

# St Peters Football Club

## 2024 Annual Report



*St Peters Football Club acknowledges the Bunurong People of the Kulin Nation as the traditional custodians of the area in which we meet, train and play. We pay our respects to Bunurong Elders past and present. We are committed to a positive future for all First Nations communities.*



## **St Peters Football Club Inc.**

Reg #: A0009744D, Registered State: Victoria

### **Annual General Meeting**

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2024  
7.00pm  
Julie Cooper Pavilion



# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**Dear Members,**

I am pleased to present the President's Report for the St Peters Football Club for season 2024 at our Annual General Meeting. It has been another great year for our club, and I would like to thank the committee for all their time and dedication to St Peters Football Club and particularly their support of me in my first year as President. I would also like to share with you our achievements, as well as some of our challenges and future direction.

## Overview

Our club has continued to grow in season 2024 thanks to the dedication and hard work of our members, committee, team officials, volunteers and players.

<b>Committee</b>					
<b>President</b>	Mandy O'Connor	<b>Apparel Coordinator</b>	Trudee Simpson	<b>Footy Development</b>	Dave Cannington
<b>Secretary</b>	Narelle Warren	<b>Child Safety Officer</b>	Lucy Noutsis	<b>Modified Rules Coordinator</b>	Brett McMerrin
<b>Treasurer</b>	Katherine Harrigan	<b>Incident Officer</b>	Kellie Zoghbi	<b>Team Manager Coordinator</b>	Lisa O'Leary
<b>VP Football</b>	Matt Baxter	<b>Canteen Coordinator</b>	Sarah Logan	<b>Trainer Coordinator</b>	Jessica Milmeister
<b>VP Operations</b>	Ross Flegeltaub	<b>Registrar</b>	Caroline Jones		
<b>Non-Committee</b>					
<b>Sponsorship</b>	Steve James	<b>Communications</b>	Penny Hannan	<b>Events</b>	Jo Gilbert

## Membership & Participation

Our aim is to ensure that as many kids as possible can play footy in our East Bentleigh and Oakleigh south communities. This child-centric focus allows kids to have a safe space at our club where they can make friends, develop their footy skills, while improving their well-being both physically and mentally. As they develop these skills, they also have opportunities to develop with the support of the club through coaching and umpiring.

This season, Caroline Jones <sup>LM</sup> helped manage the registration of 415 registered players as well as season permits for our merged teams. This was a 9% increase on total registrations compared to season 2023 (see Table 1 below). Although girls' registrations continued to increase from 19% in



2022, 26% in 2023 to 33% in 2024, the slight decrease in boys' participation is a concern and will be a focus for the committee in season 2025.

**Table 1: Season 2024 Registrations compared with Season 2023**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>Increase/decrease on 2023</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>Increase/decrease on 2022</b>
<b>Girls</b>	136	37%	99	48%
<b>Boys</b>	279	-1%	282	-4%
<b>Total</b>	415	9%	381	5.5%

This is especially important as competition from soccer, basketball and other life options is expected to only intensify next season and beyond.

It was with great sadness that we said farewell two life members in 2024, Kevin Logan and John Beveridge. Both Kevin and John worked tirelessly for St Peters and helped to shape it into the welcoming, inclusive, and thriving club that it is today. Vale to these stalwarts of our club.

### Competition

St Peters Football Club entered 20 teams in the SMJFL competition for season 2025. This included 10 mixed teams (although very few girls played in the mixed teams), 4 boys-only teams and 6 girls-only teams.

Our Under 15 boys' teams once again merged with the Murrumbena Football Club, allowing grading to occur and boys to play in divisions that suited their range of abilities. Our Under 18 girls team continued in their merge with Bentleigh Junior Football Club.

Of our 14 non-modified competitive teams, 10 played finals and 6 played grand finals, with 4 teams winning premierships. Congratulations to our premiership teams: U12 Mixed DIV 5 Logan, U13 Mixed DIV 3 Richardson, U15 DIV 3 McKinstry and U16 DIV 5 D'Zilva.

For a small number of teams, grading presented challenges this season, with a couple of teams struggling to win a game playing in divisions that were too high for them. Other teams played in divisions that did not present a challenge for them.

Although the SMJFL have worked on improving fixtures, divisions containing an uneven number of teams saw some teams have three byes this season. We will continue to advocate further with the SMJFL to ensure we don't face similar grading and fixturing issues in season 2025.



As Secretary, Narelle Warren has tirelessly advocated for our players, teams, parents and volunteers on the club's behalf and has given me such great support along the way.

## Sponsors

Steve James<sup>LM</sup> continued to work with our valued sponsors which allows us to invest in much needed equipment and uniforms for our teams.

Many thanks to our Scoreboard sponsors, Bentleigh RSL.

In 2025, we welcomed St Ferrar, WaterPave and Solar Electrical as platinum sponsors and thank them along with all of our sponsors for their support.

Please support these local businesses, as their support is integral to the success and health of our club.



## Football Operations

An enormous thank you to the football department led by Matt Baxter <sup>LM</sup> (our VP Football), Dave Cannington, Brett McMerrin and their team of Age Group Coordinators. We owe an enormous amount of thanks for the hours they all dedicate each week to their age group(s).

- U8s Mixed Age Group Co-Ordinator – Steve James <sup>LM</sup>
- U9s Mixed Age Group Co-Ordinator – Brett McMerrin
- U10s Mixed Age Group Co-Ordinator – Brett McMerrin
- U10s & U12 Girls Age Group Co-Ordinator – Adam McDowell
- U11s Mixed Age Group Co-Ordinator – Dan Mann
- U12s Mixed Age Group Co-Ordinator – Dan Mann
- U13s Mixed Age Group Co-Ordinator – Brad Wilkinson & Amanda Phillips
- U14s Mixed Age Group Co-Ordinator – Ross Flegeltaub
- U14s & U16 Girls Age Group Co-Ordinator – Rory Bracken
- U15s Mixed & U18 Girls Age Group Co-Ordinator – Matt Baxter <sup>LM</sup>
- U16s Boys Age Group Co-Ordinator – Brett Howe <sup>LM</sup>

Our Vice President of Operations, Ross Flegeltaub ensured the ground was fit to play on each week, liaising with Glen Eira Council as well as organising line marking and the upkeep of our clubrooms. Ross also worked closely with the Football department to coordinate training and grading throughout the season.

We thank all of our Coaches and Assistant Coaches for their dedication and commitment to ensuring our players have the best possible football experience. The hours they spend planning for training and game day, and ensuring the development of all players, is priceless.

I would also like to acknowledge all the parent helpers at training and on game day. Without them, the kids would not be able to take the field each week.

Our Team Managers, led by Lisa O’Leary, once again did an outstanding job getting our teams organised each week, helping with Anchor nights and arranging hamper preparation for fundraising.

Getting all of the volunteers organised each week is hard work. Thanks to all those parent volunteers who put up their hands every week.

Andrea Donald, as Ground Manager, spent many hours walking the boundary line and patting dogs on game day.

Finally, we also acknowledge all our Best Fairest Winners, League Representatives and League trophy winners. Well done kids!

## Child safety and well being

The culture of safety first at our Club, led by Child Safety Coordinator, Lucy Noutsis continued in season 2024. Lucy worked with all coaches, implemented policies and partnered with the SMJFL to ensure our kids were safe and happy.

Jessica Milmeister and Narelle Warren <sup>LM</sup> worked hard to ensure that all team trainers were fully accredited through Colmed Medics. Their level of professionalism and dedication to care has been received well by all those who have drawn on their expertise. Throughout the season, we also provided professional injury support through Red Medical at our home ground venues.

This was also our first season of using the Headfirst app which allowed us to track injuries and ensure our players were fit to play. Thank you to Julian Pang who provided support to our trainers in using the app.

Kellie Zoghbi spent many Mondays looking into incidents and speaking to other clubs and the SMJFL, ensuring our players were well represented and listened to.

## Finance and Administration

As outlined in the Treasurer's report by Kath Harrigan, we have reported strong financial performance again in 2024, while also ensuring all of our assets were maintained or replaced, as needed. It is our intention to increase our registration fees for season 2025 to maintain the high level of service we offer our members.

Sharon Terkelsen <sup>LM</sup> as Club Administrator provided a priceless level of support to not only the club, but to me personally as a first-year president. Her efficiency and organisation is unparalleled.

## Apparel and Merchandise

Trudee Simpson worked tirelessly amongst socks, shorts and training tops to make sure all our players and supporters looked great both on and off the field.

## Canteen

There is no doubt that Sarah Logan claimed the 'best canteen in the SMJFL' for St Peters this season with a great offering and friendly service. Mikayla Logan and Tess Davey shared the role of Canteen Manager this season and also assisted at our fundraising functions and events.

## Events

Our events sub-committee led by Jo Gilbert with assistance from Liz Dimopoulos and Sharon Terkelsen <sup>LM</sup> put on some great events for our members including Anchor nights, the Mothers' Day afternoon tea and a fantastic Casino night.



Steve James <sup>LM</sup> helped to organise a great Life members night where we welcomed Narelle Warren, Sharon Terkelsen, Ian Wilkinson and Rachel and Chris Matthews as life members.

### Social Media and Communications

Penny Hannan <sup>LM</sup> spent many hours updating our Social media and sending out newsletters to keep our members engaged and updated

### Partners

We acknowledge the continued support of the following business and community partners, without whom we would not be able to run our Club.

- Bentleigh Junior Football Club
- Murrumbeena Junior Football Club
- Bentleigh Uniting Cricket Club
- SWIVS Locker
- Australian Sportslines – rain, hail, or shine, they turn up.
- Consolidated Signage – clubroom decals and Sponsor boards
- Brudor Trophies
- Glen Eira City Council
- South Metropolitan Junior Football League (SMJFL)
- Bill Robertson from Elite School Photography
- All SMJFL member clubs

### Closing Remarks

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all our players, members, volunteers, coaches, and sponsors for their constant support. Our members are the heart and soul of St Peters Football Club. I am excited for 2025 and look forward to a strong season collaborating with all our community and our dedicated and passionate committee.

I would like to thank you for your trust and in me as President. It is humbling to following in the steps of past committees and life members in serving this great club.

See you all in Season 2025.

Go Petes!

**Mandy O'Connor**

**St Peters Football Club President**





## TREASURER'S REPORT

St Peters Football Club entered 2024 in a very healthy position. The Club had 415 registered players, up 34 on the previous year. These registrations generated \$63.9K in revenue for the Club (2023: \$50.2K), which is the major source of Club income and supports training, match day, team and club building activities.

Sponsorship is another very important source of funding to support the Club operations, and the Sponsorship team were able to leverage the strong partnership St Peters has with the community in raising \$23K (2023: \$22K). The merchandise team generated \$26K in revenue (2023: \$12K) in selling our new hoodies, tees, shorts etc so that our players are always ready to hit the ground on game day. The Club also generated income from the Canteen, from raffles, as well as through the highly successful and well-attended Casino night.

The Club spends a significant amount of funds on the football program, including paying for Umpires, training kits, match day kits, club bags, club training tops, first aid training, a game day medic presence, line marking, cleaning, trophies to name a few! The Club did incur a small operating loss for the year, which was driven in the main by increased costs of game day medics, increased number of non-modified rules teams with paid umpires and the purchase of a merged game day jumper for our St Peters / Murrumbeena U15 teams. The Club finished the year with \$164K in the bank, which provides a healthy buffer for the future.

The 2024 Financial Statements have been prepared by the Club and audited independently. These are available to all Club Members on the Club website.

**Katherine Harrigan**  
**St Peters Football Club Treasurer**

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

2024 was a season of growth for the St Peters Football Club, not only in terms of our committee's composition and breadth, but more importantly in terms of our role in shaping policies and processes within the Club and in partnership with the SMJFL. Much of this work is invisible so I want to thank all of our volunteers for the amazing work that they do. Without you, our kids would not have the football experiences that they do! Thank you!

Celebrating the work and commitment of our volunteers will continue to be a priority for our Club in 2025. To get a head start on this, I would like to thank our committee for all of their time this year. In particular, Mandy O'Connor, Matt Baxter and Rory Bracken spent many hours with me at SMJFL workshops to develop our Girls Football Strategy. This will be released in time for Season 2025.

Thanks also to Lisa O'Leary for her support and coordination of the Team Managers, Jess Milmeister in supporting our trainers through the season, and Kellie Zoghbi for her excellent skills in managing incidents and liaising with the league. This role is extremely time-consuming and often involves dealing with heightened emotions of players, families and Clubs. Kellie has done a wonderful job in this role for the past two years.



## Eddie Griffin Award

Each year, committee members vote on outstanding service by a Committee member for the Eddie Griffin perpetual award. This year, Mandy O'Connor received the award for her tireless commitment to the Club. Mandy was either at the clubrooms or doing committee business most nights during the season, and gave countless hours to ensure that each team had the best season possible. Thank you and congratulations, Mandy.

## SMJFL Awards

We nominated several people for the annual SMJFL awards for their outstanding contributions to the Club and the St Peters community:

- Westinghouse Club Administrator of the Year (finalist): Mandy O'Connor
- Volunteer of the Year (finalist): Daniel Mann
- **Open Corp Sportsmanship Award (winner): Kalan Crawford**
- The Trybe Coach of the Year (finalist): Rory Bracken
- **TeamSports4All Inclusion Award (winner): U12 Girls Arik Team**
- Grill'd Club Volunteer Umpire of the Year (nominee): Damien Phillips
- Grill'd Club Volunteer Umpire of the Year (nominee): Sean Hurren
- Female Coach of the Year (nominee): Emma Dowsing

## New Ways of Recognising our Volunteers

We are pleased to announce a new award, the Bill Rodriguez (Bill Rod) Perpetual Trophy for Club Volunteer of the year, which will be inaugurated in 2025. Many thanks to Bill's family, particularly Michael Rodriguez. More details will be released in the new year.

Bill Rodriguez (November 1924- March 2015) was the first Life Member of St Peters Football Club, and played an active role in our Club from its establishment in 1957 (as St Peters Boys Club) until the mid-1970s. Not only did Bill serve on the first committee, but he was Club President in 1959, 1964, 1970, and 1971. He was also Secretary from 1960-1962, then again in 1965 and 1966, and Treasurer between 1965 and 1966, and again in 1973, 1975, and 1976. Bill also coached and was team manager throughout this period.

Finally, thank you to all of our 2024 Coaches, Assistant Coaches and Team Managers.

	<b>Coaches</b>	<b>Assistant Coaches</b>	<b>Team Managers</b>
U8	Chris Barry Sebastian Noutsis	Clint Jones Matt Logan	Mervyn Murray Petra Siskos
U9	Seán O'Leary	Lucas Hall	Darren Eyckens
U10	Ange Abbondanza Blake England Damien Guengerich	Joe Recupero Paul Griffin Hamish McLauchlan	Kelli Suttie Daniel Aherne-McInteer Fiona Norsworthy
U11	Danny Mikhael	Gino Benvenuto	Georgie Benvenuto
U12	Fatih Arik	Ben Corin	Debra Howe

	Scott Le Clerc Justin Logan	Heath Dunkley Simon Kearney	James O’Ryan Simone Lichtenstein
U13	Daniel Richardson Brad Wilkinson	Dave Cannington Ned Davidson, Robert Pica and Scott Werry	Lisa O’Leary Mitch Mather
U14	Daniel Burmeister  Trevor O’Leary	Mark Horsley and Ross Flegeltaub Brett Terkuile	Natalee Nahoom  Ali Dind
U15	Tristan Jowett Ben McKinstry	Dean Rogers Nick Virgo	Debbie Hatswell Julie Montgomery
U16	Rory Bracken Matt D’Zilva  Peter Smith	Brett Howe  Glenn Thomson	Paul Dimento Kellie Zoghbi and Sharon Terkelsen Rachel Joyce
U18	Emma Dowsing	Harry Clifton	Heidi Nankervis

Go Petes!!!

**Narelle Warren**  
**St Peters Football Club Secretary**



See you in Season 2025!

