

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN AMATEUR FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION.

Annual Report.

1940.

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting for your consideration, the Annual Report of the activities of this Association, covering the past season, 1940.

Owing to the large number of amateur players enlisting in the Services, it was anticipated early last year, that some of the Clubs would find it difficult to maintain a full side each week throughout the season. Most of the teams managed to complete their games, but South Perth and Inglewood were forced to close down several matches before the finals. This was very unfortunate and it is hoped that if not this year, then possibly in the future they may be able to enter a side again.

The only new team admitted to the Association in 1940 was one from the R.A.A.F. Pearce. This was a very formidable side and other Clubs found them a hard team to beat. They reached the Finals in the "A" Division, which was a good performance for a Club in its first year.

In the "A" division of the Competition, Werbley were successful for the third year in succession, defeating North Fremantle in the Grand Final. Both are to be congratulated on their performances, as also are the Grand finalists in the "B" division, East Fremantle and Fremantle C.R.C. Old Boys. The former did not lose one game in 1940, and so emulated Postal Institute, University and North Fremantle, the only other teams who were at any time Champions. In this Association.

The trophy presented by R.S. Jenkel Esq., for the Fairest and Best was won by R. Nathan of Inglewood, who defeated A. Snell of Mosman Park by the barest of margins. Both of these men recorded the same number of votes, but Nathan gained the victory on second preferences. His effort was all the more meritorious in view of the fact that his Club played fewer matches than other Clubs. Both of these players are to be commended for their ~~xxx~~ great exhibitions, which must have been inspiring to their team-mates.

Generally speaking, all games were keenly contested, and played in the true amateur spirit. Unfortunately, it is necessary to record that a few of the players did not keep their mind on the game with the result that they appeared before the Protesters and Disputes Board. It is hoped that Club delegates and officials will endeavour to make such hot headed members realise that this Association desires only clean football, and will not tolerate any other variety.

Because of the W.A. National Football League's not obtaining a lease of Perth and Leederville Ovals last year, we were able to play a number of games there, and although the cost was more than we actually could afford, the improved playing grounds were appreciated, and in addition our using these Ovals for Australian Football, kept the gate open (to use a slang expression) for the R.A.A.F. League's negotiations this season.

We were again fortunate in having the services of several good umpires last season, and generally speaking, the amount of criticism meted out to them was much less pronounced than in previous years. The majority of them always had the game under control, and so assisted in keeping the play open and clean.

Officers of the St. John Ambulance Brigade were in attendance at our matches, and their services were greatly appreciated.

Concerning our finances, these, I must say, are not as sound as could be desired. At present there is over £40 owing by six Clubs, three of which are responsible for over £30 of that sum. In this regard I would recommend that some definite action be taken before allowing these Clubs or any of their members to participate in our Competition. I have no wish to record the names of the offending Clubs, but intend to raise this matter later. Our Balance at the Rank at present stands at £20.7.2, in addition to which we have £25 invested in the Commonwealth War Loan. Actually this compares favourably with last year, as all accounts have been paid and we will be able to commence the 1941 season with a clean sheet.

At the conclusion of last season, when it was anticipated that a large proportion of the money owing would be paid to us, I was authorised to purchase War Savings Certificates with any balance over £10, but in view of those unfinancial Clubs not paying their arrears, and also because of a possible increase in ground fees during the coming season, I have left the money in the Bank.

Concerning 1941, I understand that the League Seconds will not be forming, which no doubt will make most of the League Ovals available to this Association. The question of payment to be discussed with the League very shortly, as also is the matter of Clearances between that body and ourselves. It is anticipated that the League will delete their ruling relating to clearances to junior Associations, which would no doubt meet with our approval.

In conclusion I wish to express my thanks to Club Secretaries, Delegates and to most of the Treasurers for their assistance and co-operation throughout 1940. The growth of the W.A. Amateur Football Association in recent years is conclusive proof that our Committee is sound, and I trust that delegates present will accept these sentiments as sincerely as I express them. In particular do I wish to mention the Assistant Secretary Mr. Miller whose help at all times was forthcoming. Mr. Miller and Mr. Bennett have represented this Association on numerous occasions during the past year, at meetings of the Amateur Sports Federation, Sportsmen's Patriotic Organising Council, and Department of Information Sports Groups, and on behalf of the Committee I wish to record an expression of our appreciation.

H. P. Grosvenor,
Hon. Secretary.

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BALANCE SHEET 1940.

Receipts.				Expenditure.			
Balance Br. F'wd. from 1939	105.	7.	10½	Umpires	117.	10.	6.
Entrance Fee (R.A.A.F.)	3.	3.	0	Ground fees	94.	7.	0.
Affiliation fees	15.	15.	0	Printing	6.	4.	1.
Arrears	21.	3.	3.	St. John Ambulance (1939 and 1940)	17.	6.	6.
Permit Fees	13.	6.	6.	Amateur Sporting Federation		10.	0.
Match fees	171.	16.	0.	Honorariums (1939 and 1940)	36.	4.	0.
Gate receipts from finals	4.	8.	0.	W.A. Amateur Sports Club	4.	4.	0.
Social (at door)	4.	0.	0.	W.A.N.F. League Members' Club	2.	8.	8.
Dr. to East Fremantle a/c social (cr. to Match fees)		10.	0.	Petty Cash	4.	0.	0.
Good Faith Deposit (cr. to match fees)	15.	15.	0.	Bessendean Rd. Rd. (Damage to dressing room)		15.	0.
(held on a/c clubs)	4.	5.	0.	Presentation to East Fremantle (Champions)	2.	15.	0.
Bank Interest	1.	13.	6.	Premiership Social	8.	15.	6.
Dr. to Clubs a/c umpires for finals (cr. to Match fees)	2.	0.	0.	Trophies and Engraving (1939 and 1940)	5.	8.	9.
Dr. to Clubs a/c Gate takings	2.	12.	0.	Refund to Sth. Perth Club (from G. Fth. Dep.)		12.	6.
				Cr. to Clubs a/c Gate takings	2.	18.	0.
				Commonwealth Loan	25.	0.	0.
				Cr. Returned Cheques	16.	17.	6.
				Cr. Balance.....	20.	7.	1½
	366.	4.	1½		366.	4.	1½

Hon. Secretary & Treasurer.

Handwritten signature and date:
 J. J. O'Connell
 6-5-41