

St. Kilda City Junior Football Club

The 'Peanut Farm' Reserve Blessington St, St.Kilda
PO Box 1489, St.Kilda South, VIC 3182



St Kilda City Junior Football Club **President's Report 2005**

It is with pleasure that I submit the President's report for 2005. The 2005 season was a successful one for the Club from a number of important aspects, ranging from player registrations to fundraising.

I take this opportunity to thank the Committee of the St Kilda City Junior Football Club (SKCJFC) for their hard work over the past year. At the beginning of the season we took the decision to assign areas of responsibility to committee members. The results have been improved record keeping, fund raising and expenditure controls on equipment. As the club grows it becomes increasingly more important that we have systems and processes in place to monitor and manage the operations of the Club. It is pleasing to report that the foundation for these systems is now in place and working well and this is due to the effort and focus of the Committee members.

On behalf of the Committee, the parents and the players I would like to thank Rob Karoly for his work as Treasurer of the Club over the past 3 years. Rob has decided not to continue as Treasurer for 2006. Rob's focus on the role has ensured that the Club is in a healthy financial position with good records.

It is also appropriate that we thank Ian Lesser for his assistance to the Club over the past 5 years. Ian has worked hard to promote the Club in the local area, raise donations, recruit players and, most importantly, has played a major role in encouraging and motivating players at all levels in the JFC. Unfortunately Ian is not available to continue to work with the Club and we thank him for his past work.

Teams:

In 2005 the Club fielded 6 teams in the MSJFL competition. With varying degrees of success each team had a solid season. At one stage we hoped that we might be able to field a second team in the U13 age group. However the numbers were not quite there. It is anticipated that in 2006 we will field 7 teams as the players move up a year and we field an U15s for the first time in many years. For 2006 we also need to ensure that the U11 and U12 teams increase their complement of players. We are currently a little light on in numbers in these age groups.

Registrations:

For 2005 we were able to keep the registration fees at the same level as 2004. The Committee will continue to ensure that registration fees are set at a level that maintains the financial stability of the Club whilst also being affordable for most families. The current registration fee of \$90 is at the lower end of the fee scale compared to other football Clubs and to other sporting codes, such as soccer.

Gino Dompietro took up the role of managing player registrations for the Club in 2005. This was a new role for the Club. By issuing receipts for registrations we were able to keep a much better track of financial registrations and, as a result of this the Club significantly reduced the number of non-financial players participating in 2005. Building and maintaining the Club player records is a time consuming task and we thank Gino for his good work. The Club recognises that it is not possible for all players and families to meet the registration fees for the Club. The Committee will exercise its discretion in relation to the non-payment of registration fees in special circumstances.

League participation:

The Club continues to have good relations with the MSJFL and it is pleasing to see how few reports regarding breaches of the League's Code of Conduct by the Club there were this year. Susan Buchanan, the Club Secretary maintains excellent relations with the League Secretariat and we are grateful to her for her work in this area.

Finances:

With solid registrations and outstanding fundraising the Club ends 2005 in a strong financial position. The current cash reserves will ensure the continuing financial stability of the Club for a number of years to come. As mentioned earlier the Club is grateful to the Treasurer, Rob Karoly for his disciplined approach to this task.

Fund raising:

In 2005 the Club held its second Winter Solstice fund raising event. This turned out to be even more financially successful than the first one in 2004. The Club sincerely thanks all those who contributed time, services and auction items to this event. The level of support generated for the Club from local traders is fantastic and it is encouraging to report that the JFC currently enjoys excellent relations with the local community. Peter Carrodus organises fund raising for the Club and, with the assistance of a very supportive sub-committee and enthusiastic ticket selling parents, produced an outstanding result for the Club.

We do not currently have any form of sponsorship for the SKCJFC. Whilst this is an issue we considered in 2005 no progress has been made as yet. The Committee will actively pursue this issue in 2006 and try to secure sponsorship for the JFC. The Committee recognises that criteria for the appropriateness of sponsorship will need to be developed.

Football operations:

As the Club grows our expenses with regard to football equipment also grows. As Vice President of the JFC Greg Miller has done a great job of ensuring that all teams have the necessary equipment, from guernseys to water bottles, flags, match footballs and first aid kits etc.

In preparation for 2006 the Club recently purchased surplus equipment from Bayside JFC as they closed down some of their junior teams. This has enabled the Club to achieve significant savings on training guernseys and new practice and match footballs.

Coaching, Managing and Parental support:

The level of involvement from parents in coaching, managing and other support roles, such as time keeping, goal umpiring etc is critical for the on-going success of the Club. We are fortunate that across all teams we have enthusiastic parents who are willing to put in their time and effort to ensure the success of the Club.

In particular those who volunteer to take on the roles of Coach and Manager for the teams deserve special thanks. This year we even fielded our first female coach with Jane Reynolds taking on the role for the U10s.

On behalf of the Committee, thank you to all of you who put in your time to make it all happen.

St Kilda Sports Club:

Regrettably this is an area where there is not such positive news to report. In 2004 the City of Port Philip engaged a strategic consultant to work with the St Kilda City Sports Club and the representative sub-groups (senior football, junior football, women's football and cricket) with the aim of developing a plan to get the various sub-groups working together for the overall benefit of the Sports Club in a collaborative and integrated fashion.

Unfortunately, following the endorsement of this plan by all groups, in both 2004 and 2005, the Senior football club organised and held meetings to elect a committee to oversee the running of the St Kilda City Sports Club, with no involvement, or representation from the Junior Football Club. This was despite repeated requests from the Committee of the JFC to be kept informed of and invited to participate in any such meetings. As a result the JFC currently has no option but to continue to maintain separate operations from the other elements of the St Kilda City Sports Club. The Committee will continue to seek a resolution to this situation in 2006.

Jeremy Cattell
President
St Kilda City Junior Football Club.