



**Minutes of the 70th Annual General Meeting 26th March 2023
Held at Windy Hill Social Club at 10.30 am.**

Item 1. OPENING:

As a quorum was present including Proxy Votes received by the Secretary, David Collins opened the AGM at 10.30am and welcomed all present.

Item 2. APOLOGIES:

Kevin Dale, Brendan De Morton, High Delahunty, Charlie Payne, Carolyn Larsson

Item 3. CONDOLENCES:

One minute's silence was observed in recognition of the passing of the following members since the last AGM. Robert Horgan, Ray Horsburgh, Merna Slattery, George Spero, Terry Rodgers, Graham Mendola, Alan Gorgan, John Towner, Alby Wilson - RIP

Item 4. MINUTES OF 69th AGM:

The minutes of the 69th AGM were circulated to all members as part of the Notice of AGM papers. No questions or comments were received prior to or at the AGM.

It was moved G Leydin and seconded B Besanko that the minutes be accepted. Carried

Item 5. REPORTS:

EFCPPOA Treasurer's Report to AGM for the year ended 31 December 2022

It is my pleasure to present the Treasurer's report for the year ended 31st December, 2022.

The financial statements that were sent to members with the papers for this Annual General Meeting, have been reviewed by Kay Gulenc, a Chartered Accountant and Director with Sovereign Taxation Pty Ltd. That review report is included as part of the financial statements.

For the year, we returned a surplus of \$29,228, which compares to a surplus of \$33,679 for the previous year. Total income for the year was \$104,267, which is an increase of \$30,695 on the previous year. Expenses totaled \$75,826, which is \$35,233 more than 2021. The main reason for the significant increase both in income and expenditure, was our ability to conduct functions for the Dick Reynolds Club and also our Annual Dinner, All of these we were unable to run during both 2020 and 2021. We will continue to contribute to the Essendon Football Club Foundation Trust, being the body that attends to the needs of past Players in future years, as the needs arise. Net Assets as shown in the Balance Sheet are \$171,281, which compares to \$142,053 in the previous year. That confirms the continuing sound financial status of this Association, which has been achieved as a result of sound financial controls over a very long period of time.

It was moved K Andrews and seconded G Grainger that the Treasure's Report be accepted.
Carried

President:

David Collins reported as follows on the previous 12 months:

- David opened by stating 2022 had been a much improved year for the Association following 2 difficult years (2020 and 2021) because of the COVID situation.
- The Association remained in a strong financial position due in large part to the loyalty of our members, including donations and the continuing sponsorship of Sovereign Financial, as well as a good on-line silent auction and our annual raffle.
- The DRC Golf Day on the 8th February 2023 was once again a great event and very well attended by many past players and paying participants which resulted overall in a strong financial outcome.
- David reported that there has been significant changes in regard to the EFC/EFCPPOA Trust Agreement. This agreement provides the mechanism through which we assist EFCPPO members in need of financial assistance. The Trust Account will very soon reach the agreed amount of \$150,000. This has been built over the years by contributions by both the EFC and EFCPPOA. The Trust within future be administered by David Wills (EFC), Kevin Dale (independent) and David Collins (EFCPPOA). Any payments made during the previous year will be repaid to the Trust the following year on a 50/50 basis by the EFC and EFCPPOA. The Trust has been administered by Barry Capuano, Greg Brown and the late Ray Horsburgh for many years and our sincere thanks goes to them for their great work in this regard.
- David noted that the celebration of the EFC's 150th had gone off very well. The EFCPPOA were involved in a number of very successful and enjoyable events including a reunion of past players at the MCG and the Grand Anniversary Dinner at the Melbourne Tennis Centre.
- The DRC "Bombers in the Media" lunch was midyear at the RACV Club. Tim Watson was the MC with panelists Matt Lloyd, Scott Lucas, Sarah Jones, Jobe Watson, Andrew Welsh and Kevin Sheedy.
- The first Annual Dinner for 3 years was held in the newly renovated Premiers Lounge at Windy Hill in late September and, not surprisingly was an outstanding event as evidenced by the excellent feedback from many of those that attended.
- He further noted, as everyone was well aware, there had been some major changes at the EFC in the latter part of 2022 including the appointment of Craig Vozzo as the new CEO. David further advised that he had had a number of very productive individual meetings with both David Barham and Craig Vozzo. It was clear to him that the EFC wanted to embrace and value the history and culture of the EFC, the fans, the members, the Coterie Groups and very importantly the EFCPPOA. Already there was evidence of very good progress on a number of long-standing and difficult issues. These included the following:
 - ✓ Clarity on entitlements and benefits for EFC Life Members and potentially EFC Hall of Fame Members
 - ✓ Barry Capuano Room at Windy Hill
 - ✓ EFCPPOA Display Cabinet in Hall of Fame at The Hangar
 - ✓ Past Player Profiles
 - ✓ Past Players Room at The Hangar

- The EFCPP&OA's Website was operating well thanks to the great work by our Admin Assistant Jane Lee. There is much information of interest to members on the site. A link has been established between the EFC Website and our Website and it has been agreed by the EFC that EFC Past Player Profiles be placed on our website. The profiles are currently not available anywhere on –line.
- Also, I would advise that social media accounts (FaceBook, Instagram and Twitter) are regularly updated with interesting information. Ryan O'Conner and Jane Lee are working on improving our Social Media accounts and even establishing a Social Media application which will enable EFCPPOA members who join to easily communicate with each other.
- David also noted the excellent work done by Jane Lee our Administrative Assistant.
- David noted the excellent work being done by Barry Besanko with his focus on AFL and AFLPA involvement in regard to both Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy (CTE) and ongoing medical issues caused by previous concussion injuries. Barry efforts have encouraged the CPPA to take this up as an issue and to help him apply pressure to the AFL to provide greatly improved assistance to those past players would badly need it.
- David thanked all the Committee for their great work during 2022.

Finally, David thanked all present that made the effort to attend this

Secretary:

Charlie Italia advised that the Association was fully compliant with all legal requirements for an Incorporated Association. Our annual subscription has been paid and our Annual Report made to Consumer Affairs VIC. Committee meetings during 2021-2022 have been held as required and preparation for the AGM was in accord with official requirements. Nominations for the 2022 Committee had been made as required by our Constitution.

In regards to sub committees that Charlie Italia was involved in:

Functions & Events Sub-Committee, Charlie reported the DRC Golf Day was held successfully on 8th February 2023 and special thanks to Kevin Dale, Barbara Cullen, David Collins and Ken Gilbertson and the rest of the committee for ensuring a successful day was held. The DRC Luncheon "How to win a Premiership" will be held at RACV club is scheduled for 24th May 2023. It is anticipated that over 200 people will attend this event which is to hosted by Tim Watson.

Past Players Room, now to be named the Barry Capuano Room at Windy Hill is finally getting renovated and works are due to commence in the next 2 weeks.

Debut Jumper Player Presentations,

We managed to present 11 jumpers during year/season 2022. This is seen as an important inclusion by the past players and the club as all players receiving jumpers are very appreciative.

The Players Room at the Hangar; This room is now complete and decked out with memorabilia, a computer. It looks great. Used for meetings/training observations and we are proud to have the Windy Hill Committee Board Room table which was kindly organized by Barry Capuano.

AFLW and VFLW;

We are making inroads in this area and have begun to have close relationships with AFLW and VFLW football Manager. We are recording player debuts and number of games etc for our records.

Charlie thanked the existing committee for their dedication and assistance during the year.

Other Reports

No other reports were received.

It was moved by B Besanko and seconded D Gerlach that the above Presidents, and Secretary's reports be received. Carried.

Item 6. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS FOR 2022

David advised the following Committee members had chosen to seek re-nomination for the Committee for 2023. No new nominations have been received.

David Collins	(President)
Darryl Gerlach	(Deputy President)
Charlie Italia	(Secretary)
Ken Gilbertson	(Treasurer)
Barry Besanko	(Committee)
Gary Grainger	(Committee)
Graham Leydin	(Committee)
Jason Johnson	(Committee)
Mark Fraser	(Committee)
Ryan O'Connor	(Committee)

Following the appointment of the Committee for 2023, David advised the priorities for the EFCPPAO for 2023: (Not in any particular order)

- Look after any of our members who may be in need of assistance.
- Continue to improve our relationship with EFC Board and Administration to ensure any requests request for assistance or agreements are fully put in place or are otherwise delivered. Establish a primary point of contact for with the EFC for EFCPPOA matters including for Debut Jumpers.
- Conduct successful functions for our EFCPPOA members and continue with our normal successful fund-raising ventures including DRC Golf Day, DRC Lunch, DRC Cocktail function, Annual dinner, On-line raffle and Silent auction, EFCPPOA Life Members.
- Clarify and finalise the benefits / entitlements available to EFC Life Members and EFC Hall of Fame Members
- Continue production of high quality, professional and informative Newsletters for our members and for wider distribution. Thanks to Jane Lee (Admin Assistant) for her great work. April edition out very soon.
- Continue to work with EFC AFLW and WFC VFLW to build strong links and to promote the understanding of the role of the EFCPP&OA.
- Complete to refurbishment of the Barry Capuano Room at Windy and promote our program of events to be conducted there in 2023.
- Review and re-establish our Sub Committee structures to align with our priorities including fund raising and undertakings to our members. Consider the need for a EFCPPOA Membership Co-ordinator.
- Complete the placement of EFC Past Player profiles on our website.

- Assist Dan Eddy to continue his work in interviewing every living EFC Past Player.
- Contact and confirm membership of the Top Mark network.

ITEM 7. GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Life Membership

David advised the meeting that the Committee fully supported the proposal that John Della and Susie Norton to be granted EFCPPOA Life Membership. Both nominees have made outstanding contributions to both the EFCPPOA and the Dick Reynolds Club over many years.

It was moved by B Besanko and seconded by D Gerlach that the life EFCPP&OA Life Memberships be awarded to John Della and Susie Norton be approved. Carried

2. Honorariums

David Collins sought agreement that once again, honorariums of \$500 be paid to the President, Secretary and Treasurer.

It was moved B Besanko and seconded G Leydin that honorariums of \$500 be paid as proposed. Carried.

3. Formal review of our Accounts

David Collins proposed that Kaye Gulenc from Sovereign Taxation be engaged to review our accounts again this year

It was moved B Besanko and seconded by G Leydin that the appointment be approved. Carried.

4. Other Items

No specific items had been received in lead up to the AGM and David invited those present to make any other comments.

David noted the excellent work by Jane Lee to assist the EFCPPOA and he expressed his thanks to her on behalf of the Association.

Kevin Andrews;

Kevin introduced himself to the audience at the meeting. He expressed frustration of “hitting brick walls” with the Club in the past and expressed his dissatisfaction with the hierarchy of the Club.

Darryl Gerlach

Updated us briefly on the progress of the talks with the club around entitlements etc and that positive discussions have emerged.

Gary Grainger

Gary raised the passing of our member Alby Wilson and that not much was mentioned of his passing. Sought clarification as to our standing with News Paper notifications. David Collins explained the process with this and mentioned that all Deaths are now mentioned via Twitter,

Face Book and Instagram and on some occasions, when the Club puts a Death Notice in a newspaper, our association would be mentioned within it.

Barry Besanko

Barry gave a lengthy verbal summary of his involvement and progress with the AFLPA and all of the other Club's Past Players Associations in regards to CTE (Concussion protocol and intended legal proceedings pending).

David Collins

David updated members of the "Display Cabinet" issue and of the funds raised thereof by our association. Many meetings have been held and the club has agreed to provide the said cabinet. Club is in process of purchasing the cabinet.

David thanked all present for their attendance and contribution to the meeting.

Meeting closed at 11.45 am

Minute Taker Charlie Italia