even stronger relationships with our government stakeholders in 2015 and beyond.”

Football Federation Victoria President
Nick Monteleone

Success and set for growth



Peter Gome
FFV CEO

WE will forever remember 2014 as being a landmark year for Victorian football.

THE PlayStation®4 National Premier Leagues kicked off in Victoria in the same year Football Federation Victoria celebrated 130 years of football and also the launch of the FFA Cup.

After re-joining FFV in late August, my first official function in this new chapter in football was to proudly present South Melbourne with the inaugural NPL Victoria silverware.

A few weeks later I had the honour of presenting the NPL 1 trophy to Avondale Heights and the Sportsmart WPL title to South Melbourne Women's FC.

A rejuvenated Dockerty Cup provided the pathway into the Westfield FFA Cup for four Victorian clubs: South Springvale, St Albans Saints, Bentleigh Greens and Melbourne Knights.

Congratulations to the Knights, who won the Dockerty Cup after defeating South Springvale 1-0 after extra time in a tense final.

The FFA Cup provided unprecedented mainstream media coverage for these four clubs and congratulations must go to the Greens for making the semi-finals and putting in a great effort against Perth Glory in front of a crowd of 3,300 at Kingston Heath.

Despite losing 3-0, the opportunity for grassroots football to play against A-League giants has inspired everyone in the game.

Onto football more generally, the total registered metropolitan winter players increased by 3 per cent, female participation increased by 3.7 per cent and junior members were up by 3.8 per cent. Regional numbers declined.

2014 was another year for records.

Some 56,000 players representing 2,800 teams in 262 leagues played 27,000 matches. We also welcomed 267 new Level 4 referees and 1,058 coaches.

FFV juniors have been recognised on the national stage, with five girls from the National Training Centre making their international debuts and 12 NTC boys selected to attend the FFA January Centre of Excellence camp.

We were also proud of our Melbourne Victory W-League team for winning its first national title early in the year and for representing Australia in the International Women's Club Championships in Japan in early December.

A record number of participation events were run during the year including the state wide Aboriginal Youth Football Tournament, school and regional gala days, Sportsmart Summer Sevens and Football Fives, Wheelchair Football and the Girls' Sport Victoria Expo.

FFV's partnership with VicHealth in launching a bystander intervention program has empowered the football community to respond and intervene safely when racism is seen or heard.

The Don't Stand by. Stand Up! campaign is now active in more than 50 clubs.

The United Through Football funding has also been integral to our achievements and engagement with addressing barriers to participation in sport, particularly recently arrived communities resettling in Victoria.

The financial performance of FFV remains strong.

A surplus of \$504,284 was recorded in 2014, a \$200,000 increase from the previous year. The organisation remains in a sound financial position.

I would like to thank all FFV staff for their continued commitment and hard work to support and grow the game throughout the year. The achievements mentioned above are but a few that speak to the success of all the team at FFV in 2014.

A big thank you, as always, to our major sponsors Sportsmart, Zagame's, Jetts Fitness, Banking on Football and FC11, local councils, Vicsport, VicHealth, Sport and Recreation Victoria and the Victorian State Government for their ongoing support, faith and investment in our great game.

I look forward to sharing an exciting 2015 with all of the football family.

Economic outlook for clubs in 2015

IF the economists are correct, 2015 could be a tough year for all, including football clubs.

Corporations will be reluctant to increase prices so they will be looking for ways to pay off debt, reduce costs and improve productivity.

Marketing, sponsorship, scholarships, donations and promotional expenditure tend to be the soft target for cuts in this business environment.

That means they will most likely have less funds allocated to sponsorship.

Federal, State and Local Governments are operating deficit budgets.

Put simply, there is less

Margot Sweeny, CEO, Banking on Football

government money around than there was a few years ago.

Sporting grants for new club facilities, expansion or viability will be very competitive across all sports and require innovation and standout business cases.

Our sport has a fabulous profile, but winning grants will still be difficult.

Football's growing popularity continues to drive increased participation, which is great news for clubs wanting to build membership and scale.

But these tight economic conditions mean that the value equation is changing.

Clubs need to be more innovative and think about both financial and non-financial benefits for their sponsors, members and community.

Look for sponsorship partnerships that, in addition to monetary support, provide technology and financial benefits.

Introduce current best practice processes to club management whilst increasing member engagement.

Use apps to help you communicate with your members, other clubs and recognise your sponsors.

Have a sponsor do a financial health check of your club or review your administration processes and make recommendations for financial and accounting improvements.

Capitalising on the growing popularity of the game presents opportunities to club executives.

Now is the time to engage Football Federation Victoria, suppliers, sponsors and members even more effectively and frequently.

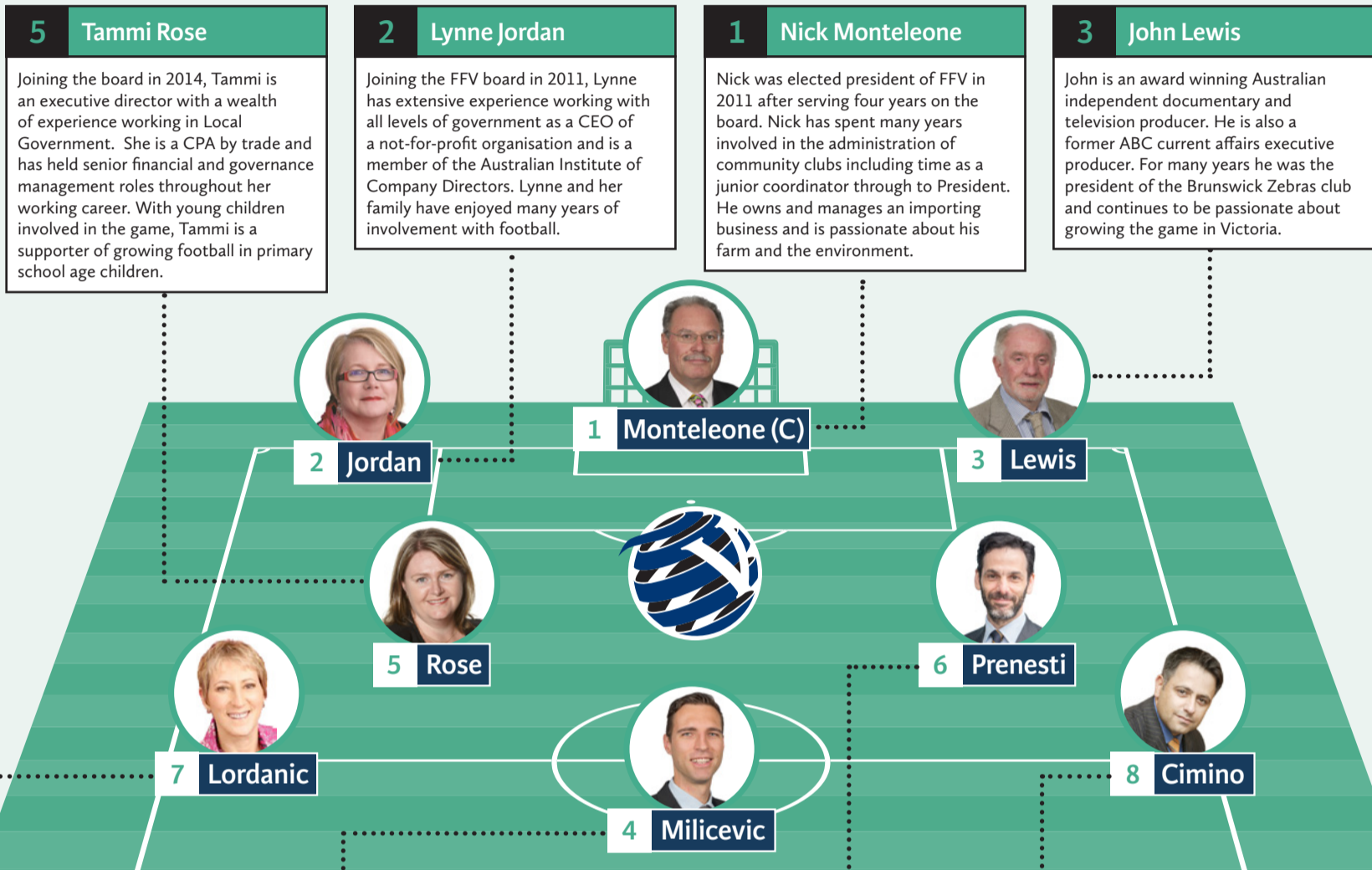
The strength of your club will definitely benefit.





The Boardroom

Who we are and what we do



5 Tammi Rose
Joining the board in 2014, Tammi is an executive director with a wealth of experience working in Local Government. She is a CPA by trade and has held senior financial and governance management roles throughout her working career. With young children involved in the game, Tammi is a supporter of growing football in primary school age children.

2 Lynne Jordan
Joining the FFV board in 2011, Lynne has extensive experience working with all levels of government as a CEO of a not-for-profit organisation and is a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. Lynne and her family have enjoyed many years of involvement with football.

1 Nick Montealeone
Nick was elected president of FFV in 2011 after serving four years on the board. Nick has spent many years involved in the administration of community clubs including time as a junior coordinator through to President. He owns and manages an importing business and is passionate about his farm and the environment.

3 John Lewis
John is an award winning Australian independent documentary and television producer. He is also a former ABC current affairs executive producer. For many years he was the president of the Brunswick Zebras club and continues to be passionate about growing the game in Victoria.

1 Montealeone (C)

2 Jordan

3 Lewis

5 Rose

6 Prenesti

7 Lordanic

4 Milicevic

8 Cimino

7 Sandra Lordanic
Appointed director in November 2014. Sandra is a Chief Financial Officer who has extensive experience in the not-for-profit sector having worked for a member lobby group and peak sporting body. Sandra has a Bachelor of Business (Accounting) and a Master of Business Administration. She is a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and a fellow of CPA Australia.

4 Steven Milicevic
A lawyer by trade, Steven was elected to the board in 2011. He brings with him over a decade of experience in business, property, intellectual property and sports law. He has also played, coached and refereed at both junior and senior levels in Victoria.

6 Sam Prenesti
Appointed director in a casual vacancy in November 2014. Sam has over 20 years' experience in corporate affairs, issues management and communications. He has extensive experience in the corporate, not-for-profit and government sectors. Sam is a corporate affairs adviser at Australian Super. He has had a lifelong association with football as a player, club member, spectator and journalist.

8 Cam Cimino
Appointed director in a casual vacancy in November 2014. Cam has extensive experience in strategy development, customer experience design, digital transformation, brand and marketing leadership, product and program development and in all aspects of media and corporate communications. Cam believes football should play a more significant role in the Victorian and Australian sporting landscape.

Former Directors:
Aldrin de Zilva and Kimon Taliadoros, were elected March 20, 2013 and both resigned on May 23, 2014.
Zak Gruevski first appointed June 27, 2011 and resigned 29 October, 2014 prior to his appointment as president of Preston Lions FC.

VICTORIAN STATE AND LOCAL COUNCIL PROJECTS

- Yarra Ranges Shire – Yarra Ranges Regional Soccer Centre
- Ballarat City - Russell Square pavilion upgrade
- Bass Coast Shire – Newhaven drainage
- Brimbank City – Selwyn Park Sports Ground lighting
- Casey City – KM Reedy floodlighting
- Colac-Otway Shire – Pirron Yallock Recreation Reserve clubrooms
- Darebin City – BT Connor Reserve lighting
- Greater Bendigo City – Shadforth Park lighting
- Greater Geelong City – Barwon Heads Village Park redevelopment
- Knox City – Parkridge Reserve lighting
- Mansfield Shire – Mansfield soccer and additional fields
- Moorabool Shire – Masons Lane Reserve Stage 2 development
- Mornington Peninsula Shire – Mt Eliza SC new pitch
- Surf Coast Shire – Banyul Warri Fields upgrade
- Yarra City – Fairfield Park pavilion
- Mildura Rural City – Soccer Park lighting
- Manningham City – Wonga Park Reserve Oval upgrade
- Golden Plains Shire – Bannockburn soccer pitch lighting
- Whittlesea City – Findon Recreation Reserve lighting
- Ararat Rural City – Moulston Multisport Activity Centre
- Maribyrnong City – Dobson Reserve lighting
- Boroondara City – Watson Park lighting
- Latrobe City – Traralgon Olympians pavilion
- Latrobe City – Latrobe City Sports and Entertainment Stadium irrigation and drainage
- Latrobe City – Traralgon City SC lighting
- Nillumbik Shire – A E Cracknell Reserve multipurpose sports nets

FFV STATS

- Top Municipalities:**
- Most players in a club: **3,728 at Bayside**
 - Most clubs: **19 Greater Dandenong**
 - Most pitches: **19 Brimbank**
 - Highest % female players: **36.3% City of Melbourne**
 - Average number of players per pitch in Victoria: **89**

CLUBS WIN TOO

In 2014 the Victorian Government provided an additional \$127,000 of grants varying from \$500 to \$5000 to 47 clubs across the state.

Strong investment in our sport continues

FFV's work with state and local government during the 2014 season continues to deliver substantial results for football in Victoria.

Daniel Lancefield

IN 2014, there were 26 significant football facility projects underway (as listed left). Victorian Government contributions to these projects totaled over \$1million which when added to local government and club contributions sees a total investment in the game of \$4 million.
During the year, FFV met with over 40 councils, Sport and Recreation Victoria (SRV), Vicsport, Parks and Leisure Australia and the State Sports Centre Trust to consult on many of the major projects and funding opportunities proposed or under development.
In regional Victoria, the groundwork has been laid for further projects ranging from basic lighting upgrades to new multi-pitch regional hubs. FFV has supported local government

initiatives to assist funding for over 20 new projects to commence in 2015 through the Community Facilities Funding Project and SRV.
FFV has worked with local councils to provide greater access to football for culturally and

linguistically diverse groups. The City of Brimbank and the City of Wyndham, as well as new multicultural initiatives in the City of Moonee Valley, provide access to the game for those who otherwise would not have the opportunity to play football.

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Out and About

Community football

The stat:

3,870 hours (72%) of playing time at State Football Centre (Darebin) is dedicated to community football

FFV recognised as an industry leader and anti-racism campaigner

FFV finalist at Vicsport awards

FOOTBALL Federation Victoria has a proven and demonstrated track record working in partnership with all levels of government to deliver programs driving increased participation, while developing social capital through sport in the wider community.

Sammie Black

FFV would like to take this opportunity to thank and acknowledge support from the Victorian State Government, Sport and Recreation Victoria, VicHealth and the Federal Government commitment to football funding which goes a long way to making football more accessible to all members of our community.

FFV has also worked closely with the Victorian Equal

Opportunity and Human Rights Commission and VicHealth to deliver programs around indigenous integration, sexual and gender diversity, anti-racism awareness and cultural assimilation – all of these programs build community capital and spirit through the common thread of football.

FFV became the first sporting body in Victoria to partner with VicHealth in the quest to promote bystander intervention against racism.

The Australian Human Rights Commissions' "Racism. It Stops With Me" initiative supports FFV's "Don't Stand By. Stand Up!" campaign, which has the pledged support of more than 50 Victorian clubs and aims to empower all football club stakeholders to respond and intervene safely when racism is seen or heard.

This program was one of three finalists in 2014 Vicsport awards for Best Sports Development Initiative by an affiliated Vicsport member.



Ambassadors: Gulcan Koca, Andrew Redmayne and Andrew Nabbout, at the "Don't Stand By. Stand Up!" launch.

“One of the great things about football is that it brings together lots of different cultures and different nationalities. We're all united by the beautiful game. On the field or off the field, sport is not about where you come from, it's about character. We all want a positive atmosphere for players, officials and fans. If racism happens around you, don't stand by, stand up. Every one of us has the power to stand up and say 'Racism, it stops with me.'”

— Excerpt from FFV's "Don't Stand By. Stand Up!" education resource video



Australian Government
Department of the
Prime Minister and Cabinet

Campaign Launch: May 2014 at
Melbourne Knights Stadium



AAA ambassador
Ben Roche

Delivering football for all

Penny Griffin

THROUGHOUT 2014 Football Federation Victoria conducted, supported and participated in a range of events promoting the inclusion of diverse communities in football programs.

There were two key educational events.

The 'Grow Your Sport' training program, run in partnership with Vicsport and Sport and Recreation Victoria, and the first annual professional development day for teachers.

There was also an emphasis on working with All-abilities

footballers, piloting a blind and vision impaired AIA Vitality MiniRoos program with Blind Sport Victoria. FFV also helped Preston Lions FC pilot a Blind and Vision Impaired AIA Vitality Miniroos program.

Another of the year's highlights had to be our involvement in the Special Olympics National Games.

The Melbourne-hosted event saw 15 of Victoria's top footballers with intellectual disabilities compete on the national stage.

FFV also announced Pararoo Ben Roche as its first 'Access for All Abilities' program ambassador.

Roche will play an integral role in the development and promotion of inclusive football, having experienced the value of these programs himself.

The South Eastern Wheelchair Football

Competition continued with ongoing support from FFV and SCOPE.

The 2014 competition, a six-team event, was won by Knox United FC Flames, who defeated Glen Eira FC Falcons 2-0.

FFV chief executive Peter Gome delighted to present the grand final trophies.

FFV continued to work with Disability Sport and Recreation by supporting the seven-a-side football team run by Northcote City FC.

Expansion of this program is a focus for 2015, supported by the addition of a specific inclusion module to the FFV's coach presenter course.

In partnership with Deaf Sports Australia, FFV also ran three clinics at DSA Exhibitions in Geelong, Doncaster and Braybrook, recording 74 participants across the three events.



AIA Vitality MiniRoos kick-off

19,491

Registered AIA Vitality MiniRoos players across 1081 teams in 2014



Jorge Gero

BY mid-March 2015, there were already eight approved AIA Vitality MiniRoos Kick-Off sites across Victoria as Football Federation Victoria's newest introductory football program launched into action.

Designed to be fun, engaging and all-inclusive for boys and girls aged four to nine, AIA Vitality MiniRoos Kick-Off provides an opportunity to experience football related activities and games, in a structure that caters to absolute beginners.

Participants can register for anywhere between six to twelve session programs that are linked to local clubs, schools and associations.

For more information visit www.miniroos.com.au

Kids around Victoria take part in AIA Vitality MiniRoos in stadiums big and small, with a little help from Melbourne Victory and Matildas star Steph Catley.



Summer Sevens

Scott Atkinson

IT was the biggest year yet for Sportsmart Summer Sevens in 2014.

Nine nights of competition across seven different venues had 232 teams signed up to play, with more than 2,300 participants taking part.

Running for seven weeks from October to December, Football Federation Victoria's social format of the game involves seven players per team playing on a modified pitch over two 20-minute halves.

Social football is thriving in Victoria!



Victory for the community

Stuart Brodie

THEY may have been crowned Westfield W-League champions in February, but Melbourne Victory's women always found time to give back to the football community.

Victory players visited more than 25 local clubs and organisations, while each W-League home game saw youngsters walking the teams on to the pitch and participating in AIA Vitality MiniRoos clinics at half time.

Players from two lucky clubs, Watsonia Heights and Brighton SC, were also able to present Victory's stars with their winning medals at the end of the victorious grand final in March 2014.



Statewide indigenous tournament

TEAMS from Mildura, Albury, Shepparton and Morwell converged on Darebin's State Football Centre in October for the 2014 Statewide Indigenous Tournament.

Almost 300 players from Melbourne and regional Victoria took part in the fourth-annual tournament which provides the opportunity for participants to come together and celebrate their heritage and culture

Mike Fox

through the world game.

Indigenous stars David Williams (Melbourne City) and Gema Simon (Melbourne Victory women) were among the spectators for the one-day event.

The tournament proved such a success that the Albury side, competing for the first time, subsequently signed up to a local

futsal tournament to allow their continued participation in the game.

Indigenous participation in football is the fastest growing segment in the game, having increased by approximately 200 per cent in the past four years.

The Statewide Indigenous Tournament has prompted many young boys and girls to join clubs during the winter to prepare for the event.

Fit football

Mike Fox

FOOTBALL Federation Victoria has joined forces with VicHealth to help establish opportunities for Victorians to get more active.

A new program, dubbed Fit Football, will provide an

alternative avenue for people to participate in football without the need to be overly skilled or be committed long-term.

Fit Football will be ideal for mums and dads currently attending soccer training sessions with their children and can exercise in disguise, helping to improve their fitness levels by having fun with a football.



Seven a side: A big hit

NEW in 2014 was Football Federation Victoria's girls only pre-season tournament, Girls FC.

Taking place at the State Football Centre in Darebin, Girls FC places an emphasis on fun, fitness and participation and provides an opportunity for new players to experience the game for the first time or for existing players to have fun prior to the

Mike Fox

start of the new season.

Girls FC, with Melbourne Victory W-League star Gulcan Koca as its ambassador, had 40 teams signed for its first installment, providing the opportunity for 420 girls to play.

Meanwhile, Boys FC

celebrated its fifth birthday in 2014 with 610 kids in 60 teams taking part.

Held at Bendigo's Epsom Huntley Recreation Reserve, Boys FC utilised the highly successful seven-a-side model, providing participants with a fast flowing match that ensures teams refine their skills in preparation for the new season.

Pride football – Fair Go, Sport!

Joella Hanson

YARRA Jets, Darebin United Apollo, Melbourne Uni and RMIT soccer clubs involved themselves in the 'Fair Go, Sport!' initiative in 2014, with Drysdale SC set to join in 2015.

'Fair Go, Sport!' tackles issues of homophobia, transphobia and biphobia by offering clubs the opportunity to display best practice including players, coaches and volunteers who are same-sex attracted or sex and gender diverse.



The Wrap

What went down in Victoria's major competitions in 2014

Historic title goes south

AFTER what seemed like an eternity, it was time for football in the PlayStation®4 National Premier Leagues Victoria to begin. And what a season it was.



Liam Bentley

South Melbourne dominated from start to finish and was ultimately crowned the inaugural NPL Victorian champion, but in between we were treated to some brilliant football at all levels.

With the new league structure, a longer season that included midweek rounds and new clubs from regional Victoria, it really was a great way to kick off a new era.

South went on to represent

Victoria in the first ever National NPL Finals Series, but after defeating South Hobart in Tasmania it was knocked out by eventual champions MetroStars from South Australia in the semis.

But perhaps the story of the season was provided by Avondale FC.

Not too long ago a State League 3 North-West side, Avondale managed to secure the NPL1 title and its fifth-consecutive promotion - this time to Victoria's top flight.

Joining them in the NPL

in 2015 will be North Geelong Warriors, whose second-place finish in NPL1 secured its spot in the premier competition for the first time in almost two decades.

Although relegated from the top tier, the introduction of top flight teams in Shepparton, Ballarat and Bendigo was a major milestone for football in Victoria.

Goulburn Valley Suns, Bendigo City and Ballarat Red Devils will continue to build the pathway for elite players in regional Victoria.

It cannot be forgotten

how much work took place off the field in 2014 - which has continued this year - to ensure that NPL clubs meet the wide range of criteria such as coach education, community engagement and youth development.

These steps are vital in securing the long term viability of both the clubs and the competitions as a whole.

With more than 3,000 junior NPL players involved in a system focused on their development, the future of Victorian football is looking bright.

Persistence wins out



Liam Bentley

SOUTH Melbourne Women's FC found redemption in the form of an epic Sportsmart Women's Premier League grand final win over rivals Heidelberg United.

Triumphant South Melbourne Women's FC holds aloft its WPL trophy.
Photo: Graeme Furlong



After losing the final of both the WPL and the Women's State Knockout Cup in 2013, South's 1-0 win at Lakeside Stadium was all the more sweet.

The season was not without its ups and downs - especially considering it had an interim coach, Matt Maslak at the helm

for its finals charge - but the side's class won out in the end.

South could not get the double it craved however, losing a second successive knockout cup final, this time to FC Bulleen Lions.

Monbulk Rangers and Cairnlea made the drop to State League 1, meaning South Yarra and Caulfield United Cobras will be able to test their mettle in Victoria's top flight for the first time in their respective histories.



Melbourne Knights celebrates its dramatic Dockerty Cup win
Photo: Mark Avellino

KNIGHTS RUIN ARIS' RUN

THE Cinderella story didn't have a fairytale ending as Tomislav Uskok's extra time goal broke South Springvale hearts and delivered Melbourne Knights the Dockerty Cup.

South Springvale, from Men's State League 1 South-East, captivated Victorians with its Round of 32 success in the Westfield FFA Cup.

And, after defeating National Premier Leagues 1 side St Albans in the Dockerty Cup semis, it held on valiantly for nearly two hours against the Knights at

Brandon Galgano
FFV match reporter

Lakeside Stadium.

But the former National Soccer League giant, seeking its first Dockerty Cup title since 1996, would not be denied.

Led by coach Andrew Marth, the Knights dominated possession and finally got their reward after a late goalmouth scramble.

Consolation for South Springvale goalkeeper Rani Dowisha came in the form of a medal for being adjudged best on ground.

2015 Form Guide

Liam Bentley

2015 Sportsmart WPL preview

IT'S an even playing field in the 2015 Sportsmart Women's Premier League in what is shaping as the most open year in recent memory.

Defending champions South Melbourne Women's FC will be keen to go back-to-back, but Ashburton's impressive signing spree could take it from relegation contender to title fancy.

With Women's National Premier Leagues commencing in 2016, clubs will be keen to bag the last Victorian WPL title.

2015 PS4 NPL preview

IT is hard to go past 2014's big three of South Melbourne, Oakleigh Cannons and Bentleigh Greens when predicting who will win the PS4 National Premier League Victoria title in 2015.

South has bolstered its already high quality squad, but some important acquisitions for Bentleigh and Heidelberg will see them really put the pressure on.

Melbourne Knights took home the 2014 Dockerty Cup and don't be surprised to see them again progress in the cup competitions this year.

The 2015 NPL1 season is highlighted by the new conference system, splitting east from west.

The introduction of Melbourne Victory and Melbourne City's National Youth League teams will also provide interest and challenge.

Also featuring in NPL1 for the first time will be Eastern Lions, Moreland City, Nunawading City and new regional club Murray United.

First cup the sweetest for Bulleen Lions

FC Bulleen Lions claimed its first Women's State Knockout Cup crown with an upset 2-0 win over South Melbourne Women's FC.

The win capped off a meteoric rise for the Sportsmart Women's Premier League club - which only had its debut season in the top flight in 2013 - while for

Jordan Lim
FFV match reporter

South Melbourne the loss was the second-consecutive year it had been denied in the state knockout cup final.

A 40-yard stunner from captain Tessa Sernio provided the exclamation point, but ultimately it was a scrappy goal from Emily Coppock that sealed what was a gutsy win.

Frances Land was named the Theresa Deas Medallist for her best-on-ground performance.

YOUR TEAM. YOUR APP



www.teamapp.com

And he's Victorian!

Matt Windley, Herald Sun

IT took eight years for Ange Postecoglou to go from the outhouse to the penthouse. But the faith of the now Asian Cup-winning coach never wavered.

The leafy surrounds of Kooyong Park must have seemed like a million miles away from a sold-out ANZ Stadium where on January 31 Postecoglou orchestrated arguably Australian football's finest achievement.

But it was at that suburban ground east of Melbourne in 2007 where, running free clinics known as the V-Elite program, he kept his coaching dream alive.

The rest, as they say, is history.

"I wanted to coach again, but my reputation wasn't great at the time," Postecoglou told the Herald Sun.

"I put a junior program together and knocked on some doors to paint a picture. It needed time and commitment from people and there wasn't enough people investing.

"Psychologically it kept my spirits up."

Australia's epic 2-1 extra-time win over South Korea capped a stunning month of Asian Cup action.

In total, 125,368 fans attended seven games in Melbourne, but that's just the beginning of the blockbuster action here this year.

In July three of the world's biggest clubs - Real Madrid, Manchester City and Roma - will descend on the MCG for a round-robin tournament expected to attract bumper crowds.

There were seven Victorians in the 23-man Asian Cup squad: Ivan Franjic, Jason Davidson, Matthew Spiranovic, Mathew Leckie, Aziz Behich, Eugene

Galekovic and Mark Bresciano.

For Postecoglou, himself a four-time Socceroo, the win was the highlight of a professional career which started at South Melbourne in 1984.

Football Federation Victoria chief executive, Peter Gome said Postecoglou's success was an inspiration.

"Ange is a proud Victorian and our football community is equally proud of his achievements," Gome said.

"His appointment as the Socceroos coach was significant for Victorian football as it provided further aspiration to our players and coaches that if you dream of one day coaching at the elite level you too may represent Australia."

Football Federation Victoria is being supported by Sport and Recreation Victoria to deliver an Asian Cup football legacy programs at grassroots level, primarily focused on those with Asian heritage.

CALD communities will also be provided with sustainable tools and resources to encourage participation including FFV's educational and developmental support for coaches, referee and club administrators.

The Asian Cup legacy will help bridge the gap between social and mainstream competitions through partnerships with local councils, football clubs and Melbourne Chinese Soccer Association.



Paul Wade, former Socceroo, interviews Ange Postecoglou at the NPL Victoria season launch.

"Ange is a proud Victorian and our football community is equally proud of his achievements. His appointment as the Socceroos coach was very significant for Victorian football as it provided further aspiration to our players and coaches that if you dream of one day coaching at the elite level you too may represent Australia."

— Peter Gome, Football Federation Victoria Chief Executive



Photo: Jason Davidson in the Asian Cup final GETTY



Asian boost

Peter Gome

WORKING with a limited marketing budget, the 2015 Asian Cup Local Organising Committee leant heavily on the support of many including Football Federation Victoria to promote what ultimately proved to be a hugely successful event.

An active member of the Asian Cup Victorian steering committee since June 2013 - alongside other key stakeholders including the State and Federal Governments, Sport and Recreation Victoria, Tourism Victoria and the Victorian Multicultural Commission - FFV's involvement was vital in ensuring the off-field success of the tournament in Melbourne.

FFV chief executive, Peter Gome and general manager of commercial and media, Anthony Grima were part of the diverse Victorian steering committee.

FFV staff were proactive delivering on five key outcomes:

- HOSTING official AFC Asian

Cup LOC staff and events at FFV headquarters.

- MARKETING and sales support including loads of ticket promotions and distribution

- SUPPORTING the Melbourne Asian Cup community tournaments.

- ASSISTING 'One Year To Go' events, activities and promotions.

- FFV STAFF SECONDMENTS to the Asian Cup during January.

FFV was able to leverage support for the Asian Cup by relaying ticket sale offers and more to the Victorian football family via its hugely popular social media channels and an e-database of more than 80,000.

In December 2013 and again in November 2014, 16 teams took part in the Melbourne Asian Cup at Darebin, events which were run by the Melbourne Chinese Soccer Association with support from FFV and Melbourne Victory.

FFV's hard-working staff should be commended for the role they played in assisting with a tournament that saw 125,368 fans attend seven games at the Melbourne Rectangular Stadium.

Vics help Matildas hunt for history

Aisling Callaghan

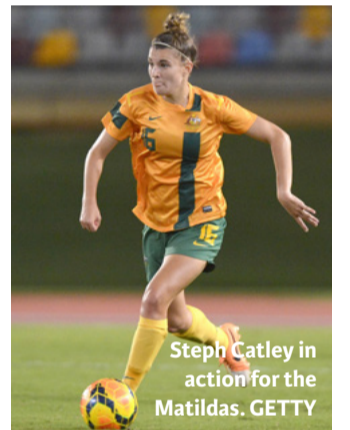
THE recent focus has been on the Socceroos, but come June our Matildas will be hoping to snare their own piece of history at the Women's World Cup in Canada.

Although the final squad has not yet been announced, it looks certain that Victoria and Melbourne Victory will be well represented.

At the time of writing, four of our players are still in with a chance of being selected - Lisa De Vanna, Stephanie Catley, Brianna Davey and Gema Simon.

The draw hasn't been kind to Australia.

Alongside us in Group D are world number two and two-time world champions USA, nine-time African champion Nigeria and 2003 finalists and current



Steph Catley in action for the Matildas. GETTY

number five Sweden.

But that won't deter Matilda's coach Alen Stajcic's team, particularly given the encouraging results secured the lead up to the tournament.

Our Matildas continue to be an inspiration to all our female footballers, particularly our girls.

2015 Matildas World Cup Games
v USA, June 9, 9.30am
v Nigeria, June 13, 10am
v Sweden, June 17, 10am
All games live on SBS

Locals become legends

The clubs that nurtured our Asian Cup heroes

Socceroos from 2015 Asian Cup squad

Ivan Franjic
Meadow Park Eagles St Albans Saints Melbourne Knights Oakleigh Cannons
Jason Davidson
Brunswick Zebras Doncaster Rovers Bulleen JSC Altona City Essendon Royals Victorian Institute of Sport Hume City
Matthew Spiranovic
North Geelong Warriors Keilor Park Melbourne Knights Victorian Institute of Sport
Mathew Leckie
Brimbank Stallions FC Bulleen Lions

Aziz Behich
Green Gully Hume City
Eugene Galekovic
Chelsea Hajduk (Dandenong City) FC Bulleen Lions Morwell Falcons South Melbourne
Mark Bresciano
Bulleen Veneto Carlton

Matildas from the 2014 Asian Cup

Stephanie Catley
East Bentleigh Sandringham NTC
Brianna Davey
Brighton SC NTC



Mathew Leckie GETTY



Aziz Behich GETTY



LEAGUE	CHAMPION/RUNNER-UP
NPL	South Melbourne FC Oakleigh Cannons FC
NPL 20's	Oakleigh Cannons FC Northcote City FC
NPL1	Avondale FC North Geelong Warriors FC
NPL1 20's	FC Bulleen Lions North Geelong Warriors FC
Sportsmart Women's Premier League	South Melbourne Womens FC Heidelberg United
Sportsmart Women's Premier League Reserves	Bundoora United FC FC Bulleen Lions
Men's State League 1 North-West	Moreland City SC Preston Lions FC
Men's State League 1 North-West Reserves	Keilor Park SC Preston Lions FC
Men's State League 1 South-East	Eastern Lions SC Mornington SC
Men's State League 1 South-East Reserves	Langwarrin SC Eastern Lions SC
Men's State League 2 North-West	North Sunshine Eagles SC Corio SC
Men's State League 2 North-West Reserves	Corio SC Melbourne University SC
Men's State League 2 South-East	Frankston Pines FC Warragul United SC
Men's State League 2 South-East Reserves	Doveton SC North Caulfield Senior FC
Men's State League 3 North-West	Essendon Royals SC Essendon United FC
Men's State League 3 North-West Reserves	Altona City SC Old Carey SC
Men's State League 3 South-East	Sandringham SC Old Melburnians SC
Men's State League 3 South-East Reserves	Caulfield United Cobras SC Monash University SC
Men's State League 4 East	Croydon City Arrows SC Mazenod United FC
Men's State League 4 East Reserves	Ringwood City FC University of Melbourne SC
Men's State League 4 North	Upfield SC Darebin United SC
Men's State League 4 North Reserves	Upfield SC Epping City SC
Men's State League 4 South	St Kilda SC Keysborough SC
Men's State League 4 South Reserves	Brighton SC Seconds St Kilda SC
Men's State League 4 West	Hoppers Crossing SC Melbourne City FC
Men's State League 4 West Reserves	Hoppers Crossing SC Maribyrnong Greens SC
Men's State League 5 East	Eltham Redbacks FC Old Xaverians SC
Men's State League 5 East Reserves	Eltham Redbacks FC Old Xaverians SC
Men's State League 5 North	Greenvale United SC Northern United SC
Men's State League 5 North Reserves	Light United SC Greenvale United SC
Men's State League 5 South	Dandenong South SC Endeavour Hills SC
Men's State League 5 South Reserves	East Bentleigh Strikers Kings Domain FC
Men's State League 5 West	Keilor Wolves SC Truganina Hornets SC
Men's State League 5 West Reserves	Lara SC Spring Hills FC
Women's State League 1	Caulfield United Cobras SC South Yarra SC
Women's State League 1 Reserves	University of Melbourne SC South Yarra SC
Women's State League 2 North-West	Yarra Jets FC Eltham Redbacks FC
Women's State League 2 South-East	South Melbourne Womens FC South Springvale SC
Women's State League 3 East	Richmond FC Seaford United SC
Women's State League 3 North	Bundoora United FC FC Bulleen Lions
Women's State League 3 South	Seaford United SC North Caulfield
Women's State League 3 West	Lara SC Westside Strikers Caroline Springs FC
Women's State League 4 East	Kings Domain FC Yarra Jets FC
Women's State League 4 North	Glenroy Bears FC Watsonia Heights FC
Women's State League 4 South	Warragul United SC Langwarrin SC
Women's State League 4 West	Maidstone United SC Yarraville FC Womens
Metropolitan League 1	La Trobe University SC Old Scotch SC
Metropolitan League 2 North-West	La Trobe University SC Old Boys RMIT FC
Metropolitan League 2 South-East	Bayside Argonauts FC Elwood City SC
Metropolitan League 3 North-West	Melbourne University SC La Trobe University SC Eagles
Metropolitan League 3 South-East	Monash University SC (Caulfield) Old Scotch SC Cardinals
Metropolitan League 4 North-West	North City Wolves FC Old Xaverians SC
Metropolitan League 4 South-East	Monash University SC Bayside Argonauts FC
Metropolitan League 5 North-West	Coburg City FC Point Cook FC
Metropolitan League 5 South-East	North Caulfield Senior FC St Kilda SC
Metropolitan League 6 North-West	Maidstone United SC Banyule City SC
Metropolitan League 6 South-East	Old Xaverians SC Kings Domain FC
Metropolitan League 7 South-East	Manningham United FC Caulfield United Cobras SC
Men's Metropolitan Masters Central	Fitzroy City SC Juventus Old Boys SC
Men's Metropolitan Masters North-West	Point Cook FC Epping City SC
Men's Metropolitan Masters South-East	Clarinda United FC Monash City SC
Zagame's 12 East NPL	Box Hill United SC Northcote City FC
Zagame's 12 West NPL	Moreland Zebras FC North Geelong Warriors FC
Zagame's 13 East NPL	Box Hill United SC Heidelberg United SC
Zagame's 13 West NPL	Green Gully SC Hume City FC
Zagame's 14 East NPL	Heidelberg United SC Port Melbourne Sharks SC
Zagame's 14 West NPL	North Geelong Warriors FC Werribee City FC

Victorian league winners from 2014

IN 2014 FFV administered 56,000 players in 2,800 teams from 330 clubs. Those teams played in 27,000 fixtures across 370 leagues. In addition to 56,000 players, we also look after club officials and volunteers and approximately 40,000 dedicated and interested parents. That is well in excess of 100,000 stakeholders. Over 10,000 women and girls played our game. We also

administered 12,000 players competing in 35 leagues in three regional competitions across Victoria. In 2015 we expect to see our participation numbers continue to grow. Preliminary numbers indicate an increase in metropolitan teams of over 20%. That should translate into an additional 5,000+ matches taking the total number of fixtures administered by FFV in 2015 to 30,000+.



National champs They've done it again.

Boris Seroshtan

FOOTBALL Federation Victoria's National Training Centre boys squad won its second successive FFA National Institute Challenge title in 2014, winning seven of its eight games. To top it off, four Victorians - Sebastian Pasquali, Denis Genreau, Connor Metcalfe and Mersim Memeti - were selected in the All Stars squad.

FFV funds the NTC program in conjunction with Football Federation Australia.

The program aims to prepare Victorian players for the State Institute Challenge and selection in Australian national programs such as the Australian Institute of Sport and Qantas Joeyes, as well

as preparing them for possible selection in National Youth A-League squads.

"We used this analogy with the group: to finish top of the NTC Challenge ladder was like winning the English Premier League, and then to go on and win the NTC Challenge Final was like winning the FA Cup Final," NTC head coach Boris Seroshtan said.

"So to succeed at both of these different tests in Canberra says a lot about the quality and character of the players in this squad."

Victoria's girls were unable to make it a state NTC double, falling to Football West in their last round-robin game, thus denying our team a spot in the final.

LEAGUE	CHAMPION/RUNNER-UP
Zagame's 15 East NPL	Springvale White Eagles FC Bentleigh Greens SC
Zagame's 15 West NPL	Hume City FC Avondale Heights S.C.
Zagame's 16 East NPL	FC Bulleen Lions Dandenong Thunder SC
Zagame's 16 West NPL	Pascoe Vale SC Ballarat Red Devils SC
Zagame's 18 East NPL	FFV NTC Boys 15s Bentleigh Greens SC
Zagame's 18 West NPL	Melbourne Knights FC Pascoe Vale SC
Sportsmart Boys' East 12 Kangaroos	Nunawading City FC Collingwood City FC
Sportsmart Boys' East 13A	Aston Athletic FC Doncaster Rovers SC
Sportsmart Boys' East 13B	Boroondara Eagles FC Monash City SC
Sportsmart Boys' East 13C	Waverley Victory FC Mooroolbark Junior SC
Sportsmart Boys' East 14A	Aston Athletic FC Manningham United FC
Sportsmart Boys' East 14B	Ringwood City FC Malvern City FC
Sportsmart Boys' East 14C	Riversdale SC Mazenod United Football Club
Sportsmart Boys' East 15A	Ringwood City FC Aston Athletic FC
Sportsmart Boys' East 15B	Mazenod United FC Riversdale SC
Sportsmart Boys' East 15C	Malvern City FC Brandon Park SC
Sportsmart Boys' East 16A	Malvern City FC Manningham United FC
Sportsmart Boys' East 16B	Chisholm United FC Boroondara Eagles FC Boys
Sportsmart Boys' East 17	Ashburton United SC Monbulk Rangers SC
Sportsmart Boys' East 18A	Malvern City FC Eastern Lions SC
Sportsmart Boys' East Blue 12 Joeyes	Malvern City FC Riversdale SC
Sportsmart Boys' East Blue 12 Wallabies	Monash City SC Ashburton United SC
Sportsmart Boys' East Red 12 Joeyes	Boroondara Eagles FC Montrose SC
Sportsmart Boys' East Red 12 Wallabies	Monbulk Rangers SC Nunawading City FC
Sportsmart Boys' North 12 Kangaroos	Bundoora United FC Fawkner SC
Sportsmart Boys' North 12 Wallabies	Essendon Royals SC Mill Park SC
Sportsmart Boys' North 13A	Fawkner SC Bundoora United FC
Sportsmart Boys' North 13B	Bundoora United FC Moreland City SC
Sportsmart Boys' North 13C	Lalor United Junior SC Watsonia Heights FC

LEAGUE	CHAMPION/RUNNER-UP
Sportsmart Boys' North 14A	Preston Lions FC Whittlesea United SC
Sportsmart Boys' North 14B	Upfield SC Templestowe United FC
Sportsmart Boys' North 14C	North City Wolves FC Coburg City FC
Sportsmart Boys' North 15A	Fawkner SC Light United SC
Sportsmart Boys' North 15B	Heidelberg Stars SC Thomastown Raiders FC
Sportsmart Boys' North 15C	Alphington FC Mill Park SC
Sportsmart Boys' North 16A	Lalor United Junior SC Light United SC
Sportsmart Boys' North 16B	Upfield SC Moreland Eagles FC
Sportsmart Boys' North Green 12 Joeyes	Moreland City SC Brunswick Zebras FC
Sportsmart Boys' North Orange 12 Joeyes	Northern Falcons SC FC Birrarung
Sportsmart Boys' North-West 17	Hume United FC Brimbank Stallions FC
Sportsmart Boys' North-West 18	Keilor Park SC Spring Hills FC
Sportsmart Boys' South 12 Kangaroos	Brighton SC Chelsea FC
Sportsmart Boys' South 13A	Glen Eira Casey Comets FC
Sportsmart Boys' South 13B	Mount Eliza James Cook FC
Sportsmart Boys' South 13C	Doveton SC Rosebud Heart Junior SC
Sportsmart Boys' South 13D	Cardinia United JSC Seaford United SC
Sportsmart Boys' South 14A	Berwick City SC Doveton SC
Sportsmart Boys' South 14B	Hampton Park United Sparrows FC Peninsula Strikers Junior FC
Sportsmart Boys' South 14C	Bayside Argonauts FC Mornington SC
Sportsmart Boys' South 14D	Heatherton United SC Dandenong Wolves FC
Sportsmart Boys' South 15A	Beaumaris SC Caulfield United Cobras SC
Sportsmart Boys' South 15B	Heatherton United SC Endeavour United SC
Sportsmart Boys' South 15C	Aspendale SC South Springvale SC
Sportsmart Boys' South 16A	East Bentleigh Strikers Berwick City SC
Sportsmart Boys' South 16B	Skye United FC Casey Panthers SC
Sportsmart Boys' South 17	Beaumaris SC Doveton SC
Sportsmart Boys' South 18A	Casey Comets FC Caulfield United Cobras SC
Sportsmart Boys' South Blue 12 Joeyes	South Springvale SC Sandringham SC
Sportsmart Boys' South Blue 12 Wallabies	Brighton Thunder Brighton Beasts
Sportsmart Boys' South Green 12 Wallabies	Langwarrin SC Noble Park SC
Sportsmart Boys' South Red 12 Joeyes	Clelland United SC Chelsea FC
Sportsmart Boys' South-East 18B	Monbulk Rangers SC Malvern City FC
Sportsmart Boys' South-East 20	Collingwood City FC Nunawading City FC
Sportsmart Boys' West 12 Joeyes	Balmoral FC Bullengarook Rangers FC
Sportsmart Boys' West 12 Kangaroos/Wallabies	Point Cook FC Keilor Park SC
Sportsmart Boys' West 13A	Spring Hills FC Cairnlea FC
Sportsmart Boys' West 13B	Spring Hills FC Westside Strikers Caroline Springs FC
Sportsmart Boys' West 13C	Melton Phoenix FC Moonee Valley Knights FC
Sportsmart Boys' West 14A	Spring Hills FC Altona City SC
Sportsmart Boys' West 14B	Westside Strikers Caroline Springs FC Essendon United FC
Sportsmart Boys' West 15A	Keilor Park SC Barnstoneworth United Junior FC
Sportsmart Boys' West 15B	Westside Strikers Caroline Springs FC Hoppers Crossing SC
Sportsmart Boys' West 16A	Altona City SC Keilor Park SC
Sportsmart Boys' West 16B	Keilor Park SC Cairnlea FC
Sportsmart Girls' East 13-14D	Ashburton United SC Chisholm United FC
Sportsmart Girls' East 15-16B	Ringwood City FC Croydon City Arrows SC
Sportsmart Girls' East 15-16C	Mooroolbark Junior SC Glen Waverley
Sportsmart Girls' Metropolitan 15-16A	South Melbourne Womens FC Sandringham SC
Sportsmart Girls' Metropolitan 18	Richmond FC Bundoora United FC
Sportsmart Girls' North 15-16B	FC Clifton Hill Greenvale United SC
Sportsmart Girls' North-West 12 Joeyes	Watsonia Heights FC FC Clifton Hill
Sportsmart Girls' NW 12 Kangaroos/Wallabies	Pascoe Vale SC FC Bulleen Lions
Sportsmart Girls' North-West 13-14A	Spring Hills FC FC Bulleen Lions
Sportsmart Girls' North-West 13-14B	Pascoe Vale SC St Albans Saints SC
Sportsmart Girls' North-West 13-14C	Essendon Royals SC Brunswick Zebras FC
Sportsmart Girls' North-West 15-16C	Spring Hills FC Lara SC
Sportsmart Girls' South 13-14D	Casey Comets FC Dandenong City SC
Sportsmart Girls' South 15-16B	Endeavour United SC East Bentleigh SC
Sportsmart Girls' South 15-16C	South Springvale SC Seaford United SC
Sportsmart Girls' SE 12 Kangaroos/Wallabies	Brighton Force Sandringham SC
Sportsmart Girls' South-East 13-14A	Peninsula Strikers Junior FC Ashburton Womens SC
Sportsmart Girls' South-East 13-14B	Brighton Blues East Bentleigh SC
Sportsmart Girls' South-East 13-14C	Ashburton United SC Mornington SC
Sportsmart Girls' South-East Green 12 Joeyes	Chelsea FC Bayside Argonauts FC
Sportsmart Girls' South-East Red 12 Joeyes	Ashburton United SC Glen Waverley
Sportsmart Girls' West 15-16B	Point Cook FC Brunswick Zebras FC



FFV Confidential

The glitz, the glam and the awards, with Charlotte Greer and Stuart Brodie

It's souvlaki, it's good

STEVEN Orchard rates the opposition canteens while watching the away games of his beloved South Melbourne.

The kitchen at Kingston Heath Soccer Complex received more publicity than a Gordon Ramsay restaurant last year.

But the truth is that, on the back of those world-famous souvlakis, Bentleigh Greens are Steven Orchard's undisputed canteen kings.

It was a close run thing – Pascoe Vale's legendary wood fire pizza and Melbourne Knights' best cevapi in Victoria were worthy competitors – but George and his kitchen troops ultimately came out on top.

"I was eagerly anticipating my trip to their canteen," Orchard, host of the NPL Victoria Canteen Ratings, said.

"What can I say? The pita bread was handmade.

"The souvlaki was absolutely magnificent, with beautifully cooked lamb and very nice tzatziki sauce.

"Bentleigh's canteen was without doubt worth the rating of a perfect 10 out of 10."

Orchard said the Knights served the best cevapi in Victoria in 2013 and nothing had changed a year later, especially given the generous serving of seven cevapi sausages in a roll.

And while just pipped for top honours, Orchard highly recommended a trip to the interestingly-positioned canteen at Pascoe Vale, winners of the 2013 canteen championship.

"The pizza was absolutely brilliant," he said.

"I rated it 9.99/10 purely just to give every other club a chance to win the championship.

"Credit must be given to the gentleman that makes the Pascoe Vale pizzas as he is situated behind the goals and regularly has to deal with shots going astray and crashing into his oven. "I take my hat off to him."

2014 NPL VICTORIA CANTEN CHAMPIONSHIP VOTES

1. Bentleigh Greens 10/10
2. Pascoe Vale 9.99/10
3. Melbourne Knights 9.5/10
4. Port Melbourne 9/10
5. Northcote City 8.5/10



Milos Lujic with his three Gold Medal Night awards. Photo: Anita Milas

Lujic dominates night of nights

MILOS Lujic took out top honours at Football Federation Victoria's 2014 Gold Medal Night at the Grand Hyatt Hotel.

The South Melbourne star took all before him, winning not only the PS4 NPL Gold Medal, but also claiming the Players' Player of the Year and Golden Boot awards to add to his championship title this season.

His coach, **Chris Taylor**, was voted coach of the year by his peers.

The striker, who scored 22 goals in 26 games, won on 24

votes, one ahead of Oakleigh Cannons' Goran Zoric.

Dandenong Thunder midfielder **Matthew Millar** won the Rising Star award, while Hume City's Chris Oldfield was voted as Goalkeeper of the Year.

PS4 NPL GOLD MEDAL VOTES

- 24 Milos Lujic (South Melb.)
- 23 Goran Zoric (Oakleigh)
- 18 Jake Nakic (Pascoe Vale)
- 17 Matthew Millar (Dand. Thund), Wayne Wallace (Bent. Greens), Iqbal Jawadi (South Melb.)



Sean Seavill Photo: Anita Milas

All at sea

FRESH from his stint in Manly in the NSW Premier League, **Sean Seavill** wasted no time settling in at Dandenong City, taking out the 2014 PS4 National Premier Leagues 1 best and fairest award.

Richmond's **Tom Cahill** won both the Players' Player of the Year and Golden Boot – which he shared with **Joseph Katebian** from Bulleen Lions – while Moreland Zebras' **Nicholas Symeoy** (Rising Star) and Box Hill United's **Alex Pavlidis** (Goalkeeper) also took home awards.

Coach of the Year was shared by **Micky Colina** (North Geelong Warriors) and **Anthony Barbieri** (Avondale Heights).

PS4 NPL 1 BEST AND FAIREST VOTES

- 26 Sean Seavill (Dand. City)
- 20 Kenjok Athiu (Box Hill Utd)
- 19 Nicholas Symeoy (Moreland Zebs)
- Michele Crazia (Av. Heights), Takanori Nishimoto (Bull. Lions)

KOCA top coach

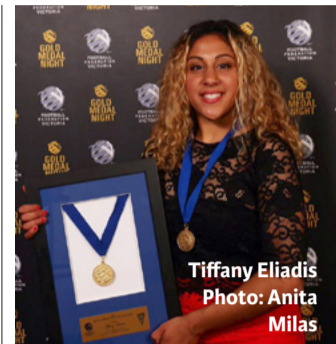
COACHING the under 13 and 14 girls teams at Dandenong City, Gulcan Koca was named 2014 Female Coach of the Year.

The Melbourne Victory women's star was lauded for her ability to bring out the best of a group of girls of mixed ages, races and abilities.

Ashburton United's Emilio Amanatidis was named Male Coach of the Year.



Photo: Alen Delic



Tiffany Eliadis Photo: Anita Milas



Enza Barilla Photo: Anita Milas

Eliadis goes back-to-back

YOUNG gun **Tiffany Eliadis** was a runaway winner of the Sportsmart Women's Premier League Gold Medal, in the process becoming the first player to go back-to-back in this award.

The South Melbourne Women's striker also took home the Golden Boot award on the back of her stunning haul of 24 goals.

Not bad for an 18-year-old. Eliadis won the Gold Medal on 31 votes, five ahead of Ashburton's Christine Pfeiffer, who was then four ahead of Alexandra Gummer from Boroondara.

Also celebrating were Players' Player of the Year **Enza Barilla** (Bundoora Utd), Coach of the Year **John Kyrgios** (Heidelberg Utd) and Goalkeeper of the Year **Anna Lanning** (Boroondara Eagles).

SPORTSMART WPL GOLD MEDAL VOTES

- 31 Tiffany Eliadis (South Melb. Women's)
- 26 Christine Pfeiffer (Ashburton Women's)
- 22 Alexandra Gummer (Boroondara Eagles)
- 19 Kendra Jones (Heidelberg Utd)
- 17 Emma Runnalls (Sandringham)

Legends inducted

THREE legends of Victorian football were inducted in to the FFV Hall of Fame at the 2014 Gold Medal Night.

Deborah Nichols, **Arthur Gibbs** and **Oscar Crino** were all honoured at the Grand Hyatt Hotel event.

Born in England but living in Australia by the age of 12, Nichols began playing with Springvale but before long had started her 20-year involvement with the Victorian state squad.

Making her Matildas debut in 1988, Nichols would go on to win 12 international caps, before taking up coaching, a career in which she spent 15 years with

Casey Comets and was twice voted Women's Premier League Coach of the Year.

Gibbs was a prime mover in the development of football in Victoria in the 1880s.

After moving from the United Kingdom, Gibbs captained Victoria in inter-colonial matches, was secretary of the Anglo-Australian club in Melbourne and also tried his hand at refereeing.

Argentinian-born Crino played for the Socceroos 37 times, scoring six goals.

He enjoyed stints overseas, but at home he won the National Soccer League title with South Melbourne in 1984 and also coached Cairnlea.

Members for life

IN recognition of outstanding meritorious service to football in Victoria, the following people were given FFV Life Membership in 2014: **Alan Davidson**, **Theresa Deas**, **Jane Oakley**, **Jimmy Rooney**, **Paul Wade**, **Hugh "Shuggy" Murney** and **David Wilson**.

Refs swap whistle for trophies

HE was the man in the middle for the national PS4 NPL Grand Final, but **Patrick Chaplin** was also formally recognised as Victoria's Referee of the Year.

Up-and-comer **Adam Bavcar** won the Development Referee of the Year award.

Snapper turned winner

THIS photo, shot by Graeme Furlong, won the Les Shorrock award for Best Football Image. David Manuca from FourFourTwo won Best News Article for his "Silver linings: Bahraini international's life in Melbourne as a refugee" piece, while Wayne Wallace (Bentleigh Greens) and Nathaniel Foster (Oakleigh Cannons) shared the Media's Player of the Year gong.



Stars of the future

BEATTIE Goad and **Cameron McGlip** won the Jane Oakley and Weinstein awards respectively after being voted the best female and best male National Training Centre players for 2014.

The Jones/Martin Award for best youth female went to **Lexi Anastassiou**, while **Kathryn Vlahopoulos** won the Hoar/Melvin Award for best junior girl.

Website: **31,000,000+**
Views annually across website network (ffv.org.au)

Social media: **52,000** Likes and followers across FFV social media pages

FFV TV: **174,000** Views, **718,000** Minutes watched

E-News: **83,000** Subscribers

#1 in Australia for NPL, #1 in Australia for Melbourne Victory W-League

FFVTV recognised by Football Federation Australia as #1 for video and social media

Top volunteer Orologas

BILL Orologas was awarded the Volunteer of the Year award at Football Federation Victoria's 2014 Gold Medal night.

The long-time Glen Waverley SC patron was honoured at FFV's night of nights at the Grand Hyatt Hotel.

Volunteers are the glue that keep our football clubs together. Without them our clubs would not be able to function.

Orologas has been a fixture at Glen Waverley for more than a decade.

He is actively involved as a committee member, operations

manager and under 7s AIA Vitality MiniRoos program manager.

Still playing himself in the Masters League, Orologas is constantly looking for ways to improve club processes, with his initiatives including MiniRoos programs, coaching workshops and annual yearbook productions.

He has truly become the "go to" person for every coach, player and parent at the club and his hard work has been instrumental in Glen Waverley's expansion to more than 500 members.



The Whistle

Decisions on and off the pitch

The Stats:

In 2014, 53 clubs across Victoria - involving 651 participants - attended a FFV Respect and Responsibility course.

More football, less whistle and cards

Richard Redman

THE seven year trend of decreasing red & yellow card offences, member protection hearings and sanctions continued in 2014, with the total number of tribunal hearings also in decline.

"FFV has taken a zero tolerance approach to misconduct since 2008. We are working with clubs to drive a positive experience in football for all players and fans through our efforts over the season to investigate and stamp out anti-social behaviour" senior compliance and government relations officer Daniel Lancefield said.

2014 also saw the implementation of the "Don't

Stand By, Stand Up!" Bystander Intervention Program, as well as the Respect and Responsibility Course being delivered to 651 participants across 53 clubs.

"The reduction in misconduct cases in 2014 ties in with the increase in education-based sanctions for clubs, such as Respect and Responsibility courses as opposed to monetary fines" club and compliance tribunal coordinator, Phil Dyer said.

"The amount of presenters who can deliver such courses has tripled across the state for 2015, and we hope that this helps our clubs and we continue to see fewer misconduct cases in football this year."

FFV has also internally restructured the tribunal discipline and compliance activities that now reports to FFV General Counsel, Richard Redman.

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Tribunals	145	128	118	155	102	97	93
Fines	315	235	254	215	98	68	54
Red Card	1,754	1,541	1,432	1,333	1,280	1,298	1,297
Warnings	354	175	92	79	104	66	19
Total Misconduct	2,568	2,080	1,896	1,782	1,584	1,529	1,463

BREAKING NEWS



Peter Gome congratulating Hakan Anaz upon receiving his award. Photo: Vicsport

Anaz wins!

Alen Delic

REFEREE Hakan Anaz has been named Official of the Year at Vicsport's annual awards night.

Hakan Anaz thought he stood so little chance of winning the 2014 Victorian Official of the Year award, he didn't even tell his wife he was going to the ceremony.

On Tuesday night, he put on his best suit, and headed along to Vicsport's annual awards night at the MCG just hoping to get a good dinner out of it.

When his name was called out as the winner, he was stupefied.

"As a referee, you never like being in the limelight," Anaz said.

"But to get an award like this is, and to be recognised, is pretty humbling."

He was recognised for his

achievements in a big 2014, which included a trip to Brazil to officiate at the FIFA World Cup, as well as officiating in AFC Champions League matches.

Anaz ran the line at three games during the World Cup, including games between Honduras and Ecuador, South Korea and Belgium, and the Round of 16 match between Costa Rica and Greece which went to penalties.

Anaz has since retired from active refereeing, despite having an offer to spend this season as an A-League official.

"I decided that after the World Cup that I had achieved my goal," he said.

"I thought, now's the time to spend some time with my family, and also to give the younger guys some more opportunities."

Anaz was the only football-related winner, but Melbourne Victory W-League, FFV's bystander intervention program, and Bentleigh Greens' coach John Anastasiadis were all recognised as finalists in their respective categories.

Positive coaching a must

Aisling Callaghan

REMEMBER your favourite subject at school? Did it have anything to do with the teacher?

Remember that job you hated? Did it have anything to do with your manager?

How do you feel about your coach, and do you think that impacts how much you enjoy your football?

At best, coaches fill players with self-belief and inspire teams to levels of performance beyond-belief.

At worst, they demoralise players, fracture teams, and sometimes drive people away from the game they love.

At Football Federation Victoria we take coaching - and coach education - very seriously.

In 2014 more than twice as many people completed community coaching courses than ever before.

The implementation of the men's National Premier Leagues, which mandates minimum coach accreditation requirements, resulted in a surge in numbers completing advanced licences.

The upward trend will only continue as we engage further with our community to meet coach needs.

FFV chief executive Peter Gome says "nothing influences player satisfaction and enjoyment more than quality coaching."

"In 2015 FFV will offer more coaching education opportunities than ever before including grassroots coaching courses, skill and game training certificates and free workshops focussing on community coach development," Gome said.



Photo: Anita Milas

South Melbourne's Chris Taylor won the 2014 NPL Coach of the Year award.

"We will continue to dedicate specific resources to female coaching and female coaches and also initiatives like goal keeping courses and workshops for beginners and goal keeping coaches."

At the 2014 FFV advanced coaching conference, more than 150 coaches listened intently to presenter, Raymond Verheijen.

Dutchman Verheijen - who has been an assistant coach at World Cups with the Netherlands, South Korea and Russia - told coaches to "raise the bar" when it comes to delivering positive football experiences to players.

FFV is determined to build a strong base of qualified coaches so that football can prosper at all levels.

Then it is down to the coach to be memorable to their players for all the right reasons.

FFV ref makes history in Brazil

THE Socceroos may have been eliminated in the group stages, but Australia - and Victoria - still had knockout round representation at the 2014 FIFA World Cup.

Football Federation Victoria referee Hakan Anaz was part of the Australian refereeing trio that progressed to the Round of 16, officiating in the match between Costa Rica and Greece in Recife, Brazil.

In doing so Anaz along with partners Ben Williams and Matthew Cream became the first Australian referees to be appointed for a World Cup knockout match.

Luke Brennan

for others it will. Either way they all start here at FFV level and so we have a vital part to play in the careers of all our referees.

"One of the great experiences for our referees was to be able to attend training each week and train with Hakan.

"His professionalism is second to none and his dedication to refereeing is a fine example for our referees to follow."

Anaz, Williams and Cream were selected by FIFA in 2012 as part of its World Cup referees candidates program.

A two-year selection process followed, during which the trio officiated in the FIFA Under 20 World Cup in Turkey and the 2012 London Olympics.

"His experiences clearly show that, like every referee in our FFV team, everyone can work hard to achieve their goals."

- Luke Brennan
FFV Referees Manager

Anaz nominates the match, won by Costa Rica on penalties, as the biggest moment of his career. And it forever will be, as the devoted family man announced his retirement following his World Cup odyssey.

FFV referees manager Luke Brennan said the Victorian's story is an inspiration for all aspiring refs.

"His experiences clearly show that, like every referee in our FFV team, everyone can work hard to achieve their goals," Brennan said.

"For some their goals won't be to reach the World Cup, but

Many involved in the process are professional referees, but Anaz and co. all worked part-time in the six months leading up to the World Cup.

For Anaz, that meant working in the morning as an accountant and training in the afternoon.

"One of the best things to come from Hakan's story is that he started in the same place as our new FFV referees," Brennan said.

"It shows that a pathway to the top is achievable to anyone who has the desire and dedication. Will not get to the top but all should have great fun trying"

FOOTBALL FEDERATION VICTORIA

YOUR GAME NEEDS YOU

GET ACTIVE. GET PAID.
BECOME A REFEREE

GET STARTED TODAY: VISIT FFV.ORG.AU/REF-HQ TO LEARN MORE



Business

The Concise Financial Report

Financial snapshot

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2014

	2014 (\$)	2013 (\$)
Revenue	9,519,627	9,177,431
Other revenue	261,417	335,044
	9,781,044	9,512,475
Employee benefits expense	(3,896,836)	(4,119,261)
Depreciation and amortisation	(284,387)	(310,971)
Finance and borrowing costs	(24,614)	(30,784)
Operating expenses	(5,070,923)	(4,755,057)
	(9,276,760)	(9,216,073)
Surplus for the year	504,284	296,402
Other comprehensive income	-	-
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	504,284	296,402

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 OCTOBER 2014

	2014 (\$)	2013 (\$)
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	1,248,229	573,522
Trade and other receivables	430,500	437,065
Other current assets	159,039	63,166
Total current assets	1,837,768	1,073,753
Non-current assets		
Property, plant and equipment	1,946,487	1,884,524
Investment property	1,800,000	1,800,000
Total non-current assets	(3,746,487)	(3,684,524)
TOTAL ASSETS	5,584,255	4,758,277
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities		
Trade and other payables	1,415,614	1,187,951
Interest bearing loans and borrowings	75,006	72,866
Employee benefits	336,811	262,610
Income in advance	739,111	665,676
Total current liabilities	2,566,542	2,189,103
Non-current liabilities		
Interest bearing loans and borrowings	82,797	88,578
Employee benefits	19,825	69,789
Total non-current liabilities	102,622	158,367
TOTAL LIABILITIES	2,669,164	2,347,470
NET ASSETS	2,915,091	2,410,807
MEMBER FUNDS		
Building Trust Fund	964,079	964,079
Accumulated Surplus	1,951,012	1,446,728
TOTAL MEMBERS FUNDS	2,915,091	2,410,807

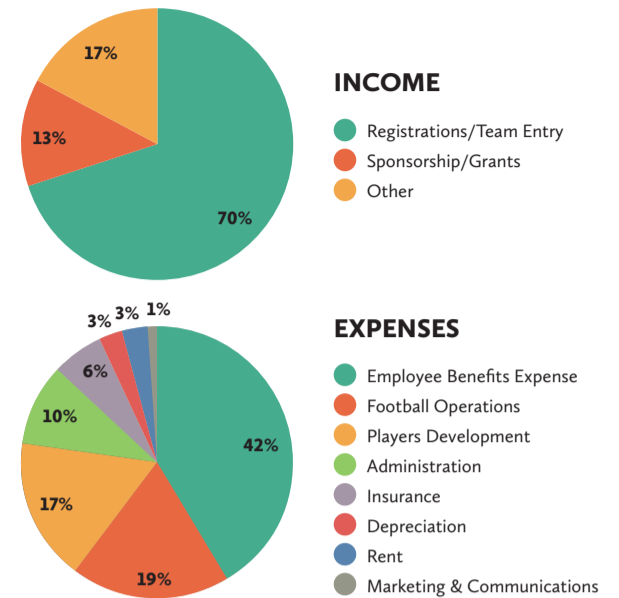
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN MEMBERS' FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2014

	Building Trust Fund (\$)	Accumulated Surplus (\$)	Members Fund (\$)
Balance as of 31 October 2012	964,079	1,150,326	2,114,405
Surplus for the year	-	296,402	296,402
Other comprehensive income	-	-	-
Total comprehensive Income for the year	-	296,402	296,402
Balance as of 31 October 2013	964,079	1,446,728	2,410,807
Surplus for the year	-	504,284	504,284
Other comprehensive income	-	-	-
Total comprehensive Income for the year	-	504,284	504,284
Balance as of 31 October 2014	964,079	1,951,012	2,915,091

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2014

	2014 (\$)	2013 (\$)
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Receipts from registrations, sponsorships, affiliation and other fees	10,110,287	9,837,113
Payments to suppliers and employees	(9,193,017)	(9,243,280)
Finance and borrowing costs	(17,353)	(19,254)
Interest received	29,575	27,259
Total cash from operating activities	929,492	601,838
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Receipts received from investment income	110,340	107,299
Payments for plant and equipment	(297,708)	(302,050)
Net cash used by investing activities	(187,368)	(194,751)
Cash flows from financing activities		
Repayment of borrowings	(67,417)	(67,417)
Net cash used by financing activities	(61,417)	(67,417)
Net Cash increase in cash and equivalents	674,707	339,670
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	573,522	233,852
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	1,248,229	573,522

Financial overview



REAPING REWARDS

Solid performance, positioned for growth

FOOTBALL Federation Victoria Concise Financial Report for the year ended 31 October 2014.

The Concise Financial Report has been derived from the Full Financial Report of Football Federation Victoria for the financial year ended 31 October, 2014.

It cannot be expected to provide as full an understanding of the financial performance of the entity as the Full Financial Report.

The full financial report is available at ffv.org.au or by contacting the office on (03) 9474 1800.

The report

The 2014 financial year was one of significant growth for FFV, both on and off the field.

A total of 28 clubs competed in the inaugural PlayStation®4 National Premier League Victoria season, metropolitan player numbers grew by over three per cent and net surplus topped \$500,000, driving a growth in cash holdings of nearly \$700,000.

These figures place the organisation in a strong position to lead the game's development in Victoria and invest in grassroots football.

Key drivers in delivering the \$504,000 net surplus were:

- THE revenue growth provided by the increase in participation.
- THE scale of the NPL.
- IMPROVED performance of FFV facilities at Knox and Darebin.
- A FIVE per cent reduction in employment costs.

After a number years of stagnation, metropolitan player numbers increased by over three per cent, contributing more than \$200,000 to the bottom line in player and team registration fees.

While the scale of the NPL provided a boost to revenue via the participation licence fees, significant costs were incurred in formulating, managing and promoting the leagues.

Two dedicated positions were created for the introduction and management of the NPL and an additional staff member was

Chris Brophy, Chief Financial Officer

required to handle the league's social media coverage and digital presence.

A new organisation structure was introduced in 2014.

The focus on a lean outcome-driven organisation is evidenced by the stabilising the staff head count around the 50 mark. As such, total employment costs reduced to \$3.9 million, all the while delivering an expanded array of services.

“Moving into 2015 cash holdings will be able to fully fund operations without the need for bank facilities for the first time since 2011.”

– Chris Brophy

This is in contrast to the head count of 68 of 2012 when employment costs peaked at over \$4.3 million.

The Knox Regional Football Centre has now been open for 30 months.

Both full pitch and five-a-side pitches were in heavy demand during the winter season, proving an invaluable resource to clubs in the east of Melbourne.

Participation in social competitions grew during the year, but more work is still required in regards to promoting the venue and the outdoor five-a-side social football.

The focus of the organisation though years 2013 and 2014 has been to improve its cash position.

In cash terms, FFV is now \$1 million better off than at the conclusion of the 2012 financial year. Moving into 2015 cash holdings will be able to fully fund operations without the need for bank facilities for the first time since 2011.

OPERATING REVENUE

\$9,519,627

+4% ↑

SURPLUS

\$504,284

+70% ↑

CASH

\$1,248,229

+118% ↑

GOVERNMENT FUNDING: ALL THE LOCATIONS, ALL THE NUMBERS PG 5



Around the Grounds

Regional and international news

Simonds Stadium looks a picture for Geelong's first A-League game.



Warriors lead Geelong's charge

THE promotion of North Geelong Warriors to the PS4 National Premier League capped a brilliant 2014 for the region.

CORIO SC was also promoted to State League 1 as Geelong clubs continue to show what they're made of at all levels.

AIA Vitality MiniRoos participation rates rose 16 per cent and futsal growth continued unabated, while the Deakin Ducks (men) and Barwon SC (women) took out the local senior titles.

Foddy Kyprian, Geelong

Elite football also came to Simonds Stadium, but did not prove to be a happy hunting ground for host teams.

Torquay also hosted the Saudi Arabian national side for a training camp ahead of the Asian Cup and it too played a friendly match in Geelong, losing 4-1 to Bahrain.

The eight-day camp brought more than \$350,000 worth of economic benefit to the Torquay community.



Ballarat's Regional Soccer Facility at Morshead Park. Photo: BDSA

World comes to Ballarat

THE unveiling of the Regional Soccer Facility at Morshead Park set Ballarat up for an historic year.

Opened on February 2014, the new \$12.5 million facility hosted international team Bahrain during its 11-day pre-Asian Cup camp starting December 28.

During the camp, Bahrain defeated Jordan 1-0 in the ground's first-ever international friendly with a crowd of over 2000 in attendance.

But that wasn't the first top-level game seen in Ballarat in 2014, as Melbourne City also played Sydney FC in its

**Herman Bogers
President, BDSA**

Westfield FFA Cup Round of 32 match (Sydney won 3-1 in extra time).

Local side Ballarat Red Devils was also able to call the facility home as it took part in the first ever PlayStation®4 National Premier League Victoria season.

Unfortunately the club was relegated to NPL1 for 2015, but hopes are high for a return to the top flight league in the future.

The Eureka Strikers continue to acquit themselves well in

State League 1, while Sebastopol Vikings are becoming a State League 4 force.

The Ballarat District Soccer Association has also enjoyed growth of 5% in participation levels, now playing a lot of games at the Regional Soccer Facility.

A Friendship Cup match was organised between the NPL and BDSA All Stars with all Monies raised going to Charity (\$1300) game resulting in a 4-4 draw.

2015 will see an increase in Div 1 Men's numbers and an introduction of an over 35 Competition, with increased numbers in the junior age groups.

Gippsland wrap

Angela Lambie, GSL

2014 introduced the first Festival of Girls. Well over 100 girls represented teams from their 4 districts within Gippsland, and played in a carnival weekend at Morwell. Junior girls registrations in 2015 have increased as a result and the kids all enjoyed MiniRoos during the weekend.

In the Men's, Moe beat Sale 2-0 in the grand final.

Tyers beat Fortuna 3-1 in a thrilling match in the Central Women's League grand final with the four goals scored in the second half.

In the Battle of Britain, one of the longest cups running in Victoria, Falcons 2000 beat Sale United 2-1 in a hard fought out match. Sale redeemed their 2014 season, by winning the Kendal Cup for the third time.

The Golden Boot was won by Jesse Kennedy from Falcons (27 Goals) and Rachel Coulthard, Abbey Taylor and Stephanie Pridgeon shared the women's golden boot - each scored 27 goals. Rachel Coulthard, Abbey Taylor and Emma Cook shared the female best player whilst the honour of the men's best player went to Marc McHallem.

Warrnambool's Jets lift off

**Carlos del Rio
President WDSL**

JETTY Flat Rangers atoned for its 2013 grand final loss by taking out the 2014 championship with a 3-1 win over fellow Warrnambool Wolves team Merri Stingrays.

Michael Romanes, who won the Warrnambool District Soccer League's best and fairest award, was dominant in the decider.

The Jetty Flat skipper set up his side's first and scored the second, both inside the first 10 minutes.

And while Felix Menzel pulled one back for Merri in



Jetty Flat's Beau Arnold (blue) and Merri's Ton Bakker battle. Photo: WDSL

the 75th minute, a second goal from GDSL golden boot winner Paul Docherty in the 89th sealed the win.

Bendigo set for 2015

**Adam Woods,
President, BASL**

IT was a difficult year for the Bendigo Amateur Soccer League.

Strong growth in skill development was evident in our juniors, but that was offset by the challenges in coping with changes at club level.

The swift introduction of PS4 National Premier League Victoria side FC Bendigo supported the long-held desire for an elite pathway to be established for our players.

But 2014 ultimately highlighted the need to encourage a clear balance between elite talent development and strong grassroots participation.

In 2015, with Bendigo City FC replacing FC Bendigo, the club is working closely with the league to share knowledge and skills for the benefit of all.

With demand for the summer futsal competition exploding the winter season is filled with opportunity, despite a drop off in numbers over the past three years.

Suns shine on Goulburn

**Belinda Franco,
Administrator GNE**

THE birth of the Goulburn Valley Suns in 2014 was a boom for the region.

Not without its challenges, the Suns' PS4 National Premier Leagues debut has given the Goulburn Valley both representation at, and a pathway to, the state's elite level.

Locally, the merger of Cobram SC and Cobram Victory established a new entity, Cobram Roar FC, for the 2015 season.

The club will field teams in all seven Goulburn North East leagues and be home for some 120 players.

Should Roar make it all the

way this season they will play off in a night grand final, a concept which continues to be a popular one among GNE clubs and fans.

In 2015, all GNE Clubs are looking forward to working with FFV to build a sustainable, enjoyable and competitive competition across both genders and multiple age groups in the region.

The clubs and their members are also looking forward to exploring opportunities to implement one or more inter-regional competition options such as gala days, representative football and inter-club matches with areas such as Bendigo and Albury/Wodonga.

The future looks bright for football in the region.

Albury's A-League adventure

**Kiera Hayes
Secretary, AWFA**

ALBURY-Wodonga hit the big time in 2014 when the region hosted its first A-League match.

Melbourne Heart defeated Perth Glory 2-1 in the February 9 clash - delayed for two hours

because of the heat - in front of a 6000-strong crowd.

Locally, a finals series restructure saw semi and grand finals all played at one venue, which prompted an increase in attendance.

But the big news to come out of the region has been the birth of PS4 NPL1 side, Murray United.

Future bright in Sunraysia

Susan Watts

FOOTBALL is on the rise in Sunraysia if 2014 is any guide.

Four Sunraysia representative teams traveled to Adelaide over the June long weekend to compete in the South Australia

Junior Soccer Association state championships, with the under 15s winning their division and the under 14s finishing second.

Irymple Knights SC won the S-League grand final in September, defeating Three Colours SC 1-0.



Victorians dominating across the globe



Mark Bresciano glides past Spain's Andres Iniesta at the 2014 World Cup. GETTY

ONE of Victoria's favourite sons, Mark Bresciano, retired from international football in February 2015. The boy who started his career with FC Bulleen Lions and Carlton SC went on to make 84 Socceroos appearances, playing in three World Cups, two Asian Cups and the Sydney Olympic Games. The midfielder scored 13 goals, but none were more important than his 2005 World Cup qualifier effort against Uruguay which paved the way for the Socceroos to advance to Germany on penalties.

"Playing for my country in the sport I love has been an amazing experience and something I have cherished but never taken for granted," Bresciano said.

"I have been fortunate enough to wear the Socceroo shirt at every major football tournament, meet some tremendous people, shared the highs and lows with some great players, and capped it all off by helping us win the 2015 Asian Cup.

"It has been an unforgettable journey."

Bresciano continues to play club football with Qatar Stars League side Al-Gharafa.

While Bresciano's career may be winding down, Steph Catley's is only just heating up.

The Melbourne Victory women's captain has become an unquestionable superstar by the age of 21.

The midfielder from Melbourne's bayside spends the Australian summer captaining

Alen Delic and Tomasz Ng

Victory's Westfield W-League team, but come winter she now jets across to the United States where she is fast becoming a fan favourite with American National Women's Soccer League side Portland Thorns.

In her debut NWSL season, Catley played 14 games, was named the Thorns' Newcomer of the Year and landed a spot in the NWSL Second XI.

It was a big 2014 for Caitlin Friend and Emily Hulbert, but 2015 promises to be even bigger.

Friend was a standout performer on the wing for a Notts County side that finished fifth in the FA Women's Soccer League in England in 2013-14.

And Hulbert, who moved to the United States in 2014, is starting to excel for New York's Hofstra University in the NCAA first division.

But there are plenty of other Victorians also making waves around the world, including prominent Socceroos Mathew Leckie, Ivan Franjic and Jason Davidson.

The trio all took part in the 2014 World Cup in Brazil and each were in the Socceroos starting line-up for January's Asian Cup final against South Korea.

Leckie, arguably the breakout performer for Australia at the World Cup, has been kicking goals in Germany both literally and metaphorically.

The striker had a huge start to the 2014-15 German second division season with FC Ingolstadt 04, this after scoring four goals in 28 games in 2013-14 for FSV Frankfurt.

But while it was all positive for Leckie, there were highs and lows for fullbacks Franjic and Davidson.

Franjic suffered a serious hamstring injury against Chile in Game 1 in Brazil, ruling him out of the rest of the World Cup and also significantly delaying his arrival in Russia, where he had signed for Torpedo Moscow.

The setback instantly put him on the back foot as he made only two appearances off the bench in 2014, but hopes are high for an improved 2015 after his stunning Asian Cup.

The same can be said for Davidson who, after impressing in Brazil, found his way to English Premier League side West Bromwich Albion, only to struggle to break in to the first team. However he will dine out forever on his goal in the Asian Cup semifinal in Newcastle against UAE.

Aziz Behich didn't make the cut for the World Cup, but on the back of a stunning first half of

2014-15 for Bursaspor in Turkey the left back was a huge part of Ange Postecoglou's Asian Cup plans.

It was the other way around for Preston North End's Bailey Wright, who was the bolt from the blue in Brazil after some standout League One performances in England, only for injury to plague his second half of 2014.

At least Wright got a taste of the big time.

Spare a thought for fellow defender Curtis Good, who appeared set to be one of Australia's World Cup starting centre backs only to suffer a hip injury in the friendly against Ecuador in March.

Good underwent surgery in the USA in early 2015 to heal the persistent injury, but his club, English Premier League giant Newcastle United, continues to show an enormous amount of faith.

Youngsters Jackson Irvine (Ross County), Peter Skapetis (Stoke) and Jake Brimmer (Liverpool) continue to develop promisingly in the United Kingdom, giving rise to hopes that they will be stars of the future.

Aspiring Victorian footballers... take heart and thrive on the inspiration of these Victorian champions and dream big.



Caitlin Friend

Crossword

YOUR CHANCE TO WIN

Complete the crossword correctly, send it in and go into the draw to win. Plus, what did you think of this annual report? We want your feedback.

Prize for the crossword draw:

1 x \$200 Sportsmart gift card.

Prizes for giving us your feedback on the annual report: 2 x \$50 Sportsmart gift cards.

Send your completed crossword and/or provide us with your feedback by 5pm, May 15, 2015 to go in the draw. Winners will be announced on our Website on May 25, 2015.

You can: Photograph your crossword and email to win@ffv.org.au

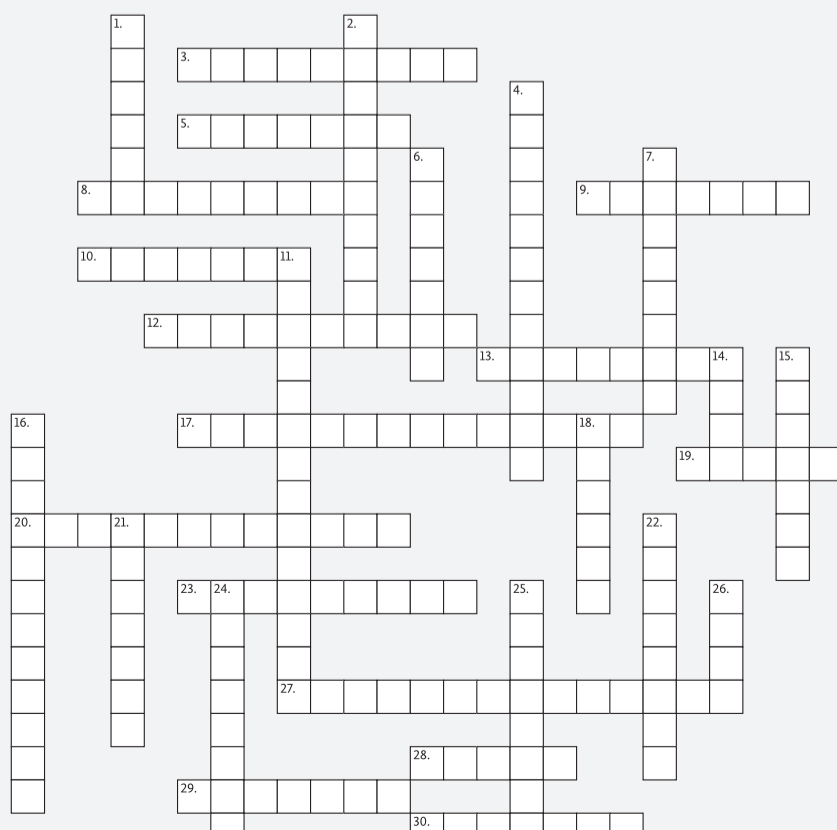
Send us your feedback at win@ffv.org.au

Or post to PO Box 7488, Melbourne, VIC, 3000

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____



Across

- 3. Chief football writer for the Herald Sun
- 5. Current FIFA International Assistant Referee and FFV Employee
- 8. Victorian legend recently retired from Socceroos
- 9. Former St Albans player and current Socceroo
- 10. SEN and Fox Sports personality
- 12. Melbourne City NPL1 coach
- 13. Best on ground in 2013-14 W-League grand final
- 17. New Pascoe Vale facility in 2015
- 19. Host of 2014 International Women's Club Championship
- 20. South Springvale defeated this team in the FFA Cup Round of 32
- 23. Melbourne Knights president
- 27. 2014 WPL champion
- 28. 2014 NPL Gold Medal winner
- 29. 2014 WPL Gold Medal winner
- 30. 2014 FFV Hall of Fame inductee, Deborah _____

Down

- 1. South Melbourne 2014 title-winning coach
- 2. Northcote City 2015 coach
- 4. New NPL1 team in north of state
- 6. Extra-time goal scorer for Bentleigh Greens in FFA Cup quarter final
- 7. First and only, Victorian to score in the Asian Cup
- 11. Senior men's team that won 20 from 20 league games in 2014
- 14. Female coach of 2014 and Melbourne Victory star
- 15. 2015 Hume City captain
- 16. Defeated Melbourne Victory in 2014 A-League semi-final
- 18. Green Gully stalwart Rodrigo _____
- 21. Naming right's sponsor of the Women's State Knockout Cup
- 22. Victoria's men's knockout competition known as the _____ Cup
- 24. Promoted to NPL in 2015
- 25. 2014 NPL VIC runner-up
- 26. FFV CEO

Sport

The Stats:

126,500 participants
56,000 winter players
27,000 fixtured matches
3,000 coaches
2,800 winter teams
950 referees
332 clubs
370 winter leagues

AROUND THE GROUNDS, PAGE 14



Shield spectacular starts 2015 season

2015 PS4 NPL captains unite to kick start the season at Knight's Stadium.

Leaders of men – the 2015 PS4 NPL captains.
Photo: Mark Avellino

Football Federation Victoria has followed in the footsteps of some of the world's biggest leagues, kicking off its season with the inaugural Community Shield.

Akin to England's FA Community Shield, FFV's Community Shield pitted the winner of the state's top knockout cup competition - Dockerty Cup - against the champion of the state's top league - PlayStation 4 NPL Victoria.

The 2015 Community Shield saw powerhouses Melbourne Knights and South Melbourne face off at Knight's Stadium with all profits from the match going towards World Vision's One Goal program, FFV's corporate social responsibility partner.

"Football is such a powerful tool to drive change across the world," FFV chief executive, Peter Gome said.

"This is a chance for FFV to educate

Liam Bentley and Alen Delic

fans, create awareness and hopefully encourage better health in the football family for years to come."

In the end, it was South Melbourne that got its 2015 campaign off to the perfect start with a 2-1 win over Melbourne Knights to take out the inaugural Community Shield.

Despite the terrible conditions at a rain swept Knight's Stadium, the home side got off to the perfect start when Stjipo Andrijasevic nodded home Alex Dao's cross in the ninth minute.

But the night would turn to heartbreak for Andrew Marth's men when first Andy Brennan and then Leigh Minopoulos rescued the result for South in the final 10 minutes of the game.

World Vision chief executive, Tim Costello said he was humbled by the

support of the crowd at Knight's Stadium, regardless of the tumultuous conditions on the night.

"World Vision is extremely grateful for the wonderful support of Football Federation Victoria as the money raised will go towards our projects in Asia and Australia that help combat malnutrition," Costello said.

"We believe One Goal has great potential to unite football fans around the world to come together to tackle the growing problem of malnutrition and to encourage young people to eat nutritious food and live a healthy and active lifestyle."

The introduction of the Community Shield was just one of the new initiatives aimed at bringing FFV leagues into the modern era.

Also new in 2015 is the rebranding of the Dockerty Cup, which now falls

in line with the nationwide FFA Cup competition.

Teams from across Victoria will still play in a statewide knockout competition, with the final four advancing to the 32-team Westfield FFA Cup 'final rounds', being the stage at which A-League clubs join the competition.

The four Victorian teams left standing will also play the Dockerty Cup semi-finals and final, as they did last year in the FFA Cup's inaugural season.

The 2015 PS4 National Premier Leagues Victoria season got underway on February 19.

Round 1 was played across five days, starting with a Thursday night clash between the top two teams from 2014, South Melbourne and Oakleigh - which South won 1-0 - and ending with Green Gully's 4-1 win over Northcote City on the Monday night.

A perfect start for the WPL - international Womens Day

Tomasz Ng

OVER 600 attended the Sportsmart Women's Premier League gala day to celebrate International Women's Day, which kicked off the 2015 season.

Newly-appointed Supreme Court justice Rita Zammit was present to toss the coin at the first senior fixture of the day between Ashburton United and Boroondara Eagles, a contest which ended 1-1.

Among the 384 players present on the day were current and former Matildas Emma Checker, Melissa Barbieri, Louisa Bisby, Turkish international Gulcan Koca and Albanian forward Ellvana Curo.

The next generation of Young Matildas were also on show with Beattie Goad, Madeline Stockdale in action for FC Bulleen Lions, while Mini Matildas Melissa Taranto, Adriana Taranto and Melina Ayres also featured.

The day's festivities included the Team App Cup first round draw, which was attended by all 12 clubs.

Boroondara Eagles and Melbourne Victory forward Racheal Quigley also played her part, shaving off her hair as part of World's Greatest Shave, raising over \$5000 for the charity.

The 2015 season will consist of 138 games, to be played across 13 venues.

ONE GOAL



TRAIN AT JETTS WITH THE MELBOURNE VICTORY WOMEN'S TEAM

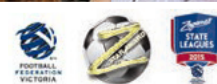


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ALL THE VICTORIAN LEAGUES, ALL THE WINNERS PAGE 10