



**ANNUAL
REPORT
&
FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS**

SEASON 2007



VICTORIAN AMATEUR FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION
UMPIRES ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

ANNUAL REPORT

&

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEASON 2007

To be presented to the Members at the Annual General Meeting on 3rd April,
2008 at 7.30pm, Elsternwick Park, Glenhuntly Road, Elsternwick

2007 OFFICE BEARERS

PRESIDENT	Rob Mayston
VICE PRESIDENT	Grant Joyner
PAST PRESIDENT	Anthony Damen
SECRETARY	Alan Stubbs
ASSISTANT SECRETARY	Craig Brajtberg
TREASURER	Paul Jones
ASSISTANT TREASURER	Patrick Coulthard
SOCIAL SECRETARY	Albie Firley
BUILDING MANAGER	Vin Vescovi
VAFUA DELEGATE	Vin Vescovi
VAFUA PROPERTY STEWARD	Vin Vescovi
AUDITOR	Charles K.P. Hosking

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Season 2007 started a bit hesitatingly with Elsternwick Park unavailable for training due to the drought. This prompted Rob Sneddon to put his 'creative hat' on yet again and with a minimum of fuss training went ahead regardless. Then a two week delayed start to the season, also on account of the drought to provide extra time for councils to prepare grounds, caused further complications before the 'ball had even been bounced to start the season'. But these early setbacks were soon put behind us and from there the season 'never seemed to look back', both on and off the field, and from all accounts there was a general sense across the VAFAs fraternity that umpiring was travelling as well as at any stage in recent times. All VAFAs members should take pride in this fact as it has been your efforts that have been instrumental in this success.

The VAFAs Executive for 2007 saw two changes with Grant Joyner and Patrick Coulthard replacing Leah Gallagher and Peter Liddell respectively. Thank you Leah and Peter for your sterling service to the Executive in previous years.

'Upstairs' there was only minor 'tweaking' with Stewart Meek joining Benny's team as an assistant advisor and a new initiative of a northern training venue on Tuesday nights at Melbourne University was kicked off. In another notable development running VAFAs members Steve McCarthy and the 'back again' Darren Dalgleish also became involved in the development of the younger umpires. This again highlights an increasing trend of running VAFAs members who are assisting with the growth and development of umpiring in the VAFAs. Otherwise during the season there was one 'unplanned change' when Andrew Barnes had to stand down from the Goal Umpires Advisor position due to work commitments but VAFAs running member Bernie Jephson was able to fill the breach at short notice, which again highlighted the depth in our ranks.

When training started on February 5th the perennial question of 'what will the numbers be like this year' was asked as usual. In the 'offseason' some of the 'VAFAs's finest' had been successful in making the VFL list with the following umpires achieving this success : Rob O'Gorman, Daniel Silfo, Tim Saunders (Field), Adam Rogers, Matt Jenkinson (Boundary), Lucas Robson, Michael O'Donnell, Daniel Brooks (Goal); (Vaughan Sidebottom also made it onto the supplementary list). Congratulations to these guys on achieving that important step up. Each year we continue to supply quality talent but unfortunately the mathematics ends up for us in deficit as we don't see as much experienced talent returning to our ranks. Here's hoping – and with some renewed recruitment focus – that this situation can improve. According to numbers published in Benny's Annual Report, in 2007 51 new umpires (34 Field, 15 Boundary & 2 Goal) were recruited – a significant number - but at the same time for various reasons we experienced 41 departures (27 Field, 5 Boundary & 9 Goal) – which includes the 8 above-mentioned departures to the VFL - so despite all the good recruiting efforts our numbers overall remained only a bit above the previous year.

The saddest note of the year occurred in May with the passing of running VFAFAUA member Ken Brewer. Ken epitomised the true spirit of VFAFA umpiring 'down the grades' where he was greatly respected by the Clubs with many great memories that will remain, especially from the after match hospitality that was always extended to him. He umpired his final match which was the D4 game between UHS-VU & Syndal Tally Ho with Michael Forde in Round one. Condolences on behalf of everyone associated with VFAFA umpiring were passed on to Ken's wife and family.

On the social side the trend of recent years of 'quality not quantity' continued with all events that were held well supported and 'certainties' again for 2008. Refer to the Social Report for details. But individual social events are one thing but another gauge of success in this area is in the 'impromptu' social side of things. And a few things to highlight here are the 'Poker Club' which continued its rise in popularity and is now a virtual institution and the Tuesday night 'share a meal together' where people like Albie with 'his Mum's soup' and Simon Olive showed good initiative to keep us fed. Many others also did their bit on the social side and if I tried to name them all I invariably would miss some but another who deserves mention is 'Doc' Rechtman who stepped into the breach as Bar Manager and who also cooked the monthly BBQ's.

Whilst on the subject of 'honourable mentions', Tim Sutcliffe again kept the website ticking over and Leah Gallagher, Steve McCarthy and Joe Hartwig kept us all informed with VFAFAUA 'goings on' and like all good reporters when the news wasn't coming in they just 'made it up'.

Probably the highlight of the Social Calendar was again the Annual Dinner where over 200 – a record – crammed into the Victoria Club 'at Rialto' for the last time. The usual 'spot on' organising by 'AD' ably supported by Robbo ensured the night was setup for success. The guest speaker Andrew Startin wowed the audience with his many impersonations of well known sporting identities and confirmed he is a long way from Alzheimers when he reeled off in quick succession the names of the last 50 or so Brownlow Medal winners...oh and I thought he sounded more like Dennis Cometti than Denis Cometti !

The VFAFAUA also continued its support of the VFAFA's chosen charities. With 'Doc' Rechtman again leading the charge we again raised money to support research into Cystic Fibrosis and also 'Captain Blood' Brendan Corcoran marshalled the troops to see us finish third in the Blood Bank Challenge to better our fourth from the previous season. Let's hope the trend continues and we go at least a step higher again in 2008.

Congratulations to the following VFAFAUA running members who notched up the following 'premier' achievements in 2007 :-

- VFAFA Umpire of the Year : Tim Sutcliffe
- VFAFAUA Life Membership : Paul Jones & John Robinson
- Football Victoria Golden Whistle Award : Nick Brown
- VFAFA Most Promising Umpire : Tom Windlow
- 'A' Grade Umpiring Panel : Tim Sutcliffe, Russell Davidson, Cameron Hoogendyk, Tom Wischer, Bernie Hoare & Daniel Scully

- Representative Matches Umpiring Panel members : Russell Davidson, Tim Sutcliffe, Sacha Koffman, Vaughan Sidebottom, Albie Firley, James Scully, Tom Wischer, Cameron Hoogendyk, Jordan Mayston, Dom Napoli, Daniel Scully, Chris Kearney & Anthony Kyrkou.

And whilst on the subject of notable achievements everyone who took part and umpired in the VFA Finals Series should be commended for their efforts as it has been commented that it was one of the best ever from an umpiring perspective. It was certainly a great way to finish the season. A bit further afield former VFAUA members in the VFL also tasted finals success with Cameron Nash, Steve Piperno, Neil Woods, Chris Doyle and Michael Richardson all participating in the 'major round'. 'Woodsy' then took things to another level by winning the VFL Boundary Umpire of the Year award and being appointed to the VFL Grand Final and will be hoping that a further step up is somewhere 'in the wings'.

As has been mentioned Season 2007 was a pretty smooth one both on and off the field but as usual there were still issues for the VFAUA Executive to attend to and I will mention a couple of these here.

The 'on field environment' for umpires is one where feedback from a number of members again reminded everyone that there is still 'work to be done'. Whilst the VFA can be regarded as having probably the best 'working environment' for umpires anywhere at this level, this feedback highlighted there are still some areas for concern. These were taken up with the VFA Administration and whilst there wasn't complete agreement on all points raised the accompanying debate was valuable and enlightening for all concerned. I would like to encourage all VFAUA members to continue to provide relevant feedback in this most important of areas. In my opinion this remains right at the top of the list as far as Umpire retention goes and we must continue to set the bar as high as possible in terms of our expectations in this area...near enough cannot be considered to be good enough. The introduction of the 'Zero tolerance' policy toward Umpires 'across the board' in 2008, after its successful trialling in the U19 and Club XVIII competitions, is evidence that the VFA wants to see further improvement in this area.

The other issue that for a while 'loomed large' – and may yet still - was a proposal put forward by the VFA to redevelop some of the Elsternwick Park Buildings infrastructure which included the current VFA Umpires Rooms. VFA CEO Michael Sholly provided an outline to VFAUA members of what was an 'early draft' of such a proposal. The consensus of VFAUA members present was that based on what was presented there were a number of 'pros and cons' and more details would be needed to do any sort of evaluation of the merits and what impact it would have for the VFAUA if it proceeded. A VFAUA working group was then earmarked to pursue this but after reappraisal by the VFA Executive the proposal was put on hold and so no further evaluation on the part of the VFAUA was warranted. One impact when this proposal was announced earlier in the 2007 season was for the VFAUA Executive to put on hold several initiatives regarding the upgrade and maintenance of the VFAUA Clubrooms. This was on the basis that something may be occurring within 12 months. This is now not the case and so several pressing maintenance issues require attention in 2008 and members will be

kept informed of what is required and indeed how they can assist with these...yes we can all be good with a paint brush. One thing is for certain is that the current Clubrooms have served the Association very well in developing the social side of things and regardless of whatever the future holds members have expressed the opinion that 'we don't want to lose what we now have' and the VAFUA Executive share the same view.

My thanks go to the hard working Vafa Executive – and all those 'hard working others, some of whom I mentioned – and to Benny and his team of Advisors / Observers and also to Michael Sholly and the Vafa Administration / Executive. We again look forward to working together to ensure Season 2008 is indeed another memorable one and one which sees a further advance in Vafa Umpiring. With the recent rains here's hoping this year we will get away on schedule.

Rob Mayston

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The season of 2007 was another very successful season for the VAFUA. The quality of our umpiring in the Amateurs has continued its enviable reputation in the Amateur community and wider football community.

Congratulations to members of the Umpires Association Executive for their efforts and leadership of our organisation. A special thanks to our President Rob Mayston for his commitment, energy and the count less hours he contributes to leading and representing our organisation with distinction.

2007 has been a year which has seen a consolidation of our very successful and popular functions including our end of season dinner, grand final luncheon, trivia night and charity golf day. Congratulations to Anthony Damen, Simon Olive and Paul Jones respectively for their fantastic work and commitment towards organising these events.

A big thank you to our loyal sponsors in particular Personal Mortgage Managers (Anthony Damen) and Melbourne Sports Books (Santo Caruso).

Particular congratulations and thanks to: Albie Firley for his work as Social Secretary; 'Doc' Rechtman for the many hours put in as Bar Manager; Vin Vescovi as Building Manager and Paul Jones for his prudent work as Treasurer.

Congratulations to Tim Sutcliffe on his excellent work with our website. It is a fantastic vehicle for communication between our members and the VAFUA and the wider amateur and football communities.

This recent year provided unexpected challenges as usual, none more so than the long term future of our umpires rooms. It is a relief to know that it appears redevelopment of Elsternwick Park is 'on hold' for the short term future. Members can rest assured that our current executive will keep the interests of our members paramount in any future discussions and negotiations.

It has been very heartening to see so many young umpires consolidating their development and moving through the ranks. Brian Goodman does a great job spearheading the recruiting new umpires but we must also remember that we are all ambassadors of the VAFUA and should advocate the benefits of amateur umpiring wherever and whenever we can.

Retaining umpires over the long term is always challenging and plans are in place to recognise extended service.

Finally, best wishes to all umpires for an enjoyable and rewarding season in 2008.

Alan Stubbs

SOCIAL REPORT

The formal social activities of the VAFUA continued on with the theme of 'quality not quantity' with 'no change' to the successful lineup from the previous year. The idea of adding a new function – a boat cruise on the Yarra – didn't get off the ground, or rather 'into the water' as the cost proved to be prohibitive. It seems to be that functions that work are mostly those we arrange and run ourselves where we can keep the cost down.

The functions / activities that were held were as follows :-

- Monthly BBQ's on Association Meeting Nights, Clubrooms
- 'Poker Club', Clubrooms
- Trivia Night, Clubrooms
- City to Surf Run, Sydney
- Annual Dinner, Victoria Club
- Grand Final Lunch, Clubrooms
- End of Season BBQ & Presentations, Clubrooms
- Charity Golf Tournament, Kingston Links

A number of people helped to ensure these were all successful. Special mention though to 'Doc' Rechtman for keeping the bar stocked, and cooking the monthly BBQ's....and to Albie & Simon Olive (& a few others) for keeping us fed on training nights.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Season 2007 was a fairly quiet one financially with no major expenditure on our building and no new uniform worries. This was probably just as well because for a number of years now we have kept the price of our pre finals dinner and A grade Grand Final brunch the same while trying to improve or at least maintain the quality of these events.

This season it caught up with us as the net result of each event was a significant loss. The cost of running these events has increased year by year while as mentioned your committee has strived to keep the cost of these events to a price that makes them attractive.

I don't raise this issue to alarm the membership as we still have some "bikkies in the bin" but now after not knowing the fate of our rooms for a couple of seasons and only recently being told that nothing is likely to happen for at least five years we must seriously consider the cost of restoring the rooms to condition they were in pre drought and just after the re-paint, the floors polished and the complete fit out of the kitchen.

I recall very fondly the fun that everyone who attended the working bee for the painting of the rooms had and then the sense of pride that all running members and some past members felt when the kitchen was completed.

Well, now that we have been told we are not moving anywhere for a few years yet I would like to see our rooms repainted to start with and soon then restored to the condition that will make us all proud of **our** rooms. But as we all know this will come at a cost.

I will climb down from my soap box now and thank my fellow committee members for their work during the season. Our last remaining sponsor Personal Mortgage Managers please stay with us. Loyal support like yours is hard to find – ask anyone trying to get a sponsor. And to the tireless people behind the counter. Albie those Coca-Cola fridges are magnificent, as was your mum's soup on the cold nights. Simon Olive with his pasta dishes; terrific!

When preparing the financial statements I see the efforts of Andrew Rechtmann and the hours he spends plus the kilometres he must chalk up, travelling to Cash & Carry, whichever supermarket has the products we want on special and of course paying close attention to the Dan Murphy special bargains so that can maintain our low bar prices and still get a half decent margin. Doc and Albie, on behalf of everyone who enjoys a drink after training Thanks once again.

And so to season 2008

Paul Jones FCPA

V.A.F.A. UMPIRES ASSOCIATION
PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2007

	2007 \$	2006 \$
INCOME:		
Functions	12,585	10,690
Fundraising	1,097	1,503
Golf Day	-	1,090
Hiring Charges - Room	720	-
Interest Received	20	10
Social Club Income	13,503	11,789
Sponsorship	750	992
Subscriptions - Membership Fees	14,867	16,321
<u>TOTAL INCOME</u>	<u>43,542</u>	<u>42,395</u>
EXPENSES:		
Bank & Government Charges	24	11
Building Maintenance	-	-
Depreciation	4,869	1,521
Depreciation - Abnormal Write-Down Building Imp.	40,372	-
Donations	3,097	2,245
Electricity	293	205
Functions	19,207	13,125
Gear Purchases	1,829	355
Golf Day	233	700
Honorariums	750	500
Insurance	1,363	4,159
Licences and Permits	194	202
Other VAFA Expenses	362	638
Postage	128	95
Room Cleaning	463	-
Social Club Expenses	11,964	10,921
Stock Obsolescence	-	3,172
Sundry Expenses	1,858	706
Telephone	860	654
Trophies and Honour Boards	2,619	2,056
Water Rates	49	-
<u>TOTAL EXPENSES</u>	<u>90,534</u>	<u>41,265</u>
<u>NET SURPLUS</u>	<u>\$ (46,992)</u>	<u>\$ 1,130</u>
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS AT THE START OF THE YEAR	<u>180,389</u>	<u>179,259</u>
<u>ACCUMULATED SURPLUS AT THE END OF THE YEAR</u>	<u>\$ 133,397</u>	<u>\$ 180,389</u>

V.A.F.A. UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST OCTOBER 2007

	2007 \$	2006 \$
<u>MEMBER FUNDS</u>		
<u>MOVEMENT IN MEMBER FUNDS</u>		
<u>ACCUMULATED FUNDS</u>	<u>\$ 133,397</u>	<u>\$ 180,389</u>
REPRESENTED BY:		
<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>		
Cash at Bank		
- General Account	11,603	14,065
- Social Club Account	5,137	4,755
Stock on Hand		
- Uniforms at Cost	457	-
- Social Club	126	255
Debtors	-	-
<u>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</u>	<u>17,323</u>	<u>19,075</u>
<u>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</u>		
<u>PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT</u>		
Buildings at Cost - on Leased Land	142,533	142,533
Building Improvements at Cost	14,431	14,431
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(45,235)	(942)
Furniture, Fittings & Fixtures at Cost	9,004	9,004
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(4,659)	(3,712)
<u>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</u>	<u>116,074</u>	<u>161,314</u>
<u>TOTAL ASSETS</u>	<u>133,397</u>	<u>180,389</u>
<u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>		
Creditors	-	-
Loans	-	-
<u>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>TOTAL LIABILITIES</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>NET ASSETS</u>	<u>\$ 133,397</u>	<u>\$ 180,389</u>

AUDITORS REPORT

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF V.A.F.A. UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

Scope

I have audited the financial statements of V.A.F.A. Umpires Association for the year ended 31 October 2007. The Committee is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial statements and the information they contain. I have conducted an independent audit of these financial statements in order to express an opinion on them to the members.

My audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. My procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial statements, and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the financial statements are presented fairly in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards so as to present a view of the association which is consistent with our understanding of its financial position and the results of its operations.

The audit opinion expressed in the report has been formed on the above basis.

Audit Opinion

In my opinion, the financial statements present fairly the financial opinion of the V.A.F.A. Umpires Association as at 31 October 2007 and the results of its operations for the period then ended in accordance with Statements of Accounting Concepts, applicable Australian Accounting Standards and in compliance with the Association's constitution.

DATED THIS 31ST DAY OF MARCH 2008

**CHARLES K.P. HOSKING
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT**

CHARLES K.P. HOSKING

V.A.F.A.U.A 2007 GRAND FINAL UMPIRES

SENIORS

	FIELD UMPIRES		BOUNDARY UMPIRES		GOAL UMPIRES	
A Section	Russell Davidson	Tim Sutcliffe	Cam Hoogendyk	Tom Wischer	Bernie Hoare	Daniel Scully
B Section	Albie Firley	Sacha Koffman	Ben Connor	Jordan Mayston	Anthony Kyrkou	Kevin Segota
C Section	Vaughan Sidebottom	Grant Wardrop	Brendan Corcoran	James Scully	Chris Kearney	Dom Napoli
D1 Section	Brent Woodhead	Wayne Hinton	Andre Neilson	Ben Halfpenny	Travis Storti	Vin Vescovi
D2 Section	Cam Davidson	Leah Gallagher	Cameron Smith	Jordan Rowe	Paul Gatt	Shane Herbert
D3 Section	Peter Liddell	Shane Mackintosh	Glen Kennedy	Frank Palermo	Craig Arnol	John Robinson
D4 Section	Peter Angelis	Joe Hartwig	Craig Brajtberg	Andrew Rechtman	Charles Lear	Greg Rollo

RESERVES

A Section	Nick Brown	Simon Olive	Damien Anthony	Cameron Hayes	Chris Kearney	Sam Perrin
B Section	David Lepair	Simon Stokes	Sean Collins	Will Stokes	Shane Herbert	Vin Vescovi
C Section	Rob Mayston	Jason Nooey	Toby Newton	Frank Stokes	Graeme Booth	Charles Lear
D1 Section	J. Mayhew-Sharp	Ryan Robertson	Alex. Anthony	Cally Green	Matthew Cowley	Michael O'Donnell
D2 Section	Sig Sokolowski	Richard Yann	Danny Lawlor	Joel Thompson	Clive Shipley	Paul Whitehead
D3 Section	Ken McNiece	Hugh Treleven	Julian Maccioni	Paul Legget	Bob Seymour	RDFL
D4 Section	Tony Lilley	Anthony Simpson	Rodney Jones	Chris Witkowski	John Cahir	Peter Pullen

UNDER 19's

U/19 Section 1	Steve McCarthy	Joel Morrison	Keiran McInerney	Simon McInerney	Alistair Kyrkou	Glenn Young
U/19 Section 2	Darren Dalgleish	Sean Scully Jr.	Daniel Harrington	Andrew Scotland	David Hindle	Patrick Newson
U/19 Section 3	Mark Gibson	Tom Windlow	Damien Ratcliffe	RDFL	Graeme Booth	RDFL
U/19 Section Blue	Anthony Damen	Michael Hooper	Damien Laing	Michael Raphael	John Robinson	Greg Rollo
U/19 Section Red	Rob Sneddon	RDFL	Adrian Ratcliffe	RDFL	Peter Teasdale	RDFL

Representative Umpires

	Field	Boundary	Goal
V.A.F.A. U19 vs Q.A.F.L. U21, Elsternwick Pk.	Vaughan Sidebottom	Jordan Mayston, Cam Hoogendyk	Anthony Kyrkou, Chris Kearney
V.A.F.A. vs V.C.F.L. Seniors, Ballarat	Russell Davidson	James Scully	Dom Napoli
V.A.F.A. U19 vs V.C.F.L. U19, Ballarat	Tim Sutcliffe	Tom Wischer	Daniel Scully
V.A.F.A. U23 vs S.A.A.F.L. U23, Adelaide	Sacha Koffman	-	-
All Aust. Amateurs vs N.T.F.L., Launceston	Albie Firley	-	-

2007 AWARDS

Life Membership

Paul Jones, John Robinson

10 Year Service Award

Paul Jones, Rick Love, Simon Olive, Clive Shipley

VFA Umpire of the Year

Tim Sutcliffe

Golden Whistle Award

Nick Brown

Bob Dunstan Award

Santo Caruso

Andy Carrick Award

Peter Teasdale

Most Improved Field Umpire

Michael Hooper

Most Improved Boundary Umpire

Cameron Smith

Most Improved Goal Umpire

Chris Kearney

Young Achiever Award

James Scully