



**FOOTBALL  
VICTORIA**



2025

**ANNUAL REPORT**

# CEO'S REPORT



**2025 has been a year defined by progress, momentum and a clear sense of direction for football in Victoria. It is a year where we have not only responded to the immediate needs of our community, but taken deliberate steps to strengthen the foundations of our game for the long term.**

At the heart of this has been our commitment to listening and importantly, acting. Throughout the year, we continued to build on the insights gained from key reviews across our competitions, pathways and regional structures. These have informed decisions and provided tangible improvements in line with Football Victoria's 'Our Football' strategy that will continue to come into effect in 2026, particularly through the implementation of our Regional Review outcomes. Together, these changes position us to better support clubs and football communities right across the state.

Our game continues to grow at a remarkable rate. Participation across all formats has increased once again, with strong growth in MiniRoos, junior football, and women and girls football in particular. This growth is a powerful reflection of the connection our communities have with the game, but it also reinforces the responsibility we carry to ensure football is accessible and sustainable at every level. The continued rise in female participation and engagement, alongside the growth in volunteers, coaches and referees, highlights the positive trajectory of our game and the impact of this collective effort.

Increasing participation, alongside a reinvigorated commercial strategy, enables Football Victoria to continue to invest back into football. This includes enhanced support for clubs, with an increased focus on coach and referee development and ongoing work to support safe, welcoming environments across the state.

2025 has also been a year of important organisational progress. We have made significant strides in modernising our systems and capabilities, including advancing key digital and technology initiatives that will better connect our stakeholders and improve Football Victoria's service delivery. These investments are critical to ensuring we can scale sustainably as the game continues to expand.

On the field, the strength and vibrancy of our competitions has never been more evident. Across both match day delivery and broader engagement, NPL Victoria

continues to set the standard nationally, combining a consistently high standard of football with strong in-person support and staggering live stream broadcast audiences. The Finals Series showcased the very best of Victorian football, reinforcing the strength of our elite competitions.

Across our metropolitan and regional leagues, as well as our cup competitions and tournaments, we have seen a continued uplift in interest and visibility across the game. Our major events and championships have once again provided important platforms for talent identification and development, simultaneously creating ongoing opportunities for community connection.

We have continued to build the profile of football in Victoria through increased audience engagement, digital reach and coverage of our competitions and events. This is helping to ensure our game remains visible and accessible to both current participants and future generations.

Investment in infrastructure remains a critical priority. The continued development of the Home of the Matildas at La Trobe University, alongside our broader facilities advocacy through the Level the Playing Field Campaign and our Parliamentary Friends of Football group, ensures that we are not only meeting current demand but planning for the future needs of our growing football community. The connection between booming participation and facility access remains central to our work with government and partners.

As we look ahead, 2026 presents a significant opportunity to build on this momentum. The implementation of key strategic initiatives - particularly those flowing from our reviews, transformation projects and community investment - will further strengthen our ability to deliver for Victorian football.

None of this progress happens in isolation. It is driven by the collective effort of our clubs, volunteers, coaches, referees, players and of course, our FV staff. Football has long provided communities with both a reason and a place to gather. The dedication of those at our passionate

football clubs - so many of them volunteers - continues to shape the future of our game and we thank you wholeheartedly.

Alongside, we express our gratitude to partners who invest in football through their support of Football Victoria and clubs, for your important role and aligned vision in supporting Victorian football.

We are proud of what we have achieved together in 2025 and we remain focused on continuing to build a sustainable and united football community for all Victorians.

**Dan Birrell**  
Football Victoria CEO



# CHAIR'S REPORT



## As I reflect on my first year as Chair (President) of Football Victoria, I think about how privileged I have been to have met the football community, learned about your role in the game, and experienced firsthand your commitment to getting everyone out on the field.

We are a resilient and dedicated sport boasting extraordinary participation numbers and a level of volunteerism that outdoes the imagination. I have seen many people laugh, cry, sweat, cheer, yell, run out of puff, dig into their own pockets, and always get back up again to keep themselves, their children, their club and their community part of football in Victoria.

Looking back at 2025, the year emerged as a period defined by renewal, connection, and a shared ambition for the future of football in Victoria. The Board welcomed three new members – Elpis Korosidis, Elenna Niteros, and Darren Yates – who brought regional, player, legal, financial, equity, and youth perspectives to the table. Together with our other Board members - Steve Forbes, Yianni Zapas and Carolyn Jackson - we have laid foundations financially, in governance, with our stakeholders, and internally so that we can commit to both stability and sustainability whilst chasing change together. We will continue to place a strong emphasis on building foundations for long-term success – being transparent, clear, and consistent with our decision making and building on trust.

From the outset, I have been met with a genuine sense of welcome from across the football community. What has resonated most have been the conversations that followed. As a Board, we have prioritised taking the time to listen, to learn and to understand what people cherish about the game; and importantly, where they believe we can be better.

We are genuinely excited about the establishment of the Football Development Committee enabling us to look more deeply at both opportunities and challenges of football. We have canvassed the barriers to playing and participating in football, as well as opportunities for talent identification, extending women's football, and the risk of concussion in young people. Our first Football Advisory Panel was established, collectively proffering ideas that will be reflected in the way we work and feature in our future plans.

The first full year of the revised Membership

model has also been an important step towards a more connected and representative football community. We have heard a wide range of perspectives and that feedback has been invaluable. We also heard from leaders in the field, who when in the room together, demonstrated a shared willingness to engage constructively, and a recognition that we are working towards solving football issues together. It is humbling to see this engagement, and I am excited by the future. This is an evolving model; we will continue to strengthen as we listen and adapt.

A defining moment of 2025 has been the appointment of our CEO, Dan Birrell. Dan came to Football Victoria (from Football Queensland) as the Executive Manager – Football Operations and took on the interim role early 2025. He has brought tremendous commitment to the team at Football Victoria, and it has been a pleasure to see them thrive together. Appointing Dan was a critical decision, approached with care and intent. I hope you notice a strong alignment between the Board, CEO and Executive on the culture we expect and the outcomes we aim to achieve.

The success of our game relies on strong connections with stakeholders in all areas, including all levels of government. We welcomed the establishment of the Parliamentary Friends of Football in 2025 and initiatives to strengthen relationships into Local Government. This has been a key strategic focus for Football Victoria, an area that will continue to play a defining role in participant experience and the growth of our game.

Looking ahead, our strategic focus is clear. Our aim is for football in Victoria to be more accessible, more inclusive and more sustainable at every level. That means supporting clubs to grow and thrive, creating meaningful pathways for participants and ensuring the game reflects the diversity of the communities it serves. It also requires us to look beyond the immediate, and to plan for what football should be in five, ten and twenty years' time.

For me personally, I am just happy to be

part of an organisation and community that ensures all sorts of people are engaged in this sport. It is healthy, it is safe, and it provides people with friends, good adults to be around and fresh air! Having said that, I want to acknowledge that this last year has not been easy for everyone – we have had significant tragedies in Victoria, across Australia, and internationally - motivated by violence towards race, religion, gender and politics. It is not acceptable. And it is not acceptable for our young people to see this behaviour. Football will play its role to provide peace, belonging and kindness.

Despite this, the world game continued – the Matildas shone, the Socceroos are ready for the World Cup, Manchester City has played well (!), Victoria's Emerging teams took on the nation, over 13,000 people attended to watch and celebrate last years' NPL finals, and close to 100,000 people participated in our game right into all corners of Victoria.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to everyone who contributes to football in Victoria - our staff, referees, coaches and of course, the hardworking club volunteers and administrators, who work tirelessly to provide positive football experiences every week. I also thank the broader football community for your passion, your resilience and your willingness to engage with us openly.

We have achieved a great deal this year and with that momentum behind us, I'm excited for the future we can shape together for Victorian Football.

**Dr Angela Williams**  
**Football Victoria Chair**

# GROUNDBREAKING ENGAGEMENT



FOOTBALL VICTORIA

**46,504**

FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS



**11.5%**

INCREASE IN INSTAGRAM FOLLOWERS



NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUES VICTORIA

**104,697**

FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS



**107%**

INCREASE IN INSTAGRAM FOLLOWERS



KEY HIGHLIGHTS

# UNPRECEDENTED VIEWERSHIP

**2.8M**

STREAMING VIEWS

**37%**

SUBSCRIBER INCREASE

**82%**

INCREASE IN WATCHED HOURS



NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUES VICTORIA



**6,542**  
COMMUNITY TEAM ENTRIES

**5,016**

METROPOLITAN

**1,526**

REGIONAL

**59,427**  
COMPETITION FIXTURES

**47,481**

METROPOLITAN

**5,823**

ADVANCED & CUP COMPETITIONS

**4,626**

GEE LONG REGION

**1,149**

LATROBE VALLEY REGION (SENIORS)

**348**

SOUTH-WEST REGION

# RECORD BREAKING PARTICIPANTS

WOMEN & GIRLS PLAYERS  
ACROSS OUTDOOR, FUTSAL & SOCIAL

**30,928**

+14% OVERALL INCREASE

MINIROOS

**39,827**

YOUTH

**36,938**

SENIORS

**19,330**

# 96,095



FUTSAL

## 38,125



SOCIAL

## 16,930

+25.5% FEMALE INCREASE



SPECIFIC DIVERSITY & INCLUSION PROGRAMS

## 40%

OVERALL INCREASE



VOLUNTEERS

## 7.4%

FEMALE INCREASE



# MEMBERSHIP OVERVIEW

Football Victoria's Membership continued to evolve in 2025, fresh from the reform which witnessed the introduction of the One-Club-One-Vote governance model.

There was growth in clubs meeting all but one of the Voting Member Criteria (VMC), with increases in Governance, Financial, 40:40:20 and Diversity & Inclusion. In all, a total of 139 clubs will meet the VMC at the 2025 Annual General Meeting, thus contributing to governance decisions for football in Victoria, playing a vital role in critical policy and strategy discussions.

6 new clubs gained membership to Football Victoria with 2 more returning to the fold in 2025. With 328 clubs spread across metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria, the Member Services Team has expanded in 2025 to provide governance support for all clubs in Victoria and will extend its brief in 2026 to incorporate Safeguarding and Complaints Handling and Member Engagement.

The new governance framework has resulted in the establishment of the Football Development Committee which has already met on several occasions in 2025, beginning the process of creating the Football Advisory Panel, which sought nominations in December in readiness for the first forum to be staged at the Home of The Matildas in February 2026.



VMC CRITERIA	NUMBER OF CLUBS		
	2024	2025	% OF CLUBS
1 Governance	209	231	70%
2 Financial	235	287	88%
3 40:40:20 Principle	307	308	94%
4 Team Composition	227	215	66%
5 Diversity & Inclusion	322	328	100%
<b>MET ALL CRITERIA AND ARE VMCs</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>42%</b>

## ADVANCED SENIOR COMPETITIONS

Competition	Champion	Premier	Runner-Up
NPLW	Box Hill United	Heidelberg United	Bulleen Lions
NPLM	Heidelberg United	Avondale	Heidelberg United
VPLM 1	N/A	Bentleigh Greens	Caroline Springs George Cross
VPLM 2	N/A	North Geelong Warriors	Eltham Redbacks

NPLW	Winner	Club
Gold Medal	Aleksandra Sinclair Danella Butrus	Spring Hills Bulleen Lions
Golden Boot	Sawa Matsuda	Heidelberg United
Players' Player	Keely Lockhart	Heidelberg United
Goalkeeper of the Year	Peyton Woodward	Brunswick Juventus
Coach of the Year	Dennis Georgakopoulos	Heidelberg United
Goal of the Year	Danella Butrus	Bulleen Lions
NPLM	Winner	Club
Gold Medal	Joe Guest	Oakleigh Cannons
Golden Boot	Bul Juach	Heidelberg United
Players' Player	Bul Juach	Heidelberg United
Goalkeeper of the Year	Yaren Sozer	Heidelberg United
Coach of the Year	John Anastasiadis	Heidelberg United
Goal of the Year	Luka Kolic	Melbourne Victory
VPLM1	Winner	Club
Best and Fairest	Dylan Allshorn	Brunswick City
Golden Boot	Luke Lofts	Caroline Springs George Cross
Players' Player	Luke Lofts	Caroline Springs George Cross
Goalkeeper of the Year	Lachlan Charles	Melbourne City
Coach of the Year	George Katsakis	Bentleigh Greens
VPLM2	Winner	Club
Best and Fairest	Anthony Banovac	North Geelong Warriors
Golden Boot	Sonny Brimmer	North Geelong Warriors
Players' Player	Josh Dennett	Eltham Redbacks
Goalkeeper of the Year	Abdulkerim Koc	Eltham Redbacks
Coach of the Year	Stuart Begg	North Geelong Warriors

# METRO RESULTS

## VICTORIAN PREMIER LEAGUE WOMENS

Competition	Premier	Runner-Up
Victorian Premier League Womens	Avondale	Keilor Park
Victorian Premier League Womens Reserves	Southern United	Calder United

## VICTORIAN PREMIER LEAGUE WOMENS FINAL

Competition	Champion	Runner-Up
Victorian Premier League Womens	Avondale	Bundoora United

## VETO SPORTS WOMEN'S STATE LEAGUE

Competition	Premier	Runner-Up
Women's State League 1 North-West	Clifton Hill	Ballarat City
Women's State League 1 North-West Reserves	North Geelong Warriors	Westgate
Women's State League 1 South-East	South Yarra	Noble Hurricanes
Women's State League 1 South-East Reserves	Manningham United	Croydon City
Women's State League 2 North-West	Uni Hill Eagles	St Albans Saints
Women's State League 2 South-East	Aspendale	Seaford United
Women's State League 3 North	Whittlesea United	Dallas City
Women's State League 3 West	Kensington City	Melbourne University
Women's State League 3 South	Chelsea	Mornington
Women's State League 3 East	St Kilda	Nunawading City
Women's State League 4 North	Doreen United	La Trobe University
Women's State League 4 West	PEGS	Truganina Hornets
Women's State League 4 South	Hampton Park United Sparrows	Beaumaris
Women's State League 4 East	East Kew	East Bentleigh
Women's State League 5 North	Dynamo Melbourne	Melbourne University
Women's State League 5 West	Yarraville	Wyndham
Women's State League 5 South	Bunyip District	Old Peninsula
Women's State League 5 East	Mount Waverley City	Bentleigh United Cobras

## VETO SPORTS MEN'S STATE LEAGUE

Competition	Premier	Runner-Up
Men's State League 1 North-West	Keilor Park	Banyule City
Men's State League 1 North-West Reserves	Brimbank Stallions	Western Suburbs
Men's State League 1 South-East	Malvern City	Bayside Argonauts
Men's State League 1 South-East Reserves	Bayside Argonauts	Hampton East Brighton
Men's State League 2 North-West	Lalor United	Altona East Phoenix
Men's State League 2 North-West Reserves	Strathmore	Geelong Rangers
Men's State League 2 South-East	St Kilda	Skye United
Men's State League 2 South-East Reserves	St Kilda	Skye United
Men's State League 3 North-West	Altona North	Surf Coast
Men's State League 3 North-West Reserves	Laverton	Altona North
Men's State League 3 South-East	Waverley Wanderers	Dandenong South
Men's State League 3 South-East Reserves	Middle Park	Croydon City
Men's State League 4 North	Fawkner	Watsonia Heights
Men's State League 4 North Reserves	Watsonia Heights	West Preston
Men's State League 4 West	Balmoral	Westside Strikers
Men's State League 4 West Reserves	Barnstoneworth United	Point Cook
Men's State League 4 South	Endeavour United	Chelsea
Men's State League 4 South Reserves	Chelsea	Endeavour United
Men's State League 4 East	Manningham Juventus	Ringwood City
Men's State League 4 East Reserves	Monash City Villarreal	Kings Domain
Men's State League 5 North	Meadow Park	Doreen United
Men's State League 5 North Reserves	Moreland Eagles	Meadow Park
Men's State League 5 West	Newport Storm	Bendigo City
Men's State League 5 West Reserves	Bendigo City	Truganina Hornets
Men's State League 5 South	Fortuna 60	Seaford United
Men's State League 5 South Reserves	Pakenham United	Seaford United
Men's State League 5 East	East Bentleigh	Templestowe Wolves
Men's State League 5 East Reserves	Old St Kevins	East Bentleigh

### VETO SPORTS MEN'S STATE LEAGUE FINALS

Competition	Champion	Runner-Up
Men's State League 1	Malvern City	Keilor Park
Men's State League 2	Lalor United	St Kilda
Men's State League 3	Altona North	Waverley Wanderers
Men's State League 4	Endeavour United	Fawkner
Men's State League 5	Newport Storm	East Bentleigh

### VETO SPORTS WOMEN'S STATE LEAGUE FINALS

Competition	Champion	Runner-Up
Women's State League 1	Clifton Hill	South Yarra
Women's State League 2	Aspendale	Uni Hill Eagles
Women's State League 3	South Yarra	Kensington City
Women's State League 4	Doreen United	Hampton Park United Sparrows
Women's State League 5	Dynamo Melbourne	Mount Waverley City

### MEN'S METROPOLITAN LEAGUE

Competition	Premier	Runner-Up
Metropolitan League 1	Fitzroy Lions	St Kilda
Metropolitan League 2 North-West	Williamstown	Dynamo Melbourne
Metropolitan League 2 South-East	South Yarra	Kings Domain
Metropolitan League 3 North-West	Castlemaine Goldfields	Watsonia Heights
Metropolitan League 3 South-East	East Bentleigh	Croydon City
Metropolitan League 4 North-West	Melbourne University	Upfield
Metropolitan League 4 South-East	Old Melburnians	Glen Eira
Metropolitan League 5 North-West	Westside Strikers	Caroline Springs George Cross
Metropolitan League 5 South-East	Manningham Juventus	Monash University
Metropolitan League 6 North-West	Reservoir United	Gisborne
Metropolitan League 6 South-East	Swinburne	Monash University
Metropolitan League 7 North-West	Fitzroy Lions	Westside Strikers
Metropolitan League 7 South-East	Manningham Juventus	Baxter
Metropolitan League 8 North-West	Pascoe Vale	Moonee Ponds United
Metropolitan League 8 South-East	Glen Eira	Brandon Park
Metropolitan League 9 North-West	Bundoora United	Kyneton District
Metropolitan League 9 South-East	Docklands Athletic	Old Trinity Grammarians
Men's State League 4 South Reserves	Chelsea	Endeavour United
Men's State League 4 West	Balmoral	Westside Strikers
Men's State League 4 West Reserves	Barnstoneworth United	Point Cook
Men's State League 5 East	East Bentleigh	Templestowe Wolves
Men's State League 5 East Reserves	Old St Kevins	East Bentleigh

### MEN'S METROPOLITAN MASTERS

Competition	Premier	Runner-Up
Men's Metropolitan Masters	Williamstown	Avondale

## REGIONAL RESULTS

#### BALLARAT REGION

Competition	Premier	Runner-Up
Women's Division 1	Vikings FC	Forest Rangers
Men's Division 1	Ballarat North United	Forest Rangers
Men's Division 2	Ballarat North United	Forest Rangers
Men's Division 3	Ballarat North United	Vikings FC

#### GEELONG REGION

Competition	Premier	Runner-Up
Women's Division 1	Surf Coast	Deakin University
Women's Division 2	Armstrong United	Corio Bay
Men's Division 1	Barwon	Surf Coast
Men's Division 2	Geelong Rangers	Deakin University
Men's Division 3	Lara United	Bellarine Sharks

#### BENDIGO REGION

Competition	Premier	Runner-Up
Women's Division 1	Spring Gully	Shepparton United
Women's Division 2	Kyneton District	Castlemaine Goldfields
Women's League Cup	Shepparton United	Spring Gully United
Men's Division 1	Shepparton South	Shepparton United
Men's Division 1 Reserves	Eaglehawk	Shepparton
Men's Division 2	Spring Gully United	Golden City
Men's Division 2 Reserves	Eaglehawk	Castlemaine Goldfields
Youth	Shepparton South	Spring Gully United
Men's League Cup	Shepparton United	Eaglehawk
Men's Reserves League Cup	Shepparton	Strathdale

#### GIPPSLAND REGION

Competition	Premier	Runner-Up
Senior Womens	Phillip Island	Leongatha Knights
Senior Mens	Phillip Island	Trafalgar Victory
Mens Reserves	Phillip Island	Inverloch Stars

# REGIONAL RESULTS

## LATROBE VALLEY REGION

Competition	Premier	Runner-Up
Women's League	Sale United	Churchill United
Men's Senior League	Moe United	Traralgon Olympians
Men's Reserves League	Sale United	Moe United
Men's 3rd Division	Traralgon Olympians	Tyers
Battle of Britain Cup	Traralgon Olympians	Monash
Shopwell Cup	Sale United	Monash
Browne-Huizer Cup	Sale United	Tyers
Nan Bosma Cup	Traralgon Olympians	Tyers

## SUNRAYSIA REGION

Competition	Premier	Runner-Up
S-League Senior Women	Mildura City	Irymple Knights
S-League Senior Men	Mildura City	Irymple Knights
S-League Reserve Men	Mildura City	Irymple Knights
S-League Over 35	Irymple Knights	Mildura United

## SOUTH WEST REGION

Competition	Premier	Runner-Up
Women's Division 1	Warrnambool Wolves	Port Fairy
Men's Division 1	Warrnambool Rangers	Warrnambool Wolves
Men's Division 2	Grampians United	Warrnambool Wolves
FV Cup	Warrnambool Rangers	Warrnambool Wolves

# METRO HONOURS

## VICTORIAN PREMIER LEAGUE WOMENS

Competition	Best and Fairest	Top Goalscorer
Victorian Premier League Womens	Jada Colbert (Keilor Park)	Addison Steiner (Avondale)

## VETO SPORTS MEN'S STATE LEAGUE

Competition	Best and Fairest	Top Goalscorer
Men's State League 1 North-West	Zac Francis (Ballarat City) Alan Brandao (Banyule City)	Olavo De Andrade Santos (Westvale Olympic)
Men's State League 1 South-East	Mitch Cooper (Bayside Argonauts) Sayed Fatemi (Malvern City)	Jack Hindle (Mazenod)
Men's State League 2 North-West	Shiera Egusa (Lalor United)	Stephen Appiah (Uni Hill Eagles)
Men's State League 2 South-East	Shane Tagliaferro (Noble Park United)	Leo McLeod (Knox City)
Men's State League 3 North-West	Masamichi Kuroyanagi (Surf Coast)	John Pykett (Surf Coast)
Men's State League 3 South-East	Matthew O'Donoghue (Waverley Wanderers)	Matthew O'Donoghue (Waverley Wanderers)
Men's State League 4 North	Cameron Anderson (Watsonia Heights)	Thomas Harris (Fawkner)
Men's State League 4 West	Kouadio Ouattara (Westside Strikers)	Bilal Boukhalfa (Balmoral)
Men's State League 4 South	James Stinson (Chelsea)	James Stinson (Chelsea)
Men's State League 4 East	Joshua Aubry (Albert Park) Marc Jencik (Riversdale)	Joshua Aubry (Albert Park)
Men's State League 5 North	Nathan Scott (Melbourne University)	Aashish Ima (Roxburgh Park United)
Men's State League 5 West	Chris Duncan (Spring Hills)	Mac Hilson (Bendigo City)
Men's State League 5 South	Austin McEwan (Mount Eliza)	Damon Scott (Fortuna 60)
Men's State League 5 East	Juho Kim (East Bentleigh)	Jonathan Avgeridis (East Bentleigh)

## VETO SPORTS WOMEN'S STATE LEAGUE

Competition	Best and Fairest	Top Goalscorer
Women's State League 1 North-West	Minami Tomita (Craigieburn City)	Meadhbh Deeney (Clifton Hill)
Women's State League 1 South-East	Jess Farchione (Knox City)	Riahannon Jacobs (Noble Hurricanes)
Women's State League 2 North-West	Jana Colina (St Albans Saints)	Karen Mae Alora (Uni Hill Eagles)
Women's State League 2 South-East	Kalista Tzelios (Seaford United)	Kalista Tzelios (Seaford United)
Women's State League 3 North	Yaren Sargin (Whittlesea United)	Yaren Sargin (Whittlesea United)
Women's State League 3 West	Maria Dedalija (North Sunshine Eagles)	Maria Dedalija (North Sunshine Eagles)
Women's State League 3 South	Ana Botsioulis (Sandringham) Kaho Fushilani (Mount Martha)	Ana Botsioulis (Sandringham)
Women's State League 3 East	Anabela Montalto (Nunawading City)	Rachel Smith (St Kilda)
Women's State League 4 North	Naomi Harris (Doreen United)	Yvette Mojica-Perez (La Trobe University)
Women's State League 4 West	Monica Tran (PEGS)	Alisha Ranikhetwalla (Point Cook)
Women's State League 4 South	Katja Schmidt (Somerville Eagles)	Sophie Bull (Beaumaris) Saskia Creelman (Beaumaris)
Women's State League 4 East	Gabriella Grande (Croydon City)	Leyla Watts (East Bentleigh)
Women's State League 5 North	Brittney Bell (Old Scotch) Tessa Williamson (Collingwood City)	Ella Healy (Dynamo Melbourne) Sofia Rodrigues-Berry (Dynamo Melbourne)
Women's State League 5 West	Matiese Viti (Balmoral)	Jennifer Apostolopoulos (Yarraville) Eh Kel Ler Poe (Wyndham)
Women's State League 5 South	Chantelle Duarte (South East United)	Chantelle Duarte (South East United)
Women's State League 5 East	Steph Di Tommaso (Mount Waverley City)	Steph Di Tommaso (Mount Waverley City)

# CUP RESULTS



## STEPH CATLEY PLATE

Winner	Runner-Up
Caroline Springs George Cross	Manningham United Blues



## CECIL EARLEY PLATE

Winner	Runner-Up
Mill Park	Whittlesea Ranges



## NIKE FC CUP

Winner	Runner-Up
South Melbourne	Heidelberg United



## DOCKERTY CUP

Winner	Runner-Up
South Melbourne	Heidelberg United

### GRAND FINAL & CUP HONOURS

Competition	Award	Winner
Dockerty Cup	Jimmy Mackay Medal (Best Player in Match)	Campbell Dovison (South Melbourne)
	Alec Forrest Medal (Competition Top Scorer)	Daniel Radenkovic (Balmoral) Dean Lorenzi (Clifton Hill) Leon Kyriakos (Old Ivanhoe) Masee Namdar (Hampton Park United Sparrows)
Nike FC Cup	Theresa Deas Medal (Best Player in Match)	Meisha Westland (South Melbourne)
NPLW Grand Final	Grand Final Best Player	Carina Rossi (Box Hill United)
NPLM Grand Final	Jimmy Rooney Medal (Best Player in Match)	Max Bisetto (Heidelberg United)

# EMERGING TEAMS HONOUR ROLL



Victoria continued to enjoy success at the CommBank Emerging National Championships, claiming victory in both the Under 16 Girls and Under 15 Boys respectively.

Victoria Blue, coached by All-White and South Melbourne legend Vaughan Coveny stormed to the Under 15 Championship at the Home of The Matildas, undefeated and conceding just three goals throughout the campaign, culminating in a triumphant 3-0 victory over Queensland Maroon in the Final.

Not to be outdone, Santi Escudero led Victoria Blue to a thrilling upset win over New South Wales Sky in the Under 16 final thanks to an Alexis Pantazopoulos strike in the first half. Aeryn Tarrant was awarded both the CommBank Player of the Tournament award and the Championship Final MVP.



Under 16 Blue	4th
Under 16 White	9th
Under 16 Silver	12th
Under 15 Blue	Winner
Under 15 White	5th
Under 15 Silver	12th



Under 16 Blue	Winner
Under 16 White	6th
Under 15 Blue	6th
Under 15 White	13th



**VICTORIA GIRLS UNDER 16 (BLUE)**

**Top Row:** Reide Mulholland (Assistant Coach), Santiago Escudero (Head Coach).  
**Back Row:** Lara O'Grady (Team Manager), Olivia Nicolazzo, Kaya Jugovic, Keira Sarris, Aeryn Tarrant, Alexis Pantazopoulos, Astrid Bocci, Joanna Zois, Heidi Dalton, Daniella Squatrito, Ruby Kaye, Joshua Cartes (Team Physio).  
**Front Row:** Mica Regev, Gia Kapsimalis, Dali Gorr Burchmore (GK), Abigail Cheshire, Christina Tsingelidis (GK), Emmy Traynor, Layla Habib.



**VICTORIA GIRLS UNDER 16 (WHITE)**

**Back Row:** Izzy Coppel (Team Manager), Jorge Gero (Head Coach), Irena Razumic, Izabella Rako, Ella Kerrigan, Anastazia Simic, Siena Gill, Emma Wilson, Kiera Tyler, Lucy Simic, Chris Gurr (Team Physio), Kerry Douglas (Assistant Coach).

**Front Row:** Ella Duhau, Taylor Demeris, Georgia Phillips, Anastasia Kyriacou (GK), Ella Lee, Marlah Monro (GK), Kiara Calafiore, Emilia Colosimo, Teah Kotsandis.



**VICTORIA GIRLS UNDER 15 (BLUE)**

**Top Row:** Adam Wing (Head Coach), David Chu (Team Physio).

**Back Row:** Mahalia Bromfield (Team Manager), Violet Hall, Maddie Buhagiar, Mikaela Witt, Alyssa Di Natale, Emmie Butler, Aliyah Evagorou, Revera Ishak, Monica Garcia (Assistant Coach).

**Front Row:** Alezia Chrisfield, Abigail Ellinghaus, Danijela Trncic, Gemma Radipitse (GK), Adriana Tustonjic, Shaylee Lane (GK), Grace Corcoran, Stefanie Castvan, Isabella Matulic.



**VICTORIA GIRLS UNDER 15 (WHITE)**

**Back Row:** Josie Jozic (Team Physio), Andy Burnett (Head Coach), Katherine Nguyen, Eleni Katelanis, Zoe Goncalves, Ava Mousavi, Chloe Damevski, April Tancin, Nikki Ziovas, Nikita Cherry, Maddy Kamolins (Assistant Coach), Phoebe Thomas (Team Manager).

**Front Row:** Lusía Labarca Lappas, Lili Papanotas, Danielle Accardo, Shivienna Premshangar (GK), Emma Tieri, Shelby Bonnici (GK), Sahara Ranjeetkar, Hannah Walsh, Sienna Martins.



**VICTORIA BOYS UNDER 16 (SILVER)**

**Back Row:** Josie Jozic (Team Physio), Paul Stevens (Assistant Coach), Jack Milis, Ali Abili, Max Mihailidis, Anton Gray, Kobe Magdich (GK), Axel Spiridonos (GK), Tomas Rutkowski, Jensen Bowering, Patrick Govranos, Jude Tortosa, Ekrem Geylan (Head Coach), William Nguyen (Team Manager).  
**Front Row:** Anthony Suleman, Chaouki Kaddour, Raphael Caligiuri, Harry Valentine, Eli Wilson, Dion Randazzo, Evan Horvat.



**VICTORIA BOYS UNDER 16 (WHITE)**

**Back Row:** Mallan Roberts (Head Coach), Hannah Ryan (Assistant Coach), Andrew Pothithos, Matthew Catalano, John Woldegiorgis, Joshua Traikos, Sam Mautone (GK), Eliram Uliantsky (GK), Oliver Dimovski, Patrick Small, Nikolas Didulica, Luka Primarano, Riccardo Brusco (Team Physio).  
**Front Row:** Oliver Nemet, Farhad Behishti, Orlando Chrysis, Karim Kaddour, Hasnain Jawad, Jack David, Tyson Cauchi.



**VICTORIA BOYS UNDER 16 (BLUE)**

**Back Row:** Seb Zancan (Assistant Coach), John Anastasiadis (Head Coach), William Kengni, Dominic Aravanis, Liam Lancaster, Flynn Slater (GK), Nicholas Skorjanec, Malik Olukhale, Dean Antonakakis, Mushahed Sawiz, Ethan Gemetzis, James Sarantos (Team Manager), Chris Gurr (Team Physio).  
**Front Row:** Winston Ashburner, Akeem Gerald, Oliver O'Carroll, Luke Becvinovski, Luca Thomas (GK), Zain Imran, Denis Tarja. **Missing:** Mathew Baker.



**VICTORIA BOYS UNDER 15 (BLUE)**

**Back Row:** Vaughan Coveny (Head Coach), Jonathan Goletsos (Assistant Coach), Aj Kazimi, Ari Phillips, Nate Bradley, Ben Campbell, Jenson Gumbleton (GK), Liam Theodorou (GK), Keigo Shimokawa, Orpheus Sidiroglou, Levi Buttigieg, Aydin Koldere, John Psarras (Team Manager).  
**Front Row:** Mikey Cohen, Luka Demuth, Thomas Nasso, Jake Pilovski, Jack McEwan, Kai Satilmis, Jordan Vonja.



**VICTORIA BOYS UNDER 15 (WHITE)**

**Back Row:** Sean Mahon (Head Coach), David Chu (Team Physio), Kayden Colomiere, Richie Mahon, Baxter Romanovski, Dylan McAleer, Sebastian Pausewang (GK), Christian Lykopoulos, Harper Zwiwers, Zac Meilak, Jordan Stavrou, Eli Kaminski, Aaron Cheung (Assistant Coach).  
**Front Row:** Ashton Filies, Jeho Ryou, Luca Nesci (GK), Lucas Pitruzzello, Rinor Kutleshi, Nicholas Koussoulas, Harley Troung.



**VICTORIA BOYS UNDER 15 (SILVER)**

**Back Row:** George Kyriacou (Team Physio), Andy Burnett (Head Coach), Ovidu Aluthjage, Nathan Niarhos, Jacob Kovacevic, Liam Alexopoulos, Daniel Gale (GK), Lucas Gelgec, Elliot Derricot, Kody Sapolu, Xavier Munaretti, Masood Mohammadi, Alex Mitropoulos (Assistant Coach), Steve Smoothy (Team Manager).  
**Front Row:** Santiago Brown, Akim Gumbo, Seth Popovski, Jobe Davies (GK), Dimitri Floratos, Alexander Karaiskos, Aidan Adams.

# REFEREE HONOURS

Award	Winner
Rising Star Award	Dimitri Gounaris Helena Panagiotidis
Futsal Awards	Sebastiaan Sterel Maria Patrikis
State League Awards	Aleksandar Nikoloski Daniel Papadakis Francis Osei-Ntim
Local Heros	Lazaros Pantelidis William Quartermain Gabriel McCoy
The Whistle Of Hope	Stewart Howell
NPL Men's Referee of the Year	Jack Morgan
NPL Men's Assistant Referee of the Year	Benjamin Lepileo
NPL Women's Referee of the Year	Shab Saban
NPL Women's Assistant Referee of the Year	Daphne Gounaris
Referees Referee of the Year	Lucas Mattia
Community Referee of the Year	Ian Hewett Audrey Azzopardi



# IN MEMORIAM

In 2025, the Victorian football community bid farewell to five Life Members whose collective influence shaped the sport from the grassroots to the international stage.

**Betty Hoar** and **Maria Berry AM** were quintessential pioneers of the women's game. Hoar, an inaugural Hall of Fame inductee, was a foundational administrator and manager for the Australia's national and Victoria's state teams. Berry's four-decade legacy spanned playing and coaching to high-level governance, where her advocacy in tearing down systemic barriers for women in sport saw her recognised as a Member of the Order of Australia.

Victorian football's administrative landscape was further fortified by **Vito Cilauro** and **Joe Docherty**. Cilauro, a respected lawyer and former Chairman of the Victorian Soccer Federation, oversaw the implementation of the Victorian Premier League and was knighted by the Italian Republic for his service to the community. Docherty, a "larger-than-life" figure and devoted volunteer, was a fierce champion for grassroots clubs, ensuring smaller voices gained parity during eras of significant structural reform.

On the pitch, **John Gardiner** stood as one of the most decorated figures in the state's history. A two-time Gold Medalist and iconic Victorian captain, Gardiner transitioned from a brilliant playing career into a revered coaching mentor, handing debuts to future Soccerroos and shaping the careers of modern coaching greats.

Football in Victoria also farewellled state representatives **Kris Kalifatidis** and **Ray Pocock**, who donned the Victorian jersey with distinction in the 1970s. Former Victorian Soccer Federation secretary **Gerald Edgar** also left us in 2025, the administrator oversaw a period of immense expansion in the late 1960s.

In July, the community was shocked by the tragic passing of Heidelberg United striker **Keely Lockhart**. A prolific goalscorer and a beloved figure in the NPLW, she was described by the club as a "legend" and an "angel" who was known for her kindness toward younger players and her impact on the women's game in Victoria.

*If you or someone you know needs support, call Lifeline anytime on 13 11 14, text on 0477 13 11 14, or visit [lifeline.org.au](http://lifeline.org.au)*



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