

CYFC Presidents Report 2013

Last year I said that we would improve as a club and in many we have, with team results, money raised for the new building and even a slight increase in volunteers. Our future is looking positive.

The A Grade showed an impressive improvement with the recruiting of some young, promising players who will no doubt continue to lead us onto future success in 2014. Thanks to Juddy, PR, Rooster and co for their continued passion for the team and we wish them well for the upcoming season. Luke Butler's B Grade displayed great strength throughout the year, including the addition of some returning local players to play finals football. This was a first for a senior Cougars team in many years. Butts and Simon Geater Johnson are also keen to lead the Bs to an even greater level in 2014.

Dom's Senior Colts were our standout performers this year, playing in the Grand Final only to lose by a point. Dom has done a fantastic job bringing this team together over the last few years but sadly due to work and family commitments Dom won't be continuing as head coach of the senior colts instead Tim Schwartz, last year's assistant, will coach with Dom helping out when possible.

Junior Colts coached by Chris Briggs weren't as successful but certainly held their own throughout the season. Coming 6th winning 4 out of 12 games Briggsy has not only agreed to continue coaching Juniors but also is on a League junior committee for the coming season.

Thanks to Tim Davey and y Tim Schwartz for co-ordinating the junior football supporting Shorty Jarret with Aus Kick, Eddie Morris Under 10's and his own under 12's.

Once again, many thanks to those invaluable people who help run each Saturday including match day secretary Nigel, trainers Fordy and Mark Smith, runners, team managers, boundary and goal umpires. Of course we cannot forget the awarding of Life Membership to Tim Chappel, our score board attendant for the last forty-odd years. Once again congratulations Tim. The oval again was kept in top condition by Tony Clark, Fred Brokenshire and their many helpers. The oval was a picture all year and the grassing of the pitch was again a winner.

The barbecue room on Thursday nights was David Linke's domain. His consistent effort provided the club with meals on training nights. David was also awarded 'Cougar of the Year'. Thanks for all of your efforts this year. On Saturday, the barbecue room was again, a stand out in the league with its comprehensive menu. Martha and her helpers provided a constant array of goodies all year. Thank you Martha.

This year's Country Times Club Person of the Year was awarded to Linda Dutschke for her general efforts in the club. Once again, Linda's running of the canteen, although restricted by her car accident, was a great financial boost to the club.

Dave and Annette Clasohm were a great asset to the running of the club's web page, technical support and the merchandise sales which have become huge. Sadly, Annette is retiring this year and handing the reins to Lynne Thomas. Bob's Bar manager, Vice President David Sly, kept the drinks flowing throughout the year. The most important job in the club! Thanks Snooker. Steve Marks took on the role as club secretary this year and I thank him both personally and on behalf of the club for his patience and contribution. Sadly this year, we lose a long serving committee man in Brenton Correll.

Brento has been treasurer for many years and although handing over the books to the capable Tim Davey, his special Magic with numbers will be sorely missed. Fortunately Brento will still be around to help out.

Andrew Thompson is also retiring from the committee after numerous years of participation including three years of presidency. Thanks Mal. Your input has impacted greatly on the CY Cougars.

We have three other committee retirees in Scott Schulze, treasurer of the building committee, Andrew Theile, our legal advisor and Daniel Morris, last year's social director.

we welcome to our committee, Dean Bruce, Luke Dutschke, Paul Mack and Paul Ackland. new blood is always exciting and I certainly look forward to your input.

Tom Van Schiak, A Grade captain for many years, is retiring. His contribution, both on and the field was an inspiration to us all. Thanks Vandi.

I am also proud to announce tonight, his successor is Alex Greenslade. Congratulations Greenie. Good luck for the future.

Patron Hugh Whearing, is an ever present support to our club always seeking funds for the new building.

Our recruiting committee has been active already this year, signing most of last year's players and looking hard to bring home, more local lads. We also welcome Simon Geater-Johnson to that committee.

Once again I bring up the thorny issue of the new building. Firstly, we proved patience and persistence are certainly a virtue when applying for government grants. Congratulations to all involved, especially the author of the grant application, Michael MacAuley. Being successful in the \$200,000 grant has placed us in an enviable position financially. Just a note for your information we do keep the building fund and general footy club accounts completely separate.

I continue to hear and be aware of the constant concerns and questions from you all in regards to the lack of physical evidence of a club house but our committee still continues to strive for the imminent commencement of construction.

Not having a football club can no longer be tolerated as financially we are bleeding to death. So during this critical time in the coming year, the new club must not only be constructed and completed but must be run efficiently to inject much needed funds into our coffers.

To our sponsors, thank you for your continued support and patience over the last few years. We look forward to your continued commitment.

In closing, we are coming into exciting times at the CY Cougars Football Club. Please jump on board and help us strive for a successful 2014.

Giles Honner
President CY Cougars Football Club.