**Football Integration Development Association**

**Annual General Meeting**

**The 2021 (30th) FIDA AGM held at Jubilee Park, 17-37 Greenwood Ave.,**

**Ringwood on Sunday 20th February 2022 at 10.30 and as a zoom meeting.**

**Minutes**

**Attendance-**  Peter Ryan, Chris Ryan, Tamara Startin, **Mazenod** –Phil Ryan, Lisa Carpenter, **Ferntree Gully** – Andrew Ermel, **Ringwood Spiders** – Paul House, Michael Baldwin, Gavin Ross, Sue Ross, Ian

**On Line-**  **Kananook** – Matt Jackson, Marg Curphy, **Williamstown** – Rob Klemm **Ballarat**- Gerard Glennon, **Wyndham**- Paul Barrett, Alyce Barrett, Maree Barrett

**Apologies-** Peter Fisher, Rob Peak, Cheryl Collins, Piero D’Elia, Tammy Manton, Julie Price, Sophie McEvoy, Maureen Miller, Andrew Holden, Daryl Gard, Cathy Alifraco. Julianne and Peter Kiley

**Previous Minutes-**  2020 minutes presented.

**Acceptance-**  **Moved** Chris Ryan, **Seconded** Phil Ryan

# President’s Report

Everyone associated with the program should be congratulated on their contribution to the 2021 season of FIDA football. We began our first season back running the program with great hopes of a complete, normal season but unfortunately COVID struck again, and the season ended abruptly and except for the Western Conference no finals were played. We should however, be very pleased and proud that we could get as much footy as we did and even more proud of the fact that our registration numbers were almost identical to those of 2019 before COVID struck.

Our aim, as has been repeatedly stated, is to give anyone in the state with an intellectual impairment a regular game of competitive football. So with all the difficulties of the COVID crisis having eight hundred players out there having a kick was extremely pleasing.

As usual this was only possible due to the passion, dedication and hard work of so many people in the clubs and in the FIDA administration.

Elle Dow, as CEO, Adrian Fisher, as Umpires’ Co-ordinator/Treasurer and all members of the committee worked extremely hard to ensure that our return to running the program was successful.

Along with Elle and Adrian, Paul House and Rob Klemm spent many, many hours revising and up-dating our handbook with its many rules.

We welcomed new clubs Eltham, Fountain Gate and Kyneton to the program and have strong interest from four or five other community clubs for 2022.

The creation of a central conference to reduce the travel for country teams was another important feature of the season that worked very successfully. Hopefully we can soon develop a conference in Gippsland to add to our coverage of the state.

We also welcomed sponsorship from NDIS service providers HIREUP and MY PLAN MANAGER

And hope this arrangement will be of great value to us all including many of our players.

Unfortunately, our fundraising was greatly curtailed by but the “30 miles for 30 years” walk raised significant funds and with the cancellation of finals and the National Carnival we are in a good financial position at the end of the 2020-2021 financial year.

Our community partnerships with the Hawthorn, Box Hill Hawks and Williamstown Football Clubs

are an enormous asset particularly with our office at Williamstown and a hot desk at Box Hill. We hope to further develop these relationships in the future.

The Special Needs day with matches for Down Syndrome players and females couldn’t be played but we hope to have this day again in 2022. Another couple of women’s games will be played with a view to establishing a women’s competition in the near future.

Thanks and congratulations to everyone on making the best of a difficult situation.

May the ‘22 season be a full one.

Peter T, RYAN OAM

**President – F.I.D.A**

**Treasurer’s Report**

Although we budgeted for a small operating profit for the financial year ending 30th October 21 we ended the year with a profit of $61,468.53.

This was due to several factors, Our income was boosted by obtaining significant sponsorship and a very large increase in donations as a result of the “30 miles for 30 Years Walk”.

So too, our expenses were greatly reduced because we did not play any Metro finals or a National Carnival.

This gives us flexibility with regard to future employment and ensuring greater development of the FIDA program.

**Election of Office Bearers**

**President-** Peter Ryan

**Vice President-**  Peter Fisher

**Secretary-** John Candusso

**Treasurer-**  Rob Peak

**Committee-** 1 Chris Ryan 2 Cheryl Collins 3 Paul House 4 Rob Klemm

Sport Inclusion Australia Finance Director Rob Peak OAM comes on to the Committee as treasurer. Rob is an accountant and has vast experience in football administration including stints as treasurer and president of the Eastern Football League.

**Life Memberships**

1. Julie Cass- Julie has been the Cranbourne co-ordinator for eight years and has been a great supporter of the wider FIDA program. She rarely misses a delegate meeting and has been a great supporter of the Season Launch bringing as many as nineteen people all the way from Cranbourne to Yarraville.
2. 2. Doug West- After several years at Chadstone Doug played a major role in the establishment of the Sandown Cobras and works tirelessly to keep the club going over the last ten years.

**General Business**

**1. MOU with Sport Inclusion Australia.** We have always had a good relationship with Sport Inclusion Australia (Formerly Ausrapid) and they will be handling the functions of paying the wages, taxation and superannuation of our employees. Their finance director Rob Peak OAM will come on the FIDA committee as our Treasurer. He also brings a huge range of experience in the football field including serving as Treasurer and President of the Eastern Football Netball League.

We also congratulate SIA CEO Robyn Smith on being awarded an OAM in the recently announced Australia Day Honours. Robyn played a leading role in the creation of FIDA and has been a great supporter for the thirty years we have been in existence.

**2. Season Launch** Once again our season launch will be held at the Yarraville Club. It will be held on **Sunday March 27th** and Kevin Sheedy will be our guest speaker. We hope you will all support this function.

Life membership medals and certificates will be presented to Julie Cass and Doug West.

Sponsors HIREUP and MY PLAN MANAGER will make presentations.

**3. National Carnival** As yet there has been no notice but it is likely that the carnival will be held in Adelaide in October.

**4. Asia Pacific Games** - Sport Inclusion Australia will be hosting the Asia Pacific Games for athletes with an intellectual impairment in Brisbane from Nov 5th – 12th . Hopefully we can have some part to play – perhaps playing an exhibition game or two.

**5. Junior Program** Ten clubs were chosen by Elle to conduct a couple of clinic for players aged 12 – 14 This would culminate in a match during the 1st Term Holidays. Collingwood’s Fin Macrae will be ambassador for this program and will help when possible.

The new AFL Schools and Inclusion Manager, Nick Holloway, will also be a vital help with this and can supply staff assistance to run the program.

**4. Special Needs Day**

- Females match

- Down Syndrome Match

We will work with Hawthorn to stage this again. The question has been asked, “Why a special match for Down Syndrome players and not other disabilities?”

The simple answer is that Down Syndrome is a definite, easily diagnosed disability and we have sufficient players in FIDA to get two teams.

**5. Other Items**

**Website** - We hope to make this the “go to” spot for all FIDA information. It is coming along but still a “work in progress”

**History** – In the annual report that was sent to all clubs there are a few gaps in recent

premiership results. If you can help please send me any info you have.

**Facebook**  - Still shut down but we will probable resurrect in but it will not be a platform for comments.

**6. Community Partners**

**Williamstown Football Club.** We have a small private office in the Seagulls offices at

1 Mason Street Newport which is great for storage of information and equipment. The club is very receptive to any requests.

**Box Hill Hawks Football Club.** Elle had a “hot desk” at the Box Hill offices and we have played a supporting role in requesting money for a huge development for the oval and facilities. I think having a presence in both east and west of Melbourne is a huge asset and we will nurture this relationship.

**Hawthorn Football Club.** The Hawthorn Community department is keen to help in any way possible and has us in mind when opportunities arise. We hope to work with them for the Special Needs Day.

**7. Tackle-free Players**

Tackle-free players are to wear a FIDA fluoro long-sleeved t-shirt under their sleeveless jumper. These will be supplied on receipt of a written application requesting a player be treated as tackle-free. A fully refundable deposit of $20 per shirt will be charged. No other shirt or vest is to be used. The rules for tackle-free players will be in the handbook.

**8. President’s Walk**

It was such a success last year we have decided to do it again this year on Sunday 20th March.

You are very welcome to come and walk a couple of laps around Princess Park any time between 7.00am and 3.00 pm. Any donations will be greatly appreciated.

**Delegates Meeting Mon 28th February - Probably on zoom.**

**9. General Manager.** Tamara Startin has been working very diligently since she started four months ago. There have been a few problems with PlayHQ but we are getting there. Tamara can be contacted from 12.30 -5.00 on weekdays. If she misses your call, please leave a message and she will get back to you.

We will be employing more part-time staff to meet the particular needs.

**10. Country Co-ordinators.** Gordon Godwin will co-ordinate the Western Conference. We are still looking for co-ordinators for the Central and Northern Conferences.

**Huge thanks to Paul House for organizing the venue, technical equipment and the refreshments. The Ringwood Spiders are to be envied and admired for their part in the development of such fantastic facilities at Jubilee Park.**

**Sincere apologies to those who tried to zoom in but were unsuccessful. We weren’t ignoring you but you didn’t come up as waiting to be admitted. Sorry once again.**