

Belnorth FC Vice President's Report 2021

Covid-19

2021 has been another challenging year for the Belnorth Community and the Canberra region. Yet again our season was impacted by the challenges of Covid-19. Canberra going into lockdown in August, unfortunately, meant that for another year teams were unable to play a whole season. Capital Football, with feedback from clubs and participants, decided to end the season and award premierships to competitive teams on the basis of points per match ratio. While I know that the footballing community were disappointed to end the season early, I hope this means everyone will be excited to begin the 2022 season!

Participation

This year we had almost 1200 players pulling on the gold and blue of Belnorth. This was 555 U5-U9s, 409 U10-U18s and 234 Seniors. These players were supported by hundreds of parents, coaches and managers, referees and game leaders and volunteers. Thank you to the Belnorth Community for your ongoing commitment to the club.

This year 10 Belnorth teams were due to compete in the 2021 Kanga Cup. Belnorth has a long and proud history of competing in the Cup as the only club to participate in each iteration of the competition. Unfortunately, the Kanga Cup was cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions and other factors. The Cup will be back for 30th birthday celebrations in 2022 and I hope Belnorth will continue to have a large presence.

Congratulations to two Belnorth teams who participated in the Capital Football Women's Pre-season tournament. This is a yearly tournament and a great way for our women's teams to prepare for the upcoming season.

Premiers and Club Awards

Congratulations to the four Belnorth teams who were awarded Premierships in their Divisions:

U12 Div 2 Girls

U12 Div 3 Girls

U13 Div 3 Open

U16 Div 2 Girls

Two Belnorth players also won the Capital Football Golden Boot for the most goals scored in their division: **Tony Binetti**, Masters Men Div 3 and **David Field**, Community League Men Div 6. Congratulations!

My congratulations too to the winners of the junior and senior club awards. These awards are a great way to recognise the work of our players, coaches, referees and volunteers.

Junior Female Player
Sophie Shaddock

Junior Coach
Shawn Jones

Senior Women's Player
Helene Blackwell

Junior Male Player
Carter Fitzpatrick

Senior Coach
Tom Hobson

Senior Men's Player
Cristal King

Henk's Golden Whistle (Game
Leader of the Year)
Alexis Cofinas

Henk's Golden Whistle
(Referee of the Year)
Sarah Walker

Senior Club Person
Thomas Bielenberg

FFA Cup

A highlight of this season for me was the participation of Belnorth in the FFA Cup. The Cup is the preeminent football cup competition in Australia, open to all men's teams to vie for glory. This year Belnorth was represented by Belnorth 4 who played in State League Men's Division 1. The team beat an NPL2 outfit, the Canberra White Eagles, to progress to the Preliminary Round 4 where they ultimately lost out to the NPL team Belconnen United. It was such a pleasure to watch Belnorth playing in Australia's biggest cup competition. Thank you to the team for doing us proud and all the Belnorth Community for turning out to support them.

Technical Team

This year Belnorth engaged **Jimmy Kanadrisis** into the role of Technical Director. Jimmy, with the assistance of **Jason Faul**, developed and ran the technical program for the 2021 season, focusing on developing coaches and supporting players. The Technical Team conducted the grading for U10-U18s, ran pre and post-season programs, group training sessions, goalkeeper training and organised the delivery of accredited coaching courses. My thanks to the Technical Team for their hard work

over the 2021 season and I would like to wish Jimmy all the best for his new role in 2022.

Belnorth Committee

On a more personal note, I would like to thank all the members of the Belnorth Committee for their tireless efforts to keep the club running. Without them, the club would not be able to operate. Thank you to **Teresa Meisel-Dennis, Kat Newman, Frank Catanzariti, Esperance Anderson** and **Mohammad Rahimi** for taking on the challenging roles of Registrar and Treasurer and for working hard to deliver for the Belnorth Community. Thank you too to **Anthony 'Meggsie' Goddard, Trystan Moffit, Lisa Murphy** and **Kristian 'Pockets' Aggett** for their contributions to the committee over the course of the past year. And my special thanks to **Ben Muir**, the club Secretary, who has worked above and beyond the expectations of this role to meet the needs of the Belnorth Community.

Belnorth is one of the largest clubs in Canberra but frequently struggles to fill committee positions. Most positions are filled by senior players or those who have previously played for the club. Without new volunteers, the running of the club continues to fall to the same small group of committed volunteers. These committee members cannot be expected to continue to shoulder the burden of managing the club alone when so many benefit from their work.

On that note, I would ask everyone reading this to consider joining the committee. There are nine positions that need to be filled at the AGM due to casual vacancies or the end of the current holder's term. These roles would suit a variety of skills and time commitments. Please contact me if you would like to discuss any of these roles. If you are unable to take on a committee role, there may be a special project that you assist on, like auditing equipment, fundraising or writing grant applications.

Finally, I would like to wish all the Belnorth Community a safe and happy Christmas and I look forward to seeing you all again in the new year.

Kayannie Denigan
Vice President
Belnorth FC