

BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

JULY 2019

INTRODUCTION

This summary provides information relating to the Capital Football Board meeting held on 31 July 2019, and contains resolutions made by the Directors.

The summary excludes information that is commercial in confidence, is sensitive in nature or is restricted due to privacy. Standing agenda items including the finance report, Chair's report and CEO's report may contain such information. Where information discussed under those agenda items can be shared, it will appear under the sub headings, aligned to the strategic pillar to which it is most relevant.

Attendees

Fran Sankey, Angelo Konstantinou, Garth Morrison, Grace Gill, Gary Vandeburgt, Phil Brown, *Megan Salic (for the media update and finance report only)*, *Glenn Armstrong (for the competitions update only)*.

GOVERNANCE – “LEADING FOR UNITY OF PURPOSE”

Capital Football Strategic Plan Development

At their April 2019 meeting the Capital Football Board endorsed the commencement of stages 1 and 2 of the proposed Strategic Plan Engagement.

With Stage 1 complete, and Stage 2 being delivered, the Board discussed the approach to consolidate the information gathered to inform development of the next strategic plan.

The remaining stages in the original community engagement are;

- Stage 3: Consolidation (August 2019)
- Stage 4: Drafting (September 2019)
- Stage 5: Presentation – (October 2019)

This approach allows Capital Football to maintain momentum and consistency in the community engagement, and to transfer the feedback received into the drafting of the next strategic plan.

Resolution:

The Capital Football Board endorsed stage 3 to 5 of the strategic plan development proposal



Appointed Director

Following the Annual General Meeting and election of two new directors, the Board reviewed its skills, competency and gender representation. In doing so the Board identified two key areas of focus when recruiting new directors, being financial management and business acumen.

The Board acknowledged the inherent benefits that come with a balance of female and male directors, and believed it was absolutely appropriate that the Board guiding the direction of the sport is reflective of the stakeholders it represents. With four of six elected directors being male, the Board acknowledged that any appointed director would need to be female in order for the gender representation goals to be met.

In addition to seeking the support of the football community to identify potential candidates to be appointed directors, Capital Football advertised the expression of interest more broadly, including on the ACT Government Diversity Register, Sport Australia National Sports Directorship Register and across the Women in Football network.

The Capital Football Board carefully considered the applications at their meeting on 31 July 2019, and identified Jodie Newall as the preferred candidate.

Jodie brings a wealth of experience including;

- University qualifications in Law and Commerce
- Professional experience as a Lawyer, Project Manager and Business Manager
- Elite and grassroots experience in the sport of Dressage including as an elite competition rider representing Australia, team manager, coach and official
- As a volunteer with the ANU Women in Law Organisation and UC Women Lawyers' Mentoring Programs

Resolution:

The Board resolved to invite Jodie Newall to accept an Appointed Director role with Capital Football for a term ending at the AGM in 2021.

Home of Football Update

The CEO and Head of Commercial met with representatives from the ACT Government to discuss next steps regarding the Home of Football, including the process to identify consultants to prepare the Estate Development Plan, and establishment of the Project Control Group as part of the governance structure of the development.

Resolution:

The Board resolved to nominate Director Angelo Konstantinou and CEO Phil Brown as the Capital Football representatives to sit on the Home of Football Project Control Group established by the ACT Government.



Zone Council and Standing Advisory Committee Conduct

The Board discussed the roles and functions of the Zone Council and Standing Advisory Committees, including facilitating communication, providing strategic advice, and promoting Capital Football policy, programs and initiatives to the football community.

A note will be sent to the football community reaffirming the role of the individuals in these important roles, and channels of communication within the Capital Football office for clubs to most effectively seek assistance with operational matters.

Meeting Minutes

The Board noted the minutes of the following meeting;

- Juniors Standing Advisory Committee meeting held on 12 June 2019

COMMERCIAL – “CONNECTING AND THRIVING”

Media and Communications Update

The Head of Commercial provided an update on media and communications to the Board, including;

- Across “local” print and digital media there have been 150 stories year to date
- Unique website visitation is up 12% on 2018
- 993K minutes of streamed matches have been watched year to date

The Head of Commercial also provided an report on the communications for Kanga Cup, which included; increased media coverage with WINTV and ABC each doing multiple stories leading up to and during the week of the tournament, increased radio coverage, with Canberra FM, ABC Radio, and 2CC all conducting live interviews with the Tournament Director or Media Manager throughout the event, and Capital Football working closely with journalist from Region Media to cover the event.

PARTICIPATION – “PARTICIPATION AND EXPERIENCE”

Competitions Update

The Head of Participation provided a competition update to the Board.

The update included an overview per league, discussion on the development of the match schedules for the State League divisions with split rounds, discussion related to the perceived high number of forfeited matches in recent rounds, and an analysis of referee coverage across all divisions.

The Head of Participation also addressed;

- Following the cancellation of Men’s Masters booking at the AIS due to reports of teams breaching the ban on consuming alcohol at the venue, the Men’s Masters competition has been rescheduled to alternate weeks at Greenway Enclosed and Gungahlin Enclosed



- Tigers FC drew Hume City FC in the FFA Cup Round of 32, with the match scheduled for 7:30pm on Wednesday, 31 July at Deakin Stadium
- There was a forfeit in the NPLW 1st grade last weekend, with a club not being able to field a team. Capital Football will need to review the regulations to ensure that, if a club forfeits a senior age grade, it cannot be 1st Grade
- NPLW working group terms of reference have been drafted and provided to the proposed working group members for review

Resolution:

The Board resolved to appoint Grace Gill as the Chair of the NPLW Working Group.

The Board resolved to appoint John Athanasiou as the Deputy Chair of the NPLW Working Group.

NPL1 and 2 U20 Recommendation

The Board discussed a proposal put forward by the Premier Leagues Standing Advisory Committee (PLSAC) to change the NPL1 and NPL2 U20 competition in 2020 as follows;

- lifting the age group from U20 to U23
- lifting the number of eligible overage players from 4 to 5 in the NPL1
- reducing the number of overage players from 6 to 5 in the NPL2

While supportive of initiatives to improve player retention, Capital Football seeks more information, including;

- If the proposal to lift the age to U23 and include 5 overage players will result in limiting opportunities for players in the U18 age grades
- Clarification on the intended application of the overage rule i.e. is it to include overage players as a “regular” part of U23 squads, or to support fringe 1st grade players get game time or injured players to work their way back into 1st grade after recovery?

The Board commended the PLSAC for reviewing the league format and tabling a proposal for consideration.

The Board sought data relating to player registrations and movement to assist inform their decision, in particular the number of U18 players in 1st grade teams, and any potential obstruction to the pathway for U18 players moving into an U23 league with 5 overage players.

The Board recommended further consultation to include the Coaches Technical Committee as well as the PLSAC.



Competition Decisions Requiring Board Approval

The Board discussed a draft policy that defined competition decisions that require Board approval. The policy better defines what matters can be addressed by management in the execution of its duties aligned to the competition regulations, and what matters needed Board endorsement or discussion.

Resolution:

The Capital Football Board endorsed the Capital Football Policy – Competition Decisions.

Referee Fees

The Board discussed referee fees, in particular the difference in fees between male and female leagues, noting that pay for male and female referees within leagues is equal.

The Board asked that a proposal regarding referee fees be provided as part of the budget development process for the 2020 financial year.

Referee Review Progress Report

The Board noted a report on the progress of implementing the initiatives outlined in the Referee Review Report.

PERFORMANCE – “PERFORMING FOR SUCCESS”

Junior Matildas

On 30 July FFA announced that the Junior Matildas will undertake a three-nation tour from 5 August.

In partnership with the Australian Government and the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade as part of the ‘Pacific Step-Up’ and the Australia Pacific Sports Linkages Program, the Westfield Junior Matildas will visit Tonga, Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands and play a match against the under 19 women’s national team in each country. Gungahlin United’s Emma Ilijoski and CUA’s Mia McGovern were selected into the 23-player squad for the tour following strong performances at the National Training Centre tournament at the AIS in July.

The Board extended their congratulations to the players and to those who have supported, and continue to support, their development.

Club Coach Coordinator Program

The Board discussed an initiative proposed by the Performance Department to develop a Club Coach Coordinator Program.

The program proposes to provide resources and assistance to clubs and coaches in the youth age grades of the NPLY and NPLW competitions.



Once established, the program will be led by the Capital Football Technical Director and will involve Capital Football appointed coach developers visiting NPLY and NPLW clubs through the course of the season to provide advice and guidance relating to a number of topics including; club coaching structures, periodised planning and training session planning.

The program will also feature observation of training sessions and match day delivery, with an annual report published that consolidates the observations.

Resolution:

The Capital Football Board endorsed the establishment of the Club Coach Coordinator program.



Fran Sankey
Chair

