

# BOARD METING SUMMARY

## FEBRUARY 2020

### INTRODUCTION

This summary provides information relating to the Capital Football Board meeting held on 26 February 2020, 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 subheadings, aligned to the strategic pillar to which it is most relevant.

### Attendees

Angelo Konstantinou (Deputy Chair), Richard Naumovski, Garth Morrison, Grace Gill, Gary Vandeburgt, Jodie Newall, Phil Brown (CEO), Megan Salic (for the Media Update and Finance Report only), Scott O'Donell (for the Performance Programs Update, Technical Committee proposal and FYL Development Program proposal only), Kelly Stirton (for the Participation Update, and discussion on the withdrawal of Griffith FC from the U18 NPLY only), John Athanasiou (Chair of the PLSAC for the withdrawal of Griffith FC from the U18 NPLY only). Fran Sankey was an apology for the meeting.

### GOVERNANCE – “LEADING FOR UNITY OF PURPOSE”

#### Home of Football Update

Director Angelo Konstantinou and CEO Phil Brown attended a Project Control Group meeting on 3 February 2020 with the ACT Government.

The CEO met with ACT Government on 25 February 2020 to review the preliminary site options ahead of the more detailed preliminary documents being provided for review.

#### Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Sport Complex Update

The CEO met with QPRC on 26 February 2020 to discuss the preliminary designs for the Regional Sporting complex. The designs were reviewed by the referees, competitions and performance department, with feedback presented at the meeting with QPRC.

#### ACT Sportsgrounds

Capital Football wrote to the Minister of Sport seeking her urgent assistance and intervention to extend the deadline for booking training and match fields ahead of the winter football season.

That assistance has been received, with ACT sportsgrounds contacting Capital Football on 26 February to understand what extended timeframe works for our Junior League and Senior League clubs to book fields.

## **North and South Region Club Meetings**

Capital Football Chair Fran Sankey and Directors Gary Vandeburgt and Garth Morrison, and CEO Phil Brown attended the North and South Region Club meeting on 19 February 2020, at which a number of topics were discussed including; the purpose of the meetings and how they fit into the broader calendar of meetings, governance review, next strategic plan, volunteerism, Member Protection, potential benefits to shared services and obstacles we need to overcome in implementation, cost of field hire, coach development, marketing and communications.

## **FFA Meetings Report**

Capital Football Chair Fran Sankey and CEO Phil Brown attended a joint meeting of the Member Federation Chairs and CEOs on 12 February, followed by a meeting of the Member Federations CEO's on 13 February.

Key topics of discussion included;

- ▶ The need to establish a domestic transfer system for players
- ▶ Risk to NPL clubs for not correctly registering and remunerating professional players
- ▶ Progress of the unbundling of the professional competitions from FFA
- ▶ Update on the digital project
- ▶ The need to have a central narrative for football
- ▶ Challenges across the Member Federations (cost of football, refereeing, disciplinary behaviour, competition administration)
- ▶ Commercial challenges for the game

## **2020 – 2023 Strategic Plan**

The Capital Board discussed an amended draft of the 2020-2023 Strategic Plan that incorporated feedback from the Board at the workshop and as submitted individually by Directors. With more work required to finalise the Strategic Plan, it was decided the new Capital Football logo will be launched ahead of the winter season commencing

## **Life Member Nominations**

On 15 January 2020 Capital Football released an online form for the football community to submit nominations for individuals to be considered for elevation to Life Membership.

A life membership nomination was received for Paul Davison.

Paul's contribution to football includes;

- ▶ Served on the University of Canberra Football Club (UC) committee from 1982 to 2020
- ▶ Coached various age grades at the club
- ▶ Served on the Capital Football Capital League Committee from 1983 to 1985
- ▶ Served on the Capital Football Premier Leagues Standing Advisory Committee in 1986
- ▶ Managed the ACT U15's team at the National Youth Championships in 1987
- ▶ Co-founded the Bellingham Cup in 2018 to fundraise for UC following the sudden death of one of the clubs' players

## RESOLUTION:

The Board approved the Life Membership nomination of Paul Davison to be presented at the upcoming AGM for the Members to consider.

### **SAC and Zone Council Casual Vacancies**

The Board discussed the casual vacancies on the RSAC and North Region Council.

There are currently 3 casual vacancies in the Capital Football voting Membership leading into the Annual General Meeting (**AGM**) on 6 April 2020. Those casual vacancies have resulted from the resignation of two representatives on the North Region Council (Amy Dean on 6 January 2020 and Alex Cobb on 7 February 2020) and there being no elected Chair on the Referees Standing Advisory Committee (**RSAC**).

Following the recent appointment of Chris Conti and Nunzio Rinaudo to the RSAC, Capital Football received a resignation from Alasdair Grocock on 19 January 2020. This resignation leaves the RSAC with 3 representatives, short of the minimum of 5 per the by-laws. The RSAC has not met since Alasdair's resignation, and currently has no elected Chair or Deputy Chair

## RESOLUTION:

The Capital Football Board resolved that;

- a) Capital Football will call for expressions of interest from the football community to fill the casual vacancies on the North Region Council and RSAC
- b) To invite Colleen Harvey to accept a position on the Referees Standing Advisory Committee, with a term ending on 31 October 2020

### **2020 Schedule of Board Meetings**

The Capital Football Board discussed a proposed list of agenda items aligned to the scheduled Board meetings in 2020

Capital Football undertakes research and consultation throughout the year to review its programs and inform its decision making. The decisions Capital Football makes impact not only its operating performance, but the planning required by clubs and other stakeholders.

In order to plan the work required to present to the Board to inform its deliberation and ensure decisions of the Board are communicated at times aligned to the football communities' needs, a schedule of key agenda items for the board was proposed.

### **Community Engagement**

The Board and CEO noted the following engagement with the football community since the last meeting;

- ▶ Deputy Chair Angelo Konstantinou and CEO Phil Brown attended a Project Control Group meeting with ACT Government for the Home of Football Project on 5 December 2019
- ▶ Deputy Chair Angelo Konstantinou and CEO Phil Brown attended a Project Control Group meeting with ACT Government for the Home of Football Project on 3 February 2020

- ▶ Capital Football Chair Fran Sankey, Directors Garth Morrison and Gary Vandeburgt and CEO Phil Brown attended the North and South Region Clubs Meeting on 19 February 2020
- ▶ Capital Football Chair Fran Sankey and CEO Phil Brown attended the Capital Football Referees Preseason Seminar on 23 February 2020

## COMMERCIAL – “CONNECTING AND THRIVING”

### **Media and Communications Update**

The Head of Commercial tabled an update on media and communications to the Board. Of note;

- ▶ Across “local” print and digital media there have been 31 stories year to date, with none of them considered “negative”
- ▶ Unique website visitation is up 11% on 2018
- ▶ An overview of television and radio appearances for the month, which were mostly related to delivery of the National Futsal Championships and measure implemented to accommodate smoke, and Canberra United matches in the WWL
- ▶ Over half of people viewing the Capital Football website in January were first time visitors
- ▶ Engagement with Capital Football social media assets in January 2020 is up on the same time in 2019, in particular the NPL Capital Football Facebook page, influenced by the streaming of matches in the 2019 winter season

## PARTICIPATION – “PARTICIPATION AND EXPERIENCE”

### **PARTICIPATION UPDATE**

#### Griffith FC Withdrawal from the NPLY U18 Competition

The Board discussed the withdrawal of the Griffith FC (GFC) U18 team from the 2020 NPLY competition.

John Athanasiou attended the meeting to provide feedback from the PLSAC.

Capital Football management presented a paper that provided information on other withdrawals of clubs in the last three years across NPL and NPLW competitions. This is the first withdrawal of a team in the NPLY competition.

#### **RESOLUTION:**

In relation to the Griffith FC withdrawal from the U18 NPLY in 2020, the Board resolved that;

- Griffith FC be asked to show cause as to why they should be invited to participate in the 2021 NPLY
- The Griffith FC response must include a comprehensive plan on how they intend to field teams in all age grades, noting the age grades will expand in 2021 to include U13, U14, U15, U16 and U18
- GFC’s response to the show cause notice is due to be submitted by 30 April 2020
- Griffith FC be fined \$1,000 for withdrawing their U18 team from the 2020 NPLY competition

### Participation Update

A Participation Department update was tabled for the Board, which included;

- ▶ An update on Summer Football and Futsal leagues
- ▶ Scheduling of the Winter pre-season meetings in February and March
- ▶ Report on the Women's Masters Come Try Days conducted in February, with special thanks to Kath Temple from Weston Molonglo FC for her support
- ▶ 2019 Referee Disciplinary Report which provided an annual review of sanctions issued and the implementation of temporary dismissals and cards for coaches.
- ▶ 2019 Referee Performance Report which provided an annual review of appointments and assessments of referees
- ▶ An update on planning for the pre-season referee seminar
- ▶ That the inaugural All Ability Academy kicked off on 3 February with 17 players. Training is aligned with CUA SAP on Monday and Friday evenings
- ▶ The Power Chair development weekend is scheduled for 29 February and 1 March, with 22 players from NSW and VIC visiting Canberra to join then camp with our local Power Chair players

### **PERFORMANCE – “PERFORMING FOR SUCCESS”**

#### **Performance Programs Update**

The Technical Director tabled an update on the performance programs to the Board. Of note;

- ▶ SAP has commenced for the 2020 season with 30 registered players
- ▶ An information evening was held for CUA players and parents on 3 February 2020, with training commencing on 4 February 2020
- ▶ TSP recommenced training on 3 February for the U13 and U14 boys age groups, with the U15 boys commencing on 8 February
- ▶ TSP goal keeper sessions are being delivered by the Paul Jones Goal Keeping Academy on Monday evenings
- ▶ Following a season ending injury to Katie Stengel she was released on medical grounds. She was replaced by Elise Thorsnes, whose contract was changed from guest player (with a maximum 7 game appearance) to a contracted player for the remainder of the season.
- ▶ An update on Coach Education activities including;
  - ▶ ANU Game Training and Senior coaching course run over three weeks
  - ▶ Regional Youth / Senior C-Licence (8 Feb to 22 Mar)
  - ▶ Belwest MiniRoos Coaching Course (27 Feb)
  - ▶ Two C-Licence assessments at Woden Weston FC
- ▶ A review of the ACT team's performance at the 2020 National Futsal Championships, which included;

- ▶ 5 of the 10 ACT teams qualified to the Semi Finals of the National Futsal Championships.
- ▶ Capital Football for the first time entered two AWD teams into the tournament.
- ▶ An overview on the Implementation of the Coach Support Program (CSP) with the majority of clubs engaged and appreciative of Ali's attendance at coaches' meetings in pre-season. There remains 5 NPLY clubs who have not returned Ali's emails and calls to schedule preliminary visits to help the clubs with their coaching structures and periodized training for the year

### **Football Technical Committee**

The Board discussed a proposal from Capital Football management to amend the structure of the Football Technical Committee, aimed at enhancing the contribution from the regions football experts.

In 2016 Capital Football established a Football Technical Committee (the Committee) to provide advice and assistance to the Performance Department. The Committee was comprised of Technical Directors and Coaches from the NPL1 clubs.

In 2017 Capital Football, in consultation with the Committee, adjusted the schedule of meetings, moving the meetings from mid-week to Saturday mornings. This better accommodated the availability of coaches, who were generally delivering training sessions after business hours mid-week. Meetings were conducted monthly in 2017 and 2018.

While meeting attendance was better following the change to the schedule in 2017, more recently attendance has waned. The apparent apathy was further highlighted during the nomination process for Committee members in 2019, with 11 of 21 clubs in the NPLW, NPL1, NPL2 and NPLY leagues nominating representatives to the Committee.

#### **RESOLUTION:**

The Capital Football Board endorsed the amended Technical Committee composition and nomination process that included;

1. That the Football Technical Committee will be comprised of the Capital Football Technical Director (chair) and up to 8 other people from among the following categories;
  - a. NPL1 / NPL2 Technical Directors or Coaches
  - b. NPLW Technical Directors or Coaches
  - c. NPLY Technical Directors or Coaches
  - d. Female coaches
  - e. People with significant on-field or coaching experience in football or futsal
2. That clubs and individuals will have an opportunity to submit nominations
3. That the Capital Football Technical Director will determine the candidates invited to hold positions on the Football Technical Committee from the submitted nominations
4. Parity in gender representation is to be considered when deciding on the final candidates invited onto the committee