



"Communities Working Together"

**Northern  
Football League**

# *2009 Annual Report*

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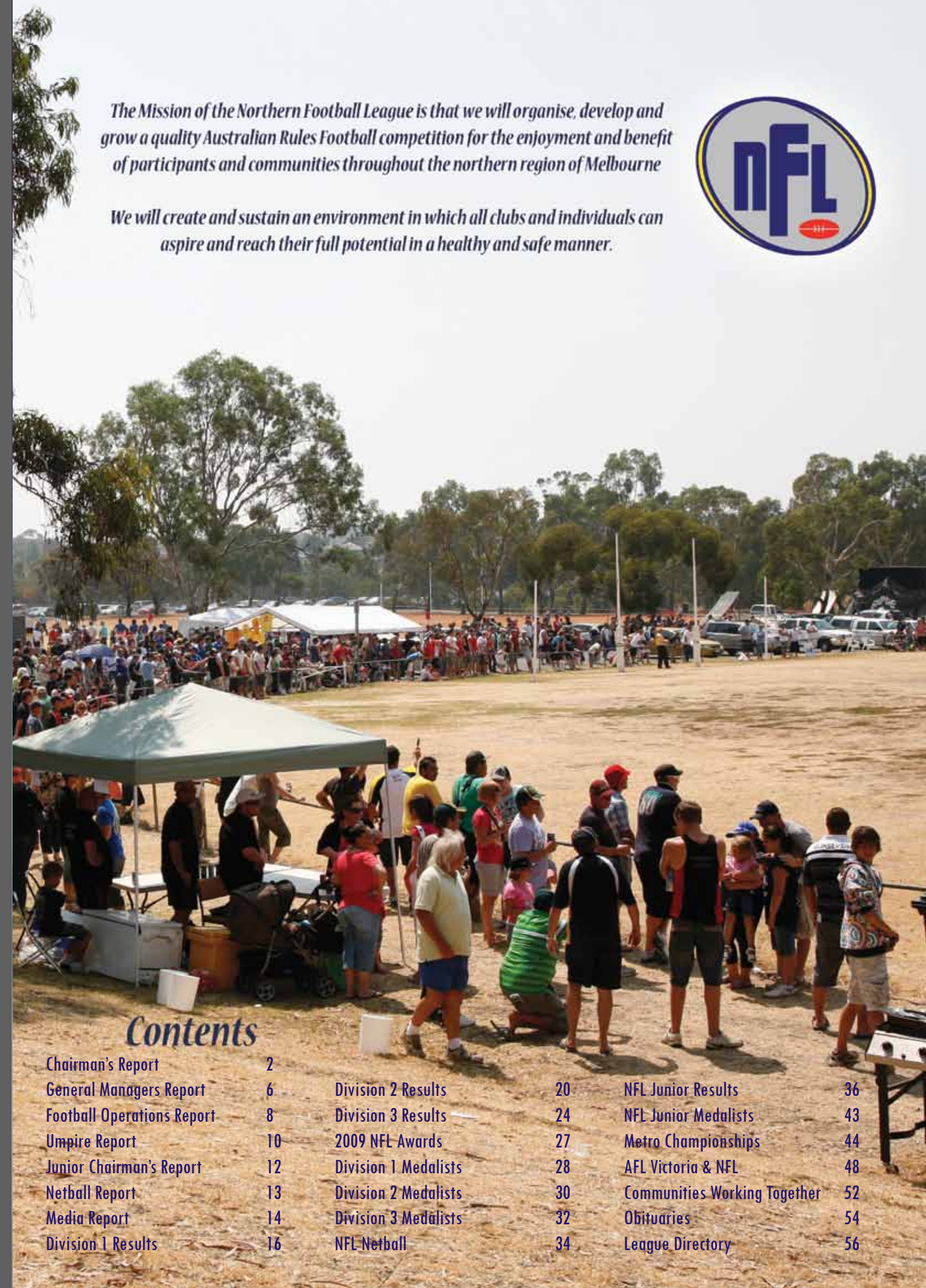
We trust you enjoyed the benefits of being involved in our community sporting league and we hope you will consider us again in 2010 and beyond.



**"Communities Working Together"**

*The Mission of the Northern Football League is that we will organise, develop and grow a quality Australian Rules Football competition for the enjoyment and benefit of participants and communities throughout the northern region of Melbourne*

*We will create and sustain an environment in which all clubs and individuals can aspire and reach their full potential in a healthy and safe manner.*



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# Chairman's Report

Ron Bongetti

On behalf of the board of the Northern Football League I am pleased to present the League's 2009 Annual Report.

To say it has been an up and down year would be a major understatement. As a league we have had to deal with a few tumultuous situations, yet overall our strong advancement continues.

Over the past couple of years the League, with the help of our members, has developed a Business Plan. I have used the framework of our Business Plan to formulate this report.

## *To build a foundation for ongoing development, success and growth*

The Northern Football League is still in its infancy yet, in true football vernacular, we are showing great potential.

Over the past twelve months we worked on our support structure as we understand that sustainable growth can only occur by providing strong foundations.

We have a strong relationship with AFL Victoria. Where at first we were dependent on them, we now operate in an ever increasing self-sufficient manner. The Board and our administration enjoy a strong, harmonious relationship and continue to gain the respect and support of you, our members. Everyone seems to have bought into what the League set out to achieve.

We are in discussion with the Northern Bullants and AFL Victoria in redefining the role we play in the region. We make up the largest component of the football community in AFL Victoria's Northern Region, and as such we are cementing ourselves as we continue our work in 'Communities Working Together'.

## *To build quality football competitions and clubs at every level in NFL*

We went out on a limb at the start of the year suggesting that if we could manage to establish a more equitable competition amongst the Division 2 clubs, then a better competition would be the result.

We did this at the behest of our clubs who felt their players wanted to play in a more even competition. It is now beyond doubt that the clubs were right. The introduction of the mid-season split of Division 2 and Division 3 was very well received.

The bottom six clubs broke away after Round 13 to form Division 3 with Parkside eventually defeating Hurstbridge in the inaugural Division 3 Grand Final. Pitting these sides against clubs more of their ability resulted in better player retention at all clubs. Clubs reported better attendances and greater player satisfaction.

But the biggest advantage will be seen when clubs find it easier to rebuild their team lists for next season. Already clubs are reporting stronger list retention and a keenness to have a realistic challenge for post-season activity next season.

This followed up what had already been achieved the previous year when our Junior Committee implemented a program aimed at leveling out the junior grades. Once again the results there were terrific with a further narrowing of the average winning margins.

Heidelberg once again won the Division 1 Grand Final defeating a very committed Bundoora, who overcame a spirited Montmorency in the Preliminary Final. While there may be murmurings regarding Heidelberg's continued dominance, the increase in the standard of the competition is very evident. Besides the three clubs already mentioned, there was also significant improvement at other clubs.

No club won more than one premiership in the Seniors this season, so both Senior and Junior competitions are becoming more competitive and keeping everyone interested.

Similarly the NFL Netball competition enjoyed a very competitive season, one that's continued growth shows no sign of abating. Delwyn Berry and the Plenty Valley Netball Association do a great job in pulling together a league that has become very much a part of our fabric.

## Chairman's Report

### *To develop, build and vigorously promote a credible NFL Brand and image to attract participants, stakeholders, sponsors and contributors*

Having a more competitive competition is just part of maintaining a more credible brand. In its former life, our league had a reputation of tolerating unacceptable incidents and not a competition where talented 'ball-players' should look to join. I'm pleased to say this is rapidly changing.

With the help of Kevin Smith and the umpiring fraternity it is pleasing to say that our league should now be considered one of the cleanest in the state. It's a league where players put their skills on show without the fear of being illegally taken out by their opposition.

Consider the table below:

#### REPORTS:

- In 2008, there was a report every 4 games
- In 2009, there was a report every 8 games

#### REPORTS IN FINALS:

- 2009 – 32 matches, 11 reports
- 2008 – 27 matches, 13 reports
- 2007 – 27 matches, 23 reports

#### CARDS:

- 7 less cards were handed out per week in 2009 as against 2008

The introduction of set penalties and a more diligent approach to the management of the system by the League and its officials has had a great impact on the way games are played. We still have room for improvement, however we are certainly on the right track.

An important aspect in managing our brand has been the way everyone connected with the League deals with its image. We all know the media is giving far more attention to the reporting of violence in the community - and so they should. Football plays a huge part in our community, so it's only natural that something of a "violent" nature will attract public scrutiny.

As a percentage of the community we should expect a degree of trouble; it's how we react and how we deal with incidents upon which we should be judged. When challenged we will continue to adopt a high standard of

expectation, with those involved dealt with fairly, but harshly, if found guilty. In the end, all involved indicated we handled the challenges we faced well and will continue to educate those involved.

However when emotions were still running high there was some willingness to talk emotively to the media. This is of no help; it doesn't help the League handle the matter and doesn't help anyone involved, it just draws unwarranted comments and leads to further sanctions.

This is the reason why our Rules dictate that comments should not and cannot be made to the media without the permission of the League. It is not done to stymie the media, or our clubs, it is done to ensure due process can be undertaken and that everyone, including those managing our brand, can ensure it is all handled appropriately.

Overall, I would say everyone connected with the League can be proud of what is being achieved. The rule-makers only make the rules; it takes the Members to buy into what we are trying to achieve to experience the success that we are experiencing.

### *Aim to have sufficient quality grounds and facilities to meet current and future needs of a growing Northern Football League*

Our ongoing relationship with our clubs and local governments is enabling us to assist clubs develop their facilities. We are a part of a roll-out of ground upgrades where lighting and changerooms are the order of the day.

We continue to work on the development of a new home for the Northern Football League. Our current home is not up to standard and the League and its staff deserve better. We will continue to make this a high priority and hope to have something to report in the near future.

If your club has plans to develop your club facilities please let the League know as we are often in discussion with council. We want to help you in any way we can, and if we're talking to council we want to make sure your plans are given our support.

We are committed to assist our local government as they continue to host our football clubs, providing facilities for both football and netball, and as such we offer our thanks and praise and our ongoing support.



2009 NFL Board (from left): Frank Rosbrook (dec), Tony Topp, Jeff Parkes, Robert Young, Dean Philpots, Peter Myers





## Chairman's Report

### *To attract, recruit, retain and develop quality people at all levels in the Northern Football League*

The number of volunteers that make our league the growing success that it is are too numerous to thank in any way worthy of the effort put in. From the NFL Board through to the parents who work as water boys and canteen assistants, you all play important roles.

Our role is to offer assistance in developing your crew; if you have a need to educate a particular group of volunteers feel free to see what information we can get our hands on. It may be that Phiv Demetriou or Ash Brown of the AFL Victoria's Northern Region can supply what you are looking for, or it may be that we assist you in pulling something appropriate together.

In saying that, I would like to thank Phiv, Brown and everyone at AFL Victoria for their unwavering support; we look forward to building on this relationship again next year.

### *Thank You and Congratulations*

The Northern Football League continues to improve, and this improvement is the result of hard work by a number of people. Once again I thank our club officials, and the players and coaches for buying into our plan to make our league the best of its type in Victoria.

Thanks to Kevin Smith and the umpiring fraternity for their support. It's an old adage that you can't play without them; I can tell you that you can, and some leagues are having to find ways to do so. Fortunately, we don't have to due to the hard work being done by Kevin and his team, and because our clubs respect the jobs they do.

We congratulate the Northern Bullants on a successful season that saw them play-off in the VFL Grand Final. To Steve Papel, Gary O'Sullivan, and their club, we congratulate you and wish you well.

To Peter Kennedy and the Northern Knights, we continue to recognise their role in providing a pathway for our young players wishing to make it into the VFL and possibly the AFL.

We look forward to developing a stronger pipeline for the development of our players and look forward to seeing more of our young players returning to play in the NFL all the better for their time at the Knights.

In our region we have some of the best female players in Australia, and over the next twelve months we look forward to making our link to them stronger.

Kevin Crompton, Jarrad Carey, Delwyn Berry, Josh Berriman, Phiv Demetriou and Ash Brown make up our regional office. They conduct everything from club education, through to the provision of a strong AusKick network, along with our ongoing football and netball competitions.

To the Board - who play a key role in protecting the integrity of the League, and in the pursuit of something special in the future - I offer you thanks on behalf of our Members. Your yeoman-like effort is being more and more recognised and hopefully this will lead to more people stepping forward as we grow.

Over the next twelve months we will be making a concerted effort to increase the level of involvement at this level. Whether it be to satisfy the numbers needed as we introduce sub-committees, or if it's in attracting women onto our Board, we hope to get more Board members out visiting clubs in the future.

We play a key role in delivering community health in an inclusive environment; the thousands of people who each week participate within our community football and netball framework are testimony of the strong role the Northern Football League plays in our region.

We lost a powerful role model in Frank Rosbrook but I believe his legacy lives on. It can be found in each of our Ambassadors, Brent Harvey and Sharelle McMahon, who we thank for their ongoing support. And more importantly it can be found in the everyday member of our clubs, who each week helps us to deliver a quality league of which we can be proud.

Ron Bongetti

Northern Football League Chairman







# General Managers Report

Kevin Crompton

The 2009 season was welcomed after another very dry summer, and an escalation of fears for increased water restrictions, meaning a possible delay to the start of our football season. To the credit of our clubs and local councils, both worked diligently together to preserve the grounds during the preseason, and ensured our season kicked off on time. Coaches used their initiative in finding the appropriate resources to prepare their players for the start on the season.

Before the season started, our community was rocked by the devastations of the Victorian Bushfires. In particular, the Whittlesea, Kinglake, Strathewen and surrounding areas, where there were massive loss of lives and properties. The Northern Football League community rallied immediately. Whittlesea Football Club members were outstanding in their support of all the emergency services involved in the fire fighting and rescue operations, as their ground and clubrooms became the official relief centre. The club also initiated the opportunity for post-fire trauma counselling to its members and community.

Barling Reserve in Reservoir became the focal point for a fantastic community effort to raise funds for the Red Cross Bushfire relief. The Northern Football League and clubs, in association with the Northern Metro Cricket Association and radio station 1116SEN, conducted a "fun" day that included; an NFL Under 15 development squad match – Umpired by Brent Harvey; NFL East v West football match that included ex-AFL players and umpired by Peter Cameron & John Russo; Empire Stunt Motor Cyclists; Roaming performers; Memorabilia Auctions; 20/20 exhibition matches; Raffles; NFL Club stalls, local bands entertained and the Northern Football League umpires manned the gate. It was a wonderful day and a fantastic example of communities working together to collect \$62,657.70 on the day.

Barling Reserve was also the venue for our inaugural "Tackers Day". The concept aimed to provide the tackers and their parents - for many of the parents being their first time involvement with their chosen NFL junior club - an opportunity to become familiar with the workings and

culture of our sport. All players received a football and played in a fixtured round-robin style event over three ovals, with two games played at a time on each oval. This provided a focus for the Under 9s by way of a fun day as an introduction into Australian Rules Football with the Northern Football League.

This year we welcomed a new senior club into our competition; St Mary's Senior Football Club, who in their inaugural year fielded an Under 19 side and played out of Kelynack Reserve, Blossom Park.

St Mary's SFC, with their alignment to St Mary's Greensborough Junior Football Club is creating a wonderful pathway for the junior players at St Marys GJFC to continue playing football with their mates at a senior level in the Northern Football League.

A huge highlight for the year was the continued growth and development of our umpires. Kevin Smith has done an enormous amount of work with our local secondary schools to instigate and manage umpire academies, basic umpire courses and information sessions on becoming an umpire in the our league. As a result of Kevin's work, our umpire numbers have increased enormously and this year we started to see the benefits of this on-field. After successful trials of the three umpire system in 2008, this initiative was extended in 2009 to include selected home and away games and finals; three field and three boundary umpires were appointed to all senior finals – Divisions 1, 2 and 3.

We had another fantastic finals series. All grounds used were turned out magnificently - a credit to the host clubs and our fantastic councils. The senior finals were played over 4 venues - Preston City Oval, Eltham, Lalor and Epping - which attracted excellent attendances again this year. The attendances at our Junior Finals were up 15.6% on 2008, and at least one team from every Junior NFL club featured in the Junior Finals series. This was an excellent outcome for our Junior competition, and when added to the dramatic decrease in the average winning margins during the home and away rounds to 39 points - down from 65 points in 2007 - it highlights the benefits of our grading system introduced in 2008.

During 2009 we undertook a number of community programs that I am delighted to report were all extremely well supported by our clubs.

## The Club Accreditation Program:

The Club Accreditation Program was so well supported, that all clubs in the Northern Football League have attained a Bronze Level Accreditation, 5 clubs have reached Silver Level Accreditation and 1 (West Preston-Lakeside Football Club) has reached Gold – only the second club in the state to do so.

## Fair Game – Respect and Responsibility Program:

Over 16 weeks, volunteers from our clubs were trained to deliver the Respect and Responsibility of Women program. The intention is that the trained volunteers will conduct the program to their club members, committee and players early in 2010.

**Responsible Gambling Program, Bouncing Racism Out Of Sport and AFL Kids First Program** were also conducted during the year.

I would sincerely like to thank our 2009 sponsors, in particular our major sponsors; Hot Sublimation, Action Alliance, Concord Park Transport and our business partners; Victor, Sherrin, Boxandice, Red Onion and Coca Cola. Their financial contribution to our league is vital in keeping the fees of our clubs to a minimum and ensuring we were able to post another solid year financially.

I would also like to thank: the Northern Football League Board for their commitment and foresight; the NFL/AFLVic Community Development team, Phiv Demetriou and Ashley Brown for their dedication to the growth and improvement of our clubs and their environments, and to my staff, Delwyn Berry in Administration - and for her outstanding commitment to the development of netball in our league - Josh Berriman (Media Manager) and Jarrad Carey (Football Operation Manager) for their continued dedication and commitment.

The Northern Football League Community was saddened by the sudden passing of our inaugural Chairman, Frank Rosbrook. Frank worked tirelessly as chairman to ensure the rebuild of the football infrastructures and cultures under the new regime of the Northern Football League. Frank was also a terrific mentor and provided enormous support to me.

A Special General Meeting was convened on September 9 at Eltham Football Club where Ron Bongetti was elected Chairman of the NFL Board.

Kevin Crompton  
General Manager







# Football Operations Report

Jarrad Carey

Aside from the many superb off-field programs and good news stories within the league in 2009, the football competitions scaled to new and exciting heights this year. The standard of football being played in all levels of our competitions has continued to improve and some of the skills on display, particularly during the finals series, were truly amazing.

Congratulations to all those teams that competed in finals this year, and well done especially to our Senior Premiers; Heidelberg, Macleod and Parkside. Each has a brilliant story behind them. Heidelberg recorded their fourth consecutive premiership with a big finish against a brave Bundoora; Macleod finally got a premiership at their fourth attempt and are richly deserving of their crack at Division 1 football; and Parkside were our first ever Division Three Premiers, defeating Hurstbridge in front of a fantastic crowd at Eltham Central Park. Interesting to note that not one club had multiple premiers in senior divisions!

My favourite statistic from the year is that EVERY junior club had a team compete in the 2009 Junior Finals Series. This is an extraordinary achievement that had never occurred in the history of the league and sets a wonderful benchmark to strive for in years to come.

We again had a significant rise in junior participation this year, with 14 more teams taking part in 2009 (up 7.5% on 2008). I fully expect this trend to continue in 2010, and this is largely due to the high standards of behavior and conduct that our clubs now instill in their players, members and spectators.

The grading of junior teams was again a success in 2009. Not only did we have all 23 junior clubs represented in the finals, but we had many amazing stories of players experiencing finals action for the first time. The perfect example of this is the Montmorency Under 15 team, who won more games in the 2009 season alone than in all seasons combined from Under 10 to Under 14. That they played-off in a Grand Final is testament to the grading system. The Northern Football League now has the second lowest average margin across all junior competitions in Victoria; a remarkable achievement in our second grading year.

The Junior Development Program underwent a radical overhaul in the previous off-season and 2009 was a great learning curve for all of us involved. We fielded four teams in the AFL Victoria Metropolitan Junior Championships (Under 14s and Under 15s) with two of those making the Grand Final, while another finished equal top of their group. Our Under 13 and Under 16 squad also participated in extensive programs this year with very encouraging results. The 13s are a very promising group with sensational attitudes and they will be extremely competitive in the Metro Champs in 2010. We will be aligning our Under 16 program more closely with the Northern Knights in 2010 and trust that this will produce some great results over the next few years, so watch out for that!

On July 5 we organised our Inaugural Under 12 Junior Development Carnival which was an outstanding success. Four teams, representing all NFL junior clubs, played some exciting, free-flowing football and the feedback from the day was overwhelming. We will definitely be holding another 12s carnival next year, and might even explore the possibility of a night carnival. Thanks to everyone who assisted throughout the program in 2009, and thank you to the clubs who opened their doors for training, matches and functions.

The Under 9 competition will undergo a lengthy review over summer and we'll be relying heavily on club feedback for this. At this entry level to competitive football, it is vital that young players are introduced to a fun and safe environment. This review will cover all aspects of the competition, from the role of coaches and club officials, to the umpiring of matches, special rules and the organisation of a Tacklers Day, similar to the one that was held at Barling Reserve this year.

The on-field behavior and discipline of clubs and players has improved dramatically across all competitions and divisions over the past 12 months. Along with the education of our clubs, this is due in no small part to the terrific work undertaken by Kevin Smith and his umpiring brigade. Likewise, the message that violence and indiscretions will not be tolerated has been strongly re-enforced by the NFL Independent Tribunal.

## Football Operations Report

In senior matches in 2008, there was a report every 4 matches, compared to a report every 8 matches in 2009. That's a 100% improvement. The statistics are very similar in junior football, with a dramatic decline also in yellow and red cards being awarded during matches. I'd like to thank Kevin Smith and the Northern Umpires Association for all of your help and support during 2009. A huge thank you to my four tribunal chairmen and all panel members for giving up many Tuesday nights during the season. Your work does not go unappreciated.

"Communities Working Together" was never as important as it was in February when we held the NFL Bushfire Appeal and raised over \$60,000 for the Red Cross. Several NFL Clubs chipped in and helped out on the day, as well as the many NFL players who took part in the exhibition match alongside the likes of Anthony Koutoufides, David Teague and Ang Christou. A massive pat on the back must also go to the Whittlesea Football Club who opened up their doors during the disaster and hosted the emergency services. Some things are far more important than football.

To my colleagues at NFL House, congratulations on an epic 2009. The Netball Competition has gone from strength to strength and much of the credit for that must go to Delwyn.

Under Josh Berriman our media department has explored new and exciting avenues in the past 12 months and will continue to improve over the summer. NFL TV, available on our website, shows just how far we have come in this area in such a short time.

Thank you to Kevin Crompton for all your leadership and advice, and thanks to Phiv and Brown from AFL Victoria for your support and friendship over the past 12 months. We are still working on tightening the link between the NFL and the Northern Bullants and Northern

Knights and I'd like to acknowledge the work of Steve Pape, Gary O'Sullivan, Quinten Aisbett, Peter Kennedy and Josh Prendergast from these two organisations. Thank you also to Dean Philpots and the NFL Junior Committee and to Ron Bongetti and the NFL Board of Directors for your support and guidance throughout the year. A sincere thank you to North Melbourne Captain and NFL Ambassador, Brent Harvey for his absolute willingness to help out and assist wherever he could in 2009. It is a huge feather in the NFL cap to have such a wonderful person on board. I look forward to Boomer's involvement for many years to come.

The league lost two magnificent servants in 2009. Frank Rosbrook, the inaugural NFL Chairman, was a man of enormous integrity whose vision is now coming to fruition and I thank him for the opportunity he gave me 22 months ago. Leigh "Wally" Williams was also a great NFL person who served the Preston RSL Junior Football Club with colossal dedication over many years and he will be sadly missed.

And finally to the volunteers; thank you all so very much. We in at NFL House are fortunate to work in a sport and environment that we love and we would not be able to do so without your support, dedication, passion and enthusiasm. The Northern Football League is becoming the great league we all know it can, and should be, and without you this would not be possible. I cannot wait to get stuck into 2010 where we will all continue to strive to become the best league we can possibly be.

See you at the footy!

Jarrad Carey  
Football Operations Manager







# Umpire Report

Kevin Smith

The 2009 NFL season saw the League securing Parade College, Bundoora, as its umpiring training facility, both for pre-season and in-season training, and meetings. This was a vast improvement for the group, especially for pre-season training, and the travel for the majority of the group was reduced.

The umpiring group enjoyed a central venue with good training facilities and an appropriate pavilion in which to hold meetings and coaching sessions. Training continued Monday and Wednesday evenings and its coaching sessions were held after training each Wednesday.

Umpire numbers at training on the main night continued to be high and the dedication and commitment to training of those in attendance continued to be at a high level. Each of the three disciplines experienced specialised skill drills, fitness training and feedback on performances.

A total of 40 field umpires, 40 boundary umpires and 12 goal umpires were recruited to the League, and of these, 11 were female. At the same time, the League lost 44 umpires in total, and it is this number we need to continue to reduce. This will be influenced by their acceptance, or otherwise, during the season by the club environment in which they umpire.

Two field umpires officiated in all matches from A Grade down to Under 14s, and the three field umpire system was used in A Grade in either one or two matches in most weeks - in one particular round it took place in three matches. The three boundary umpire system was in use during many of the senior finals.

I would like to thank Kim Miles (Fitness Coach),

Darren Agnew (Junior Umpire Coach), Shane Herbert (Goal Umpire Coach) and Doug Armstrong (Boundary Umpire Coach) who worked so diligently and successfully throughout the season. Big thanks must go to Brian Moore (Secretary of the Coaching Panel) who worked so tirelessly across all disciplines to ensure the smooth running of umpiring. To these, along with all those who supported each of the coaches, and those who carried out observations and mentoring, your magnificent efforts were appreciated and resulted in many umpires feeling supported and showing significant improvement.

The League's two tier school program continued in 2009. Firstly, a further five schools in our area took up the League's offer of including the Basic Umpires Course as part of the school curriculum in the Physical Education area. These were Mill Park Secondary, Eltham College, Loyola College, St Helena College and Greensborough Secondary. They joined with Diamond Valley College, St Monica's College, Viewbank College and Reservoir District Secondary in allowing the course in their schools.

Secondly, I visited schools to address assemblies and selected grades with recruiting in mind and this will be increased next season, with further advancements to both tiers envisaged for 2010.

Unfortunately, and at the last minute, the Umpiring Academy at Parade College - a big success in 2008 - did not continue in 2009, through no lack of effort by the College. Following negotiations with Mill Park Secondary College, it has agreed to have the Academy there in 2010, and arrangements and recruiting for it are to commence prior to the end of this school year.



The holding of an umpire-club visit continued in 2009. Senior clubs had an umpire attend training to talk with players about the priorities for umpiring during the season. For one reason or another, this was not able to be arranged for one or two clubs.

Each of the NFL administration, led by Kevin Crompton, were always available to discuss umpiring matters and readily tendered new ideas for discussion and offered and gave assistance when asked, or it was appropriate to do so. Each of the staff contributed to umpiring in some way on a regular basis, and I always felt the support was there - for this I am thankful. It is true to say the League Board always showed support for, and interest in, umpiring too.

Expanding umpiring to the three umpire system when appropriate, providing the cost of the Green Shirt uniform for new field umpires, covering the quite expensive cost of umpire accreditation, and a preparedness to fund a more centrally located and appropriate umpire training facility, all have contributed to the increased numbers, expanded coaching, and good umpire performance in 2009.

Santo Spinello took over as the Umpires Association President, and the Association supported both myself and the umpiring group in assisting in providing an appropriate umpiring environment. Among other things, it arranged for the provision of meals and refreshments after training with the assistance of Kerryn and Gary, arranged regular BBQ's, and both the junior and senior Presentation Night were a big success. Arranging an experienced umpire as an Advocate for umpires attending the Tribunal was an important role it also performed, and I want to thank the Association for its efforts throughout 2009.

I am very happy with the way the League's umpires are progressing and umpiring and I believe we got through the season very well, and assisted in a number of ways in the further development of the League. Once again, the umpiring in the finals series, both in juniors and seniors, was outstanding in all disciplines and contributed to a high standard of football. I want to congratulate all those receiving a final of any kind, especially a Grand Final appointment, as you will have deserved it.

The umpiring group has many umpires who continue is to show a long term commitment to umpiring in our League and some reached wonderful milestones in their A Grade careers in 2009. Among them is goal umpire Neville Coutts who reached the 500 game mark, and field umpires Wayne Byrne, Joe Darmania and Wayne Fyffe, who reached 250 games.

Kevin Smith  
Director of Umpiring







# Junior Chairman's Report

Dean Philpots

This season, the NFL again saw the number of participants and teams in our Junior competition increase. This is a very pleasing result as our brand and name continues to improve within our region. This can only occur due to the hard working committees, coaches, officials and parents around our league.

This year the Junior Committee set a target to ensure all our coaches were accredited with a minimum of Level One, and this was achieved just after the season started.

I felt that the Metropolitan Championships were a success this year, and with additional representative games for the Under 13's and Under 16's, this increased the work of the volunteers and NFL staff who put a lot of

time in to running these sides. I am very keen to continue with representative games, and with a view to increase our participation next season to include an Under 17 representative game.

In the 2010 season, we plan to continue to provide clubs with assistance and support to help them run their club better, and get the best out of their role within the community. The Junior clubs have again performed well in 2009, and the whole league just keeps improving thanks to the support of the clubs.

Dean Philpots  
Junior Chairman



# Netball Report

Delwyn Berry

The second season of the Northern Football League Netball competition saw growth from 8 to 14 competing teams. As a result, all teams went through a grading process to form two sections of competition netball for 2009. All games were played Friday night at the RMIT Netball Stadium, Bundoora.

This year, NFL Netball welcomed our partnership with Plenty Valley Netball Association, which also meant the adoption of the PVNA constitution. The assistance of Sue Drummond, President of PVNA, and her committee was remarkable. The PVNA made the required amendments to their by-laws to enable NFL Netball to operate as a senior competition.

We once again had Kristy Armstead as our ever reliable Supervisor. Many thanks go to Kristy for the time and dedication she has shown to our growing competition.

Those clubs fielding a team for the first time in our 2nd year included North Heidelberg (2 teams), Whittlesea (2 teams), Fitzroy Stars (2 teams), Hurstbridge (1 team) - although they initially entered 2, and will have a 2nd team for 2010. Watsonia also nominated but unfortunately were not able to get the numbers, however they are confident for 2010. Lakeside was another inclusion to the competition.

Lakeside Netball Club joined forces with West Preston-Lakeside Football Club to become their aligned club. West Preston did a fantastic job incorporating the Lakeside Netball Club into their club and in turn increased their membership by over 150.

All teams have been able to secure sponsors and all wear the colors of their NFL club proudly.

Attendance to all games was another highlight. Players, committee members, family members and the general public attended, to create a fantastic atmosphere to compete in each week. Our Section 1 competition gained the reputation as one the strongest and exciting suburban competitions, which is a great honour. This in turn, is creating additional interest from other football teams to jump on board.

Whittlesea and Mernda have even changed their name to 'Football and Netball Club'.

It was great to see the Whittlesea Netball girls form a guard of honor in full uniform for their football team in the Division 2 Grand Finals; this truly shows the impact that netball has had to this club.

Next season is already being planned, with the possibility of an additional seven teams. We would be looking to create of a Section 3 for 2010, if that is the case. Other Metro Football Leagues are seeing our success and are now also considering launching their own Netball competition next season.

The netball inclusion to football clubs has contributed to increased membership, increased attendance at functions, women being more accepted around the club, increased help, and more opportunity for funding.

Looking forward to the future.

Delwyn Berry  
NFL Netball







## Media Report

Josh Berriman

2009 was all about improving on the success that had been made in the first year of having a full-time Northern Football League Media Manager.

The biggest assistance in achieving this improvement was a meeting that we had with Red Onion Creative before the conclusion of the 2008 year. After the presentation, the League decided to side with Red Onion for all our production, printing, and most importantly, the development of a new website.

It had come to the point where the Sporting Pulse website was stagnant and didn't really fit the image the league wanted to go with – the increase in third-party ads on the site really sealed its fate. So over summer, a lot of time and effort went into designing a fresh, user-friendly website – and I would like to thank Liam from Red Onion for his direction and knowledge in getting the site up and running from scratch.

The site went live literally on the eve of the season, and like most new things, there were some teething problems over the journey. On reflection though, looking at what we have now compared to what was there during the off-season, it would be hard to argue that the improvement hasn't been outstanding – although I'd like to be saying the same thing at the conclusion of the 2010 season, because there are still many things that we haven't explored fully.

One of those things we have barely scraped the surface of is Web TV. Over the finals' series, myself, Dylan Maxwell, and Jarrad Carey, were part of a panel show that was tapped and then able to be streamed off the NFL website. The idea has plenty of potential, and over time we'd like to make it a mainstay for the league, but it has to be a worthwhile exercise. There was no denying the fun in making it though, and I'd like to thank Ben Shelton, Kane Shaw, Mat Dornauf, Brayden Shaw, Abe Williams, and Phil Plunkett, for appearing on the show in its infancy, and we hope it's back in some format in 2010.

The NFL Record also had a bit of an overhaul over the summer months, and a new look product went on sale in Round 1. The new format was easier on the eye and was

more organised than had been in the past. It's pleasing that such an ancient publication still has a place in the league, and that there is still room for improvement to deliver value for money to the public.

2009 again saw the Northern Football League team with Plenty Valley FM to broadcast a Match of the Day every weekend. Dylan Maxwell, Mark Donnelly and Luke De Vincentis headed the coverage on a weekly basis, and I owe them a massive thank-you for fronting up each Saturday – sometimes in less than ideal surroundings – but they always contributed positively to the league. During the finals we gained the services of John Seaton (Stats) and Mal Cooper (Boundary Rider), which really added another element to the coverage – thanks to these guys for offering their ideas and time.

With the added growth of the NFL Netball competition came the necessity for more coverage. By chance, we were fortunate enough to get Stephanie De Campo to volunteer her Friday nights to cover all the netball action, and her work was consistently of the highest quality throughout the year. We even ran a netball segment on the NFL TV show, and from all reports I'm sure the girls appreciated the coverage of their games – so a massive thanks to Steph. Next year, with the further growth of the league, we will hopefully see further growth of the coverage of NFL Netball.

And finally I'd like to thank all the volunteers who have contributed to the Northern Football League media throughout 2009. Whether they were working directly with the league, or as a club correspondent, or taking video for both; you know who you are, and without your work there would be no need for me to be here – so I really appreciate your sizeable contribution throughout the year, and hope you all come onboard again in 2010.

Until then,

Josh Berriman  
Media Manager







# The 2009 Premiers

## Division 1 Seniors ~ Heidelberg

2009 was a truly remarkable year for all at the Heidelberg Football Club.

After being thoroughly tested in the 2008 Grand Final against Montmorency, it almost felt like Heidelberg wanted to blow all out of the water in 2009 and canter to a fourth successive premiership.

While sometimes that did seem the case, such observations probably sell short the effort, courage and skill that the Tigers showed week after week.

Going into the Grand Final against Bundoora, Heidelberg were undefeated for the season and had an average winning margin of 83 points - North Heidelberg had come closest to them, being defeated by 15 points.

They were the raging favourites to win, and although they eventually did so comfortably, the effort shown on the day by Bundoora will not be forgotten quickly.

Kicking with a strong breeze at the City End of Preston City Oval, Bundoora got the start they were looking for in the first quarter - they went to the first break with a three goal lead, and a sense of belief amongst their supporters.

In the 2008 Grand Final it was Heidelberg's ability to kick goals into the breeze that saw them come out on top; this year it was their accuracy with the wind that set up their victory.

The Tigers amassed a staggering 16 goals, 13 behinds to the City End - compared to Bundoora's eight goals, six behinds - and that was pretty much the difference between the two teams.

The experienced Heidelberg campaigners were at the fore in the Grand Final, with both the Nolan brothers, Justin Murphy, Jake Williams and Blair Harvey all being amongst their best.

But it was another wise head in Dean Haydock who stole the show in his last game in the yellow and black. Haydock was awarded the medal as the best player on the ground, and capped his performance with a 50 metre running torpedo goal in the latter stages of the last quarter.

Brayden Shaw led the way for Bundoora, and was unlucky not to be awarded the medal himself. The Bulls were just lacking a bit of cutting edge to win the premiership, but as always, they will be up there again next year.

However, it wasn't all bad for Bundoora on the day. They took out the Reserves Grand Final with a solid win over West Preston-Lakeside. Bundoora's Troy Barbero was awarded the best on ground medal.

In the Under 19s, Greensborough defeated Bundoora by 52 points, with Ryan Robertson named as best on the ground.

### 2009 NFL Division 1 Senior Grand Final

<b>Heidelberg</b>	3.2	11.4	11.6	19.17(131)
<b>Bundoora</b>	6.2	8.2	10.6	10.7(67)

**Best:** Heidelberg - Dale Nolan, J Williams, J Murphy, D Haydock, Danny Nolan, B Harvey  
Bundoora - B Shaw, S Finlayson, M Penn, D Mitchell, M Mitchell, L Santoro

**Goals:** Heidelberg - B Harvey 4, M Favrin 3, B Eaton 2, J Williams 2, J Houlihan 2, C Hall, A Symes, M Seiter, D Haydock, J Kennedy, J Sinclair  
Bundoora - C Rogers 2, L Santoro 2, M Penn, N Gloury, D Mitchell, A Contessa, T Croughan, J Palazzolo



### 2009 NFL Division 1 Reserves Grand Final

<b>Bundoora</b>	1.4	1.5	7.11	8.12(60)
<b>W Preston</b>	0.0	4.0	4.3	6.7(43)

**Best:** Bundoora - M Little, J Garlick, T Barbero, C Belbasis, A Ruggerio, R Graham  
W Preston - S Barker, J Hiho, M Bridges, B Sanderson, J Williams, M Whittaker

**Goals:** Bundoora - S Crump 2, M Grillo 2, S Brekke, T Barbero, T Simmons, D Gaetano  
W Preston - M Whittaker 2, C Ray, C Darzi, J Piraina, N McDonagh



### 2009 NFL Division 1 Under 19 Grand Final

<b>Greensborough</b>	1.0	6.3	7.3	13.6(84)
<b>Bundoora</b>	2.3	2.3	3.6	4.8(32)

**Best:** Greensborough - T Bowtell, T Scarce, R Fiorini, D Fowler, A Rowe, D Mason  
Bundoora - B Carlyon, S Martin, J Price, M Buckley, A McCormack, J Fitzgerald

**Goals:** Greensborough - T Scarce 3, G Hitchman 3, D Fowler 2, D Tjong, N Walker, B Freeman, B Brigham, R Fiorini  
Bundoora - J Price, B Redmond, N Johnston, J Fitzgerald







Division 1 Seniors Finals

1st Semi Final

Bundoora 16.16 (112) def  
North Heidelberg 12.17 (89)

2nd Semi Final

Heidelberg 16.9 (105) def  
Montmorency 7.6 (48)

Preliminary Final

Montmorency 7.7 (49) def by  
Bundoora 13.18 (96)

Grand Final

Heidelberg 19.17 (131) def  
Bundoora 10.7 (67)



Division 1 Reserves Finals

1st Semi Final

West Preston 11.11 (77) def  
Heidelberg 7.6 (48)

2nd Semi Final

Bundoora 9.7 (61) def  
Montmorency 9.5 (59)

Preliminary Final

Montmorency 9.8 (62) def by  
West Preston 10.11 (71)

Grand Final

Bundoora 8.12 (60) def  
West Preston 6.7 (43)



Division 1 Under 19s Finals

1st Semi Final

Eltham 12.9 (81) def  
Heidelberg 7.7 (49)

2nd Semi Final

Bundoora 5.7 (37) def by  
Greensborough 6.11 (47)

Preliminary Final

Bundoora 11.18 (84) def  
Eltham 5.3 (33)

Grand Final

Greensborough 13.6 (84) def  
Bundoora 4.8 (32)

Division 1 Seniors

Team	P	W	L	D	For	Ag	%	Pts
Heidelberg	18	18	0	0	2545	1027	248	72
Montmorency	18	13	5	0	1960	1564	125	52
Bundoora	18	12	6	0	1895	1723	110	48
North Heidelberg	18	11	7	0	2132	1566	136	44
Northcote Park	18	11	7	0	1867	1554	120	44
Lalor	18	8	10	0	1743	1910	91	32
Eltham	18	7	11	0	1777	2006	89	28
West Preston	18	5	13	0	1502	1712	88	20
Greensborough	18	5	13	0	1427	1903	75	20
Thomastown	18	0	18	0	1074	1957	36	0

Division 1 Reserves

Team	P	W	L	D	For	Ag	%	Pts
Bundoora	18	17	1	0	2076	749	277	68
Montmorency	18	16	2	0	2259	929	243	64
West Preston	18	11	7	0	1693	940	180	44
Heidelberg	18	11	7	0	1649	1158	142	44
North Heidelberg	18	8	9	1	1401	1640	85	34
Greensborough	18	8	10	0	1224	1587	77	32
Northcote Park	18	7	10	1	1281	1440	89	30
Eltham	18	7	11	0	1184	1792	66	28
Lalor	18	4	14	0	893	1497	60	16
Thomastown	18	0	18	0	682	2610	26	0

Division 1 Under 19s

Team	P	W	L	D	For	Ag	%	Pts
Bundoora	16	15	1	0	1837	637	288	60
Greensborough	16	14	2	0	1852	907	204	56
Eltham	16	11	5	0	1548	1062	146	44
Heidelberg	16	7	9	0	1152	1128	102	28
Montmorency	16	6	9	1	1140	1233	92	26
West Preston	16	6	9	1	1093	1364	80	26
Thomastown	15	6	9	0	1177	1384	85	24
Northcote Park	16	4	12	0	956	1785	54	16
North Heidelberg	15	1	14	0	689	1944	35	4







# The 2009 Premiers

## Division 2 Seniors ~ Macleod

After three straight Grand Final disappointments, the Macleod Football Club finally got through to Division 1 on their fourth successive attempt.

From the opening round of 2009, Macleod were focused on reaching the next level of competition, and they set about destroying most teams in their path.

There was the odd slip-up along the way - against Fitzroy Stars in Round 5, and Whittlesea in Round 14 - but when you take into account their promotion, all three senior sides making Grand Finals, and the opening of their resurfaced ground, 2009 was the year Macleod were waiting for.

On Grand Final day itself - a surprisingly warm spring day - Macleod had first use of a gale force wind to the City End of Preston City Oval against a Whittlesea team who had won their previous 11 games.

After a sluggish start, Macleod eventually capitalised on the conditions and ended up kicking 60 points to six in the first quarter.

Two booming goals from Daniel Watts, a tight snap from the left forward pocket by Nick Lynch, and a long, swinging set-shot from Adam Woodhams, were the major highlights of the opening term, and it appeared that Macleod already had one hand on the cup.

The wiser heads from Macleod, who had been through the previous three years of disappointment, knew that

that clearly wasn't the case, and this game was going to be fought out until the end.

To Whittlesea's credit, they did exactly that and continued to battle on for the remainder of the game - despite the score - and over the final three quarters they outscored the eventual premiers ten goals to five.

It was an equally remarkable season for Whittlesea, who overcame such adversity in the pre-season with the disastrous February bushfires on their doorstep. To make a Senior Grand Final on the back of no pre-season and without the use of their facilities was an inspiring effort.

But this was to be Macleod's year, and the final realisation of many seasons of hard work.

Captain Kane Shaw was instrumental across center-half-back and pushing forward through the centre, and was duly awarded the best on ground medal.

The news wasn't as great for Macleod in the earlier Grand Finals, as they went down in the Reserves to Diamond Creek by 39 points, and were outlasted in the Under 19s by Whittlesea. The Eagles' five point victory squared the ledger on the 2008 Under 19s Grand Final, where Macleod got over the line in another thriller.

Diamond Creek's Chris Burton and Whittlesea's Matthew Robertson were best on ground in their respective Grand Finals.

### 2009 NFL Division 2 Senior Grand Final

<b>Macleod</b>	8.12	10.15	13.22	13.23(101)
<b>Whittlesea</b>	1.0	4.5	6.7	11.11(77)

**Best:** Macleod - K Shaw, S Melican, D Watts, A Bennett, N Lynch, C Corr  
Whittlesea - M Quinton, N Snowdon, G Heenan, T Behan, T Stevens, T Parkinson

**Goals:** Macleod - N Lynch 3, D Watts 3, A Doherty 2, A Bennett 2, K Ewart, S Lovett, A Woodhams  
Whittlesea - J Nixon 3, T Behan 2, M Quinton 2, E Murray, M Dornauf, J Buhagiar, T Parkinson



### 2009 NFL Division 2 Reserves Grand Final

<b>Macleod</b>	4.3	4.3	6.5	6.5(41)
<b>Diamond Creek</b>	0.0	3.5	3.8	11.14(80)

**Best:** Macleod - C Forester, B Porter, C Toohey, T Hansen, A Wells, M Sherpa  
Diamond Creek - C Burton, M Smith, J Smith, B Kinnane, M McKenzie, B Hardman

**Goals:** Macleod - C Forester 2, M Rose, C Toohey, M Sherpa, B Kreitling  
Diamond Creek - C Burton 2, B Kinnane 2, D McCoid, B Hardman, D O'Regan, S Elliott, S Ferraro, M McKenzie, S Whitmore



### 2009 NFL Division 2 Under 19 Grand Final

<b>Macleod</b>	2.1	4.4	4.5	8.7(55)
<b>Whittlesea</b>	0.2	4.3	7.5	9.6(60)

**Best:** Macleod - J Byrgiotis, M Walter, M Veszpremi, S Hills, T Balasso, B Wilding  
Whittlesea - M Robertson, L Brennan, S Salmon, B Marks, L Deards, L Slater

**Goals:** Macleod - B Wilding 4, M Walter 2, S Hills, H Boland  
Whittlesea - M Robertson 4, J Carlyon 2, S Salmon, W Clarke, P McVeigh







Division 2 Seniors Finals

1st Semi Final

Whittlesea 20.9 (129) def  
Epping 14.9 (93)

2nd Semi Final

Macleod 12.16 (88) def  
Diamond Creek 7.10 (52)

Preliminary Final

Diamond Creek 6.12 (48) def by  
Whittlesea 14.14 (98)

Grand Final

Macleod 13.23 (101) def  
Whittlesea 11.11 (77)



Division 2 Reserves Finals

1st Semi Final

Mernda 21.8 (134) def  
Epping 4.12 (36)

2nd Semi Final

Diamond Creek 5.13 (43) def by  
Macleod 10.7 (67)

Preliminary Final

Diamond Creek 14.15 (99) def  
Mernda 5.7 (37)

Grand Final

Macleod 6.5 (41) def by  
Diamond Creek 11.14 (80)



Division 2 Under 19s Finals

1st Semi Final

Whittlesea 11.6 (72) def  
Lower Plenty 8.9 (57)

2nd Semi Final

Diamond Creek 7.16 (58) def by  
Macleod 12.7 (79)

Preliminary Final

Diamond Creek 7.6 (48) def by  
Whittlesea 9.4 (58)

Grand Final

Macleod 8.7 (55) def by  
Whittlesea 9.6 (60)

Division 2 Seniors

Team	P	W	L	D	For	Ag	%	Pts
Macleod	18	16	2	0	2707	1034	262	64
Diamond Creek	18	15	3	0	2201	1142	193	60
Whittlesea	18	14	4	0	2061	1195	172	56
Epping	18	13	5	0	1948	1287	151	52
Mernda	18	13	5	0	2247	1497	150	52
Lower Plenty	18	9	9	0	2112	1718	123	36
Fitzroy Stars	18	9	9	0	1973	1831	108	36
Watsonia	18	7	11	0	1488	1929	77	28

Division 2 Reserves

Team	P	W	L	D	For	Ag	%	Pts
Diamond Creek	18	17	1	0	2162	712	304	68
Macleod	18	15	3	0	2061	829	249	60
Mernda	18	14	4	0	2012	902	223	56
Epping	18	14	4	0	1735	961	181	56
Lower Plenty	18	10	8	0	1643	1267	130	40
Whittlesea	18	10	8	0	1520	1185	128	40
Watsonia	18	7	11	0	1240	1428	87	28
Fitzroy Stars	18	2	16	0	991	2221	45	8

Division 2 Under 19s

Team	P	W	L	D	For	Ag	%	Pts
Diamond Creek	16	15	1	0	1906	681	280	60
Macleod	17	13	4	0	1718	843	204	52
Whittlesea	16	12	4	0	1498	771	194	48
Lower Plenty	16	12	4	0	1608	888	181	48
Mernda	16	11	5	0	1303	909	143	44
St Marys	17	7	10	0	1163	1167	100	28
Hurstbridge	17	6	11	0	976	1409	69	24
Epping	17	5	12	0	1260	1516	83	20
Bundoora Bulls	16	4	12	0	853	1306	65	16
Watsonia	16	4	12	0	710	1587	45	16
Keon Park	16	1	15	0	400	2318	17	4







# The 2009 Premiers

## Division 3 Seniors ~ Parkside

2009 saw the introduction of a third division in the Northern Football League, with the bottom six teams in Division 2 breaking away to form Division 3 at the end of Round 13.

The last five rounds were played amongst the six teams, and from the outset there were two standouts who would feature come the end of the finals' series.

Parkside did not lose a game all season to another Division 3 side - even when they were in Division 2 - and were the clear favourites going into the Grand Final, while Hurstbridge had only been defeated by Parkside during the year.

The Grand Final took place at Eltham Central Reserve in front of pretty healthy inaugural crowd.

Hurstbridge had all the early running, kicking with a strong breeze in the first quarter, but their inaccuracy in front of goal would eventually come back to haunt them.

From quarter time onwards, Parkside took control of the game with their more experienced players coming to the fore and guiding them to victory - their first senior premiership in 21 years.

Capping a superb year, Parkside's Robbie Wise was named as the best player on the ground.

Earlier, Hurstbridge made the most of their scoring opportunities in the Division 3 Reserves Grand Final to claim the premiership at the expense of a wayward South Morang team.

Hurstbridge's Zac Johnston was named best on ground.



### 2009 NFL Division 3 Senior Grand Final

<b>Parkside</b>	2.1	6.5	8.6	12.9(81)
<b>Hurstbridge</b>	3.7	4.8	6.16	8.17(65)

**Best:** Parkside - R Wise, D Gresham, P McMaster, D King, J Gresham, S Ware  
Hurstbridge - C Pohl, S Callen, J Atkins, J Caldwell, D Carmody, S Purcell

**Goals:** Parkside - D King 5, S Mills 4, R Wise, D Egan, P McMaster  
Hurstbridge - B Fennell 3, J Atkins 2, S Keenan, N Roberts, J Caldwell

### 2009 NFL Division 3 Reserves Grand Final

<b>South Morang</b>	1.2	2.6	2.8	3.13(31)
<b>Hurstbridge</b>	3.1	4.3	6.8	7.9(51)

**Best:** South Morang - D Delromano, S Musico, D Kelsey, R Wilson, S Johnstone, G Greenough  
Hurstbridge - Z Johnston, T Francis, D Potter, G Kilkenny, R Laoumtzis, B Thomas

**Goals:** South Morang - D Di Lalla 2, S Fraser  
Hurstbridge - H Pohl, S Gedge, N Riseley, T Francis, B Simpson, Z Johnston, R Laoumtzis



## Division 3 Seniors Finals

### 1st Semi Final

South Morang 6.9 (45) def by  
Reservoir 14.18 (102)

### Preliminary Final

Hurstbridge 17.19 (121) def  
Reservoir 6.10 (46)

### Grand Final

Parkside 12.9 (81) def  
Hurstbridge 8.17 (65)

### 2nd Semi Final

Parkside 19.11 (125) def  
Hurstbridge 14.17 (101)



## Division 3 Reserves Finals

### 1st Semi Final

Parkside 6.15 (51) def  
Reservoir 6.7 (43)

### Preliminary Final

Hurstbridge 24.19 (163) def  
Parkside 6.7 (43)

### Grand Final

South Morang 3.13 (31) def by  
Hurstbridge 7.9 (51)

### 2nd Semi Final

Hurstbridge 13.9 (87) def by  
South Morang 13.10 (88)



Division 3 Seniors

Team	P	W	L	D	FF	For	Ag	%	Pts
Parkside	18	10	8	0	0	1711	1821	94	40
Hurstbridge	18	8	10	0	0	1624	1770	92	32
South Morang	18	5	13	0	1	1509	2414	63	20
Reservoir	18	4	14	0	0	1207	2169	56	16
Panton Hill	18	3	15	0	0	1358	2071	66	12
Heidelberg West	18	0	18	0	0	724	2992	24	0

Division 3 Reserves

Team	P	W	L	D	FF	For	Ag	%	Pts
Hurstbridge	18	13	5	0	0	1822	1062	172	52
South Morang	18	8	10	0	1	1467	1679	87	32
Parkside	18	8	10	0	0	1136	1628	70	32
Reservoir	18	5	13	0	0	969	1886	51	20
Panton Hill	18	3	15	0	0	957	1569	61	12
Heidelberg West	18	0	18	0	0	603	2989	20	0



2009 NFL Awards

Seniors

2009 Senior Club of the Year

West Preston-Lakeside



2009 Volunteer of the Year

Rick Crapper - West Preston-Lakeside



Juniors

2009 Junior Club of the Year

Eltham JFC



2009 Lew Hall Players Award

Jake Barnes - Whittlesea







# The 2009 Medalists

## Division 1

In 2009, Montmorency's Daniel Keenan became the second player this decade to be awarded with back-to-back Division 1 Best and Fairests.

Keenan joined teammate, Daniel King - then with Epping - as the second player to have taken out the award in consecutive years, with King achieving the feat in 2004 and 2005.

Although the overall Montmorency season did not reach the standards they set in 2008, Keenan was as, if not more, consistent as the previous season, and lead the count from Round 8 onwards.

Keenan finished six votes clear of Heidelberg ruckman, Mick Gay, with North Heidelberg half-forward, Blake Holmes, coming in third.

Bundoora Reserves co-captain, Daniel Karabatsos, capped-off a premiership winning season with a runaway eight vote win in the Division 1 Reserves Best and Fairest.

Bundoora also picked up the Division 1 Under 19 Best and Fairest, with youngster Mitchell Buckley winning by five votes.

West Preston's Billy Morrison was awarded the Division 1 Northern Bullants Coaches' Player of the Year award after a consistent season at centre-half-forward for the Roosters.

Heidelberg led the way in Team of the Year honours with seven representatives and coach Phil Plunkett. North Heidelberg and Montmorency were next best with four selections, with Bundoora only managing the two.



### 2009 NFL Division 1 Best & Fairest

<b>Seniors</b>			
Daniel Keenan	Montmorency	23 votes	
Michael Gay	Heidelberg	17 votes	
Blake Holmes	North Heidelberg	15 votes	
<b>Reserves</b>			
Daniel Karabatsos	Bundoora	20 votes	
Brad Sanderson	West Preston	12 votes	
Scott Pepyat	Montmorency	12 votes	
Damien Piperno	West Preston	12 votes	
<b>Under 19s</b>			
Mitchell Buckley	Bundoora	19 votes	
Daniel Fowler	Greensborough	14 votes	
Nathan Stavridis	Thomastown	13 votes	

### 2009 NFL Division 1 Goalkickers

<b>Seniors</b>			
Shane Harvey	North Heidelberg	102 goals	
<b>Reserves</b>			
Luke Carey	Montmorency	64 goals	
<b>Under 19s</b>			
Nicholas Milne	Eltham	59 goals	

### 2009 NFL Division 1 Bullants Coaches' Player of the Year

Billy Morrison	West Preston	24 votes
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## 2009 Division 1 Team of the Year

Back	Ben Shelton Bundoora	Dale Nolan Heidelberg	Dean Haydock Heidelberg
Half-Back	Jarrold King North Heidelberg	Shane Tennant Montmorency	Andrew Carmusciano Lalor
Centre	Abe Williams Heidelberg	Mark McGough Montmorency	Gavan Connelly Eltham
Half-Foward	Blake Holmes North Heidelberg	Billy Morrison West Preston	Adam Symes Heidelberg
Forward	Mark Favrin Heidelberg	Lance Whitnall Lalor	Shane Harvey North Heidelberg
Followers	Mick Gay Heidelberg	Daniel Keenan Montmorency	David Mitchell Bundoora
Interchange	Jason Dean North Heidelberg	Daniel King Montmorency	
	Jess Sinclair Heidelberg	Nathan Thomas Lalor	
Coach	Phil Plunkett Heidelberg		





# The 2009 Medalists

## Division 2

After an injury ravaged past couple of years at North Heidelberg, Daniel Moore made the move to Epping during the off-season and the decision paid immediate dividends.

Moore was everywhere in his first year with the Blues, playing primarily in the ruck, but also floating forward and providing a target to chip in with a couple of goals when required.

Testament to Moore's fantastic year was that he won the Division 2 Seniors Best and Fairest by a staggering 11 votes - nearly the equivalent of four best on ground performances.

Moore also took out the Division 2 Northern Bullants Coaches' Player of the Year award, finishing 12 votes clear of Jeremy Page and Cathal Corr - two players who won their respective club's 2009 Best and Fairests.

In his first year up from Under 19s, Macleod's Mingma Sherpa comfortably took out the Division 2 Reserves Best and Fairest by six votes.

Macleod concluded a fantastic year with Brett Wilding and Lachlan Considine tying with Mernda's Chris Zabrieszach in the Division 2 Under 19s Best and Fairest.

Macleod also had the most players presented with Division 2 Team of the Year honours, with seven players named, and the team coached by Cristian Brandt. Whittlesea, Mernda and Epping were the next best with three representatives, while Diamond Creek, Lower Plenty and Fitzroy Stars each had two players nominated.



### 2009 NFL Division 2 Best & Fairest

<b>Seniors</b>			
Daniel Moore	Epping		29 votes
Matt Vaseleski	Mernda		18 votes
Justin White	Macleod		18 votes
Jeremy Page	Whittlesea		18 votes
<b>Reserves</b>			
Mingma Sherpa	Macleod		23 votes
Michael Cullum	Lower Plenty		17 votes
Brian Hardman	Diamond Creek		17 votes
<b>Under 19s</b>			
Brett Wilding	Macleod		16 votes
Chris Zabrieszach	Mernda		16 votes
Lachlan Considine	Macleod		16 votes

### 2009 NFL Division 2 Goalkickers

<b>Seniors</b>			
John Hayes	Fitzroy Stars		89 goals
<b>Reserves</b>			
Sandy Ferraro	Diamond Creek		74 goals
<b>Under 19s</b>			
Brett Wilding	Macleod		64 goals

### 2009 NFL Division 2 Bullants Coaches' Player of the Year

Daniel Moore	Epping	33 votes
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## 2009 Division 2 Team of the Year

Back	Adam Woodhams Macleod	Simon Perryman Diamond Creek	Leigh McTaggart Lower Plenty
Half-Back	Matt Veseleski Mernda	Kane Shaw Macleod	Daniel Moore Epping
Centre	Andrew Bennett Macleod	Cathal Corr Macleod	Garrett Heenan Whittlesea
Half-Foward	Lionel Proctor Fitzroy Stars	Evan Murray Whittlesea	Nick Lynch Macleod
Forward	Justin Stewart Mernda	Kyl Ewart Macleod	John Hayes Fitzroy Stars
Followers	Phil Doeven Mernda	Luke Jackson Diamond Creek	Brad Hollow Epping
Interchange	Jeremy Page Whittlesea Justin White Macleod	Aaron Willitts Epping Billy Barden Lower Plenty	
Coach	Cristian Brandt Macleod		





# The 2009 Medalists

## Division 3

It will take a long time for Parkside's Robbie Wise to forget 2009. Not only did he take home a premiership medallion and the best on ground medal in the 2009 Division 3 Grand Final, he was also named the Division 3 Best and Fairest for his work during the home-and-away season. It was really the second half of the season where Wise made his move to claim the inaugural award. After 8 rounds he had only recorded five votes, but then went on to score 14 more votes in the last ten rounds. In a season that was dominated by the two Grand Finalists, it was fitting to see that the top three place getters came from Parkside and Hurstbridge, with Callum Pohl coming in second, five votes behind, and Wise's teammate, Sam Mills, finished third. In the Reserves count, Hurstbridge's Scott Macleod was a standout, dominating the competition to win by eight

votes from Reservoir's Nick Gorgievski. In a pretty disappointing year for Heidelberg West, they ended up with the first two finishers in the Division 3 Northern Bullants Coaches' Player of the Year award. The Hawks' youngster, Aidan Young claimed the honour by just the one vote from his teammate, Andrew Stuart, and of course, Parkside's Robbie Wise. The Division 3 Team of the Year had a more even spread of representatives from teams across the ladder than the other two divisions. Premiers, Parkside, had as many players named in the team as second-last finishing Panton Hill - both teams had five recipients, the most of all clubs. Hurstbridge was the next best team with four representatives, while Heidelberg West and Reservoir had three each.



### 2009 NFL Division 3 Best & Fairest

<b>Seniors</b>			
Robbie Wise	Parkside	19 votes	
Callum Pohl	Hurstbridge	14 votes	
Sam Mills	Parkside	13 votes	
<b>Reserves</b>			
Scott Macleod	Hurstbridge	18 votes	
Nick Gorgievski	Reservoir	10 votes	
Rainer Haycraft	Hurstbridge	9 votes	

### 2009 NFL Division 3 Goalkickers

<b>Seniors</b>			
Ben Gill	Panton Hill	63 goals	
<b>Reserves</b>			
Damian Di Lalla	South Morang	54 goals	

### 2009 NFL Division 3 Bullants Coaches' Player of the Year

Aidan Young	Heidelberg West	25 votes
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## 2009 Division 3 Team of the Year

Back	Andrew Stuart Heidelberg West	Joel Baillie Hurstbridge	Michael Richards Hurstbridge
Half-Back	Brad Hockey Parkside	Will Box Panton Hill	Sam Mills Parkside
Centre	Luke Manning South Morang	Luke James Heidelberg West	Danny O'Sullivan Reservoir
Half-Foward	Aidan Young Heidelberg West	Dallas King Parkside	Jason Dowell South Morang
Forward	Justin Whitcher Panton Hill	Ben Gill Panton Hill	Callum Pohl Hurstbridge
Followers	Daniel Pratt Panton Hill	Scott McAuliffe Hurstbridge	Robbie Wise Parkside
Interchange	Ryan Keyes Reservoir	Darren Gresham Parkside	
	Levi Wallace Reservoir	Ben Strongman Panton Hill	
Coach	Peter Dean Parkside		





# 2009 NFL Netball

## Section 1 Finals

### 1st Semi Final

Lakeside (19) def by  
North Heidelberg (39)

### 2nd Semi Final

Macleod (23) def by  
Diamond Creek (37)

### Preliminary Final

Macleod (38) def  
North Heidelberg (31)

### Grand Final

Diamond Creek (32) def by  
Macleod (39)

Best On Court - Kelli Lambert (Macleod)

## Section 2 Finals

### 1st Semi Final

Whittlesea 2 (16) def by  
Mernda B (25)

### 2nd Semi Final

Lalor (28) def  
Epping (15)

### Preliminary Final

Epping (23) def  
Mernda B (18)

### Grand Final

Lalor (33) def  
Epping (19)

Best On Court - Sonia Boots (Lalor)



## Section 1

Team	P	W	L	D	BYE	For	Ag	%	Pts
Macleod	13	14	0	0	2	548	226	242	56
Diamond Creek	12	10	2	0	2	460	276	167	40
Lakeside	14	7	7	0	2	326	409	80	28
North Heidelberg A	14	6	8	0	2	371	376	99	24
Mernda A	14	5	9	0	2	327	472	69	20
Whittlesea 1	13	3	10	0	3	278	351	79	12
Fitzroy Stars 1	14	3	11	0	2	250	420	60	12

## Section 2

Team	P	W	L	D	BYE	For	Ag	%	Pts
Lalor	14	14	0	0	2	395	201	197	56
Epping	13	7	5	1	3	259	239	108	30
Whittlesea 2	13	7	5	1	3	229	218	105	30
Mernda B	14	7	7	0	2	249	245	102	28
Hurstbridge	14	6	7	1	2	229	242	95	26
Fitzroy Stars 2	14	4	9	1	2	222	263	84	18
North Heidelberg B	13	1	12	0	2	129	304	42	4



# The 2009 Medalists

## 2009 NFL Netball Best & Fairest

### Section 1

Bronwyn Taylor Diamond Creek 9 votes

### Reserves

Hannah Richards Hurstbridge 8 votes

Tegan Pohl Hurstbridge 8 votes

Jess Rizio Whittlesea 8 votes

## 2009 NFL Netball Star Shooters

### Section 1

Hailey Grimes Macleod 222 goals

### Section 2

Rhiannon Whitnall Lalor 189 goals







# 2009 Juniors

## Under 10 Blue

### 1st Semi Final

Epping 8.10 (58) def Yarrambat 2.0 (12)

### 2nd Semi Final

Greensborough 9.10 (64) def West Preston 4.4 (28)

### Preliminary Final

West Preston 4.7 (31) def Epping 4.4 (28)

### Grand Final

Greensborough 9.14 (68) def West Preston 5.6 (36)

Team	P	W	L	D	%	Pts
Greensborough	14	14	0	0	434	56
West Preston	14	12	1	0	297	48
Epping	14	11	3	0	249	44
Yarrambat	14	8	6	0	131	32
Whittlesea	14	6	8	0	125	24
Diamond Creek	14	5	8	1	66	22
Eltham	14	4	9	1	54	18
Montmorency	14	2	10	2	43	12

## Under 10 Red

### 1st Semi Final

Mill Park 5.8 (38) def Wallan Magpies 1.5 (11)

### 2nd Semi Final

Northcote 1.4 (10) def by Keon Park 2.2 (14)

### Preliminary Final

Northcote 3.3 (21) def Mill Park 1.0 (6)

### Grand Final

Keon Park 4.6 (30) def by Northcote 13.6 (84)

Team	P	W	L	D	%	Pts
Northcote	14	12	2	0	387	52
Keon Park	13	11	2	0	222	40
Mill Park	14	7	7	0	105	28
Wallan Magpies	14	6	8	0	77	24
Yarrambat	14	6	8	0	68	24
Eltham Red	14	5	9	0	66	20
South Morang Blue	14	4	10	0	65	16
Research	14	2	12	0	23	8

## Under 10 Green

### 1st Semi Final

Wallan 5.3 (33) def Panton Hill 4.3 (27)

### 2nd Semi Final

South Morang Gold 12.4 (76) def Montmorency White 0.2 (2)

### Preliminary Final

Montmorency White 0.1 (1) def by Wallan 3.12 (30)

### Grand Final

South Morang Gold 2.0 (12) def by Wallan 1.7 (13)

Team	P	W	L	D	%	Pts
South Morang Gold	14	12	2	0	307	48
Montmorency White	13	7	6	0	113	28
Wallan	14	7	7	0	123	28
Panton Hill	14	7	7	0	121	28
Hurstbridge	13	1	12	0	19	4
Lalor	13	1	12	0	11	4

## Under 11 Blue

### 1st Semi Final

Greensborough 6.10 (46) def Epping White 4.3 (27)

### 2nd Semi Final

South Morang Blue 11.6 (72) def Diamond Creek 7.6 (48)

### Preliminary Final

Diamond Creek 3.1 (19) def by Greensborough 8.5 (53)

### Grand Final

South Morang Blue 5.1 (31) def Greensborough 2.5 (17)

## Under 11 Red

### 1st Semi Final

Wallan 5.4 (34) def by Montmorency Black 8.6 (54)

### 2nd Semi Final

West Preston 2.4 (16) def by Mill Park 5.6 (36)

### Preliminary Final

West Preston 4.4 (28) def Montmorency Black 4.2 (26)

### Grand Final

Mill Park 2.1 (13) def by West Preston 8.12 (60)

## Under 11 Green

### 1st Semi Final

West Lalor 6.8 (44) def South Morang Maroon 3.1 (19)

### 2nd Semi Final

Hurstbridge 3.3 (21) def by Yarrambat Gold 10.9 (69)

### Preliminary Final

Hurstbridge 3.3 (21) def West Lalor 2.8 (20)

### Grand Final

Yarrambat Gold 4.5 (29) def by Hurstbridge 6.4 (40)

## Under 11 Silver

### 1st Semi Final

Lalor Stars 3.0 (18) def by Whittlesea Gold 2.8 (20)

### 2nd Semi Final

Epping Blue 1.7 (13) def by Mernda 6.9 (45)

### Preliminary Final

Epping Blue 4.6 (30) def Whittlesea Gold 2.5 (17)

### Grand Final

Mernda 3.13 (31) def Epping Blue 1.7 (13)

Team	P	W	L	D	%	Pts
South Morang Blue	14	12	1	1	177	50
Diamond Creek	13	8	4	1	242	34
Greensborough	14	9	5	0	186	36
Epping White	14	9	5	0	136	36

Eltham Blue	14	6	8	0	81	24
Whittlesea Blue	14	3	11	0	58	12

Team	P	W	L	D	%	Pts
West Preston	14	12	2	0	156	48
Mill Park	14	10	4	0	171	40
Wallan	13	6	7	0	63	24
Montmorency Black	14	6	8	0	142	24

Northcote	14	3	11	0	58	12
Research	14	3	11	0	54	12

Team	P	W	L	D	%	Pts
Hurstbridge	13	10	3	0	280	40
Yarrambat Gold	13	10	3	0	164	40
West Lalor	14	9	4	1	175	38
South Morang Maroon	14	9	5	0	189	36
Panton Hill	14	8	6	0	112	32
Preston RSL	14	7	7	0	108	28
Lalor	14	6	7	1	153	26
Greensborough	14	5	9	0	47	20
Eltham Green	14	3	11	0	44	12
South Morang Gold	14	2	12	0	30	8

Team	P	W	L	D	%	Pts
Epping Blue	12	9	3	0	93	32
Mernda	13	9	4	0	229	36
Lalor Stars	13	5	8	0	77	20
Whittlesea Gold	13	5	8	0	73	20

Reservoir	11	4	7	0	83	16
Keon Park	11	4	7	0	66	16
Diamond Creek Red	11	1	10	0	18	4



## Under 12 Blue

### *1st Semi Final*

Greensborough 2.2 (14) def by Diamond Creek 7.5 (47)

### *2nd Semi Final*

Research 4.5 (29) def Yarrambat Gold 3.5 (23)

### *Preliminary Final*

Yarrambat Gold 4.3 (27) def by Diamond Creek 4.9 (33)

### *Grand Final*

Research 7.4 (46) def Diamond Creek 3.6 (24)

Team	P	W	L	D	%	Pts
Research	14	12	2	0	173	48
Yarrambat Gold	14	10	4	0	190	40
Greensborough	14	8	5	1	115	34
Diamond Creek	14	7	6	1	135	30
South Morang Blue	14	4	10	0	73	16
Hurstbridge	14	3	11	0	55	12

## Under 12 Red

### *1st Semi Final*

West Preston 9.8 (62) def Montmorency White 0.7 (7)

### *2nd Semi Final*

Northcote 5.7 (37) def Wallan 1.5 (11)

### *Preliminary Final*

Wallan 5.16 (46) def West Preston 4.5 (29)

### *Grand Final*

Northcote 7.9 (51) def Wallan 5.4 (34)

Team	P	W	L	D	%	Pts
Northcote	13	11	2	0	281	44
Wallan	13	10	3	0	256	40
West Preston	14	10	4	0	182	40
Montmorency White	14	7	7	0	85	28
Montmorency Black	14	4	10	0	54	16
Eltham Blue	14	1	13	0	41	4

## Under 12 Green

### *1st Semi Final*

Epping 6.3 (39) def Whittlesea 2.1 (13)

### *2nd Semi Final*

Panton Hill 2.1 (13) def by Greensborough 3.12 (30)

### *Preliminary Final*

Panton Hill 2.9 (21) def by Epping 4.6 (30)

### *Grand Final*

Greensborough 6.9 (45) def Epping 3.6 (24)

Team	P	W	L	D	%	Pts
Panton Hill	12	8	4	0	154	32
Greensborough	12	8	4	0	125	32
Epping	13	8	5	0	180	32
Whittlesea	12	6	5	1	133	26
South Morang Gold	13	3	9	1	69	14
Yarrambat Brown	12	3	9	0	39	12
Eltham Red	12	1	11	0	11	4



## Under 13 Blue

### *1st Semi Final*

Yarrambat Brown 11.12 (78) def Montmorency Black 4.2 (26)

### *2nd Semi Final*

Eltham Blue 10.9 (69) def South Morang Blue 6.2 (38)

### *Preliminary Final*

South Morang Blue 3.4 (22) def by Yarrambat Brown 5.11 (41)

### *Grand Final*

Eltham Blue 10.13 (73) def Yarrambat Brown 4.5 (29)

## Under 13 Red

### *1st Semi Final*

Epping Blue 6.8 (44) def by Greensborough 9.7 (61)

### *2nd Semi Final*

Mill Park 8.6 (54) def Montmorency White 7.1 (43)

### *Preliminary Final*

Montmorency White 0.3 (3) def by Greensborough 3.4 (22)

### *Grand Final*

Mill Park 8.7 (55) def Greensborough 7.10 (52)

## Under 13 Green

### *1st Semi Final*

Yarrambat Gold 11.17 (83) def Reservoir 0.3 (3)

### *2nd Semi Final*

Northcote 7.9 (51) def Keon Park 1.6 (12)

### *Preliminary Final*

Keon Park 3.5 (23) def by Yarrambat Gold 5.7 (37)

### *Grand Final*

Northcote 6.5 (41) def by Yarrambat Gold 6.15 (51)

## Under 13 Silver

### *1st Semi Final*

South Morang Gold 10.9 (69) def Epping White 1.8 (14)

### *2nd Semi Final*

North Heidelberg 9.7 (61) def West Lalor 4.12 (36)

### *Preliminary Final*

West Lalor 9.7 (61) def South Morang Gold 3.3 (21)

### *Grand Final*

North Heidelberg 13.8 (86) def West Lalor 11.10 (76)

Team	P	W	L	D	%	Pts
Eltham Blue	14	11	3	0	268	44
South Morang Blue	14	11	3	0	184	44
Yarrambat Brown	14	10	4	0	156	40
Montmorency Black	14	7	7	0	103	28
Hurstbridge	14	6	8	0	103	24
Mill Park	14	3	11	0	53	12

Team	P	W	L	D	%	Pts
Mill Park	14	13	1	0	304	52
Montmorency White	14	10	4	0	183	40
Epping Blue	14	8	6	0	118	32
Greensborough	14	8	6	0	109	32
Whittlesea	14	8	6	0	109	32
Wallan	14	5	9	0	81	20
West Preston	14	5	9	0	57	20
Diamond Creek	14	4	10	0	61	16
Research	14	4	10	0	57	16
Preston RSL	14	3	11	0	53	12

Team	P	W	L	D	%	Pts
Northcote	14	13	1	0	364	52
Keon Park	14	10	4	0	181	40
Yarrambat Gold	13	9	4	0	205	36
Reservoir	13	3	10	0	28	12
Lalor	14	3	11	0	52	12
Eltham Red	14	3	11	0	47	12

Team	P	W	L	D	%	Pts
North Heidelberg	10	6	4	0	134	24
West Lalor	12	7	5	0	142	28
South Morang Gold	11	5	6	0	105	20
Epping White	11	3	8	0	24	12
Lalor Stars	12	3	9	0	61	12



## Under 14 Blue

### *1st Semi Final*

Greensborough 24.18 (162) def West Preston 7.4 (46)

### *2nd Semi Final*

Eltham 10.9 (69) def South Morang Blue 9.4 (58)

### *Preliminary Final*

South Morang Blue 8.9 (57) def Greensborough 3.10 (28)

### *Grand Final*

Eltham 13.13 (91) def South Morang Blue 7.11 (53)

Team	P	W	L	D	%	Pts
Eltham	14	12	2	0	252	48
South Morang Blue	14	10	3	1	134	42
Greensborough	14	9	4	1	149	38
West Preston	14	7	7	0	168	28
Epping	14	7	7	0	126	28
Research	14	3	11	0	50	12

## Under 14 Red

### *1st Semi Final*

Yarrambat 7.7 (49) def Northcote 3.12 (30)

### *2nd Semi Final*

Whittlesea 11.6 (72) def Mill Park 6.9 (45)

### *Preliminary Final*

Mill Park 9.15 (69) def Yarrambat 6.3 (39)

### *Grand Final*

Whittlesea 15.9 (99) def Mill Park 8.10 (58)

Team	P	W	L	D	%	Pts
Whittlesea	14	12	2	0	185	48
Mill Park	14	9	5	0	120	36
Yarrambat	13	6	7	0	105	24
Northcote	13	5	8	0	95	20
Diamond Creek	14	5	9	0	56	20
Montmorency	14	2	12	0	48	8

## Under 14 Green

### *1st Semi Final*

South Morang Gold 2.3 (15) def by Greensborough White 4.11 (35)

### *2nd Semi Final*

Hurstbridge 14.11 (95) def Wallan 4.8 (32)

### *Preliminary Final*

Wallan 9.7 (61) def Greensborough White 4.5 (29)

### *Grand Final*

Hurstbridge 19.12 (126) def Wallan 11.6 (72)

Team	P	W	L	D	%	Pts
Hurstbridge	12	9	3	0	201	36
Wallan	12	7	5	0	130	28
South Morang Gold	12	5	6	0	53	20
Greensborough White	12	2	10	0	67	8
Eltham Red	12	1	10	0	24	4

## Under 15 Blue

### *1st Semi Final*

West Preston 10.20 (80) def Mill Park 7.7 (49)

### *2nd Semi Final*

Eltham Blue 16.10 (106) def Research 8.9 (57)

### *Preliminary Final*

Research 6.8 (44) def by West Preston 12.6 (78)

### *Grand Final*

Eltham Blue 21.20 (146) def West Preston 13.11 (89)

Team	P	W	L	D	%	Pts
Eltham Blue	14	11	3	0	333	44
Research	14	11	3	0	214	44
West Preston	14	8	6	0	123	32
Mill Park	13	7	6	0	98	28
Epping	14	6	8	0	97	24
Greensborough	14	2	12	0	29	8

## Under 15 Red

### *1st Semi Final*

Yarrambat 10.9 (69) def by Whittlesea 13.3 (81)

### *2nd Semi Final*

Hurstbridge 12.3 (75) def Wallan 8.10 (58)

### *Preliminary Final*

Wallan 10.4 (64) def by Whittlesea 13.8 (86)

### *Grand Final*

Hurstbridge 16.17 (113) def Whittlesea 6.6 (42)

Team	P	W	L	D	%	Pts
Hurstbridge	13	11	2	0	167	44
Wallan	14	11	3	0	199	44
Yarrambat	14	10	4	0	179	40
Whittlesea	14	7	7	0	78	28
South Morang Blue	14	4	10	0	87	16
Diamond Creek	14	0	14	0	28	0

## Under 15 Green

### *1st Semi Final*

Research 5.8 (38) def by Montmorency 6.15 (51)

### *2nd Semi Final*

West Lalor 19.19 (133) def Lalor Stars 4.6 (30)

### *Preliminary Final*

Lalor Stars 5.6 (36) def by Montmorency 7.11 (53)

### *Grand Final*

West Lalor 19.29 (143) def Montmorency 11.8 (74)

Team	P	W	L	D	%	Pts
West Lalor	14	14	0	0	289	56
Lalor Stars	14	9	5	0	100	36
Research	13	8	5	0	130	32
Montmorency	13	6	7	0	86	24
Preston RSL	13	6	7	0	80	24
Eltham	13	3	10	0	62	12
Keon Park	13	2	11	0	62	8
Lalor	13	0	13	0	24	0





## Under 17 Blue

### 1st Semi Final

Research 6.9 (45) def Yarrambat 8.6 (54)

### 2nd Semi Final

Greensborough 9.8 (62) def Montmorency 3.7 (25)

### Preliminary Final

Montmorency 9.15 (69) def Yarrambat 4.4 (28)

### Grand Final

Greensborough 9.12 (66) def Montmorency 10.5 (65)

## Under 17 Red

### 1st Semi Final

Hurstbridge 6.7 (43) def by Wallan 13.5 (83)

### 2nd Semi Final

North Heidelberg 11.4 (70) def by South Morang Gold 11.6 (72)

### Preliminary Final

North Heidelberg 10.11 (71) def Wallan 11.3 (69)

### Grand Final

South Morang Gold 10.10 (70) def North Heidelberg 6.11 (47)

## Under 17 Green

### 1st Semi Final

Lalor Stars 9.14 (68) def Lalor 2.8 (20)

### 2nd Semi Final

Greensborough 9.9 (63) def Preston RSL 5.9 (39)

### Preliminary Final

Preston RSL 7.16 (58) def Lalor Stars 7.15 (57)

### Grand Final

Greensborough 10.10 (70) def Preston RSL 6.11 (47)

## Under 17 Silver

### 1st Semi Final

Yarrambat Gold 7.11 (53) def Northcote 8.4 (52)

### 2nd Semi Final

Research 13.11 (89) def West Preston 11.7 (73)

### Preliminary Final

West Preston 11.7 (73) def Yarrambat Gold 7.15 (57)

### Grand Final

Research 15.6 (96) def West Preston 10.13 (73)

Team	P	W	L	D	%	Pts
Greensborough	14	13	1	0	285	52
Montmorency	14	11	3	0	166	44
Research	14	10	4	0	123	40
Yarrambat	14	8	6	0	104	32
Mill Park	14	6	8	0	77	24
Eltham Blue	14	4	10	0	79	16
Whittlesea	14	4	10	0	51	16
West Preston	14	3	11	0	79	12

Team	P	W	L	D	%	Pts
North Heidelberg	14	12	2	0	151	48
South Morang Gold	14	9	5	0	132	36
Hurstbridge	14	8	6	0	110	32
Wallan	14	7	7	0	164	28
Diamond Creek	14	6	8	0	100	24
Epping	14	3	11	0	77	12

Team	P	W	L	D	%	Pts
Greensborough	13	12	0	0	236	48
Preston RSL	13	8	5	0	159	32
Lalor Stars	12	6	6	0	146	24
Lalor	13	6	7	0	86	24
Northcote	12	5	7	0	77	20
West Lalor	12	1	11	0	29	4
Keon Park	13	0	13	0	37	0

Team	P	W	L	D	%	Pts
Research	14	14	0	0	270	56
West Preston	14	11	3	0	259	44
Yarrambat Gold	13	7	6	0	121	28
Northcote	14	6	8	0	100	24
Epping	13	5	8	0	65	20
Montmorency White	14	5	9	0	83	20
Whittlesea	14	4	10	0	64	16
Eltham Green	13	1	12	0	23	4



## The 2009 Medalists

### Juniors

### 2009 NFL Junior Best & Fairests

#### Under 17 Blue

Ben Buller

Lucas Williams

Scott Conte

#### Under 17 Red

Jake Lemin

Kevin Koomson

Ben Fennell

#### Under 17 Green

Michael Hernandez

Anthony Roberts

Christopher Spencer

#### Under 17 Silver

Jake Paterson

Thomas McEwan

Ryan Boyden

#### Under 15 Blue

Joshua Totino

Taylor Tangas

Nathan Andrews

#### Under 15 Red

Ben Schraven

Jay Barbera

Hayden Taylor

#### Under 15 Green

Adrian Natoli

Rhys Gardener

Chris Harris

#### Brent Harvey Trophy

Research 29 votes

Greensborough 16 votes

Greensborough 16 votes

#### Brent Harvey Trophy

South Morang 23 votes

South Morang 15 votes

Hurstbridge 12 votes

#### Brent Harvey Trophy

Northcote 15 votes

Lalor 12 votes

Lalor 11 votes

#### Brent Harvey Trophy

Research 19 votes

Yarrambat 19 votes

Research 13 votes

#### Simon Prestigiacomo Trophy

Epping 23 votes

West Preston 15 votes

Mill Park 14 votes

#### Simon Prestigiacomo Trophy

Wallan 28 votes

Hurstbridge 22 votes

Hurstbridge 19 votes

#### Simon Prestigiacomo Trophy

West Lalor 32 votes

Preston RSL 19 votes

Montmorency 18 votes

#### Under 14 Blue

Adrian Ramani

Jake Kalanj

Josh Abdulhadi

#### Under 14 Red

Ned McKeown

Jayden Imbriano

Mark Cardamone

#### Under 14 Green

Tom Keys

Hayden Pham

Joel Bramble

#### Under 13 Blue

Callum Jenkins

James Reid

Christian Janev

#### Under 13 Red

Jake Francis

Nicholas MacKay

Ricky Schraven

#### Under 13 Green

Lachlan Boscarini

Jesses Ieraci

Brendan Murray

#### Under 13 Silver

Brenton Odza

Makhoul Zakkour

Brad McNeil

#### Jack Grimes Trophy

South Morang 23 votes

Eltham 20 votes

Epping 19 votes

#### Jack Grimes Trophy

Yarrambat 20 votes

Whittlesea 18 votes

Mill Park 15 votes

#### Jack Grimes Trophy

Hurstbridge 18 votes

South Morang 13 votes

Hurstbridge 11 votes

#### David Zaharakis Trophy

Hurstbridge 26 votes

Eltham 22 votes

Mill Park 20 votes

#### David Zaharakis Trophy

Montmorency 30 votes

Greensborough 29 votes

Wallan 25 votes

#### David Zaharakis Trophy

Northcote 34 votes

Northcote 25 votes

Keon Park 23 votes

#### David Zaharakis Trophy

West Lalor 17 votes

Lalor Stars 15 votes

North Heidelberg 12 votes







# Metro Championships

## Under 14 Division 1

### Round 1

<b>MSJFL</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>9.4</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>12.14(86)</b>
<b>NFL</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>6.9(45)</b>

**Best:** MSJFL - M. Neiwand, C. Salem, N. Freeman, M. Hayes, J. Kelly, C. Macleod  
NFL - J. Imbriano, N. McKeown, J. Kalanj, T. Hughes, L. Hunt, J. Doherty

**Goals:** MSJFL - C. Salem 5, J. Kelly 2, M. Hayes 2, L. Howes, N. Lewis, A. Brayshaw  
NFL - D. Dukic 2, L. Hunt, J. Kalanj, J. Doherty, N. McKeown

### Round 2

<b>NFL</b>	<b>15.10(100)</b>
<b>WRFL</b>	<b>6.7(43)</b>

**Best:** NFL - B. Almatrah, N. McKeown, J. Rizzolio, M. Cardamone, J. Russell, L. Wain  
WRFL - M. Norton, B. Jago, M. Kip, J. Robinson, H. Azzopardi, M. Huckstepp

**Goals:** NFL - B. Almatrah 6, J. Abdulhadi 2, N. McKeown, J. Kalanj, M. Vincitorio, M. Cardamone, J. Perry, D. Dukic, L. Hunt  
WRFL - L. D'Arcy, B. Jago, D. Sloman, D. Taulafo, N. Jones, T. Cooper

### Round 3

<b>YJFL</b>	<b>10.7(67)</b>
<b>NFL</b>	<b>2.2(14)</b>

**Best:** YJFL - D. Tomat, B. Lennon, B. Strathmore, J. Billings, H. Curnow, R. Cleaver  
NFL - J. Rizzolio, J. Abdulhadi, J. Kalanj, J. Doherty, D. Dukic, B. Smith

**Goals:** YJFL - T. Havers 3, D. Tomat 2, J. Sinclair 2, J. Billings, T. Cutler, B. Lennon  
NFL - L. Hunt, B. Almatrah



## Under 14 Division 2

### Round 1

<b>DDJFL</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>5.8(38)</b>
<b>NFL</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>12.10(82)</b>

**Best:** DDJFL - S. Fricot, Z. Hunter, Z. Peazold, J. Keel-Sheehan, D. Anderson, N. Bacon  
NFL - J. Turner, J. Bertagni, M. Langford, D. Battenally, B. Jones

**Goals:** DDJFL - C. Haldane, D. Gawley, S. Fricot, J. West, R. Mills-Franklin  
NFL - M. Sacco 2, L. Harrison 2, A. Condello, N. Di Santo, A. Mokbel, T. Keys, B. Waugh, N. Sleep, J. McRostie, N. Smith

### Round 3

<b>NFL</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>9.3</b>	<b>10.3(63)</b>
<b>YJFL</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>9.3(57)</b>

**Best:** NFL - J. McRostie, A. Condello, N. Smith, N. Di Santo, M. Langford, L. Pender  
YJFL - N/A

**Goals:** NFL - N/A  
YJFL - N/A

### Round 2

<b>NFL</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>5.11</b>	<b>7.12(54)</b>
<b>WRFL</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>4.10</b>	<b>8.13(61)</b>

**Best:** NFL - A. Miceli, J. Ward, L. Harrison, M. Hughes, B. Fox, A. Condello  
WRFL - R. Mesiti, C. Utri, S. Maitland, M. Maglogiannis, A. Court, J. Blake

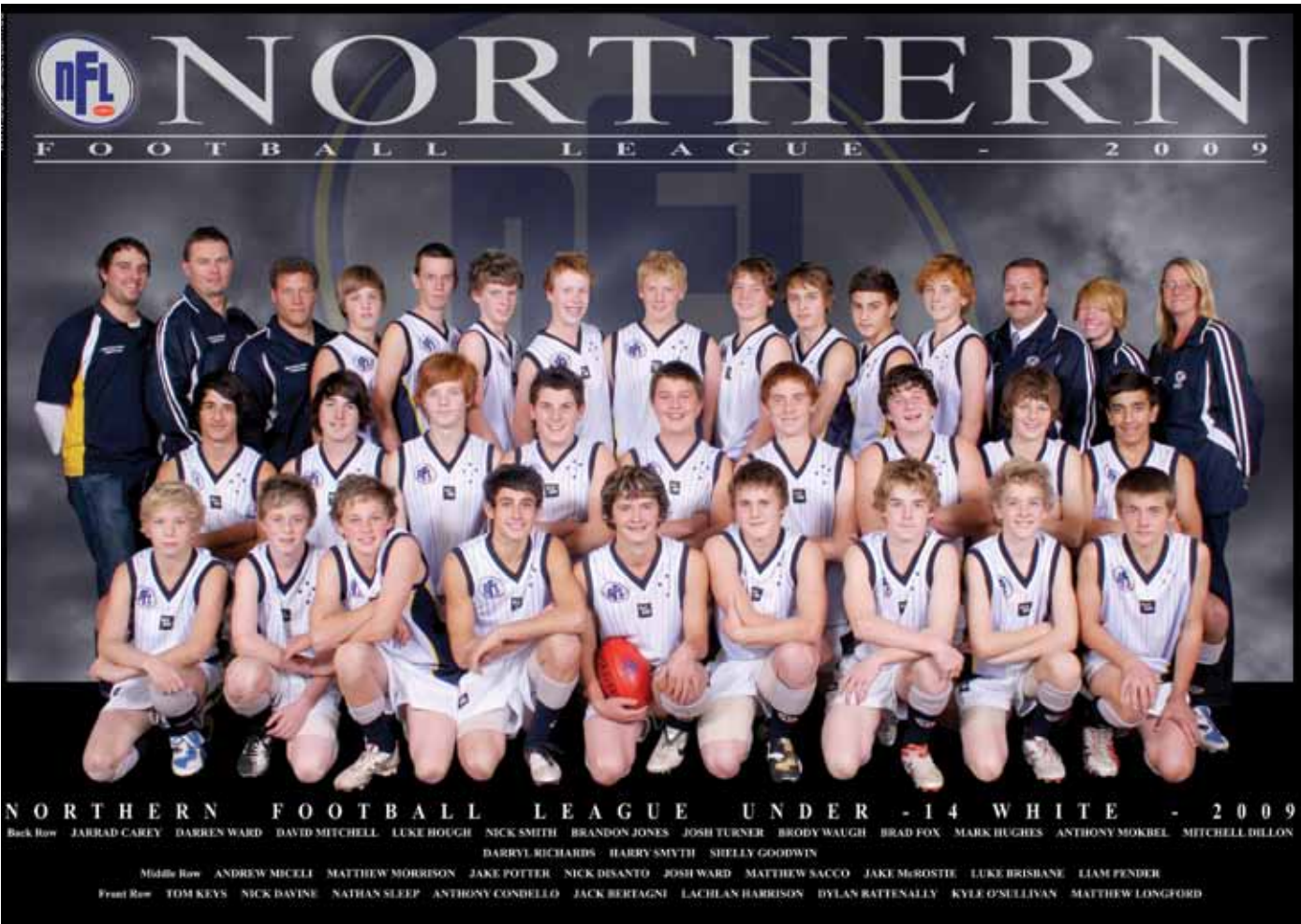
**Goals:** NFL - N. Di Santo 2, A. Miceli 2, M. Sacco, M. Langford, B. Waugh  
WRFL - A. Farcus 3, C. Utri 2, A. Court, L. McMahon, L. Knight

### Grand Final

<b>EFL</b>	<b>16.14(110)</b>
<b>NFL</b>	<b>4.8(32)</b>

**Best:** EFL - M. Honeychurch, B. Lee, D. Jamieson, F. Kavanagh, J. Belo, J. Partier  
NFL - N/A

**Goals:** EFL - M. Honeychurch 5, J. Partier 3, J. Crowe 2, J. Le Fleur 2, B. Lee, R. Lehmann, B. Cavarra, D. McStay  
NFL - N/A





Under 15 Division 1

Round 1

MSJFL	3.3	8.4	11.5	15.5(95)
NFL	2.3	4.6	8.8	10.9(69)

**Best:** MSJFL - J. McKee A. Woltering, O. Woods, T. Quinn, J. O’Riley, J. Wilson  
NFL - P. Dempsey, N. Vlastuin, J. Philpott, J. Totino, A. Flannagan, A. Natoli

**Goals:** MSJFL - T. Crampton 3, B. Schubert 2, T. Quinn 2, M. Barnes 2, L. Gallop 2, A. Whalebone 2, T. Perkin, J. Ward  
NFL - J. Philpott 4, T. Tangas 3, B. Lee , N. Byatt , J. Totino

Round 2

NFL	4.4	7.8	9.9	13.12(90)
WRFL	2.1	3.3	8.4	8.6(54)

**Best:** NFL - J. Simpson, M. Bullock, J. Totino, N. Vlastuin, B. Lee, J. Van Wynen  
WRFL - S. White, K. O’Shea, C. O’Flaherty, J. Cook, C. Matheson, L. Hunter

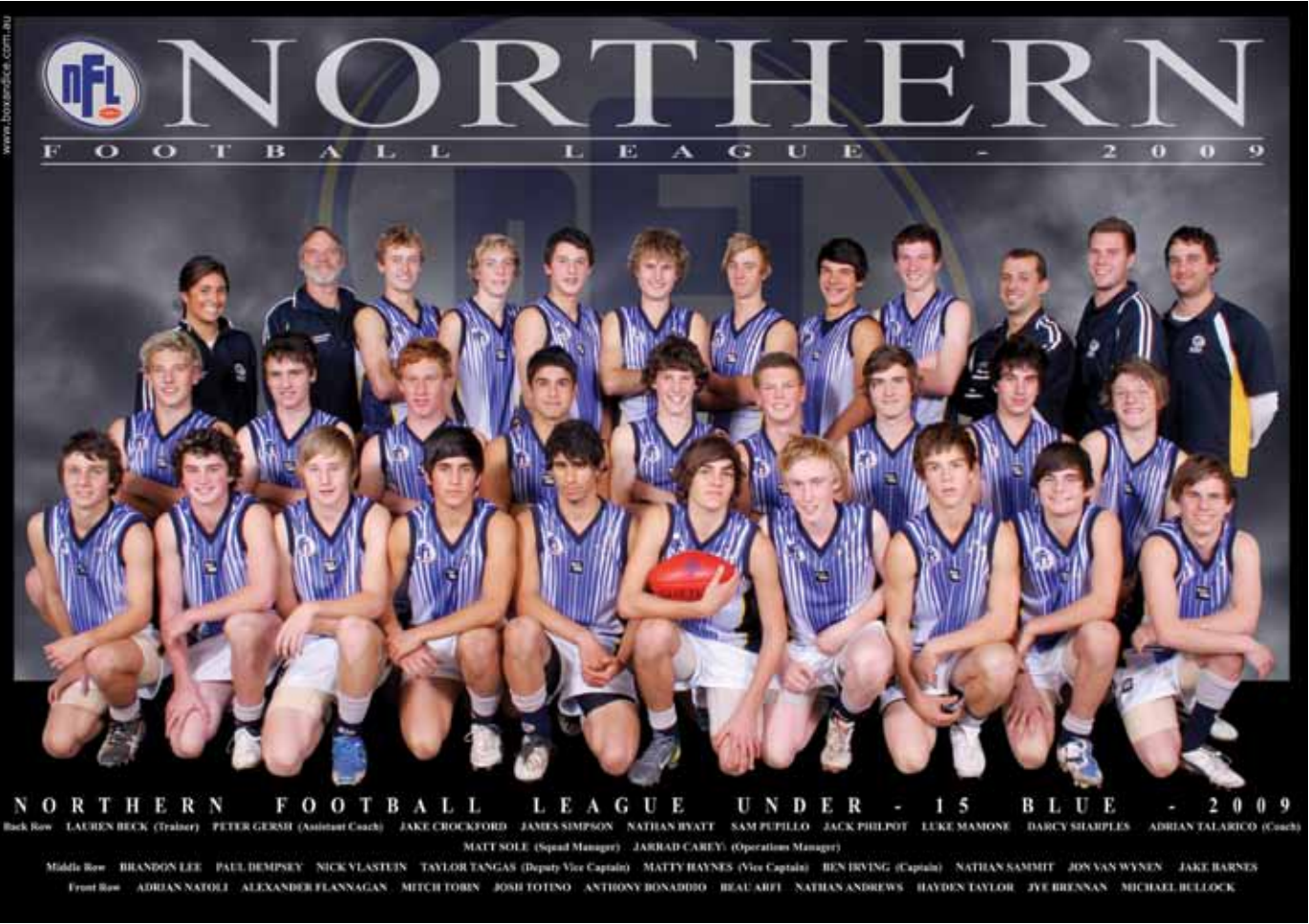
**Goals:** NFL - M. Bullock 3, T. Tangas 3, J. Philpott 2, B. Irving. 2, J. Totino , A. Natoli , S. Pupillo  
WRFL - S. White 4, C. Matheson 2, L. Hunter , C. O’Flaherty

Round 3

YJFL	6.1	9.1	13.3	16.6(102)
NFL	2.1	5.5	9.7	13.8(86)

**Best:** YJFL - N/A  
NFL - N. Vlastuin, J. Philpott, T. Tangas, J. Totino, M. Bullock, J. Van Wynen

**Goals:** YJFL - N/A  
NFL - T. Tangas 5, A. Natoli 3, N. Vlastuin , M. Bullock , T. Laver , J. Totino , L. Mamone , D. Sharples , J. Philpott , H. Taylor



Under 15 Division 2

Round 1

MSJFL	3.1	6.1	9.4	12.5(77)
NFL	4.1	8.2	10.3	16.5(101)

**Best:** MSJFL - J. Manning, A. Burstin, S. Guiney, C. Mangoni, O. Persson  
NFL - R. Andrews, A. Ioannidis, T. Groom, B. Hooper, J. Wright, H. Love

**Goals:** MSJFL - J. Manning 6, N. Zielinski 2, A. Deneys , C. Mangoni , M. O’Donnell , B. McLean  
NFL - T. Groom 8, N. Kenyon-Smith 2, G. Galatopoulos 2, T. Eldrett 2, D. Vallance , J. Khalil

Round 3

YJFL	8.9(57)
NFL	7.2(44)

**Best:** YJFL - R. Exon, J. Riteski, N. Melitsis, A. Ongarello, C. Jones, O. Tsorbaris  
NFL - A. Ioannidis, N. Kenyon-Smith, B. Hooper, J. Wright, T. Grimes., R. Andrews

**Goals:** YJFL - J. Riteski 3, O. Tsorbaris 2, J. Ballard , J. Midgley , N. Gillies  
NFL - N. Kenyon-Smith , J. Barbera. , G. Galatopoulos , D. Vallance , T. Groom , H. Love , D. Scott

Round 2

NFL	11.16(82)
WRFL	10.8(68)

**Best:** NFL - M. Mahony, B. Hooper, J. Barbera., J. Densley, A. Ioannidis, J. Wright  
WRFL - M. Secoulidis, R. Kitchen, J. Harvey, R. Panetas, A. Bevanda, M. Zahraman

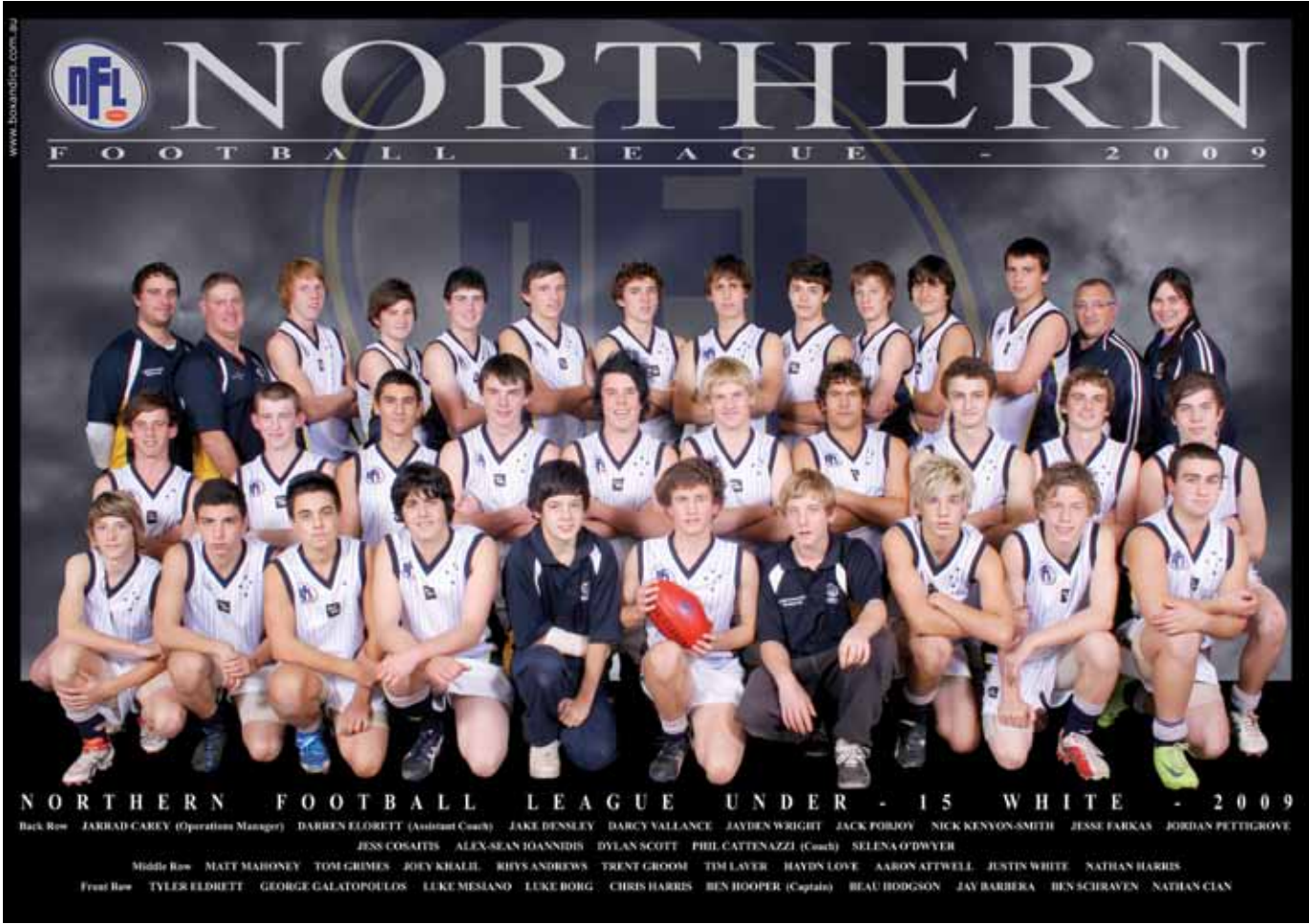
**Goals:** NFL - J. Wright 3, T. Groom 3, G. Galatopoulos 2, N. Kenyon-Smith , B. Schraven , T. Eldrett  
WRFL - M. Secoulidis 6, R. Panetas , J. Shaw , A. Poland , D. Diab

Grand Final

YJFL	3.0	6.4	7.6	12.7(79)
NFL	4.4	6.7	9.11	10.12(72)

**Best:** YJFL - M. Bertacco, H. Manaras, T. Bergin, S. Kennedy, R. Exon, M. Smith  
NFL - N/A

**Goals:** YJFL - S. Kennedy 4, J. Riteski 3, T. Bergin , O. Tsorbaris , N. Melitsis , M. Bertacco , A. Corr  
NFL - N/A







# 2009 AFL Victoria & NFL

## Fair Game ~ Respect & Responsibility

'Fair Game' is a tool to help clubs put the AFL Respect and Responsibility Policy into practice.

A 'Respect and Responsibility' club should:

- Commit to looking at how the club works on and off the field
- Identify areas for change
- Communicate the message
- Address issues
- Promote and abide by the values of the AFL, NFL and the Club.

Football clubs are an important part of Australian society and thus need to be safe, supportive and an inclusive environment for women.

### OVER 30 CLUBS NOW IMPLEMENTING 'FAIR GAME: RESPECT MATTERS' IN NFL

The training of Club Drivers to implement the Fair Game: Respect Matters program in the Northern Football League has now been completed, with thirty-three clubs making a commitment to reducing violence against women in their communities.

Drivers have been working closely with club management to help identify areas within their club that have an impact on how supported and included women and girls feel in the football environment. For many clubs, the beginnings of this lie in having solid club processes and policies that are effectively communicated throughout their club community.

Many clubs are now rewriting, or publishing codes of conduct, not only for player behaviour, but also that of general and committee members, as well as team officials and coaches.

West Preston set themselves the goal of achieving Gold status in AFL Victoria's Quality Club Program, which would make them only the second club in Victoria to do so. Achieving such status would mean they need to demonstrate outstanding club management practices.

Many clubs have implemented female supporter groups, or have simply ensured that facilities such as the female toilets are well lit, clean and inviting. The focus on creating family-friendly environments in clubs has been

well noted, with some initiatives introducing family nights and children's play rooms into clubs.

Clubs such as Montmorency Juniors and Eltham are keen to mentor women and girls into coaching and umpiring roles.

Whilst many of these initiatives are small changes to existing practices, collectively they will contribute to the large cultural shift required to reduce violence against women and its impact on the community.

### CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to all NFL Clubs who have been involved in the Fair Game – Respect and Responsibility Program launched in early 2009.

Over three-quarters of the NFL clubs are focused on providing a safe, inclusive and more respectful environment for women to be involved in our football clubs.

Families want their children to enjoy footy and not be bullied. With 'National White Ribbon Day' arriving shortly, the message delivered to clubs is also about prevention of violence against women.

A number of ideas and goals have already been adopted by clubs, and we hope that this continues in 2010 and beyond.



Drivers of NFL Clubs have presented the following ideas and statements at these meetings:

- Pathway between junior and senior club is great now – relationship is strong
- Senior players are attending junior functions
- Scholarship program – Junior Club donates money to player from Junior Club who plays seniors (criteria – 2 senior games)
- The two committees are different, but Junior President is on the Senior Committee
- Working with Cricket Club to form a United Group
- New committee coming through need to be familiar with Respect and Responsibility program
- Love the 'Respect and Responsibility' program and fully supportive
- Will be asking for women to apply for Coaching a male team in 2010
- Code of conduct – Parents/Players Coaches, needs to be redesigned into a booklet
- Parent behaviour in newsletter
- Sponsor kids that play seniors from the junior club
- Pride itself on Family Club – have a number of women involved with the club
- Sponsors 'Breast Cancer Launch', and wants to be a part of future 'White Ribbon' campaigns.
- Now have a female committee member and are looking to build
- Medium term goal is to set up a mentoring system with the younger players
- Have started a Netball Team and presented them with their uniforms at a Football presentation night. Loved the idea of announcing the Netball Team after Football Training on a Thursday night – ensure all players stay longer at the Club on Thursdays and promote more women and girls in the Netball and Football club

- Need to promote their club as much as possible. Respect and Responsibility, Bronze Level, etc... are a necessity
- Have a senior liaison officer between junior and senior club
- All top age colts will train with seniors and parents are invited to the meals. This went ahead in 2008 with over 25 kids and 45 parents
- Long term – Colts targeted to seniors, parents involved (potential sponsors as a result)
- Secretary, social secretary both female
- Netball team is achieving great results (currently top of the ladder). Long term goals include having 2 netball sides and eventually having both teams read out after football training on a Thursday night
- Part of medium goals will be to up skill coaches further by providing additional training, expertise, contemporary training in different areas of leadership, role of coach, youth etc...
- Have increased connection with Senior Club and working on methods to get together and further develop the club (long term goal)
- Will be placing a suggestion box on website regarding the Respect and Responsibility program
- Always regarded as a family club
- Netball team held the banner for teams in the finals to run through
- Have sponsored the netball club with uniforms etc...
- Set up a workshop at end of season
- Work toward gold level
- Induction for new drivers
- Permanent agenda items for committee meetings
- Big Footy Forum – Only open to Respect and Responsibility clubs
- Leadership training with (leadership group)
- Presentation night combined with Netball Club







# 2009 AFL Victoria & NFL

## Quality Club Accreditation

The concept of the Quality Club Program is to provide an opportunity for all community football clubs in Victoria to achieve a minimum standard of club administration and to recognise and reward clubs for achieving the base standard through to standards of excellence.

Congratulations to all clubs in the NFL who have now become the first League in Victoria to have every Club achieve a minimum of Bronze Level. All clubs are proudly representing the NFL, and make it the one of the most successful Leagues in the Vic Metro area.

It would now be great if Clubs try and achieve the next level in 2010. Well done again.

### Gold Accreditation

#### Senior Clubs

West Preston-Lakeside FC

### Silver Accreditation

#### Senior Clubs

Fitzroy Stars FC

West Preston-Lakeside FC

#### Junior Clubs

Greensborough JFC  
Lalor Stars JFC

Northcote JFC

### Bronze Accreditation

#### Senior Clubs

Montmorency FC  
Parkside FC  
West Preston-Lakeside FC  
Hurstbridge FC  
Greensborough FC  
Fitzroy Stars FC  
Reservoir FC  
North Heidelberg FC  
Eltham FC  
Northcote Park FC  
Thomastown FC  
Heidelberg FC  
Diamond Creek FC

#### Junior Clubs

Whittlesea JFC  
Montmorency JFC  
Wallan JFC  
Mernda JFC  
Diamond Creek JFC  
Lalor Bloods JFC  
South Morang JFC  
West Lalor JFC

St Mary's SFC  
Heidelberg West FC  
Lalor FC  
Panton Hill FC  
Watsonia FC  
Epping FC  
Mernda FC  
South Morang FC  
Bundoora FC  
Lower Plenty FC  
Macleod FC  
Whittlesea FC



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Greensborough Vic 3088

# AFCA Coach of the Year

## Northern Region

On Wednesday 2nd September, the Northern Region held its annual Coach of the Year Evening at Ballara Receptions in Eltham. The gala evening was attended by over 150 people including special guests from AFL Victoria including Peter McDougall (Community Development Manager), Mick Stinear (State Auskick Manager), Steve Teakel (Coaching Development Manager), Nick Hatzoglou (Multicultural Development Manager) and Lawrie Woodman (Manager of Coaching, Umpiring and Volunteers).

There was also strong representation from the Northern Football League, Yarra Junior Football League, Northern Bullants, Impact Football Solutions and the Northern AFCA committee.

A major program in the NFL, 2009 has been our Respect and Responsibility Program. We were very fortunate to have the services of Stacey Cross present the female awards. Stacey presently coaches the Diamond Creek Youth Girls Team, played for Vic Metro this year and was also All Australian. We appreciate her availability to present this award.

We congratulate all the nominees from the Northern Football League across the following categories, with special mention to the winners who have been highlighted.

### Senior

Peter Bugden - Whittlesea  
Cristian Brandt - Macleod  
Phil Maylin - Bundoora  
Mario Bandera - Lower Plenty

### Youth

Tony Norris - St Marys Greensborough JFC  
Con Glouftsis - St Marys Greensborough JFC  
Darren Boulton - Montmorency  
George Wakim - Preston Bullants  
Phil Howe - Banyule  
Damian D'Amore - St Marys Greensborough JFC

### Auskick

Leighton Lewis - Diamond Creek  
Michael Polis - East Ivanhoe  
Geoff Rolfe - Diamond Creek  
Mark Whitelock - Diamond Creek  
Mark Allen - Whittlesea  
Len O'Loughlin - Heidelberg

### Female

Elizabeth Stuart - Diamond Creek  
Heather Step - Heidelberg



## Boulton AFL Victoria Youth Coach of the Year

The Northern Football League would like to congratulate Montmorency JFC Under 17 Blue coach, Darren Boulton, on receiving the 2009 AFL Victoria Youth Coach of the Year.

Boulton, who had previously won the 2009 AFCA Northern Region Youth Coach of the Year, received the highest Victorian state coaching accolade at a gala dinner at the MCG on November 6.

In a celebrated season, Boulton guided his team to a Grand Final appearance, and although his team eventually went down by one point to Greensborough, he emphasised in his acceptance speech that winning the premiership wasn't the most important thing.

"That is not what junior football is about," said Boulton. "It is about developing players and enjoying the experience of playing footy."





# Communities Working Together

The Northern Football League's charity of choice for the 2009 season was EPIC (Education Program for Infants & Children).

EPIC is a major provider in Victoria of specialised teaching and therapy for young children with developmental disabilities, particularly children with autism and Down syndrome.

The EPIC Centre is located in the grounds of RMIT, Plenty Road, Bundoora, and provides services for 100+ children up to six years of age and their families.

EPIC was founded in 1976 to cater for the concerns and needs of infants and young children with disabilities and their families. Each family has a personalised program which can include early intervention teaching, speech pathology, psychology, physiotherapy, occupational therapies, home visits, parent education and support, plus support in community settings.

EPIC receives limited Government support plus parent fees, but 50% of the cost of running the EPIC Centre and Program needs to be raised from the community.

The league assisted in raising awareness of EPIC's strive to receive further funding and assistance, as well as organising fundraising activities for the Centre throughout the 2009 season.

The inaugural Northern Football League Charity Golf Day took place on Friday, May 22nd at the Yarrambat Golf Course.

Groups comprising of league clubs, sponsors, staff, board members, umpires, VFL affiliates and local councils took part in the day, and an enjoyable day was had by all involved.

The Northern Football League is delighted to have raised over \$2,500 for the EPIC Centre over the course of 2009 and would like to thank everyone who donated.



## Communities Working Together

In response to the devastating bushfires that swept through northern Melbourne on the 7th of February 2009, the Northern Football League organised a Bushfire Appeal Day to help raise funds and give a slight distraction for those people affected by the fires.

The event was originally scheduled to be held at the Whittlesea Showgrounds, but due to the on going relief effort, it was moved to Barling Reserve, Reservoir on the 22nd of February.

An estimated crowd of 10,000 poured through the gates over the course of the day, to help raise a total of \$62,358 for the Bushfire Appeal.

The feature of the day was an East versus West exhibition football match played between representatives from all NFL clubs. Along with many of the league's stars, guest appearances from former AFL players, such as Anthony Koutoufides, Ang Christou, David Teague and Angelo Lekkas, added to the excitement of the game.

Other main attractions included a 20/20 cricket match between North Metro Cricket representatives, a stunt display by the FMX motocross riders, family stalls hosted by many of the NFL clubs and local businesses, SEN broadcasting live from the day, and an enormous auction that sold off some incredible memorabilia.

The Northern Football League was thrilled with the amount they were able to raise and applauded the generosity shown by all those involved in the day.







## Obituaries

### Frank Rosbrook

Few men will be remembered for having an impact on their local community more than that engineered by former Northern Football League Chairman, Frank Rosbrook.

The former Diamond Valley Football League was embroiled in controversy when Frank was approached to take over as Chairman of the League. Football leagues are renowned for eating their own when it comes to someone trying to initiate change, especially if that change is radical.

For good measure, the Members had, after what many have since said were long-felt suspicions, lost faith in the administration of the League.

But when approached, Frank did little more than take a deep breathe and commit to the job. After all we were talking about a league where he and his sons had played and he'd coached; a league that had given him years of enjoyment.

With the help of AFL Victoria, Frank set about recruiting a team that he thought could handle the pressure and would in the end initiate the change that was required. This would take a huge level of stewardship and Frank was the right man for the job.

Frank played and coached at Heidelberg where he was fortunate enough to also win a Best and Fairest. The stories being told at his wake hosted at the Heidelberg Football Club Social Club would indicate that not only was Frank considered to have been an excellent player and a quality coach he was also held in high esteem by some very tough judges. In their opinion as great and as capable a player and coach he was, he was an even better bloke! Can there be a better eulogy for a football club stalwart.

Frank retired having moved through the ranks within the Commonwealth Bank ascending to the role of Regional Manager, Victoria and Tasmania. Long time friend and neighbour Robert Rezuk provided a wonderful insight into Frank's approach to leadership when he provided a eulogy at Frank's funeral.

Mr Rezuk declared that Frank was always pushing his workmates to perform at a higher level, and that he took

great joy as his workmates rose through the ranks. As a mentor of Mr Rezuk, Frank had a great impact on Robert advising and encouraging him as he climbed the corporate ladder himself.

A constant theme when listening to friends and colleagues speaking of Frank was his high commitment to ethics and integrity.

Frank would take this style of leadership into his role as Chairman of the Melbourne Phoenix netball team. Having previously had a strong link to the sport as a sponsor, Frank decided the girls deserved better than what they were getting - so typical of a guy willing to backing up his words with action, he accepted the role when asked.

He forged some very strong relationships during his years in the sport and this was recognised when a tribute was placed on their website noting Frank's passing and acknowledging his contribution. The greatest tribute though may have been when five of the current national team - the Diamonds - wore black armbands in a Test Match against New Zealand.



We are fortunate to have Australian Netball superstar, Sharelle McMahon as the ambassador of the NFL Netball League; a role she accepted at the behest of Frank. Sharelle and her family consider Frank, Sandy and their family as friends, and Sharelle was clearly upset when she couldn't attend his funeral.

People close to the Phoenix - now Vixens - and Netball Victoria, say that Frank brought a new level of business acumen to the sport, along with a strong link to corporate Australia and a work ethic rarely seen.

And this was exactly what was needed if the Member Clubs of the NFL were going to be able to once again believe in their league's administration.

Frank was big on probity and integrity ensuring that all previous mismanagement was not only put to rest, but also seen to be safe from being able to occur again in the future. Seasons 2007-2009 were all about getting our house in order and making sure that the people in place acted with integrity and forethought and didn't ever put the league's reputation at jeopardy. It's safe to say that under Frank's stewardship we got our "good name" back as a league.

But football leagues are all about providing a quality competition, and Frank and his Board believed a "quality" competition would be judged on the provision of a safe environment for players and spectators. It's fair to say that in years previous to their taking over, many things were tolerated that are undoubtedly unacceptable. By allowing such indiscretions, the League had gained a reputation of being a violent competition.

Over the past three years, Frank oversaw a dramatic change with the result being a competition the equal of most in suburban leagues. Good ball-playing footballers who in the past would have bypassed the NFL for a "cleaner" league, are now coming into it in droves. Unsociable behaviour could not be tolerated with Frank in the Chair.

The reputation of a footballer depends on your willingness to put your head over the ball regardless of the pressure. The standing of a coach is determined by whether he can command the following of his troops. The legacy of a sports' administrator is whether you leave your role in better shape than you found it. And the judgment of the man is whether he can do all of the above with integrity.

Frank certainly came out trumps on all points and leaves the NFL the better for his efforts. He was a wonderful family man and we wish Sandy, Glenn, Jarrad, Luke and Elle all the best in the future as we acknowledge their tragic loss.

Frank, we are the better for having known you, but the lesser for having lost you.

*Ron Bongetti*

### Dr Donald Cordner

Dr Cordner served on the league's tribunal from 1947 until 1966, as well as being Chairman of the tribunal from 1952 to 1965. Dr Cordner was also granted life membership to the Diamond Valley Football League in 1967.

As well as being involved off-the-field in the league, Dr Cordner was a superb VFL footballer with the Melbourne Football Club, winning the Brownlow Medal in 1946. He and brother Denis, were named in the Melbourne Football Club Team of the Century, and was club captain between 1948 and 1949. Dr Cordner was named Victorian of the Year in 1993.

Dr Donald Cordner's brother, Dr Ted Cordner, was also a member of the league's tribunal from 1950 to 1952, and 1955 to 1956.

### David Fisher

David 'Fish' Fisher was Heidelberg West's greatest son. Fish was a life member of HWFC and gave his whole adult life in service of the club he loved. He began playing at HWFC as a junior in 1958 and continued playing until 1979. He both captained and coached the club, and was runner-up in the Seniors' Best and Fairest four times. He was noted on the playing field arena for his passion, fearlessness and never giving his opponents an inch.

Fish was the heart and soul of HWFC and will be greatly missed and can never be replaced. The key things Fish gave to the club were hard work, a passion for the club, a never say die attitude and a preparedness to do whatever it took to get the job done.

### Leigh Williams

Leigh 'Wally' Williams served the Preston RSL Football Club with great dedication right up until his untimely passing this year.

His presence around the club, as well as his work as President will be sorely missed and near on impossible to replace.

### Lloyd Scott

The Macleod Football Club mourned the loss of our former secretary and grandfather of senior player, Rory. Lloyd was a tireless worker for the club, particularly in the fund-raising area through his work with the bingo.





# 2009 League Directory

## Registered Office

NFL Office  
Unit 11, 10-14 Simms Road  
Greensborough, VIC 3088

## Chairman

Ron Bongetti

## NFL Board

Frank Rosbrook  
(until 14th August, 2009)  
Tony Topp  
Jeff Parkes  
Robert Young  
Dean Philpots  
Peter Myers

## Junior Committee Chairman

Dean Philpots

## Junior Committee

Noel Smith  
Cecilia McMillan  
Reece Cocks  
Jarrad Carey

## General Manager

Kevin Crompton

## Football Operations Manager

Jarrad Carey

## Administration/NFL Netball

Delwyn Berry

## Director of Umpiring

Kevin Smith

## Media Manager

Josh Berriman

## Tribunal Chairmen

Dinash Daniel  
Wally Tyrell  
Ian Freckleton  
Greg Hughan

## Panel Members

John Garlick  
Darrell Holt  
Paul McCrohan  
Bill McKenna  
Ken Wing Jan  
David Ainsworth  
John Moss  
Andrew Beames  
Bruce McDowell

## Umpiring Panel

SECRETARY  
Brian Moore  
FITNESS COACH  
Kim Miles  
JUNIOR UMPIRES COACH  
Darren Agnew  
GOAL UMPIRE COACH  
Shane Herbert  
BOUNDARY UMPIRE COACH  
Doug Armstrong

## Northern Umpires Association

PRESIDENT  
Santo Spinello  
VICE PRESIDENT  
Cam McPherson  
SECRETARY  
Craig Wright  
TREASURER  
Dylan Smith

## Credits

Editor & Design - Josh Berriman  
Printing - Adcell Red Onion

## Junior Development Program

### Under 13

COACHES  
Darren Eldrett  
Matthew Sole  
SQUAD MANAGER  
Frank Barbera

### Under 14

COACHES  
Michael Doherty  
Ashley Brown  
Ron McKeown  
Darryl Richards  
David Mitchell  
SQUAD MANAGER  
Kevin Perry  
TEAM MANAGER  
Shelly Goodwin  
TRAINERS  
Jo McKeown  
Darren Ward

### Under 15

COACHES  
Adrian Talarico  
Peter Gersh  
Phil Cattenazzi  
Darren Eldrett  
SQUAD MANAGER  
Matthew Sole  
TEAM MANAGER  
Frank Barbera  
TRAINER  
Lauren Beck

### Under 16

COACHES  
Murray Schneider  
Brad Murray



# 2009 Financial Report





**NORTHERN FOOTBALL LEAGUE INC.**

ABN 86 607 912 971

**Trading Statement**

For the year ended 31 October 2009

	2009 \$	2008 \$
<b>Income</b>		
Sales	125,853	107,343
Advertising	28,050	37,449
Affiliation fees	56,000	55,327
AFL Victoria Grants	45,962	45,125
Apparel sales	300,531	391,048
Finals	307,670	286,757
Fines	11,515	13,773
Insurance - Clubs	61,604	59,139
Interleague	27,043	55,529
Netball	4,439	4,012
Player registrations	29,844	23,315
Presentations	40,898	37,333
Records	41,712	33,620
Sponsorships	39,157	43,778
Umpires	349,507	375,283
DVFL proceeds		466,541
Chubb security payments		35,000
Interest received	5,482	9,248
Other income	1,083	3,449
Royalties received	63,196	77,865
Subsidies & grants	2,000	
Total income	1,541,544	2,160,934
<b>Expenses</b>		
Advertising & promotion	1,684	10,005
AFL Victoria expenses		20,000
Apparel purchases	302,547	426,155
Audit fees	6,000	4,500
Bank fees & charges	876	1,072
Provision for doubtful debts	13,010	22,000
Board expenses	690	620
Community programs	511	740
Computer supplies & expenses	7,389	6,233
Consultants fees	909	9,000
Depreciation	2,521	1,161
Donations	54	

**NORTHERN FOOTBALL LEAGUE INC.**

ABN 86 607 912 971

**Trading Statement**

For the year ended 31 October 2009

	2009 \$	2008 \$
DVFL expenses		17,271
Employment expenses	241,181	234,466
Finals	127,239	133,699
Freight & cartage	762	1,110
Insurance - General	54,277	15,450
Insurance - Players		40,650
Interleague	43,051	68,573
Investigation expenses	968	618
Legal fees	4,288	400
Materials & supplies	174,067	165,888
Meeting expenses	1,060	1,668
M/V car - Other	16,583	16,473
Netball	4,908	5,892
Office expenses	2,194	6,951
Postage	1,748	1,379
Presentation functions	47,289	49,198
Printing & stationery	11,490	5,314
Property expenses	6,539	18,970
Provision for building fund	29,271	
Publications	2,738	3,140
Radio show	11,680	12,338
Season launch	3,100	3,618
Subscriptions	2,935	499
Stock shrinkage & adjustments	2,944	
Sundry expenses	745	557
Telephone	13,676	14,676
Tribunal expenses		491
Umpires	353,798	314,801
Total expenses	1,494,722	1,635,576
<b>Trading Surplus</b>	<b>46,822</b>	<b>525,358</b>



**NORTHERN FOOTBALL LEAGUE INC.**

ABN 86 607 912 971

Balance Sheet As At 31 October 2009

	2009 \$	2008 \$
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash assets	276,776	262,036
Receivables	88,064	77,939
Inventories	67,677	60,284
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>432,516</b>	<b>400,259</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>		
Property, plant and equipment	389,388	384,185
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>	<b>389,388</b>	<b>384,185</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>821,904</b>	<b>784,444</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Payables	59,714	66,805
Current tax liabilities	4,693	9,174
Provisions	44,281	42,071
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>108,688</b>	<b>118,050</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>108,688</b>	<b>118,050</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>713,216</b>	<b>666,394</b>
<b>Equity</b>		
Retained profits	713,216	666,394
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>713,216</b>	<b>666,394</b>

*2009 Annual Report*