



CLUB BULLETIN : Number 9

3rd October 2013

1. SUMMER FOOTBALL

We have had close to 900 junior players registered for the Summer Football Competition. A big thank you to all Clubs that supported and promoted the competition.

Unfortunately we did not get a lot of interest for the Senior Competition – however will look to market it more actively next year. We are busy enough with our juniors for the time being!

2. End of Another Year

As another season has ended, Football South Coast would like to sincerely thank all of our clubs and volunteers for the hard work, time and commitment that have been contributed to our great game.

We certainly realise that this game would not be in the great shape it is today if it wasn't for the efforts of some great people in our community.

Again – a huge THANK YOU and we hope you enjoy the 'off season' and a well-deserved break.

3. Futsal Co-Ordinator

Football South Coast has recently advertised for a Futsal Co-Ordinator. The application closing date is the 4th October 2013.

This new resource will be responsible for managing and building our current futsal competition at the Fraternity Club and will be focussed on developing new competitions by increasing usage of these courts.

4. Home of Football Update

Last week there was some media coverage in the Illawarra Mercury about Federal Funding for the Home of Football for \$7.4 million being 'scrapped'. Here is an update on what we know about this \$7.4 million of funding:

- Initially the \$7.4 million was approved by the previous Federal Labour Government. These funds were from the latest rounds of the Regional Development Australia Fund (RDAF) (previously not approved Projects in Round 1, 2, 3 & 4 plus new Round 5a & 5b Projects). Funding for this Home of Football at West Dapto project was included and approved as part of the \$500M Infra-Structure Australia Initiative in the last May 2013 Federal budget.
- Prior to the election Warren Truss (now Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development) announced a \$1 Billion 'National Regions Stronger Fund' which would replace the RDAF.



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- FSC has not been formally advised of the Federal Liberal Government not honouring this funding and Stephen Jones MP has since written a letter to Warren Truss seeking clarification on the funds budgeted for the Home of Football.
- The National Stronger Regions Fund which has not been finalised or legislated, from media reports, is about supporting projects that create job growth and address infrastructure needs with areas of low socio-economic circumstances and high unemployment being a priority. The Home of Football at West Dapto certainly meets these requirements.
- FSC is proactively discussing our project with the relevant Liberal Members of Parliament at the Federal level to ensure our government is aware of this project and the many social and economic benefits it will bring to our region.

State Funding Update

FSC has submitted a detailed application as the next step for the \$100m Restart Illawarra Infrastructure Fund.

Substantial work has gone into this detailed application including numerous letters of support from FFA, FNSW and other relevant associations and organisations.

Having been shortlisted from over 120 applications down to the last 20, we will be advised prior to the end of the year on whether FSC has been successful for \$7.1million of funding to supplement the request for federal funding.

A few people have asked about JJ Kelly Park and why FSC is not focussing funds at this location rather than West Dapto. Here are some key points around this:

- Funding targeted at both State and Federal Level is to meet key objectives of economic growth and job creation. 20 hectares at West Dapto will facilitate this and allow major tournaments and events to be held within the region. 20 hectares will also mean that there is sufficient space to ensure football will have to access grounds in the future.
- The proposed location of the Home of Football is part of the West Dapto residential expansion project. Infrastructure and recreational facilities will be required in this area. The Home of Football will be located in an area where members of the community will benefit from this facility which is strongly supported by all levels of government.
- One additional ground is available at JJ Kelly Park. Rugby League occupies the other areas of JJ Kelly Park and there is no indication from Wollongong City Council that this will change in the future. The Home of Football is needed to accommodate a large football community including 12 elite teams (from the Illawarra Stingrays and the South Coast Wolves). One additional ground will not accommodate the current infrastructure issues.



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Participation and Facility Program – NOW OPEN

The Office of Communities, Sport and Recreation is pleased to announce that the Participation and Facility Grant Program is now open for applications.

Round 1 opens today on 16 September and closes 30 October, 2013. Round 2 opens on 3 March and closes 2 April, 2014.

The focus of the program is to provide increased opportunities for participation in sport and recreation and assist with the funding for the development of local and regional level sport and recreation facilities in NSW.

There are two distinct project types within the Participation and Facility Program, these being:

- Participation projects – that deliver a sport or physical activity participation experience to an identified group of people.
- Facility development projects – building new or upgrading sport and recreation facilities.

NSW incorporated, community based not-for-profit organisations and NSW Local Government Authorities operating under the Local Government Act (1993) are eligible to apply for funding up to \$50,000 for facility projects and \$10,000 for participation projects.

Details about the Participation and Facility Program, including the Guidelines and the online application process are available at the Office of Communities, Sport and Recreation website at the following link: <http://www.dsr.nsw.gov.au/grants/pfp.asp>. Applicants are encouraged to read through the Guidelines prior to starting an application.

If you require additional information regarding the program please call Sport and Recreation on 13 13 02 or email srgrants@communities.nsw.gov.au.