



The Waratah Whisper

President's Report

Waratah FC 2018/19

Firstly, I want to thank all the committee members for their undying support and efforts through the season. Your dedication to our Club and willingness to get in and help-out when and where it was required was inspirational.

What a great season 2018/19 was for the Waratah Football Club. Our Head/Club Coach, Ryan Ayres, coached our Men's Premier League side into the finals, something that has alluded us in the last couple of years. Colleen Gwynne, our Women's Premier League Coach, coached our girls to another Grand Final, giving her back to back grand final wins. Of the 11 Teams our Club fielded during the season, 9 played in finals. A great achievement by all our dedicated, Coaches, Assistant Coaches, Team Managers and support staff.

I want to take this opportunity to express my deepest gratitude to Colleen Gwynne, who after winning back to back Women's Premier League Grand Finals, has decided it is time to step aside and pursue other interests. Colleen is arguably one of the most successful and finest Coaches that the Territory has ever seen. Colleen is a Waratah girl through and through and we thank her from the bottom of our hearts for bringing this Club great success over her tenure and inspiring so many to reach their full potential in playing our great game. Gwynne, you will be sadly missed but the Waratah Family wish you all the best in your future endeavours.

We acknowledge Jan Wray and Chris Williams, who were both awarded their Life Membership certificates at this seasons Senior Presentation night. The Club also acknowledges the following award recipients:

Karla Fishley - awarded the Rosemary Griffiths Club Volunteer of the Year

Daren Habets - awarded the Aunty Cath Club Person of the Year. Daren also was awarded the NTFL Club Volunteer Person of the Year.

In a season that proved a challenge financially for many Clubs and businesses, I'm proud to announce that our Club further improved our financial position this season compared with last season. This was achieved through the continued generous support from our fantastic sponsors and dedicated Club volunteers. Our Club was also crowned the Inaugural Statewide Super Club of the Year for the 2018/19 NTFL season. The award was accompanied with \$7K in sponsorship money and was awarded for on field success, being proactive in fostering good behaviour within the Club, and applying good governance with the production of codes of conduct and action plans that strengthened those processes.

Thanks also goes to our Football Department for their success in selecting our successful senior coaching and playing personnel that saw us play finals this season. Our Club looks forward to this continuing with the expectation of us going deeper into the finals next season.

This was the first season of the re-established 100 Club. My vision to reintroduce this 100 Club back into the Waratah Family would not have been possible without the support of two great Club men, Bobby Jenner and Gary Smart. From humble beginnings, these two Life Members have seen the number of 100 Club Members grow to over 60 Members. This reintroduction has brought many old and new members back to our footy club. We had a successful lunch at Lizards Hotel and many meat tray raffles were held every game day at Gardens Oval. We look forward to many more enjoyable lunches and 100 Club functions next season.

I also want to thank Alison Alber for her continued dedication in her role as Club Administration Officer. Alison displays a professionalism in her position, that, for a person who is supposed to be working part time for the Club, is rarely seen from full time employees. Alison is the vital cog that makes this great Club tick. Without her continued dedication in keeping this Club at the forefront of this competition, I shudder to think where we would be without her.

The Club would also like to thank Callum McDonald, our Club Bar Manager, who continues to bring new functions to our Clubhouse for the purpose of making us more financially secure, both in the dry and wet season. His cheerful, smiley disposition is always welcomed by our players and members.

As was the case last season we saw an increase in the number of girls wanting to play women's football, both in our Club and the NTFLW. The 2019/20 season will see our Club field another girls football team, U13 girls. Our Club continues to grow in membership and the number of teams we put on the park. This can only be achieved and sustained with the continued generous financial support of our great sponsors and volunteer support staff.

We continue to promote our Club as the Family Club and value our involvement and interaction with the community and look forward to that collaboration continuing. We have a strong participation from our indigenous men and women, both junior and senior players from the Tiwi (and surrounding) Islands which we will continue to encourage and increase in the coming years.

We hosted several very successful Social Events during last season and welcomed the return of the Red & White Ball. It was encouraging to see so many of our fantastic sponsors attend these events culminating in the invitation to the NTFL corporate box during the finals, hosted by the Waratah Football Club.

Our Club is extremely fortunate to have a strong volunteer and membership base. We are thankful for the support and efforts of our members and especially our volunteers. Our home ground is the magnificent Gardens Oval, recognised as the most beautiful ground in the Northern Territory, which provides us with the perfect backdrop to advertise and promote our very generous Sponsors. Our Sponsors enable us to field as many of the Red and White teams as the need arises and provides them with all the equipment and merchandise they require to play our glorious game.

With the introduction of lights at Gardens Oval this coming season, it will give our sponsors an even greater opportunity to expose their brand to the football public, both at the ground and through televised games. These games will be televised throughout the country.

The 2019/20 season will be another exciting but challenging year for the Club, but with the continued support from our great sponsors, with an enthusiastic Head/Club Coach, who looks forward to us going further into the finals next season and a new Committee, the Waratah Family can't wait for the new season to commence. The Waratah Football Club is one of the oldest, most successful and proudest Clubs in NTFL history. We look forward to the ongoing generous support from our Sponsors, Volunteers, Members and Players to continue this great tradition.

GO TAHS!

Thank you

Paul Gross

President Waratah Football Club 2018/19

INTRODUCING OUR NEW COMMITTEE . . .

Looking forward, it's going to be another great year! Congratulations to . . .

President—Paul Gross

Vice President—Steve Kotz

Treasurer—Keynon Oguzhan

Secretary—Sue Kotz

General Members—Karla Fishley, Daren Habets, Rohan Langworthy, Suzanne McCann, Shane Thornton, Brent Rowley & Elle Chandler.

Thank you to our Sponsors



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