

## **MINUTES/TRANSCRIPT**

**AAFC – Association of Australian Football Clubs Ltd**

**AGM – Monday July 3rd 2017**

**Lakeside Stadium: SMFC Social Club, 33 Aughtie Drive Albert Park**

Attendees : 89 members attended either in person or via proxy (36 via proxy)  
18 apologies (As Per Attendance Register Below)

Meeting Chair: Nick Galatas

Minutes : Steering Committee member Peter Kotsiris

Apologies (As Per Register Below)

Meeting Start: Venues in each capital city conferenced in at :

7pm	Brisbane, Syd, Melb, Hobart, Canberra, Northern NSW
6:30pm	Adelaide
5pm	Perth

Meeting Ended : 1 hour & 5 minutes after start time.

**AAFC – Association of Australian Football Clubs Ltd**  
**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2017**

## **AGENDA**

1. Welcome national members to inaugural AAFC AGM
  
2. Interim Chairman's Report:
  - a. FIFA's possible intervention in Australia
  - b. 4th July FIFA Members Association meeting
  - c. FFA Congress update
  
3. Financial Report and adoption of Financial statement of periods 13 March 2017 to 30 June 2017

#### 4. Adoption of Constitution

##### Special Resolution

“That the existing Constitution of AAFC Ltd be replaced by the Draft Constitution accompanying this Agenda notice of which together with a copy has previously been provided to the members”.

#### 5. Appointment of Auditor

##### Resolution

“In accordance with clause 13.2 (v) of the Constitution, now adopted, Price Waterhouse Coopers (PWC) are appointed Honorary Auditors of the AAFC and it is acknowledged with gratitude that PWC has waived its remuneration”.

#### 6. Thank Founding Directors, Steering Committee and National Delegates

#### 7. Welcome new 8 AAFC Directors

Start 7:05

Interim Chairman Tom Kalas confirms quorum exists with 92 clubs present or via proxy.

##### **Item 1**

Meeting Chair Nick Galatas welcomes the members

##### **Item 2**

Interim Chairman Tom Kalas provided following report:

“Welcome all members.

We're using a conference call system so as not to burden clubs with more expense.

Think about what we have all accomplished together since our first meeting on the 20th March in Melbourne.

We first set up a Steering Committee to introduce the aims and bring the nation of clubs together.

We set up a National Delegates group from all states to structure a Constitution and map out the next process. There, we also agreed on the key objectives we would strive for.

Then, we had all members within the states get together and discuss which candidates they were comfortable in representing them on a national board. Clubs put away their on-field rivalries and agreed on candidates.

Then, no one challenged these candidates and no elections were required. Incredible 😊

We have had big states agree to the principle of 1 vote per state, no matter how small the state, to create an organisation of equals. I thank all the clubs from the large states for their strategic vision.

We have had a strong and consistent message throughout this time in the media that focused on us being “measured, professional and consultative”. This messaging was crucial to a new organisation, as initially most other stakeholders felt threatened.

And now because of our organisation we have had the football landscape change dramatically within the last 3 months. The FIFA head of Associations Luca Nicola has remarked, they’ve never seen anything like this occur globally, and all in 3 months.

Together we have done all this since March 20. So, congratulations to all of you.

Now how has the landscape changed?

Firstly

We have been in close communication with FIFA & the AFC.

They admire the speed and breadth of what we have done together. Our success & what we represent has encouraged FIFA to demand our inclusion in the Congress process.

In fact, FIFA is demanding that a wider cross section of the football family be included in the Congress. The Congress decides the FFA board members and strategic direction.

As you all know, the FFA has delayed several times the deadline for these reforms.

Tomorrow, 4th July, FIFA’s Member Association Committee meets to decide on FFA’s request to delay.

There is a significant chance that FIFA will refuse & instead intervene and remove the FFA board and management under section 8.2 of the FIFA Statutes.

Now you would all have noticed that late last week the A-League franchise association has escalated its dispute with the FFA & demanded a forensic audit of all its finances.

Furthermore, it appears that there's been a more serious escalation tonight between the 2 parties, but we best wait to hear it formally from their statements tomorrow.

The FFA's acceptance of the forced Congress changes demanded by FIFA (with the further pressure from the FFV due to their conditional support of the FFA) means that we are all looking at significant reforms in how the game is structured in Australia.

It's not just about a 2nd Div. It's more than that.

By linking the football tiers it promotes the expansion and upgrade of football facilities which in turn builds football culture which in turn brings commercial success. It will take 2-3 generations to build football culture.

There are no short cuts in building football culture. We've tried a shortcut with the A-League franchise model. And we are all seeing the repercussions of that flawed strategy.

If you recall on the 28th of Feb, the FFA announced that they were bringing in more consultants (this time Deloitte) to look at alternative financial modeling for the A-League & W-League. The privatised franchise model is obviously not working. Now we have the situation where the A-League clubs are fighting amongst themselves & trying to remove the FFA Board as well.

All the more reason why we need to exist, to be organised & try to protect the game by helping it migrate to a tried and tested international model.

Some clubs do not have the ambition yet for a 2nd division etc. But populations will not stay static, future committees and boards might decide they are ready and ambitious.

We need to migrate to an international recognised football structure to allow all clubs the option of advancement if they want it in the future.

We need to put the right structures and leave the right legacy for the committees/boards that come after us. We need to develop clubs first. Everything else flows from that.

Globally the game has grown because of those linkages it's the most important differentiator from all other codes. Look what's happening to Rugby Union & Cricket. Those codes have little or no linkages and they are starving their grassroots. Now it's impacting the top tier detrimentally.

By linking the football tiers it will accelerate an expansion of the football facilities footprint across Australia. Which over time will build football culture. Which then in turn promotes commercial success. There are no shortcuts.

Everyone is quickly realising that the AAFC manages/controls most of the significant football infrastructure in Aust.

We are by far one of the most important football stakeholders and the long-term growth of the game will come from your clubs.

Although we are all volunteers, we have conducted ourselves with incredible professionalism and above all great unity.

I commend you all.”

The Steering Committee/First Directors & National Delegates were thanked by name:

**Steering Committee/First Directors:**

Dean Hennessey  
Pave Jusup  
Ezel Hikmet  
Peter Kotsiris  
Nick Galatas  
Tom Kalas.

**National Delegates:**

	Name	State Representing	Club/Other
1	Jon Thiele	Canberra	Tuggeranong United FC
2	Martin Radic	Canberra	Canberra FC
3	Warren Mills	Northern NSW	Edgeworth FC
4	Christo Patsan	Northern NSW	Hamilton Olympic
5	Tony Raciti	NSW	Apia Leichardt
6	Gino Marra	NSW	SD Raiders
7	Rabieh Krayem	Queensland	Northern Fury
8	Alex Alexandrou	South Australia	West Adelaide
9	Amin Ayoubi	South Australia	WT Birkalla
10	Victoria Morton	Tasmania	South Hobart
11	Dale Itchins	Tasmania	Olympia Warriors
12	Ferman Zekiri	Victoria	Dandenong Thunder
13	Anita Scott Murphy	Victoria	Port Melbourne
14	Gary Marocchi	Western Australia	Perth SC
15	Oriano Colli	Western Australia	Bayswater FC
16	John Neki	Victoria	Dandenong City

### **Item 3**

#### **Interim Financial Report tabled.**

Nick Galatas thanked Tom Kalas for incurring many expenses and refusing to be repaid.

Resolution

To adopt the Financial Statement of periods 13 March 2017 to 30 June 2017

Proposed: Tasmania (Victoria Morton)

Seconded: Victoria (Norm Wilcocks)

**Passed Unanimously by 89 votes**

### **Item 4**

#### **Adoption of Constitution**

Special Resolution

“That the existing Constitution of AAFC Ltd be replaced by the Draft Constitution accompanying this Agenda notice of which together with a copy has previously been provided to the members”.

Proposed: Queensland (Rabieh Krayem)

Seconded: NSW (Gino Marra)

**Passed Unanimously by 89 votes**

### **Item 5**

#### **Appointment of Auditor**

Resolution

“In accordance with clause 13.2 (v) of the Constitution, now adopted, Price Waterhouse Coopers (PWC) are appointed Honorary Auditors of the AAFC and it is acknowledged with gratitude that PWC has waived its remuneration”.

Proposed: Northern NSW (Christo Patsan)

Seconded: Western Australia (Gary Marocchi)

**Passed Unanimously by 89 votes**

## **Item 6**

Tom Kalas thanked all NPL clubs and the individuals that have assisted, supported and advised the AAFC since its inception.

Thank you to Harry Zaitman for assisting us all along the way.

Special mention to the past and present FFA senior staff that have provided key information and background. Namely Archie Fraser, Bonita Mersiades and a few nameless current FFA staff that still toil hard for the code.

## **Item 7**

### **New Directors**

<b>ACT</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>Jon Thiele</b>
<b>NSW</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>Gino Marra</b>
<b>NNSW</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>Christo Patsan</b>
<b>QLD</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>Rabieh Krayem</b>
<b>SA</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>Amin Ayoubi</b>
<b>TAS</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>Victoria Morton</b>
<b>VIC</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>Dean Hennessey</b>
<b>WA</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>Gary Marocchi</b>

All new Directors thanked the Steering Committee, National Delegates and in particular thanked Nick Galatas and Tom Kalas for their dedication and tireless work.

Rabieh (Spokesperson for the new Directors) thanked all members and assured them that the AAFC would be a relevant organisation that would assist the NPL in meeting their objectives.

Rabieh mentioned that the new Board would meet on the 15/16<sup>th</sup> July in Queensland to get to know each other better and begin the strategy planning process.

Rabieh then closed by informing all members that the new AAFC Board would be issuing a statement the next day (4<sup>th</sup> July) with the statutory positions and roles of the Board members.

Meeting closed 8:05

## Register

**Attended:** In Black

**Proxy:** In Blue

**Apologies:** In Red

Avondale FC

Ballarat City FC

Bendigo City FC

Bentleigh Greens SC

Box Hill United SC

Brunswick City SC

Dandenong City SC

Dandenong Thunder SC

Eastern Lions SC

FC Bulleen Lions

Goulburn Valley Suns FC

Green Gully SC

Heidelberg United FC

Hume City FC

Kingston City FC

Melbourne Knights FC

Moreland City SC

Moreland Zebras FC

Murray United FC

North Geelong Warriors FC

Northcote City FC

Nunawading City FC

Oakleigh Cannons FC

Pascoe Vale SC

Port Melbourne Sharks SC

Richmond SC

South Melbourne FC

Springvale White Eagles FC

St Albans Saints SC

Werribee City FC

WNPL Alamein

WNPL Box Hill

WNPL Bulleen

WNPL Heidelberg

WNPL SMFC

APIA Leichardt Tigers

Bankstown City

Blacktown City

Bonnyrigg White Eagles



Hakoah Sydney City East  
Manly Utd FC  
Marconi Stallions  
Mt Druitt Town Rangers  
Parramatta FC  
Rockdale City Suns  
SD Raiders  
St George  
Sutherland Sharks  
Sydney Olympic  
Sydney United 58  
Wollongong Wolves  
Clarence United  
Devonport Strikers  
Hobart Zebras  
Kingborough Lions  
Launceston City  
Northern Rangers  
Olympia FC Warriors  
South Hobart  
Adelaide Blue Eagles  
Adelaide City  
Adelaide Cobras  
Adelaide Comets  
Adelaide Olympic  
Cumberland United  
Gawler Eagles  
Port Adelaide Lions  
West Adelaide Hellas  
West Torrens Birkalla  
Western Strikers  
White City Woodville  
Broadmeadow Magic  
Charlestown City Blues  
Edgeworth Eagles  
Hamilton Olympic  
Lake Macquarie  
Lambton Jaffas  
Maitland  
Weston Workers Bears  
Belconnen United  
Canberra FC  
Canberra Olympic  
Tigers FC  
Tuggeranong United  
Woden Weston FC

Brisbane City  
FNQ FC Heat  
Gold Coast City  
Moreton Bay United  
Northern Fury  
Palm Beach SC  
Redlands United  
Sunshine Coast FC  
SWQ Thunder  
Western Pride  
Armadale  
Balcatta  
Bayswater City  
ECU Joondalup  
Floreat Athena  
Inglewood United  
Joondalup United  
Mandurah City  
Perth  
Sorrento  
Subiaco  
Sterling Lions