

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN AMATEUR FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL REPORT 1948

Gentlemen,

It gives me pleasure to submit for your consideration and adoption the twenty-second Annual Report, covering the activities of this Association during 1948.

It will be remembered that in the previous year, we had twenty-two teams taking part in our competition. This number has increased to twenty four, with the admission to affiliation of the Shenton Park and South Fremantle Clubs, both of which, we consider, are acquisitions to the Association.

In accordance with the Rules, South Perth and Palmyra graduated to the "A" Division, taking the place of Claremont-Nedlands and Midland Junction, who participated in the Western and Eastern Zones, respectively, of the "B" Division. The zoning of Clubs in the "B" Division, instead of having a "B" Division was an experiment which, I think you will agree, was definitely successful, and eliminated considerable travelling.

South Perth proved that their performance in 1947, warranted elevation to "A" Division, by playing in the Grand Final, and although beaten by University in this vital game, they were in no way disgraced. Their victors, who have been battling hard for many years, without much success, certainly deserved the congratulations which they received from all Clubs, and I think it is only fitting that we should make record of the high esteem in which their Captain, "Speed" McKenzie, is held, both on and off the field. It is understood that he will be leaving the University this year, but it is to be hoped that his interest in Amateur Football will not wane in any way.

The premier teams in the "B" Division were Victoria Park (Eastern Zone) and Swanbourne (Western Zone), and in the Grand Final, the former were successful. To both of them, go our congratulations, on their elevation to the "A" Division, while to the other twenty-one Clubs who did not gain Premiership honours, we offer our commiserations, and hope that their members enjoyed playing, as much as the onlookers enjoyed watching the games.

It is interesting to record, only for the second time in our life, that the members of the Protests and Disputes Board, were not asked to adjudicate during 1948. This was in marked contrast to 1947, which was the busiest year ever experienced by the Board, and I for one trust that the coming season will be a repetition of last year, as far as the P. and D. Board is concerned. To its members, Messrs. A. A. Moffatt, R. B. Henkel and J. Dolan, we offer our thanks for their interest taken in the Association, and hope that it will not be necessary for them to meet again, on our behalf, for a very long time.

A point of controversy always, is the question of Umpiring. This occurs in every type and kind of sport played throughout the world, so that some of our players, and supporters, are not at all unique when they hurl criticism at the Umpires as well as the Board which appoints them. I would like to mention that through the co-operation of the W.A.N.F. League's Umpires' Board, also of their Coach (Mr. Leo McCormish), we were able to obtain outside opinions, as well as constructive criticisms of our umpires, last year.

Because of the holding of the Interstate Carnival in Western Australia, the season's fixtures were reduced in number to fourteen games in the first round, and included at the end of this Report, are lists showing just how the teams finished at the end of the season.

F I N A N C I A L R E P O R T

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At the commencement of the season we had a credit balance of £148.14.3, and with the heavy expenses of a Carnival to budget for, as well as pay for Guernseys, etc. for the Stat team, Clubs were faced with heavy financial obligations.

The estimated weekly expenditure per club for March fees was £1.6.0., and with the arrangement made to credit each Club 5/- whenever a boundary umpire was provided; the result, was a small credit to our General funds.

The difference between our guarantee to the visiting Carnival teams, and the net proceeds from these games, was met by the Clubs, and amounted to £14.2.1. for each of those affiliated in 1947, and £7.1.1. for South Frenantle and Shenton Park who joined the Association in 1948.

To start the 1949 season, twenty one clubs are in credit which is certainly a very satisfactory position. These amounts are the balance of the levies paid by Clubs to finance the Carnival guarantee, and after outstanding Club accounts for the season had been settled.

During the year, the Funds of the Association were increased by £17.13.8 making the credit balance at the end of the year £166.7.11.

The report of the Honorary Auditor, which will be presented at the Annual Meeting, will set out in more detail the financial position of the Association.

H.B. GROSVENOR.

Hon. Treasurer.

The Grounds used, were the same as in previous years, and much the same remarks could be made about them as have been made for many years past. With very few exceptions, it appears that little is done, not only to improve playing facilities, but even to maintain them at existing condition. At the end of last season, Clubs were asked to endeavour to interest members of their local Municipalities or Road Boards, in the problems of their recreation grounds with special emphasis on the Football Ovals, so it is to be hoped that 1949 will see an improvement in the playing areas available.

Attached to this General Report will be found a Financial Report, as well as a Report on the Interstate Carnival, so I will conclude this portion by expressing my sincere thanks to the members of the various Committees, mentioning in particular, the Executive, for their assistance throughout what has been our most strenuous year.

To Club Secretaries, I can only say, that I hope they will continue to manage the affairs of their Clubs, as their co-operation in 1948 was something that most Association Secretaries only dream about, but never experience.

The future of the Association seems brighter than ever, and I suggest that if we continue with our policy of endeavouring to provide good and clean Amateur Football Competition for as many as possible, we will not only be helping our own Association, but will be assisting in the physical and moral education of the youth of Australia.

H. B. GROSVENOR,
Hon. Secretary.

Positions of teams at end of season.

<u>"A" Division</u>	<u>Western Zone</u>	<u>"B" Division.</u>	<u>Eastern Zone.</u>
University	Swanbourne	Victoria Park	Victoria Park
South Perth	Shenton Park	East Perth	East Perth
Mt. Hawthorn	East Fremantle	Midland Junction	Midland Junction
Mosman Park	Claremont-Nedlands	Mt. Lawley	Mt. Lawley
Wembley	C.B.C. Old Boys	Osborne Park	Osborne Park
North Fremantle	South Fremantle	Interbanks	Interbanks
Palmyra	University	Bayswater	Bayswater
Maylands	Teachers Training	Belmont	Belmont
	College		

Club attendances at meetings of General committee:

Bayswater	6	North Fremantle ..	7
Belmont	4	Osborne Park.....	6
Claremont-Nedlands	7	Palmyra	6
C.B.C. Old Boys....	7	Shenton Park	6
East Fremantle ..	6	South Fremantle ..	7
East Perth	7	South Perth	7
Interbanks	6	Swanbourne	7
Maylands	6	Teachers Training	7
Mosman Park	7	College	5
Mt. Hawthorn	7	University	7
Mt. Lawley	7	Victoria Park	6
Midland Junction.	7	Wembley	7