



# ANNUAL REPORT 2024



### **BENDIGO FNL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

The Bendigo Football Netball League respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of all lands and waters on which we train and play. We pay respect to their Elders past, present, and future.

### **BENDIGO FNL COMMITMENT TO CHILD SAFETY**

Every person in the Bendigo Football Netball League (BFNL) community has a responsibility to understand their role in ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people in our care.

The BFNL is committed to promoting and protecting the rights, safety, and wellbeing of children and preventing abuse from occurring by fostering a culture where children feel safe and empowered.

We also seek to ensure the cultural safety of First Nations children, children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, and children with a disability.

Front cover: Top: Bradley Bernacki, Chelsea Sartori and Braidon Blake.

Bottom: 2024 Michelsen Medallists, Bradley Bernacki (Gisborne FNC), Braidon Blake (Gisborne FNC) and Lachlan Tardrew (Sandhurst FNC), and 2024 Betty Thompson Medallist Chelsea Sartori (Kangaroo Flat FNC).





BENDIGO FNL  
BOARD  
CHAIR



**Professor  
Carol McKinstry**

BENDIGO FNL  
GENERAL  
MANAGER



**Tom  
King**

BENDIGO FNL  
BOARD  
MEMBER



**Sam  
McGee**

BENDIGO FNL  
BOARD  
MEMBER



**Ellyse  
McNish**

BENDIGO FNL  
BOARD  
MEMBER



**Cheryl  
Elvey**

BENDIGO FNL  
BOARD  
MEMBER



**Todd  
Deary**

BENDIGO FNL  
BOARD  
MEMBER



**Andy  
Walker**

BENDIGO FNL  
BOARD  
MEMBER



**Craig  
Findlay**



**Bendigo Football Netball League**

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Senior Football Premiers Sandhurst FNC and A Grade Netball Premiers Gisborne FNC



AFLCV REGIONAL  
GENERAL  
MANAGER



**Cameron  
Tomlins**

NETBALL  
OPERATIONS  
MANAGER & HDFNL  
MANAGER



**Jan  
Mannes**

AFLCV FINANCE  
MANAGER



**Laura  
Naughton**

## NOTICE OF BENDIGO FNL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - SEASON 2024

Notice is hereby given that the 41st Annual General Meeting of the Bendigo Football Netball League Inc. will be held at the Bendigo Club (22 Park St, Strathdale), on Wednesday 15th January 2025 commencing at 7.30pm.

### Business:

1. To confirm the Minutes of the 40th Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 17th January 2024.
2. To receive and consider the reports of the BFNL Chair and BFNL Manager, the Profit and Loss Accounts for the year ended 31st October 2024, the Balance sheet as at that date, and the Auditors Report.
3. Election of vacant Board positions as per nominated candidates:  
  
*Current Board consists of 7 persons.*  
  
*Board to consist of a minimum of 7 persons with maximum of 9 persons.*
4. Appointment of Auditor for 2025.
5. General Business - General discussion in which matters may be raised for consideration of the BFNL Board.

Nominations for the BFNL Board and any other business to be transacted, must be delivered to the BFNL Manager prior to **6.00pm on Wednesday the 1st of January 2025**.

*By Order of the Bendigo FNL Board of Management*



Tom King  
BFNL Manager

## AGENDA OF BENDIGO FNL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - SEASON 2024

Agenda of the 41st Annual General Meeting of the Bendigo Football Netball League, to be held at The Bendigo Club, on Wednesday 15th January 2025 commencing at 7.30pm.

### Business:

**1. Welcome and apologies.**

Motion that apologies be accepted:

Moved:

Seconded:

**2. Minutes of the 40th Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 17th January 2024.**

Motion that the minutes are recorded as a true and accurate record:

Moved:

Seconded:

**3. Business arising from the minutes of the 2023 Annual General Meeting.**

**4. Presentation of the Chair's Annual Report.**

**5. BFNL Manager's Report contained in the Annual Report booklet.**

Motion that the Annual Reports of the BFNL Chair and BFNL Manager be accepted:

Moved:

Seconded:

**6. AFL Central Victoria Commission Report contained in the Annual Report booklet.**

**7. Presentation of the Financial Report for the year ended 31st October 2024.**

Motion that the Annual Financial Statement be confirmed as a true and fair record of the financial position of the BFNL during and at the end of the financial year:

Moved:

Seconded:

## 8. Election of vacant Board positions.

Board to consist of a minimum of 7 persons, and a maximum of 9 persons.

Currently, the BFNL Board has 7 persons.

In accordance with Part 5, Division 3, Election of Board Members & Tenure of Office of the BFNL Constitution no BFNL Board Members will retire by rotation.

No nominations were received for the vacant positions.

## 9. League affiliation 2025

Motion that the BFNL affiliate with AFL Victoria, AFL Central Victoria, and Netball Victoria for season 2025:

Moved:

Seconded:

## 10. Appointment of Auditor(s)

Motion to appoint a League auditor for the coming 12 months:

Moved:

Seconded:

## 11. Other Business:

a. Awarding of the Volunteer Recognition of Service Awards to:

- i. Shawn Rixon – Castlemaine (see attached)
- ii. Ron Hyatt – South Bendigo (see attached)

b. No other business received.

## 12. Meeting Closed:

## MINUTES OF 40TH BENDIGO FNL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - SEASON 2023

Minutes of the 40th Annual General Meeting of the Bendigo Football Netball League, held at The Bendigo Club, on Wednesday 17th January 2024.

Meeting opened: 7.34pm

### Attendance:

**Board Members:** Carol McKinstry, Andy Walker, Sam McGee, Cheryl Elvey, Ellyse McNish, Todd Deary, Craig Findlay, Cameron Tomlins (BFNL Manager)

**BFNL Clubs:** Caleb Kuhle, Shawn Rixon (Castlemaine), James Hanley (Eaglehawk), Tony Brancatisano, Debbie Brancatisano (Gisborne), Leigh Bailey, Shan Jasotharan (Kangaroo Flat), Mark O'Farrell (Sandhurst), Luke O'Keefe, Rod Barty (Strathfieldsaye), Rohan Molenaar (BFNL Life Member), Richard Jones & J. Jones (Phoenix Radio)

**Guests:** Gavin Hore (AFLCV Commission)

**Apologies:** John Wood & Mandy Dimasi (Gisborne FNC), Scott Quinlan (Maryborough FNC), Dujon Fuzzard (South Bendigo FNC), Andrew Wicking & Gill Sawyer (Golden Square FNC)

### Business:

#### 1. Welcome and apologies

Acknowledgement of Country, Board Chair extended warm welcome to all Presidents, BFNL Board members, guests in attendance on behalf of AFL Central Victoria Commission, and other attendees in general.

#### Motion that apologies be accepted.

**Moved:** Leigh Bailey

**Seconded:** Todd Deary

**Carried**

#### 2. Minutes of the 39th Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 18th January 2023.

#### Motion that the minutes are recorded as a true and accurate record.

**Moved:** Debbie Brancatisano

**Seconded:** Cheryl Elvey

**Carried**

#### 3. Business arising from the minutes of the 2022 Annual General Meeting.

No business arising.

#### 4. Presentation of the Chair's Annual Report.

a. BFNL Board Chair (CM) provided a verbal report summary, highlighting:

- i. Tragic death of Dallas Keogh-Frankling, positive club/community response, strength & leadership Castlemaine & Kyneton, supportive characteristics displayed by league/clubs.
- ii. Pleased to have 9 clubs participate in finals, strong crowds, and favourable weather.
- iii. Successful Netball Victoria Association Championships in both Open and 17 & under, unfortunately no football program.
- iv. Memorable presentation evening, club comradery, very well attended, extend thanks to clubs for commitment.
- v. Fortunate to receive strong ongoing coverage from media partners, note increased league resources into social media & content.
- vi. Retirement of Beres Fitch, successful co-opting of Craig Findlay & Todd Deary to fill casual Board vacancies, thanks to all Board directors.
- vii. Appreciation & recognition of all league partners
- viii. Appreciation of BFNL league manager & all AFLCV staff hub.

#### 5. BFNL Manager's Report contained in the Annual Report booklet.

a. BFNL Manager (CT) provided a verbal report summary, highlighting:

- i. Special thanks to all BFNL members, players, volunteers, Presidents, Committees involved in 2023 season.



- ii. Note pleasing increase in overall football/netball team participation.
  - iii. Congratulations to all Premiership teams and individual award winners.
  - iv. Congratulations and thanks to netball representative team coaches, support staff, and players/families.
  - v. Thanks to clubs for involvement in various BFNL themed rounds.
  - vi. Extend best wishes to Kyneton FNC who will not affiliate with the BFNL in 2024
  - vii. Honor Dallas Keogh-Frankling, recognise general support and comradery displayed, note leadership of CFNC President Caleb Kuhle.
  - viii. Special thanks to new and continued league sponsors, local council, media partners, BUA, BFNL Board members & AFLCV staff for dedication and support
  - ix. Note new initiatives - website development & Netball Umpire Mentor
- b. **Question regarding actual finals attendance (head count) as opposed to financial gate figures (TB)** - too many variables to accurately determine attendance figure, continue to investigate systems and methods to catch such data.

**Motion that the Annual Reports of the BFNL Chair & Manager be accepted:**

**Moved:** Luke O'Keefe

**Seconded:** Craig Findlay

**Carried**

**6. AFL Central Victoria Commission Report contained in the Annual Report booklet.**

- i. Report contained in the annual report booklet (taken as read).

**7. Presentation of the Financial Report for the year ended 31st October 2023.**

- a. Brief financial overview offered by BFNL Manager & Chair (CT/CM):
  - i. General financial performance overview - Posted season loss, revenue v expenses, decreased sponsorship, club subsidies, and financial grants.
  - ii. Favourable weather, mix of 9 clubs and positive impact on Finals Gates
  - iii. Implementation of league investments, initiatives, development - noting website development, netball streaming, Netball Umpire Mentor
  - iv. Importance of maintaining suitable level of cash reserves through prudent financial management.
  - v. Board committed to keep club costs at a minimum, all league expenses to be benchmarked & reviewed.

**Motion: The Annual Financial Statement be confirmed as a true and fair record of the financial position of the BFNL during and at the end of the financial year:**

**Moved:** Tony Brancatisano

**Seconded:** Todd Deary

**Carried**

**8. Election of vacant Board positions.**

Board to consist of a minimum of 7 persons, and a maximum of 9 persons..

In accordance with Part 5, Division 3, Election of Board Members & Tenure of Office of the BFNL Constitution:

- i. Carol McKinstry, Sam McGee, Andy Walker, Cheryl Elvey, and Ellyse McNish will retire as a Board member by rotation.

Seven nominations were received for the vacant positions:

**Carol McKinstry**

Nominated: Rick Townsend (South Bendigo FNC) Seconder: Mark O'Farrell (Sandhurst FNC)

**Sam McGee**

Nominated: Rick Townsend (South Bendigo FNC) Seconder: Mark O'Farrell (Sandhurst FNC)

**Andy Walker**

Nominated: Rick Townsend (South Bendigo FNC) Seconder: Mark O'Farrell (Sandhurst FNC)

**Cheryl Elvey**

Nominated: Rick Townsend (South Bendigo FNC) Seconder: Mark O'Farrell (Sandhurst FNC)



## Ellyse McNish

Nominated: Rick Townsend (South Bendigo FNC) Seconder: Mark O'Farrell (Sandhurst FNC)

## Craig Findlay

Nominated: Rick Townsend (South Bendigo FNC) Seconder: Mark O'Farrell (Sandhurst FNC)

## Todd Deary

Nominated: Rick Townsend (South Bendigo FNC) Seconder: Mark O'Farrell (Sandhurst FNC)

\* *Craig Findlay & Todd Deary submitted official nominations after being appointed by the BFNL to fill casual vacancies in September 2023.*

Nominated Board members elected unopposed.

## 9. League affiliation 2024

### Motion that the BFNL affiliate with AFL Victoria, AFL Central Victoria, and Netball Victoria in 2024:

**Moved:** Leigh Bailey

**Seconded:** Caleb Kuhle

**Carried**

## 10. Appointment of Auditor(s).

### Motion to appoint Kelly & Partners/MGR Accountants as the Leagues auditor for the coming 12 months:

**Moved:** Cheryl Elvey

**Seconded:** Ellyse McNish

**Carried**

## 11. Other Business:

### i. No other business received.

### ii. Presentation of 2023 Premiership Flags

- a. Sandhurst FNC (Reserves), Gisborne (Under 18)
- b. Absent - Golden Square FNC (Seniors)

### iii. 2024 key registration milestones program

- a. Update on rollout/purpose of annual participant registration monitoring program.

### iv. 2024 AFLCV Expo

- a. Update on delivery of possible in person v virtual sessions.

### v. Scheduled AFL Club Community Camps

- a. School, junior club, Auskick centres
  - North Melbourne FC 12-13th February
  - a. Emma Kearney Q&A (evening - Monday 12th)
  - Carlton FC 13-14th February
  - b. Possible coach/volunteer forum TBC

### vi. 2024 BFNL Season Launch - Bendigo Mazda (TBC)

- a. Update on intention and purpose to generate BFNL interest for both the league, and specific club media exposure and interviews.

### vii. Child Safety Standards

- a. Reminder for clubs to continue to follow provided resources to meet legislated regulations, appointment of CSO.

Thank all for attendance and varied support.

**Meeting closed: 8.17pm**



TOM KING - BFNL MANAGER

## Mission Statement

**“The Bendigo Football Netball League will provide a professionally administered league which is strong and vibrant. It prides itself on having a major competition status within regional Victoria. The Bendigo Football Netball League legacy is to leave the game and community in better shape for current and future generations.”**

2024 was a year to remember in the Bendigo Football Netball League.

Beginning on March 29 with Castlemaine hosting Maryborough on Good Friday and culminating with a spectacular Grand Final day on September 21, the 2024 season was played over 25 weeks where community spirit was to the fore across the League.

First and foremost - congratulations to all teams and clubs along with the countless devoted support staff and volunteers for their tireless effort and dedication to season 2024. Furthermore, congratulations to all 2024 BFNL Premiers, and individual awards winners on their terrific seasons.

Our 2024 Grand Final day was headlined by several intense and exciting netball Grand Finals while the Senior Football match was certainly a nail-biter. Importantly though, a successful Grand Final day can only be built with a solid platform, which occurred in Week One of the Finals as all 9-clubs were represented during the first week of the series. A great result for the League and Clubs.

It is an honour to again be able to congratulate all our Premiership teams on an incredible season, along with the hundreds of devoted support staff and volunteers on their tireless effort and dedication.

Congratulations to Sandhurst FNC who claimed 5 Premierships in total including the Seniors, Reserves and Under 18's Football premierships plus the 17 & Under and B-Reserve Netball titles. The Dragons' dominance culminated with a nail-biting Senior Football contest where the Dragons held off a fast-finishing Gisborne. 2024 was certainly a year to remember for everyone at Sandhurst FNC.

Gisborne FNC scored back-to-back A-Grade Netball Premierships as they overcame a 9-goal deficit to and a strong Kangaroo Flat line-up. In front of a packed-out crowd, the Bulldogs class and experience shone through in the final minutes to help them secure a famous victory.

The Bulldogs also scored success in in the B-Grade Netball in one of the craziest finishes you will see when Gisborne scored two goals in the final 30 seconds which soared them to victory by a single goal.

The A-Reserve Netball Grand Final between Gisborne and Strathfieldsaye was another thriller with Strathfieldsaye managing to get the upper hand to score a 1-point victory.

Again, congratulations too all 2024 Premiers.

Congratulations to all individual award winners announced and presented at the 2024 Michelsen Medal. To be able to celebrate another successful season by recognising several outstanding individual seasons in their respective competitions is a great highlight on the calendar for the League.

The prestigious evening ended with one of the most ridiculous Michelsen Medal counts we have seen with three players sharing our league's highest individual honour.

Congratulations to Bradley Bernacki (Gisborne), Braidon Blake (Gisborne) & Lachlan Tardrew (Sandhurst) who could not be separated on 20 votes. While another Gisborne midfielder, Flynn Lakey finished 2 votes back on 18.

Congratulations to Kangaroo Flat's Chelsea Sartori claimed her second consecutive Betty Thompson Medal on 20 votes over Gisborne's Madeline Stewart. A fan favourite, Sartori proved once again why she is one of the best players in the state.

We also congratulate 2024 Ron Best Medallist Fergus Greene from Sandhurst, whose 80-goals saw him claim the award named in honour of BFNL Legend inductee Ron Best. Fergus put together an amazingly consistent season for his first year back in community football.

During the Michelsen & Thompson event, we introduced our Rising Star award winners with thanks to Bart 'n' Print. Congratulations to Gisborne's Dasha Taylor and Castlemaine's Ryan Eyre for being judged the best emerging talent within the league.

In 2024, we welcomed the return of Interleague football as we began a new relationship with the VAFA. Played at Elsterwick Park, Brighton, our BFNL squad put in a terrific 2nd half comeback to go down by just 12 points.

Coached by Sandhurst's Ash Connick and gallantly captained by Gisborne's Jack Reaper, the Diggers wore the guernsey with pride and competed strongly throughout the match with Strathfieldsaye's James Schishcka hitting the scoreboard nicely with 4 goals. While Golden Square's Ricky Monti took home the Derrick Filo medal for Best on Ground.

Attention now turns to 2025 when the BFNL will host the VAFA at the QEO.

Our representative netball programs were again a shining light of 2024 with the 17 & Under and Open teams qualifying for the Association Championships in Melbourne.

The 17 & under team had a terrific outing in Melbourne winning 7 of their 11 matches to finish in 5th position.

After winning 5 of their 6 matches to finish 2nd in their pool, our Open team headed to the semi-finals full of confidence but went down to a strong Goulburn Valley FNL in a hard-fought match.

Our netball program coaches in Nicole Donnellon & Sharni McPherson for the 17 & under team, and Open coach Tarryn Rymer again created a strong high-performance atmosphere for our players to further develop and successfully evaluate themselves against the best netballers across the state.

We thank all coaches, players, training staff and volunteers who dedicated their time and effort to supporting both our football and netball representative programs.

As with other seasons, in 2024 we proudly supported and hosted several valuable themed rounds, and we thank all associated organisations, foundations, individuals, and clubs for their support. We are privileged to have an opportunity to use community football and netball as a platform to publicly support and raise awareness for important causes providing positive impact on our local communities.

Themed round highlights during season 2024 included a hugely successful Indigenous round supported by the Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation, TAC Road Safety Round, and the Pat Cronin Foundation Round featuring Eaglehawk and Castlemaine providing education, resources, and strategies to the wider community to empower young people so that together we can stop violence and end the coward punch.

I would like to take the opportunity to extend the League's best wishes to the Maryborough Football Netball Club who have made the tough decision to move into recess for the 2025 season.

The Magpies have a longstanding history with the BFNL and while the last few seasons have been a challenge for the Club, I

admire their fight, love for their Club, and have full faith that the Maryborough FNC will be back in the BFNL for the 2026 season.

After the 2024 season, the BFNL accepted a new Club into the League, with Broadford Football Netball Club formally applying to join the League. Located to the east of Bendigo, Broadford FNC spent 2024 in recess and will remain in recess for 2025 as the Club puts in the groundwork to ensure a strong and sustainable future for the club in the BFNL for 2026 and beyond.

The BFNL will continue to consult with both Maryborough FNC and Broadford FNC as they look to participate in the BFNL in 2026.

## Our Valued Partners

Our partners are the cornerstone of our League and are critical to our ability to coordinate a successful, exciting, and vibrant competitions. We acknowledge and thank all new and returning partners of the league for the ongoing investment in community football and netball. We are fortunate to have the ongoing support and investment of several valued partners.

A longtime supporter of the BFNL, the Bendigo Bank once again supported the League as the major supporter of our football and netball competitions. Their continued dedication and investment allow us to assist clubs with participation, inclusion, social connection, and provides opportunity to support the varied physical, social, and mental benefits of being involved in a local sporting association.

Our ongoing partnership with the Bendigo Bank offers local clubs' opportunities to directly benefit from the referral program initiative, via the financial incentive program for club members who bank with the Bendigo Bank.

We also extend our deepest thanks to the below loyal partners who helped us throughout 2024:

- Bendigo Mazda, the continued major sponsor of all BFNL netball competitions and representative netball.
- Workforce XS for the sponsorship of match day footballs, Interleague football which returned for 2024, and for managing Finals security requirements.
- A new Reserves football competition sponsor, Drummond Golf Bendigo who have invested in the League to support the Reserves Player of the Week.
- Under 18 competition sponsors Sportspower Bendigo.
- The Bendigo Club, hosts of the annual Michelsen Medal event.
- Bart 'n' Print who sponsor the highly anticipated Rising Star awards, along with providing league printing and design services such as match day Record production.
- Goal scoring partners Coffee Storm
- We sincerely thank all other partners for their varied support including Sherrin, Bendigo Times, Gold Central Victoria, Bendigo Party Hire, Great Ideas Awards and Gifts, High St X-Ray, Simon Rosa Landscaping, Neverland Store, and Cleanaway.

As we thank Bart 'n' Print for their support for 2024, we also extend our deepest condolences to Steve and the entire team at Bart 'n' Print who in 2024 lost Shane "Blacky" Blackman who for more than 20 years, designed and printed our BFNL Record every week.

Shane's contributions to football and netball in our region were extensive and go beyond what was seen each round by Clubs, players, and fans in the BFNL Record.

Known for his quick-wit and his love of Richmond, Shane will be sorely missed as a graphic designer, comedian and most importantly, as a friend.

The BFNL are grateful for the various valued media partners who promote our league across multiple mediums.

We sincerely thank the entire sports team at the Bendigo Advertiser for their extensive and in-depth analysis of all things BFNL football and netball. The ongoing support from Bendigo Advertiser covers the Senior football 'Bendigo Advertiser Cup' presented to the premierships team each year and were again a proud supporter of our highly successful Premier Data statistical analysis platform.

Thanks to Premier Data who again supplied the BFNL statistical analysis giving the League a point of difference while helping players and coaches pinpoint strengths and areas that could use improvement for both players and teams.

We appreciate the dedication of Bendigo's Fresh FM 101.5 for their continued broadcast and comprehensive coverage of the BFNL competition throughout the regular season & finals series. The Fresh team also contributed by hosting the 2024 pre-Michelsen Medal count, venturing into live streaming of football and netball counts.

Thanks to Red Onion Creative for the provision of all match video, highlights, and live-streaming services. These are all areas the BFNL will continue to invest in to increase the overall access and the profile of the League which continues to provide an attractive point of difference for the BFNL. We thank the team for allowing us to film and stream a highly entertaining A-Grade netball finals series.

We extend our sincere appreciation to a host of other individuals that provide quality services to the BFNL:

- Steve Dilks from SAA Imaging for amazing photography services throughout the season, covering weekly matches and several special BFNL events.
- Kylie Ellis, who is renowned as the best vote-caller in the region calling the 2024 Michelsen & Thompson Medals and pre-count events.
- Our professional and knowledgeable MC Joel Peterson who again hosted the Michelsen Medal and Season Launch.
- Benny Jones who stepped in for 2024 Grand Final day MC duties and commentated the A-Grade netball Grand Final live.
- Nathan Dole's thorough previews and analysis of football and netball matches weekly.
- Richard Jones for his regular highly anticipated historic recollections relating to the BFNL.

## Summary

Our clubs are the heartbeat of our communities, and whilst volunteer work is thankless, I personally thank everyone that positively contributes to the success of your club.

Understanding that there are many volunteer roles and every club, I must say a special thanks to club Presidents and Committees for the leadership and direction through 2024 and for keeping an open line of communication to me as incoming BFNL Manager.

A sincere thank you to all BFNL players, coaches, officials, supporters, for the demonstrated commitment to your club. Your passion underpins each BFNL Club, the League which ultimately creates a solid platform for sustainability and success.

Thanks to Michael Hockley and Dean Goodridge and the entire team from the Bendigo Umpires Association for the development and provision of football umpire appointments during the season. Umpiring can be a challenging role at times, and we thank all umpires for their service, dedication, and willingness to be part of our League in 2024.

I thank other AFL Central Victoria staff who provide support to myself and the League in a variety of ways including Jan Mannes who continues to assist with BFNL Netball administration and Jay Cathrine who as Operations Manager, leads the Match Review & Tribunal processes.

I acknowledge and thank BFNL Chair, Carol McKinstry and the entire BFNL Board who since coming into the BFNL Manager role, have been nothing but supportive of me as I transitioned into the position.

The BFNL Board are all volunteers who invest their time, knowledge, and support to the benefit of the League, so thank you.

A final thank you to outgoing BFNL Manager, Cameron Tomlins who led from the front for over 6 years as the face of the League. A highly respected sports administrator, colleague and friend, Cam contributed to countless initiatives that have left the BFNL in a much better place than when he began.

Cam has now moved into the Region Manager role within AFL Central Victoria and will continue to be a presence at BFNL matches in the future.

In summary, our League is in a terrific place after a 2024 that threw up lots of challenges. We will continue to ensure that BFNL participation, competitiveness, and strategic planning development allows us to ensure clubs are supported and the league remains vibrant. Let us continue to work together to deliver a brand that confirms the BFNL status as the premier football and netball league in Central Victoria.



PROFESSOR CAROL MCKINSTRY - CHAIR, BENDIGO FOOTBALL NETBALL LEAGUE

The 2024 BFNL season has been another that has had plenty happening. With a bye in our competition, the fixture made things challenging for clubs and the league. The absence of teams competing from the Maryborough Football Netball Club also posed challenges and I thank the work and positivity of all clubs and Maryborough to get through the season. Once again we saw all clubs represented in the final series and the number of netball matches that went in to extra time was indicative of the competitiveness.

This year saw the recommencement of interleague for our senior football and they did us proud playing against the VAFA at Elsterwick. I would like to thank all the participating players, coaches including Head Coach, Ash Connick and Luke Freeman, Shannon Geary, Brad Eaton and Jason Stevens as assistant coaches and Brendan Stewart as team manager for their contribution, and we look forward to playing the VAFA, both seniors and U19 at the QEO in 2025. Our netballers again performed brilliantly at the Association Championships. The dedication of the coaches of both teams (Nicole Donnellon & Sharni McPherson - 17 & Under and Tarryn Rymer, Jayden Cowling and Steph Fremantle- Open Team) had a definite positive impact on both teams. Our 17 and Under team convincingly won their way through the qualifying tournaments and came third at the Association Champs while our Senior team highlighted the tremendous depth we have in our competition, coming third while we had a number of Bendigo Striker's players unavailable. Our netball competition just goes from strength to strength every year and is a credit to the coaches at club level for their development of such quality netballers. Congratulations also to Charlotte Sexton and Dasha Taylor on their national selection and to Claire McGee on her selection in the U19 national squad.

As part of our strategic plan, the BFNL Board has been working hard behind the scenes in discussions with potential new clubs to the BFNL. The transfer of Broadford Football Netball Club to the BFNL was completed during the transfer period and they will commence playing in 2026 after a period in recess. We will continue to work with them to provide any assistance we can to make a successful transition to the BFNL and I would like to thank their committee for the hard work they have done so far. Maryborough Football Netball Club have notified the BFNL that they will be in recess in 2025 and the BFNL Board will also provide them with any assistance to enable them to again recommence competition in 2026. The BFNL Board is aiming to have 10 clubs competing in 2026.

While coming out of the Covid pandemic presented many challenges for both BFNL Board and clubs, a major issue for the

BFNL has been the rising costs associated with running a league while revenue sources such as partnerships and sponsorship has been challenging. Financial sustainability is essential and while we have endeavoured to provide clubs with subsidised fee relief in recent years, that has meant we have posted deficits. To establish our position as a major league, we have also invested in initiatives such as the introduction of Premier Data, more live streaming of matches and a more functional and professional website which has benefited clubs, supporters and sponsors of the BFNL. These investments will continue to enable us to meet our strategic goals of being a vibrant and professional league that has a reputation for excellence.

I would like to conclude by thanking our former league manager, Cameron Tomlins who has expertly guided the league through difficult times including the pandemic with efficiency and professionalism. We were very fortunate to have Cameron for as long as we did, probably knowing that he would go onto bigger things and we wish him well in his new role as Regional General Manager, comforted that his knowledge is still available. We welcomed Tom King as our league manager midway through the season and Tom has seamlessly transitioned into the role bringing a wealth of knowledge about sponsorship and marketing that will further advance our league. His management of his finals series was wonderful. I would also like to thank the other members of the AFL CV Hub, particularly Jan Mannes who has overseen our netball operations and Laura Naughton who has overseen the financial aspects of the league.

Many thanks to the Bendigo Bank our league naming rights partner for their long-standing support of our league. Their ongoing support of grassroots football is much appreciated. Thanks also to Bendigo Mazda for their ongoing support of netball. In 2024, we welcomed Drummond Golf Bendigo to the BFNL as our Reserves Competition partner so we thank them as well as ongoing Under 18's partner, SportsPower Bendigo. We also give thanks to Workforce XS, The Bendigo Club, Bart 'n' Print, Coffee Storm, Cleanaway, Sherrin, Bendigo Party Hire, High St X-Ray, Great Ideas Awards and Gifts, Simon Rosa Landscaping, and Red Onion Creative for their continued valued support this year. Thanks also to our media partners (Bendigo Advertiser, Fresh FM, WIN TV, Bendigo Times, Gold Central Victoria) who have continued to promote our league and clubs.

Finally, I would like to thank all the BFNL Board Directors for their tireless commitment and considerable time this year. We are extremely fortunate the range of skills and experience across our Board.



Pics courtesy SAA Imaging, Bendigo





# AFLCV REPORT



Firstly, our sincere thanks to everyone that contributed to a successful season 2024, within all leagues and associations across the entire Central Victoria region.

The AFL Central Victoria region is incredibly grateful for the valuable role clubs play in their local communities across our region. Local football & netball clubs offer valuable social connections in addition to the physical and mental benefits for those actively participating. Our clubs often extend beyond their primary role of community sporting participation, to provide many other valuable services to those in need.

For AFL Central Victoria, 2024 has been a year of transition moving from the former Commission model, across to the newly appointed Region Council under the leadership of AFL Victoria. Our incoming Region Council are highly competent and passionate about facilitating positive change across the Central Victorian region to provide a sustainable, and viable future for all clubs.

AFL Central Victoria thank every individual who has served on the AFL Central Victoria Commission since its inception including outgoing Chair Nicholas Rolfe, for their continued dedication and service to the development, sustainability, and growth of our region.

The Region Council will continue to connect with all leagues and clubs as they start to map out several crucial planning projects focusing on the health and sustainability of football and netball throughout the region, relying on data, consultation, and engagement to develop evidence-based decisions and recommendations that facilitate positive future change and growth across the region.

We also welcomed the deployment of the newly created position of the Club Development Lead, Jacob DeAraugo, who since commencing earlier this year has had a significant impact and will continue to support all clubs across the region across all aspects of club operations, volunteerism, administration, compliance, and governance.

## Congratulations

On behalf of AFL Central Victoria, we extend our sincere gratitude to the volunteers, administrators, players, coaches, and families from all clubs who made this such a successful and enjoyable year.

We congratulate all teams who proudly represented their club in respective finals campaigns, along with all our season 2024 premierships teams. Premiership success is difficult to accomplish, and whilst the ultimate measure of club success is far greater than a premiership cup, those who achieved grand final success will hold fond memories of that triumph for years to come.

Congratulations to all players who won individual awards, either at League or Club level on your respective seasons. Whilst most participants aspire to team success, we celebrate all players from across the region who were recognised for their outstanding individual achievements in season 2024.

## Thank You

The AFL Central Victoria region is incredibly grateful for the valuable role clubs play in their local communities across our region. Local football & netball clubs offer valuable social connections in addition to the physical and mental benefits for those actively participating.

Our clubs often extend beyond their primary role of community sporting participation, to provide many other valuable services to those in need.

Club volunteers contribute so much to make this happen, and often do so regularly without wanting acknowledgement or

recognition, and we celebrate those people who allow our teams to participate.

- We recognise and thank the countless volunteers across the region who enable our clubs to function and allow matches to proceed each week. Thousands of people are required throughout the region, completing hundreds of roles to ensure games can be played.
- Considering over 400 matches are played every weekend across netball, football, and hockey, umpires are critical to participation. Umpiring sports remains a difficult yet rewarding role, and we appreciate the investment from every person who umpired in some capacity this year. Many Association umpires went above and beyond as required, participating in multiple games on the same day or weekend to support players and clubs. Our appreciation extends to club appointed umpires who offered their services when local Umpire Association pools became exhausted at times. Please remember games don't occur without umpires so please be respectful to all umpires who, like the players, are trying their best.
- AFL Central Victoria are fortunate to have continued support from local partners, at club, league, and regional level. The varying support they deliver allows direct benefits to clubs and local communities through a range of initiatives, investments, and activities. Of significant mention, major partner Bendigo Bank invests in the region to reduce financial burden on clubs, whilst generating further club support via the club referral program which offers vital funds directly to affiliated clubs by referring new business to the bank.
- We are grateful for our developed relationships with community partners such as the TAC, Headspace Bendigo, Love the Game, Agnico Eagle, and the Pat Cronin Foundation. A special thanks to the TAC for facilitating the Club Rewards program, incentivising grassroots clubs across the state for showing a commitment to promoting road safety during the 2024 season. We congratulate all local clubs for their investment in the program to promote road safety, particularly those successful Central Victoria football and netball clubs who were recipients of rewards through the successful program.
- We thank our appointed pool of skilled volunteers who offer their time to assist with tribunal and investigation operations, which is an important, complex, and necessary function. Recent changes have been implemented in the match review and disciplinary process, which have greatly supported the procedure by reducing burden for umpires, clubs, and volunteers.
- Our appreciation extends to local media outlets across the entire Central Victoria region. We are thankful to receive great coverage, promotion, content, and support from various print, radio, or television platforms. Media remains a valuable source of information for local communities across all regions of our competing clubs.

## Participation

Throughout the 2024 season, the AFL Victoria Participation & Programs team delivered an incredible volume of tailored participation programs across the Central & Northern regions.

Achieving an impressive 174 touch points across regional schools, the team were able to facilitate and deliver a range of products and programs including:

- NAB AFL Auskick Programs at Schools
- All Girls Auskick & Superkick Program
- AFL Primary Play (free programs delivered at primary schools)
- Sport Schools Program (AFL Victoria staff delivered or Teacher Led)

- Unders - Auskick transition program
- School Holiday Programs

The intent of these programs is to continue to grow the base of community participation, whilst connecting new participants with community club pathways. AFL Central Victoria in conjunction with AFL Victoria will continue to invest in programs that attract and retain as many participants as possible, whilst exploring alternate formats of the game such as AFL Nines for those who may be looking for different ways to play the game of Australian Rules Football.

Bendigo and surrounding areas were excited to welcome the North Melbourne Football Club (both AFL & AFLW) and Carlton Football Club (both AFL & AFLW) for their AFL Community Camps during the year, these camps saw players visit numerous schools, conduct clinics, provide coaching development and leadership sessions, and visit many junior football clubs. The community connection such AFL visits offer to local participants and community members is clear, and we sincerely thank the AFL clubs, players, coaches and support staff for their time and investment.

## Development & Pathways

AFL Central Victoria again offered local development opportunities for football and netball player across our region in the form of Academy programs. These programs offer a great opportunity for young athletes to participate and further develop a range of skills, under the leadership of some of the best coaches across the region. Similarly, our Academy programs provide a great pathway for local coach learning and development.

The Bendigo Bank Junior Football League (BJFL) hosted the La Trobe University Interleague Challenge at Mercy Junortoun Sports Precinct (MJSP) against Goulburn Murray Junior League and Murray Football League where a round robin format was held for the Under 13, 14 and 15 Boys. The BJFL also travelled to Ballarat to play against the Ballarat Football Netball League in the annual Goldfields Challenge for the Under 14 Girls, 16 Girls, 13 Boys, 14 Boys and 15 Boys.

The Champions IGA Central Victoria Football League (CVFL) continued the annual carnival against Northern Country Women's League and North-East Border Female Football League this time hosting within Central Victoria at MJSP. This year the CVFL had Under 18 Girls under their banner for the first time and was great to see both sides representing their league with pride.

The Bendigo Pioneers worked hard with AFL Central Victoria to reformat the V/line cup pathway. Instead of the Mildura Carnival, two games were held in July school holidays with one at Epsom (AFLCV v AFLGM) and one in Mildura (Sunraysia v Central Rivers).

All leagues in our region had representative netball teams who attended tournaments along with Netball Victoria Association Championships. This included age groups from 13 & under, right through to open age. AFL Central Victoria Netball academy players successfully participated in the Kingston & Districts Netball Association tournament in August.

V/Line Cup carnivals were again coordinated for our most promising under 15 female and male football players. The 2024 carnivals were held in Ballarat for the most talented under 15 players across all areas of country Victoria. It was a pleasure to witness the level of skill demonstrated by emerging talent from across our region, who represented their region and clubs with pride. We extend our gratitude for the investment of all coaches, match officials, support staff, and importantly families of our selected players who contributed to the success of the event.

Gala days engaging junior footballers and netballers from the various leagues in our region were again coordinated allowing an opportunity to successfully compete against each other at a one-day event, our special thanks to all involved.

AFL Central Victoria provided multiple programs and activities for the education and development of coaches and umpires, across both football and netball. These programs involved a range of practical and classroom education, facilitated, and delivered by several highly credentialled presenters.

## Infrastructure

Congratulations to all concerned in both State and Local Government, all clubs, and stakeholders for driving facility development within the region. Exciting facility developments during 2024 included:

- The official opening and delivery of the major Community Hub development at Donaldson Park in Wedderburn, including new facilities and unisex change rooms for players and umpires.
- Installation of new netball courts, netball scoreboard, and surrounds at Toolleen Recreation Reserve (Mount Pleasant)
- Delivery & installation of a new scoreboard with colour LED display, remote wireless operation, inbuilt siren, HDMI connectable, and security features, including electronic roller shutters at the main oval of Malone Park, Marong
- Several clubs welcomed lighting upgrades, and minor change room upgrades (player/umpire) at various clubs throughout the region.
- 2025 plans have been confirmed to redevelop the existing ground floor of the pavilion at Golden Square Recreation Reserve to meet today's service standards and expectations for accessibility, gender equity, sustainability, player safety and functionality.
- The City of Greater Bendigo has recently purchased Backhaus Oval which was identified in the 2020 Golden Square Recreation Reserve Master Plan and 2022 Golden Square Structure Plan as an ideal site to address Golden Square's undersupply of public open space.

## Grants & funding

Congratulations to clubs across the Central Victorian region who were active in submitting for a variety of funding and grants from various organisations and programs at Local, State, and National levels.

It is encouraging that many clubs took advantage of several great opportunities to seek funding to support participant & club development, upskilling volunteers, facilities & infrastructure, safety & equipment, along with many other worthwhile opportunities.

In a pleasing result for the region, 17 clubs across the region shared more than \$55,000 of AFL Victoria funding through the Telstra Footy Country Grants program that provided tangible support for clubs and help alleviate challenges they may face.

Well done to those clubs who put in the effort to successfully apply for funding to support critical local projects across the region.

## People

Finally, we recognise the considerable efforts of all staff members across both Bendigo and Swan Hill hubs. The level of knowledge, service and dedication displayed by staff members to deliver high quality competitions and assist our leagues and clubs continually exceeds expectations.

It has likewise been a significant year of transition with several valued AFL Central Victoria employees moving on to accept a variety of exciting new opportunities. We extend a special thanks to those people for the significant efforts and investment to AFL Central Victoria, including Laura Naughton, Sharon McColl, Nicholas Pay, Rebecca Mullen, Taylah Morris, & Remidy Burney.

It would be remiss of me not to specifically acknowledge the increased investment and support displayed by current AFL Central Victoria staff who have continually covered and supported resourcing gaps to maintain administrative services at an incredibly high level without impact to leagues, associations, or clubs. The remarkable investment of the AFL Central Victoria team who continually go above and beyond particularly in their own time to support the region is incredible and has not gone unnoticed - we thank you all and could not have achieved the successful 2024 season without you.

## 2024 COACHING STAFF FOOTBALL



**SENIORS**  
**Michael Hartley**

**RESERVES**  
**Frank Byrne**

**UNDER 18**  
**Bailey Henderson**

## NETBALL



**A GRADE**  
**Chloe Hughes**

**A RESERVE**  
**Chloe Hughes**

**B GRADE**  
**Lara Daly**

**B RESERVE**  
**Lara Daly**

**17 & UNDER**  
**Sharron Dredge**

## 2024 BEST & FAIRESTS

### FOOTBALL

**SENIORS** Bailey Henderson

**RESERVES** Campbell McLennan

**UNDER 18** Archie Rixon

### NETBALL

**A GRADE** Kyla Byrne

**A RESERVE** Sarah McLean

**B GRADE** Shae Denahy

**B RESERVE** Carly Haddock

**17 & UNDER** Kyla Byrne

# CASTLEMAINE FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB



**President:** Caleb Kuhle  
**Secretary:** Georgia Banks  
**Treasurer:** Trevor Butcher  
**Committee:** Shawn Rixon, Annette Kuhle, Jordan Cochrane, Ron Cawthorn, Tracey Watson, Nikkea Hogan, Jackie McLean, Damien Sharrock, Mark Shannon, Liam Wilkinson

It was an up and down year for football and netball in many ways for the club this year. The club made some big changes to our football approach by introducing a new coaching panel headed by Michael Hartley and assisted by Harmit Singh; also moving to life without star netball coach and defender Fiona Fowler, we appointed first time coach Chloe Hughes. There were immediate results in morale amongst the players and kept them coming back even when results were not going our way. Notably the seniors registered seven wins this year but also had much improvement across the board in competitiveness and even pushing a few top five sides late into games. Seven wins being the highest win total by our Senior side since 2016, however this feat was achieved with two less matches played and higher percentage. The netball dropped from

having two seasons of finals appearances to one win in A grade, but the year was highlighted by some great efforts by the 17&Under side throughout the season

Bailey Henderson led the way in under 18's for the first time and did so very well recording a couple final's appearances and developing the future of the club. His leadership has shaped many players, and it is shown as several under 18 players made their senior debuts this year in what will be long careers for them at the club.

We are thrilled to have our senior coach for next year and beyond with Ex-AFL key position player Michael Hartley retaining the job. Furthermore, we have re-signed and signed over 40 players to contracts for 2025 in what we hope to be a far stronger performance by both Seniors and Reserves football.



Pics courtesy  
SAA Imaging,  
Bendigo



# 2024 COACHING STAFF FOOTBALL



**SENIORS**  
**Travis Matheson**

**RESERVES**  
**Nick Patching**  
**Matt Pollock**

**UNDER 18**  
**Dennis Grinton**

## NETBALL



**A GRADE**  
**Kylie Piercy**

**A RESERVE**  
**Kim Schepers**

**B GRADE**  
**Paige Combridge**

**B RESERVE**  
**Lisa Moore**

**17 & UNDER**  
**Vanessa Saunders**

## 2024 BEST & FAIRESTS

### FOOTBALL

<b>SENIORS</b>	<b>Billy Evans</b>
<b>RESERVES</b>	<b>Jaxon Vroom</b>
<b>UNDER 18</b>	<b>Kyen Burrill Grinton</b>

### NETBALL

<b>A GRADE</b>	<b>Morgan Keating</b>
<b>A RESERVE</b>	<b>Gemma Bull</b>
<b>B GRADE</b>	<b>Josie Walsh</b>
<b>B RESERVE</b>	<b>Tahli Maxted</b>
<b>17 &amp; UNDER</b>	<b>Keira McQueen</b>

# EAGLEHAWK FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB



**President:** James Hanley  
**Secretary:** Gerard Ilsley  
**Treasurer:** Jess Taelangi  
**Committee:** Rani Madden, Deb Lawton, Elley Lawton, Paige Combridge, Cassie O'Toole, Sarah Murley, Oscar Madden, Brett Crapper, Archie Lenten, Damian Miles

In 2024 we had 3 of our teams make it to finals senior and reserve football and A Grade netball.

The 2 football teams bowed out in the first week and the netballers who made a welcome return to finals action after a short period did the club proud but bowed out in the second week.

A tough season was had by all our football teams with injuries and suspensions hurting us badly. Our seniors and reserves lost key players for long periods and our depth was not strong enough to cover some of these personal.

Dennis had a really tough year with the under 18s but we take our hats off to him his support staff and players who were undermanned for the whole season but never gave up sensational effort.

To the netballers as we said a great effort by the A graders on returning to the finals action led by coach Kylie Piercy.

There was great improvement in all the other teams as well with B and B reserve girls just missing out on finals action.

Off the field James and his committee worked really hard to make sure the club kept going in the right direction but we are no different to a lot of other clubs it is getting very hard to get new people to put their hand up and help run the club and give some of our tired group a spell.

We wish to thank Kotta in the bar Shevy in the canteen all the ladies who helped do the teas for their support in 2024.

Others we wish to thank are gate keepers medical staff time keepers team staff and all our great sponsors for their 2024 contributions.

The last thank you goes to our great supporters we hope we did enough in 2024 to make you want to come back in 2025 and get behind this great club.

Always remember this is your club.

That's it and thanks till we see you next season.



Pics courtesy  
 of  
 BAA Imaging,  
 Bendigo



# 2024 COACHING STAFF FOOTBALL



**SENIORS**  
**Rob Waters**

**RESERVES**  
**Jeremy Pennefather**

**UNDER 18**  
**Jordan Ryan**

## NETBALL



**A GRADE**  
**Tarryn Rymer**

**A RESERVE**  
**Madeline Stewart**

**B GRADE**  
**Polly Salter**

**B RESERVE**  
**Brianah Thomson**

**17 & UNDER**  
**Rylee Connell**



## 2024 BEST & FAIRESTS

### FOOTBALL

**SENIORS** Braidon Blake

**RESERVES** Jacob Murphy

**UNDER 18** Jacob Floreani

### NETBALL

**A GRADE** Madeline Stewart

**A RESERVE** Jemma Denman

**B GRADE** Hannah Weir

**B RESERVE** Taylah Ranieri

**17 & UNDER** Nirvana Martin

# GISBORNE FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB



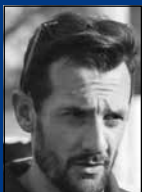
**President:** John Wood  
**Secretary:** Mandy Dimasi  
**Treasurer:** Debbie Brancatisano  
**Committee:** Tony Brancatisano, Gyllean Eales, Darren Mitchell, Tony Andrews

2024 was a very successful year with 7 of the 8 GFNC teams playing in Grand Finals. While not all teams enjoyed ultimate success, the GFNC A grade and B grade netball teams enjoyed thrilling wins, the A grade team becoming back to back Premiers. The on-field success reflected the hard work that goes on behind the scenes by the Committee together with a host of volunteers and supported by our valuable members and sponsors. Thank you to the coaching and support staff across netball and football. Their skill and expertise saw players perform at very high levels right across the season. Their efforts were validated by the success that we were able to achieve as a club.

Congratulations to the players who achieved recognition in individual awards at league level. Dasha Taylor as the 2024 BFNL Netball Rising Star, Taylah Ranieri as the BFNL B&F in B Reserve Netball, Emma Joyce the BFNL B Grade Netball runner-up, Maddie Stewart BFNL A Grade Netball Betty Thompson Medal runner-up, Hayden Doricic BFNL Reserves football leading goalkicker, Jacob Murphy Reserves BFNL B&F and Braidon Blake and Brad Bernacki as joint winners of the coveted Michelsen Medal.



## 2024 COACHING STAFF FOOTBALL



**SENIORS**  
**Brad Eaton**

**RESERVES**  
**Henry Anderton**

**UNDER 18**  
**Rowan Warfe**  
**Paul Hamilton**

## NETBALL



**A GRADE**  
**Teigan Redwood**

**A RESERVE**  
**Teigan Redwood**

**B GRADE**  
**Teigan Redwood**

**B RESERVE**  
**Teigan Redwood**

**17 & UNDER**  
**Clare Hope**

## 2024 BEST & FAIRESTS

### FOOTBALL

**SENIORS** Jordan Rosengren

**RESERVES** Dean Norris

**UNDER 18** Ollie Eaton

### NETBALL

**A GRADE** Daisy Stringer

**A RESERVE** Elise Richards

**B GRADE** Megan Fraser

**B RESERVE** Hayley Smith

**17 & UNDER** Abbi Wells

# GOLDEN SQUARE FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB



**President:** Andrew Wicking  
**Secretary:** Lisa Roberts  
**Treasurer:** Wendy Donegan  
**Committee:** Greg Pain, Liz Watkins, Kellie Martin, Tanner Rayner, Dean Norris, Gillian Sawyer, Jayson Lowther, Hayley Smith, Sheldon Burke, Chris Richards

While 2024 didn't quite manage to reach the dizzying heights of 2023, it was still a satisfying, and successful, year for the Golden Square Football Netball Club. In football, all three Men's teams went deep into the finals. A young, inexperienced, Senior team fell 8 points shy of a Preliminary final berth in a game against Strath where we felt we left a little on the field. They will be better for this year's experience in 2025. Our Reserves demonstrated the depth of our list and weren't disgraced in two competitive finals appearances without being rewarded. In the U18s it was again a case of what might have been. A season long desire to wipe the pain of a close 2023 Grand Final loss was cruelled by successive finals defeats of just 2 points each. Grand Final day was a hard one to watch for this group, but we will continue to reap the benefit of growing the senior list from within.

In netball, our A grade side saluted for the first time in 3 seasons with a hard-fought win at The Camp. It was a deliriously happy, and emotional, team that celebrated the

win, culminating in them joining with the Senior Men to belt out the club song. Another 3 wins across the season saw the side finish 6th in very positive signs for the ambitious pathway we have set for our entire netball program. As always, they were supported by our A Reserve, B and B Reserve grade sides, all under the watchful eye of coach, Teigen Redwood. Like the football, it was also pleasing to see most of our talent coming from within. Our U17 side had a mighty season, reaching the Grand Final, and showing the potential talent available to us in the years to come.

The club acknowledges the work of the BFNLC Board, their support staff and sponsors for allowing us to participate in this prestigious regional competition. We also extend our thanks to our players, coaches, support staff, volunteers, members and supporters for supporting and representing the club with such passion and enthusiasm. As we enter our 142nd year the blue and gold is as vibrant as ever.





# 2024 COACHING STAFF FOOTBALL



**SENIORS**  
**Michael Ellings**

**RESERVES**  
**Mitch Holt**

**UNDER 18**  
**Todd Newman**

## NETBALL



**A GRADE**  
**Jayden Cowling**

**A RESERVE**  
**Nicole Donnellon**

**B GRADE**  
**Catherine Wicks**

**B RESERVE**  
**Kate Newman**

**17 & UNDER**  
**Shae Kerns**

## 2024 BEST & FAIRESTS

### FOOTBALL

**SENIORS** Jack Lefroy

**RESERVES** Matt Wiegard

**UNDER 18** Zach Bird

### NETBALL

**A GRADE** Chelsea Sartori

**A RESERVE** Ashlee O'Shea

**B GRADE** Ashlye Faulkner

**B RESERVE** Lydia Lowndes

**17 & UNDER** Gemma McPhee

# KANGAROO FLAT FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB



**President:** Leigh Bailey  
**Vice President:** Carl Roberts  
**Secretary:** Chatheesha (Shan) Jasotharan  
**Treasurer:** Adam Melis  
**Committee:** Boyd Blythman, Kathy Hywood, Andrew Membrey, Scott Mitchell, Kate Newman, Todd Newman, Julie Smith,

Once again, season 2024 got off to a good start for the club, preparation for both football and netball started in November 2023 with preseason and netball selections.

By the time the first round approached, everyone's fitness levels were well and truly up to speed. Recruiting for our football sides was once again focused on the areas needed to support the younger group. After losing some of our quality young guns at the end of 2023 it was always going to be a difficult task to recruit and get the right balance.

The emphasis was to ensure the current group of players at the club were supported in the right areas.

The on-field results started out okay but faded away in the second half of the year, especially in the senior group, with the boys trying hard, but not being able to take it to the level required to compete with the better sides. The reserves were a bit unlucky not to make the finals after dropping a couple of winnable games. The U18's however can be proud of their season, making the finals, bowing out in the first week, but with 11 first year players there are great signs for next year.

The netballers season got off to a really good start in all grades, the 17's & Under are in a redeveloping phase with some really great work going on to get them back up in next year's finals race.

All the other grades contested the finals series, with A Res bowing out in the

first week, B Res in the second week, unfortunately the B Grade went out in the preliminary final, this left our A Grade girls fighting it out with Gisborne for the premiership.

Sadly after a brilliant game, Gisborne were able to pip the Roo girls at the post.

Another brilliant year from all grades and we are very proud of them all. The girls have been the yardstick for quite a few years now, setting the benchmark that football needs to aspire to. I'm sure they will continue on this path next year and make us all proud once again.

The enormous amount of work that went on behind the scenes has been nothing short of brilliant, the dedication from everyone is so vital to the running of the club and as we know there is so much of it that is unnoticed. The efforts of all these people is what makes our great club tick, with no one afraid to put their hand up for any task.

The work continues with the committee, football & netball departments working tirelessly to ensure season 2025 is bigger and more successful than the last. We have measures in place to assist us off the field to make the club stronger and better going forward.

To be part of the Kangaroo Flat Football Netball Club I look forward to the season 2025, to grow and be able to make the community proud of being Kangaroo Flat.

*Leigh Bailey, President*



Pics courtesy SAA Imaging, Bendigo



## 2024 COACHING STAFF FOOTBALL



**SENIORS**  
**Coby Perry**  
**Matthew Johnston**

**UNDER 18**  
**Kya Lanfranchi**

## NETBALL



**A RESERVE**  
**Maggie Tranter**

**B GRADE**  
**Laura Johnston**

**B RESERVE**  
**Laura Johnston**

**17 & UNDER**  
**Tammielle Linton**  
**Rachael Palmer**

## 2024 BEST & FAIRESTS

### FOOTBALL

**SENIORS** Coby Perry  
**UNDER 18** Cooper Mark

### NETBALL

**A RESERVE** Amanda Durbridge  
**B GRADE** Laura Johnston  
Megan Pritchard  
**B RESERVE** Cleste Lean  
**17 & UNDER** Ella Patten

# MARYBOROUGH FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB



**President:** Scott Quinlan  
**Secretary:** Marc Cassidy  
**Treasurer:** Anna Bartlett  
**Committee:** Daryl Groves, Melissa Adams, Leanne Postle, Maggie Tranter, Sally Neill, Troy Bursill, Andrea Potter, Shannyn Stevens

Firstly, I would like to sincerely thank all the Committee Members for Season 2024 and a big thank you to the BFNL board and all the BFNL clubs for helping us throughout the year. This season was extremely difficult and challenging, The MFNC committee continued to seek every possible outcome for a successful 2024, and potential options for 2025. There are plenty of unsung heroes that don't get recognition for the efforts and contribution, and I thank those people also. To every MFNC volunteer, thank you, without all of you the Club would not have made the end of Season 2024.

In 2023 that the Club had done a stellar effort in keeping the club alive, and the 2024 season was going to be far greater challenging to say the least, however the

Committee remained united, and we were fortunate not to only end the season with our Netball making finals, but to wrap our end of year functions up in fine style.

Whilst it has now been determined that the Senior Football and Netball teams will enter a recess period for Season 2025, it appears likely our Junior Football will field all required teams in the BJFL for 2025. Our junior programs along with Auskick have once again shown great results and participation. These numbers will be crucial in 2025 for our Clubs existence. We must remain positive and show our junior players and parents the club remains the elite pathway for youth in the district.



Pics courtesy  
SAA Imaging,  
Bendigo



## 2024 COACHING STAFF FOOTBALL



**SENIORS**  
**Ash Connick**  
**Bryce Curnow**

**RESERVES**  
**Jake McLean**

**UNDER 18**  
**Jarrod Bateson**  
**Isaac Ruff**



## NETBALL



**A GRADE**  
**Tamara Gilchrist**

**A RESERVE**  
**Tamara Gilchrist**

**B GRADE**  
**Jarileey Scholtes**

**B RESERVE**  
**Jarileey Scholtes**

**17 & UNDER**  
**Carol Cathcart**  
**Rose Gallagher**



## 2024 BEST & FAIRESTS

### FOOTBALL

**SENIORS** Lachlan Tardrew

**RESERVES** Wil Pinniger

**UNDER 18** Logan Kilcullen

### NETBALL

**A GRADE** Shae Clifford

**A RESERVE** Tess Keating

**B GRADE** Lucy Sherriff

**B RESERVE** Briona Giddings

**17 & UNDER** Harriett Whiteacre

# SANDHURST FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB



**President:** Mark O'Farrell  
**Secretary:** Len Nally  
**Treasurer:** Peter Watson  
**General:** Danny Ellis, Bill Robertson, Cath Robertson, David Gallagher, Rose Gallagher, Carlin Mackie, Kellie White, Matt Smith, Chloe Hann, Nektı Tzouroutis, Samantha Scanlon

Well it certainly was the year of the Dragon!

With all of our senior grade teams making the finals and to win 3 BFNL football 2 BFNL netball and junior premierships in both boys and girls football is a truly amazing achievement that the whole club should be very proud of. Grand final day was an historical day for the club with the 3 football teams winning the flags as first for our club. With the B reserve and the Under 17 netball teams also winning, that provided 5 of the 8 premierships for the day.

Across our club, our coaching team, along with the support of assistants, team managers and the support crew do an amazing job of instilling the Sandhurst playing culture to our players.

Thank you to Ash and Bryce for leading the senior football coaching and to Tamara for your leadership of the senior netball group. The time and effort you all put in has a lot to do with the success of our teams.

I wish Ash best of luck as he embarks on a new coaching role next year and we all look forward to seeing him at the GEO when your club has the bye in 2025.

2024 saw some incredible highs and sadly some very significant lows with the passing of some great club people, in particular club Legend Danny Ellis and Hall of Fame member John Fawcett. These 2 men contributed over 70 years of work to the club and it is due to the efforts of John and Danny that have the club in the position it is now.

Thank you to all the volunteers for your help and support whenever Len sent out

the call to arms. It makes things so much easier if roles are filled before the Saturday and what a pleasure it is to arrive at the GEO on Saturday morning from 7:00am to see the work being done by our volunteers for the rest of the day.

Thank you to Chris Ryan and Kellie White for overseeing the management of our Junior clubs. The junior arms provide us with future players across all areas and your efforts as those of your committee members are most appreciated.

Thank you to Ion Hann, president of our GD coterie group, Shane Meade, Kevin Walsh, Peter Watson, Peter Perez and Robert Walsh for running our GD group, well done and thank you very much for coordination and funding of various mental health programs, junior development and club amenities improvements you undertake.

Thank you to the members of the 2024 committee. To secretary Len Nally, treasurer Peter Watson, Cath & Bill Robertson, Rose & Dave Gallagher, 2024 club person of the year Chloe Hann, Matt Smith, Danny Ellis, Kellie White, Nektı Tzouroutis and Carlin Mackie.

Finally, thank you to our full list of sponsors, especially major sponsors Hotondo Homes, Grilled and the Rising Sun. there is a full list of sponsors in this report. Our club cannot survive without this support of these sponsors and I encourage our whole club to support our sponsors whenever possible. Keep them in mind whenever you are looking for a service or product that our sponsors can supply.

I look forward to season 2025.

*Mark O'Farrell, President*



Pics courtesy SAA Imaging, Bendigo



## 2024 COACHING STAFF FOOTBALL



**SENIORS**  
**Steven Stroobants**  
**Isaiah Miller**

**RESERVES**  
**Daniel Nalder**

**UNDER 18**  
**Reagan Stroud**  
**Carl Hardingham**

## NETBALL



**A GRADE**  
**Alicia McGlashan**  
**Marita Eddy**

**A RESERVE**  
**Marita Eddy**  
**Alicia McGlashan**

**B GRADE**  
**Alison Leech**  
**Vicky Brook**

**B RESERVE**  
**Vicky Brook**  
**Alison Leech**

**17 & UNDER**  
**Amber Hollis**

## 2024 BEST & FAIRESTS

### FOOTBALL

**SENIORS** Brody Haddow  
**RESERVES** James Barri  
**UNDER 18** Luke Feuerherdt

### NETBALL

**A GRADE** Stephanie Goode  
**A RESERVE** Carissa Brook  
**B GRADE** Bella Eddy  
**B RESERVE** Sandy Shepherd  
Ariana Ralph  
**17 & UNDER** Eden Clifford

# SOUTH BENDIGO FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB



**President:** Dujon Fuzzard  
**Vice-President:** Julian Lake  
**Secretary:** Michelle Forrester  
**Treasurer:** Mitch Hall  
**Committee:** Gary Bath, Natasha Clark, Gill Davey, Alan Ellis, Nicole Georgeson, Damien Power, Rick Townsend

After an historic relocation to the Harry Trot sporting precinct in 2023, our club continued to consolidate its position in our new home throughout the 2024 season. We saw an increase in participation numbers through our junior football and netball programs, including at Auskick level. The addition of club signage contributed to the "red and white" feel of the precinct and we continued to collaborate with our co-tenant, Bendigo United Cricket Club, to ensure productive shared usage of the excellent facilities. We have enjoyed increased attendances at our home games in 2024, which we expect to continue as we integrate further into the Kennington community. Our club also continued to promote awareness on important social issues, including road safety and the impact of low vision on the lives of those affected. Our sponsors continued to support us ably, allowing us every opportunity to create a club that develops talent, is fun, inclusive and fosters positive values.

Whilst our on-field results saw a decline in performance in 2024, our playing groups showed great strength of

character throughout the season. Their collective passion for South Bendigo Football Netball Club was highlighted by an early recommitment to the club for our 2025 campaign, which resulted in the highest player retention rate that our club has seen in years. We are extremely grateful for the efforts of our 2024 Senior Football Coaches, Isaiah Miller and Steven Stroobants, and A-Grade Netball Coach, Alicia McGlashan, and acknowledge the important role they each have played in preparing our club for future success.

In 2025, we welcome Troy Coates and Jack Fallon as our incoming Senior Football Coaches and Lauren Bowles as our incoming A-Grade netball coach. With numerous footballers and netballers entering our ranks, we hope to see our supporters and opposition supporters alike make South Bendigo their destination in 2025. We hope to showcase great local football and netball that can be enjoyed by all and we look forward to the season ahead.

Go Bloods!





# 2024 COACHING STAFF FOOTBALL



**SENIORS**  
**Luke Freeman**

**RESERVES**  
**Luke Marchesi**  
**Ben Lester**

**UNDER 18**  
**Lachie Ratcliffe**

## NETBALL



**A GRADE**  
**Stephanie Freemantle**

**A RESERVE**  
**Kirsten Pollock**

**B GRADE**  
**Makayle Dole**

**B RESERVE**  
**Sally Nicholson**

**17 & UNDER**  
**Fiona Schubert**



## 2024 BEST & FAIRESTS

### FOOTBALL

**SENIORS** Cooper Jones  
**RESERVES** Dermott Bell  
**UNDER 18** Jack Bell

### NETBALL

**A GRADE** Jessica Mangan  
**A RESERVE** Siarne Cass  
**B GRADE** Ashlee Barbetti  
**B RESERVE** Chelsea Crapper  
**17 & UNDER** Ciarah McDermott

# STRATHFIELDSAYE FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB



**President:** Luke O'Keefe  
**Secretary:** Tim Reed  
**Treasurer:** Kris Mallia and Brodie Rogers  
**Committee:** Rod Barty, Leone Paterson, Bill Ashby, Belinda Christy, Ashlee Barbetti, Matt Hargraves, Wendy Ratcliffe, Russell Schischka

It gives me great pleasure to give the 2024 edition of the Strathfieldsaye Football Netball Club Presidents report,

The year started strongly with a big pre-season and some enjoyable practice matches against some quality opposition, the players and coaching staff very confident of a strong season ahead.

It was quite another testing season ahead with many players representing the club through both senior and reserves football, with illness and injury depleting our teams once again.

On a more positive note, we had 7 teams represent the Mighty Storm in finals action, all our team battled hard through the finals series with 4 teams getting beaten on Preliminary Final day and our A reserve netball team going into the grand final. It was a very tough and physical game, but the girls showed the true storm passion to win, beating Gisborne FNC by a goal. A fantastic effort by the club and a true testament of the hard work of all involved.

Our social functions were once again well supported, and the Ball was our night of nights which saw a large turnout with

everyone enjoying a fantastic night at the All Seasons.

I would like to thank the tireless work of our fantastic coaching groups, both football and netball always have the club and players wellbeing as their first thought, great professionalism and great to work with.

To the committee and our beloved volunteers, strong and successful clubs don't just happen, its 100% because of your time and efforts that our players are fortunate enough to have their local club being operated by such a committed group of people.

A special thanks to Carol and the BFNL Board, along with Cameron Tomlins/Tom King for your continued work and support of not just Strathfieldsaye, but the whole Bendigo Football Netball League.

Finally, I would like to wish all office bearers and committee the very best of luck for season 2025.

Best of luck to all,  
Go the Mighty Storm.

*Luke O'Keefe, President*



pics courtesy SAA Imaging, Bendigo



## *Long-time friends join exclusive club*

**Friends for decades, Karly Bingham and Alicia McGlashan joined an exclusive club in this season's netball action in the Bendigo Bank Bendigo FNL season.**

When both marked their 300th matches on the same day and at the same venue, Bingham and McGlashan earned life membership of the Bendigo FNL.

Both were presented with their medals at Sunday night's Michelsen Medal and Betty Thompson Medal vote count and awards presentation at Bendigo Club. McGlashan's netball journey began at Marong in 1993. Family links to the Bingham's meant it was not long before the gun defender made her way to Kangaroo Flat's court in Dower Park.

"Carol Bingham (Karly's mum) was one of the main reasons I joined Kangaroo Flat," McGlashan said of the netball coaching doyen.

"Carol had a massive influence on my life, not just in netball."

An incredible run that McGlashan had with the Roos included seven premierships - six in A-grade, and runner-up for the Betty Thompson Medal as league fairest and best a decade ago.

As a 15-year-old, McGlashan won an A-grade title in her first year with the Kangaroos.

There were 13 grand final appearances, thousands of hours spent training and travelling to matches.

"The friendships are all so special," McGlashan said of her time in netball.

On-court her game has evolved.

"In my younger days it was all about speed and jump."

Karly Bingham is a five-time A-grade premiership player with Kangaroo Flat and also won two in A-reserve.

The 300-game players were still going strong across this season.

McGlashan as coach of South Bendigo in A-grade, and Karly in B-grade.

"It was amazing we both played our 300th games on the same day," McGlashan said of when South Bendigo met Kangaroo Flat at Harry Trott Oval in Kennington.

"Karly and I have had so many great times together."

A gun mid-courter, Bingham set up so many attacks in the Kangaroos' run to premiership glory across the years.

"To be awarded life membership is awesome."

She also spoke of her mum's incredible devotion to netball which led to being one of the first netball specific BFNL Hall of Fame inductees in 2019.

"Netball has been such a big part of my life," Karly Bingham said.

"For a medal to be named after mum is so special. It is fantastic the league recognises mum each year.

"Life membership being awarded to me is something she would be super proud about."



Pics courtesy SAA Imaging, Bendigo

Karly said the 300th game was a special moment across many in her netball journey.

"It's a day I will always remember."

Away from the netball court, McGlashan and Bingham are both mums.

They said the support from family was incredibly important and meant they could continue to play and be involved with a sport they love.





## NALDER MEDAL

The Nalder Medal is presented to the best player on the ground in the first eighteen grand final.

It is named of Alan Nalder a former South Bendigo and Kennington player. Alan played for South Bendigo during the McDonald Era and moved on to Kennington where he coached them to their only premiership in 1956.

A very talented on-baller, he was tragically killed in an accident on the way home from Benalla at the young age of 32.

The Golden City Football League named the league senior best and fairest award in his memory.

When the Bendigo and Golden City leagues combined they initially kept two divisions, but in 1983 the League became one division.

At that point the league decided to continue his memory by recognising the best player on the ground in the grand final.



## TURNER MEDAL

For anyone who grew up in Bendigo the name of Roy Francis "Dick" Turner was well known and respected.

Dick was the truant officer in Bendigo and many young students got to know Dick well.

Passionate about his community he served on council for 17 years and wore the mayoral robes on three occasions.

His true love was the Golden Square Football Club and he is credited with giving the boys from Country Vet Oval the Bulldog as its emblem.

He called football on 3BO for over 30 years and was Chairman of the newly formed Bendigo Football League before standing down due to ill health.

A bust of Dick sits in Golden Square keeping an eye on his favorite part of town.



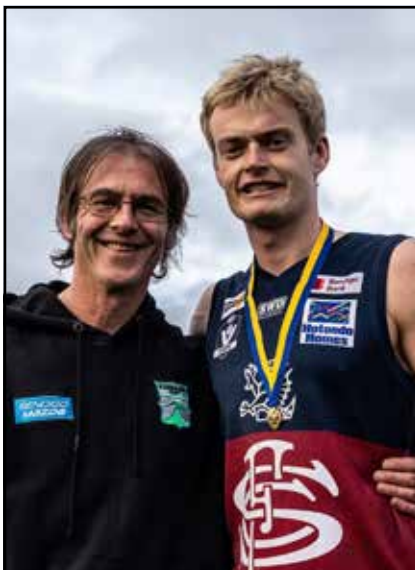
## ASHMAN MEDAL

Linking the best player on the ground for the Under 18 competition to Rod Ashman is a perfect fit.

An outstanding junior for Eaglehawk he won the Symons Medal as the Best & Fairest player in the Bendigo Football League in 1971.

Making his name initially as a goal-kicker his size saw him move to on-ball roles. Carlton saw something in him at a young age and he went on to become one of Carlton's great players in their great era. He finished with 236 games and 370 goals and had premiership medallions in 1981 and 1982.

His service was recognised by being inducted into both the Carlton Hall of Fame and their Team of the Century. In 2007 he became player welfare officer at Carlton.



**2024 NALDER MEDALLIST**

**LACHLAN TARDREW**

SANDHURST



**2024 TURNER MEDALLIST**

**RORY ELLETT**

SANDHURST



**2024 ASHMAN MEDALLIST**

**LOGAN KILCULLEN**

SANDHURST

YEAR	NAME	CLUB	TOTAL	YEAR	NAME	CLUB	TOTAL
1923	Ike Jones	Eaglehawk	54	1978	Ron Best	Golden Square	124
1924	R. Scott	South Bendigo	78	1979	Ron Best	Golden Square	137
1925	Charlie Nicholls	Castlemaine	58	1980	Ron Best	Golden Square	145
1926	Percy Forbes	Sandhurst	70	1981	Wayne Crosby	Castlemaine	112
1927	Ern Smedley	Castlemaine	79	1982	Daryl Gilmore	Eaglehawk	113
1928	John Cook	South Bendigo	84	1983	Ron Best	Northern United	124
1929	Frank Ford	Sandhurst	62	1984	Daryl Gilmore	Eaglehawk	120
1930	Frank Crapper	Eaglehawk	108	1985	David Collins	Sandhurst	84
1931	Roy Moore	Sandhurst	78	1986	Gavin Exell	Northern United	87
1932	Frank Crapper	Eaglehawk	145	1987	John Jefferies	Castlemaine	73
1933	Frank Crapper	Sandhurst	90	1988	Danny Ellis	Sandhurst	78
1934	NOT AWARDED			1989	Leigh Williams	Golden Square	102
1935	Mancel Davies	Eaglehawk	82	1990	Shawn McCormick	Northern United	79
1936	Mancel Davies	Eaglehawk	88	1991	Daryl Gilmore	Eaglehawk	82
1937	Stan Sinclair	Rochester	82	1992	Steven Oliver	Castlemaine	136
1938	Mancel Davies	Eaglehawk	100	1993	Andrew McClellan	North Bendigo	112
1939 to 1945	World War 2			1994	Shane McCluskey	Maryborough	100
1946	NOT AWARDED			1995	David Lancaster	Kangaroo Flat	105
1947	Vin Kelly	Rochester	49	1996	Steven Oliver	Castlemaine	84
1948	Harry Morgan	Eaglehawk	66	1997	David Lancaster	Kangaroo Flat	76
1949	Ken Connaughton	South Bendigo	54	1998	Steven Reaper	Kyneton	110
1950	Frank Scholes	Sandhurst	63	1999	Steven Reaper	Kyneton	100
1951	Harry Morgan	Eaglehawk	78	2000	Steven Oliver	Castlemaine	132
1952	Harry Morgan	Eaglehawk	52	2001	Phil Hetherington	South Bendigo	72
1953	Harry Morgan	Eaglehawk	107	2002	Steven Reaper	Gisborne	70
1954	Keith Elliot	Golden Square	76	2003	Steven Reaper	Gisborne	86
1955	Ern Parker	Echuca	86	2004	Steven Reaper	Gisborne	75
1956	Ray McHugh	Sandhurst	71	2005	Steven Oliver	Castlemaine	77
1957	John Waddington	South Bendigo	72	2006	Matt O'Toole	Golden Square	82
1958	Ray Poulter	Castlemaine	81	2007	Damien Brown	Eaglehawk	59
1959	Ron Ford	Sandhurst	62	2008	Jordan Barham	Gisborne	75
1960	Clive Philp	Kyneton	75	2009	Justin Maddern	Kangaroo Flat	81
1961	Merv Hicks	Echuca	64	2010	Grant Weeks	Golden Square	145
1962	Ray Willet	Rochester	67	2011	Grant Weeks	Golden Square	125
1963	Ray Willet	Rochester	53	2012	Grant Weeks	Golden Square	148
1964	Terry Nolen	Sandhurst	87	2013	Justin Maddern	South Bendigo	67
1965	Kevin Shearn	Golden Square	76	2014	Stephen Milne	Strathfieldsaye	89
1966	Les Kaine	Kyneton	84	2015	Matt Gretgrix	Eaglehawk	82
1967	Brian Jones	Rochester	68	2016	Dylan Johnstone	Golden Square	79
1968	Robert Morton	South Bendigo	108	2017	Lachlan Sharp	Strathfieldsaye	124
1969	Ron Best	Golden Square	137	2018	Kaiden Antonowicz	South Bendigo	76
1970	Ron Best	Golden Square	107	2019	Lachlan Sharp	Strathfieldsaye	129
1971	Greg Kennedy	Eaglehawk	139	2020	Season Abandoned		
1972	Keith Raynor	Eaglehawk	69	2021	Season Abandoned after Round 17 (12 Rounds completed)		
	Peter Hutcheson	South Bendigo	69	2022	Joel Brett	Golden Square	92
1973	Ron Best	Sandhurst	108	2023	Lachlan Sharp	Strathfieldsaye	93
1974	Ron Best	Sandhurst	135	2024	Fergus Greene	Sandhurst	80
1975	Ron Best	Sandhurst	145				
1976	Ron Best	Sandhurst	108				
1977	Peter Woodford	Castlemaine	76				



**Mancel Davies**  
1935, 1936, 1938



**Ray Willett**  
1962, 1963



**Greg Kennedy**  
1971



**John Jefferies**  
1987



**Steven Reaper**  
1998, 1999, 2002,  
2003, 2004



# 2024 Ron Best Medallist

## Fergus Greene

### Sandhurst



#### Senior Goalkickers

Fergus Greene	Sandhurst	80
Harry Luxmoore	Gisborne	57
Pat McKenna	Gisborne	54
Steven Stroobants	South Bendigo	52
Brock Harvey	South Bendigo	50
Jack Stewart	Golden Square	47
James Schischka	Strathfieldsaye	47



#### Reserves Goalkickers

Hayden Doricic	Gisborne	36
Jakob Finch	Strathfieldsaye	20
Jasper Stewart	Sandhurst	19
Edward Williams	Gisborne	19
Matthew Barake	Gisborne	19
Tim Brooks	Kangaroo Flat	17



#### Under 18 Goalkickers

Oscar Cail	Sandhurst	48
James Wilkinson	Golden Square	44
Lincoln McKern	Golden Square	26
Xavier Grant	Golden Square	24
Archie Eaton	Golden Square	23
William Harvey	Strathfieldsaye	21
Chaz Holman	Castlemaine	21

Totals as at end of Round 18 (finals not included)



## SENIOR FOOTBALL

YEAR	PREMIERS	RUNNER UP
1924	Eaglehawk 14.17 101	d Rochester 8.9 57
1925	South Bendigo 7.2 44	d Castlemaine 6.4 40
1926	Castlemaine 13.18 96	d Sandhurst 8.16 64
1927	Sandhurst 9.11 65	d Castlemaine 8.14 62
1928	Echuca 11.9 75	d Castlemaine 10.10 70
1929	Sandhurst 18.11 119	d South Bendigo 11.10 76
1930	Sandhurst 17.9 111	d Eaglehawk 9.9 63
1931	Sandhurst 10.14 74	d South Bendigo 8.14 62
1932	Sandhurst 16.20 116	d Eaglehawk 7.9 51
1933	Sandhurst 29.15 189	d Maryborough 10.12 72
1934	Sandhurst 11.17 83	d Castlemaine 8.4 52
1935	Eaglehawk 11.15 81	d Sandhurst 7.17 59
1936	Kyneton 12.9 81	d Sandhurst 10.8 68
1937	Sandhurst 16.16 112	d South Bendigo 6.15 51
1938	Golden Square 21.13 139	d Eaglehawk 14.7 91
1939	Golden Square 14.8 92	d Maryborough 12.12 84
1940	Sandhurst 13.18 96	d South Bendigo 13.13 91
1941	Eaglehawk 17.16 118	d South Bendigo 11.14 80
1942 to 1944	League in recess due to World War 2	
1945	Golden Square 23.20 158	d Eaglehawk 8.9 57
1946	Eaglehawk 14.10 94	d Golden Square 13.12 90
1947	Sandhurst 18.19 127	d Golden Square 11.8 74
1948	Sandhurst 16.24 120	d Eaglehawk 8.9 57
1949	Sandhurst 11.22 88	d South Bendigo 9.19 73
1950	South Bendigo 10.12 72	d Echuca 6.10 46
1951	South Bendigo 24.12 156	d Eaglehawk 20.8 128
1952	Castlemaine 15.9 99	d Sandhurst 9.16 70
1953	Eaglehawk 12.13 85	d Sandhurst 9.12 66
1954	South Bendigo 11.9 75	d Sandhurst 9.7 61
1955	South Bendigo 10.7 67	d Sandhurst 9.12 66
1956	South Bendigo 10.19 79	d Eaglehawk 9.15 69
1957	Eaglehawk 14.17 101	d Kyneton 10.11 71
1958	Rochester 8.11 59	d Castlemaine 7.10 52
1959	Rochester 15.19 109	d Kyneton 12.6 78
1960	Kyneton 9.8 62	d Rochester 8.11 59
1961	Kyneton 12.13 85	d Rochester 9.6 60
1962	Rochester 9.17 71	d Golden Square 7.20 62
1963	Rochester 16.22 118	d Kyneton 10.14 74
1964	Golden Square 10.10 70	d Rochester 9.7 61
1965	Golden Square 12.19 91	d Rochester 11.11 77
1966	Kyneton 15.6 96	d Golden Square 2.12 84
1967	Echuca 12.13 85	d South Bendigo 10.15 75
1968	Eaglehawk 8.16 64	d South Bendigo 8.10 58
1969	South Bendigo 10.10 70	d Eaglehawk 9.13 67
1970	Echuca 15.13 103	d Sandhurst 14.13 97
1971	Eaglehawk 15.13 103	d Golden Square 3.10 28
1972	Golden Square 14.12 96	d South Bendigo 11.9 75
1973	Sandhurst 14.14 98	d Golden Square 7.10 52
1974	South Bendigo 17.13 115	d Sandhurst 14.9 93
1975	Golden Square 14.13 97	d Sandhurst 12.14 86
1976	Golden Square 15.13 103	d Kyneton 9.7 61
1977	Sandhurst 14.10 94	d Golden Square 9.19 73
1978	Sandhurst 19.10 124	d Golden Square 18.13 121
1979	Golden Square 21.14 140	d Sandhurst 8.15 63
1980	Eaglehawk 17.20 122	d Golden Square 19.6 120
1981	Sandhurst 16.19 115	d Castlemaine 6.10 46
1982	Eaglehawk 18.19 127	d Golden Square 6.12 48
1983	Sandhurst 17.16 118	d Golden Square 17.9 111
1984	Nth United 18.16 124	d Eaglehawk 12.10 82
1985	Nth United 19.18 132	d Sandhurst 14.18 102
1986	Nth United 25.18 168	d Eaglehawk 11.9 75
1987	Nth United 23.15 153	d Eaglehawk 14.7 91
1988	Golden Square 10.13 73	d Nth United 8.11 59
1989	Golden Square 14.13 97	d South Bendigo 11.13 79
1990	South Bendigo 15.24 114	d Golden Square 14.8 92
1991	South Bendigo 14.14 98	d Castlemaine 10.16 76
1992	Castlemaine 14.13 97	d Golden Square 14.8 92
1993	South Bendigo 20.22 142	d Sandhurst 11.11 77

YEAR	PREMIERS	RUNNER UP
1994	South Bendigo 20.15 135	d Golden Square 13.9 87
1995	Kyneton 18.13 121	d South Bendigo 11.10 76
1996	Kangaroo Flat 18.18 126	d Kyneton 15.20 110
1997	Kyneton 18.15 123	d Golden Square 7.14 56
1998	Maryborough 19.11 125	d Sandhurst 12.6 78
1999	Maryborough 20.17 137	d Castlemaine 17.4 106
2000	Castlemaine 12.11 83	d Kangaroo Flat 9.17 71
2001	Golden Square 14.11 95	d Sandhurst 12.9 81
2002	Gisborne 21.13 139	d Golden Square 7.18 60
2003	Gisborne 18.12 120	d Eaglehawk 11.7 73
2004	Sandhurst 15.14 104	d Gisborne 10.15 75
2005	Gisborne 14.17 101	d Eaglehawk 10.10 70
2006	Gisborne 13.11 89	d Golden Square 9.10 64
2007	Eaglehawk 12.12 84	d Gisborne 12.10 82
2008	Eaglehawk 14.11.95	d Golden Square 12.17.89
2009	Golden Square 16.12.108	d South Bendigo 10.11.71
2010	Golden Square 11.21.87	d South Bendigo 8.10.58
2011	Golden Square 25.18.168	d Eaglehawk 5.3.33
2012	Golden Square 16.10.106	d Gisborne 14.19.103
2013	Golden Square 14.18.102	d Strathfieldsaye 12.9.81
2014	Strathfieldsaye 20.18.138	d Sandhurst 12.11.83
2015	Strathfieldsaye 8.12.60	d Sandhurst 8.5.53
2016	Sandhurst 12.18.90	d Golden Square 8.10.58
2017	Strathfieldsaye 13.10.88	d Eaglehawk 7.14.56
2018	Eaglehawk 13.6.84	d Strathfieldsaye 9.5.59
2019	Strathfieldsaye 14.10.84	d Eaglehawk 10.20.80
2020	Season Abandoned	
2021	Season Abandoned after Round 17 (12 Rounds completed)	
2022	Gisborne 5.20.50	d Strathfieldsaye 2.10.22
2023	Golden Square 10.11.71	d Sandhurst 9.11.65
2024	Sandhurst 10.8.68	d Gisborne 10.4.64

## A GRADE NETBALL

YEAR	PREMIERS	RUNNER UP
1991	Golden Square 53	d Sandhurst 47
1992	Eaglehawk	d Golden Square
1993	Golden Square 40	d Eaglehawk 27
1994	Sandhurst 46	d Golden Square 45
1995	Sandhurst 32	d Eaglehawk 27
1996	Eaglehawk 36	d Sandhurst 33
1997	Kangaroo Flat	d Sandhurst
1998	Eaglehawk	d Sandhurst
1999	Eaglehawk 37	d Sandhurst 36
2000	Sandhurst 44	d Eaglehawk 19
2001	Kangaroo Flat 61	d Sandhurst 46
2002	Sandhurst 46	d Maryborough 40
2003	Kangaroo Flat 47	d Sandhurst 42
2004	Kangaroo Flat 62	d Golden Square 50
2005	Sandhurst	d Kangaroo Flat
2006	Sandhurst 46	d Golden Square 45
2007	Sandhurst	d Golden Square
2008	Golden Square 29	d Kangaroo Flat 25
2009	Kangaroo Flat 38	d Golden Square 25
2010	Kangaroo Flat 27	d Eaglehawk 26
2011	Golden Square 49	d Sandhurst 42
2012	Eaglehawk 31	d Sandhurst 30
2013	Gisborne 39	d Kangaroo Flat 38
2014	Kangaroo Flat 53	d Golden Square 35
2015	Golden Square 43	d Strathfieldsaye
2016	Kangaroo Flat 56	d Golden Square 47
2017	Sandhurst 48	d Golden Square 40
2018	Sandhurst 53	d Gisborne 47
2019	Sandhurst 42	d Kangaroo Flat 35
2020	Season Abandoned	
2021	Season Abandoned after Round 17 (12 Rounds completed)	
2022	Sandhurst 48	d Kangaroo Flat 33
2023	Gisborne 40	d Sandhurst 39
2024	Gisborne 43	d Kangaroo Flat 41





Pics courtesy SAA Imaging, Bendigo

## SENIOR FOOTBALL SANDHURST

**Gisborne 10.4.64 lost to Sandhurst 10.8.68**

Goals: Gisborne: Pat McKenna 3, Matthew Merrett 2, Bradley Bernacki 1, Ryan Bourke 1, James Gray 1, Flynn Lakey 1, Harry Luxmoore 1.

Sandhurst: Jake Mclean 2, Lachlan Tardrew 2, Harrison Free 1, Fergus Greene 1, Lachie Hood 1, Dayten Uerata 1, Joel Wharton 1, Matthew Wilkinson 1.

Best: Gisborne: Jack Reaper, Liam Spear, Macklan Lord, Zachary Vescovi, Frank Schipano, Jarrod Ainsworth.

Sandhurst: Lachlan Tardrew, Lachlan Wright, James Coghlan, Noah Walsh, Bryce Curnow, Cobi Maxted.

### NALDER MEDAL

Lachlan Tardrew (Sandhurst)

### WORKSAFE AFL VICTORIA MEDAL

Lachlan Wright (Sandhurst)



## RESERVES FOOTBALL SANDHURST

**Sandhurst 11.5.71 def. Gisborne 4.11.35**

Goals: Sandhurst: Jasper Stewart 3, Luke Crawford 2, James Vlaeminck 2, Hayden Gillingham 1, Martin Leyden 1, Brodie Montague 1, Jed Zimmer 1.

Gisborne: Tom Wood 2, Matthew Barake 1, Edward Williams 1.

Best: Sandhurst: Tom Calvert, Wil Pinniger, Jasper Stewart, Brodie Montague, Campbell Rowland, Rory Ellett.

Gisborne: Jacob Murphy, Max Ramsay, Kane Minns, Leon Thiner, Zach Paterson, Edward Williams.

### TURNER MEDAL

Rory Ellett (Sandhurst)



## UNDER 18 FOOTBALL SANDHURST

**Sandhurst 12.14.86 def. Gisborne 2.5.17**

Goals: Sandhurst: Oscar Cail 3, Logan Kilcullen 3, Daniel Noden 2, Joseph Artavilla 1, William Bassett 1, Lachlan Borchard 1, Jack English 1.

Gisborne: Diesel Lewis 1, Charlie Ozanne 1.

Best: Sandhurst: Logan Kilcullen, Darby Whatley, Jaxon Howard, Finlay Lockhart, Gus Hay, William Bassett.

Gisborne: Campbell Johns, Diesel Lewis, Jacob Floreani, August Stelma, Lucas Hannon, Baden Dickens.

### ASHMAN MEDAL

Logan Kilcullen (Sandhurst)

### WORKSAFE AFL VICTORIA MEDAL

Billy Bassett (Sandhurst)





## A GRADE NETBALL GISBORNE

**Gisborne 43  
Kangaroo Flat 41**

MOST VALUABLE  
PLAYER IN  
GRAND FINAL

**Torie Skrijel**  
(Gisborne)



## A RESERVE NETBALL STRATHFIELDSAYE

**Strathfieldsaye 40  
Gisborne 39**

MOST VALUABLE  
PLAYER IN  
GRAND FINAL

**Victoria Carroll**  
(Strathfieldsaye)



## B GRADE NETBALL GISBORNE

**Gisborne 46  
Sandhurst 45**

MOST VALUABLE  
PLAYER IN  
GRAND FINAL

**Hannah Weir**  
(Gisborne)







## B RESERVE NETBALL SANDHURST

**Sandhurst 39  
Gisborne 33**

MOST VALUABLE  
PLAYER IN  
GRAND FINAL

**Claire McGee**  
(Sandhurst)



## 17 & UNDER NETBALL SANDHURST

**Sandhurst 62  
Golden Square 32**

MOST VALUABLE  
PLAYER IN  
GRAND FINAL

**Harriet  
Whiteacre**  
(Sandhurst)





## SENIORS - MICHELSEN MEDAL

<b>Bradley Bernacki (GB)</b> .....	20
<b>Braidon Blake (GB)</b> .....	20
<b>Lachlan Tardrew (SH)</b> .....	20
Flynn Lakey (GB).....	18
Billy Evans (EH).....	17

## RESERVES - MCDONALD MEDAL

<b>Jacob Murphy (GB)</b> .....	25
Jed Zimmer (SH).....	15
Boyd Nalder (GB).....	13
Dean Norris (GS).....	12
Isaac Carracher (SH).....	12
Matthew Barake (GB).....	12

## UNDER 18'S - GEORGE SYMONS MEDAL

<b>Jack English (SH)</b> .....	24
Melvic Pambai (GS).....	23
Oliver Eaton (GS).....	15
Oscar Cail (SH).....	14
Lachie Raymond (KF).....	13

## A GRADE - THOMPSON MEDAL

<b>Chelsea Sartori (KF)</b> .....	20
Madeline Stewart (GB).....	18
Shae Clifford (SH).....	15
Ashley Ryan (KF).....	14
Ruby Turner (SH).....	14

## A RESERVE - HOLBORN MEDAL

<b>Emma Moroney (KF)</b> .....	20
<b>Lucy Spalding (SS)</b> .....	20
Ashlee O'Shea (KF).....	17
Paige Ryan (SH).....	17
Jordan Macilwain (MB).....	16

## B GRADE - BINGHAM MEDAL

<b>Shae Denahy (CM)</b> .....	25
Emma Joyce (GB).....	18
Bella Eddy (SB).....	17
Maya Dignan (SH).....	16
Reese Sutton (GB).....	16

## B RESERVE - B RESERVE MEDAL

<b>Taylah Ranieri (GB)</b> .....	22
Chelsea Crapper (SS).....	20
Isabel Brennan (SS).....	18
Kirsandra Shepherd (SB).....	16
Matilda Lockyer (SH).....	16

## 17 & UNDER - SING MEDAL

<b>Ella Patten (MB)</b> .....	28
Neve Pinner (SH).....	24
Eden Clifford (SB).....	21
Kyla Byrne (CM).....	20
Lucy Paton (GS).....	20



**DAVID McCANN MEMORIAL CUP  
2024 CHAMPION CLUB AWARD**

Sandhurst



**SENIOR  
GOALKICKING  
RON BEST MEDAL**  
Fergus Greene  
Sandhurst  
80 Goals



**RESERVES  
GOALKICKING**  
Hayden Doricic  
Gisborne  
36 Goals



**UNDER 18S  
GOALKICKING**  
Oscar Cail  
Sandhurst  
48 Goals



**2024 ASSOCIATION  
CHAMPIONSHIP  
OPEN PLAYER  
OF THE YEAR**  
Alicia McGlashan  
South Bendigo



**2024 ASSOCIATION  
CHAMPIONSHIP  
17 & UNDER  
PLAYER OF THE YEAR**  
Holly Swatton  
Golden Square



**2024 INTERLEAGUE  
PLAYER OF THE  
YEAR**  
Ricky Monti  
Golden Square





**MICHELSEN MEDALLISTS**

**Bradley Bernacki (Gisborne), Braidon Blake (Gisborne), Lachlan Tardrew (Sandhurst)**  
SENIOR FOOTBALL



**MCDONALD MEDALLIST**  
**Jacob Murphy (Gisborne)**  
RESERVES FOOTBALL



**GEORGE SYMONS MEDALLIST**  
**Jack English (Sandhurst)**  
UNDER 18 FOOTBALL



**THOMPSON MEDALLIST**  
**Chelsea Sartori (Kangaroo Flat)**  
A GRADE NETBALL



**HOLBORN MEDALLISTS**  
**Lucy Spalding (Strathfieldsaye) and Emma Moroney (Kangaroo Flat)**  
A RESERVE NETBALL



**BINGHAM MEDALLIST**  
**Shae Denahy (Castlemaine)**  
B GRADE NETBALL



**B RESERVE MEDALLIST**  
**Taylah Ranieri (Gisborne)**  
B RESERVE GRADE NETBALL



**SING MEDALLIST**  
**Ella Patten (Maryborough)**  
17 & UNDER NETBALL





## 2024 MICHELSEN MEDALLISTS

**BRADLEY  
BERNACKI**

**GISBORNE FNC**

**BRAIDON  
BLAKE**

**GISBORNE FNC**

**LACHLAN  
TARDREW**

**SANDHURST FNC**



 Pics courtesy  
SAAI Imaging,  
Bendigo

**2024  
BETTY THOMPSON  
MEDALLIST**

**CHELSEA  
SARTORI  
KANGAROO FLAT FNC**

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