

Chairman's Blog – May 2020



Dear members,

It's been a couple of months since my last blog and as you are well aware our whole world has changed since then due to the global pandemic and COVID-19. As a club and community, we have not been immune to the impacts of this virus and the effects it has had on us. I hope that all our members and their family are safe and well during these difficult times.

Whilst there has been no soccer the past couple of months the Committee have continued to work hard behind the scenes. This initially involved packing away nets to protect them from damage and securing the buildings and switching off any power sources that were not needed. This was to assist in reducing power consumption during the lockdown.

The Committee have learned to adapt to these changes during lockdown by holding meetings via Zoom and it has allowed us to stay in contact and connected whilst in isolation.

Last Friday the national cabinet, state government and football associations advised of a road-map to easing COVID-19 restrictions. This included in the first stage the return to training from this week. Obviously, this is welcome news however, we must remain vigilant against this virus and the club will be ensuring it does everything it can to provide a safe venue for our players, coaches, volunteers and parents/carers. As you will have seen from the email to all members and our posts on social media, there are a list of regulations and requirements that we all need to adhere to in this first stage. I must emphasise that these are regulations and not guidelines. To assist with personal hygiene and to reduce the risk of transmission, the club has purchased hand sanitiser for all teams and players will be expected to sanitise at the beginning and end of all training sessions.

The Committee have worked diligently on trying to accommodate all teams and allow at least one training session per week whilst still operating within the restrictions. In order to achieve this we have had to shuffle around some training times and dates and utilise weekends. We apologise for any disruption or inconvenience this may cause, but we ask for your patience and understanding during these challenging times. Hopefully we will not have these restrictions for long and we can return to the times and allocations we had planned at the beginning of the season before the lockdown.

The FSA have advised they have targeted June 8th for a move to stage 2 which will see some restrictions lifted. However this is all dependent on the government and health advice at that time and the compliance of all clubs to the restrictions outlined in stage 1. In regard to when full training and competitions can restart this is all unknown at this stage. As soon as the club receives information about this, we will inform all members.

There are many members who have been impacted by COVID-19 including some of our club sponsors. I want to take the opportunity to thank our club sponsors and I urge all members to try and support them where you can. I know some of them having been doing it extremely tough having to stop or shut down parts of their business. As the restrictions lift and these businesses can look to re-open their doors it would be great to support them and help them as they have helped this club over the years.

Richardson Reserve Upgrade – Update

The council have continued to progress the works on the Richardson Reserve upgrade and I'm happy to report that last week I attended a meeting with council where they confirmed the development approvals had been signed off on the construction of the three-storey clubrooms. This is an exciting step and one of the major hurdles in the redevelopment to get past.

According to council they are now in the final stages of signing contracts with the developer and we are finalising some minor design details such as what the canteen, bar and kitchens might look like for us to operate out of when completed.

If all things go to plan, I would hope to start seeing fences being erected around the building site sometime late this month or early June with the building commencing prior to July.

This week we have also seen the installation of the interchange benches for pitch 2 which will complete the first phase of the project.

Naming rights sponsor

I can confirm that the council has given their approval and endorsed Newspot Motors as the new naming rights sponsor for Richardson Reserve. This means that for the next three years Richardson Reserve will be known as Newspot Stadium. We are currently in talks with the council planning department to get a sign erected on the corner of Grenfell Rd and The Golden Way.

Training Tops for Mini Roos and E&D teams

During the lockdown period the club received the new training tops from Futera for our Mini Roos and E&D teams. I must say the tops look fantastic and it will be great to see all teams at Newspot Stadium in these new tops.

Registrations – Payment of fees

I know that due to the lockdown there has been some uncertainty about the season and fees etc. Given that we now have a road map to easing restrictions and we can commence training (and hopefully not too far away from competition resuming), this is just a reminder that if you have not yet paid your registration fees it would be greatly appreciated if you could do so at the earliest convenience.

Note: if you need to arrange a payment plan, or you have been financially impacted by COVID-19 please contact the club registrar, Kendall Popping via email at registrar@mjsc.com.au

Payment details for registrations are included below for your reference.

DIRECT DEPOSIT

Deposit funds into:

Bank SA Account Name: Modbury Vista Soccer Club Inc

BSB: 105-122

Account No: 448 909 540

Please put child's name and age group e.g. JOHN SMITH U10 E&D or JANE SMITH U11 Mini Roos.

Merchandise

If you have ordered merchandise such as a hoodie or an umbrella, these are now available for collection from the club. If need be, please speak to Cara Gomez who is our merchandise officer. Cara can be contacted via email at merchandise@mvsc.com.au

Closing statement

Finally, as the spread of COVID-19 slows we need to remember to stay vigilant and continue to practice social distancing. The advice from the FSA is that we will transition to the next stages of loosening the restrictions quicker if we can keep slowing and controlling the spread of COVID-19. Please take care of yourself, your families and loved ones, and stay safe.

Till my next update
Stuart Carlisle
MVSC Chairman