



Annual Report – Season 2017

Contents

President's Report – Malcolm Arnold	3
Treasurer's Report – Kim Ross	4
Our Sponsors	5
Season 2017 Awards	7
Ron Bolton Award	7
President's Trophy	7
Heath Dockary Spirit of EFC Award	8
Perpetual Trophy Awards	8
New Life Members	9
Super League	10
Over 30 Division 2 Women	11
Over 45 Division 1	28
Under 14 Division 1 Girls	21
Under 14 Division 2 Girls	22
Under 6 Red A	11
Under 11 Girls	17
Under 7 Girls	15
Under 11 Division 1	18
Under 6 Yellow A	13
All Age Division 3 Women	24
Under 12 Division 3	19
Under 18 Division 1	24
All Age Division 1 Womens Blue	11
Under 6 Yellow B	13
Annexure – Financial Statements	30

President's Report – Malcolm Arnold

After rebranding ourselves in 2016 as Epping Football Club and winning the club championship in both GHFA and NSWFF we looked forward to the 2017 season and the opening of the new \$14m development of our home ground at West Epping oval.

Our new ground represents the start of a new era at the club with 2 new state of the art synthetic soccer pitches. It was however not to be, and the development dragged on but it is at last now nearing completion and will definitely be online for 2018. We will be the envy of the surrounding clubs and will never need to cancel training again due to wet weather once it opens. Hopefully we can gather some of our players and families for the ground opening and a game of football in the coming couple of months.

Our player registration numbers were again strong in 2017 including 8 new U6 teams – this is our strongest numbers in this age group for many years and they all benefited from the structure of our coop training which has now been running successfully for many years. Across the uncompetitive ages, we enjoyed much success with reports of strong performances but more importantly smiles on faces and kids enjoying themselves playing football.

In the U12 and up competitive age groups we again fielded many teams in the top divisions reflecting the success the club has enjoyed over recent seasons.

In the GHFA boys / mixed competitions we performed strongly with our 14/1, 14/2, AA16 and men's Super League first grade all declared premiers. On top of this we also won grand finals in 12/3, 14/2, AA8, AA14, AA16 and Super League reserves with our 14/1 17/3, & 45/1 teams ending up runners up – what a great season!

On the NSWFF girls side the trophies were a little leaner this season however our 14/1 girls ran out the season as both premiers and champions after a wonderful season undefeated.

We now have 4 teams who go on to represent us in the state champion of champions competition – our 14/1 boys, 14/1 girls, our AA1 women's and U21 women's teams – good luck.

Thank you to all our coaches and managers of all our teams – volunteers are getting harder to find and your efforts are to be commended.

A big thanks goes once again to Heath Dockary who continues to provide fantastic support to our club even as he has moved to the Di Jones brand. Please consider Heath if you are selling your home, his ongoing support deserves ours.

Thank you finally to our 2017 committee who work hard behind the scenes to ensure we get teams formed and players enjoying their football. It is a great community and we are proud of what has been developed and hope to continue to build it into the future.

Malcolm Arnold – Club President 2017



Treasurer's Report – Kim Ross

Another great year for EFC. Our registration numbers were up by about 60 players.

Associations fees increased a little, we didn't increase our fees, we also offered more incentives this year for our u6 teams, which meant our gross profit dropped by about \$4000.

Our net profit is \$9896 which is about \$4000 down on 2016 which equates to the drop in gross profit, however I'd like to note some of the other larger expense/savings items:

Grounds costs are up \$5500. This is an estimated \$2000 increase in ground hire due to the additional grounds we had this year and general council rate increases, we also spent \$3000 on ground improvement at Karonga presentation day costs were up by about \$1000 – this is the increase in entertainment costs – we had more entertainment for longer, which worked really well last Saturday.

Equipment purchases were down by \$6000.

Fines were up by \$1000 this year unfortunately.

We didn't have any legal costs this year, so that's a saving of about \$6000.

We saved around \$1000 on coop this year.

Ref costs are up by \$650, this was a number of State Cup referee fees.

This year we spent around \$46K on Club Clothing, around \$5500 was on-sold for uniforms, most of the balance was the purchase of the new, fantastic, Club jackets. We've had an overwhelming positive response to these, it was definitely money well spent.

As at 31/8/17, we had \$143849.38 in the bank. We still have approximately \$23000 to pay out, being ground hire (around \$10000), AGM/Seniors night (around \$3000), and presentation day expenses (around \$9500).

We are continuing to keep the bank balance as high as possible, because we are still conscious of needing contingency funds for the ground redevelopment (canteen fitout etc). As the redevelopment approaches finalization, we hope to soon know what will be required for next year.

Kim Ross – Treasurer 2017



**(club financial statements can be found in the Annexure)*

Our Sponsors

We're hugely appreciative of the support we get from our sponsors; they help the club from a financial point of view, enabling investment into facilities for both junior and senior teams alike. It's with their support that our club can continue to grow and offer first class facilities to our members.

Their support deserves ours.

Where you have the opportunity, please choose one of our sponsors for your next purchase.

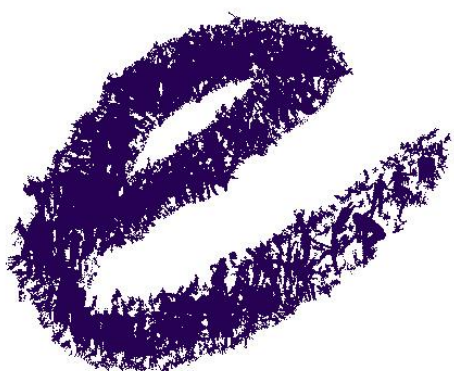
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the epping

ALL THINGS TO ALL PEOPLE



Season 2017 Awards

Ron Bolton Award

Malcolm Arnold – Mal has done an immense amount of work around the club over the past 12 months, and several years. As Club President, he ushered in a new era as EFC, has assisted in consultations with council regarding the ground redevelopment, as well as continuing to coach 3 teams within the club. The committee felt that Malcolm's continued efforts deserved this recognition.



President's Trophy

Under 14 Division 1 Girls – The girls finished the season undefeated and as Premiers & Champions, a great effort. They are undefeated over two seasons of division 1 football.



Heath Dockary Spirit of EFC Award

Corbin Strauss – Corbin is the recipient of this award for 2017 due to his ongoing efforts in supporting football through many facets. Not only does he play in the Under 14 Division 1 Premiership winning side, but he also referee's and coaches his younger brother's U7 side. Great effort Corbin!



Perpetual Trophy Awards

Trophy	Recipient
Coach of the Year	Pat Ainsworth
Most Improved Junior Team of the Year	Under 11 Green
Best Junior Girls Attacking Team	Under 15 Division 1
Best Junior Girls Defensive Team	Under 14 Division 1
Best Senior Ladies Attacking Team	All Age Division 5
Best Senior Ladies Defensive Team	All Age Division 1
Best Junior Male Attacking Team	Under 18 Division 1
Best Junior Male Defensive Team	Under 14 Division 2
Best Senior Men's Attacking Team	Super League First Grade
Best Senior Men's Defensive Team	Over 45 Division 1/2

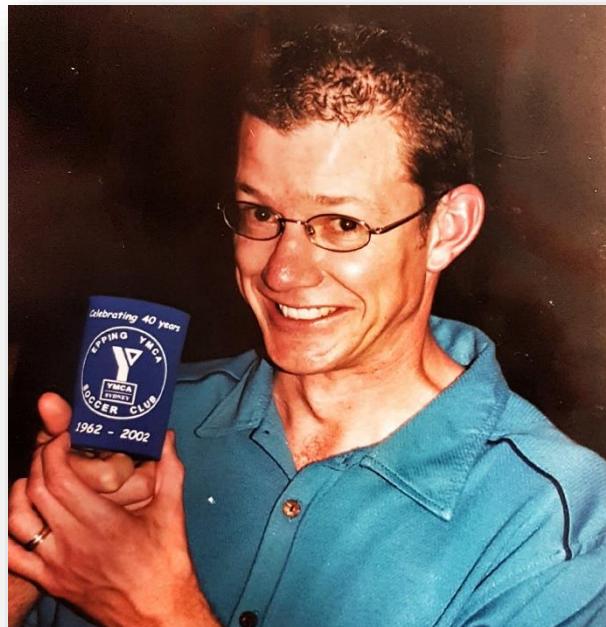
New Life Members

Life Membership is awarded to a select group of dedicated people who have given a tremendous amount to Epping YMCA Football Club. This award is given not for just years of membership, but for loyal and dedicated service, striving to improve the organisation of this Club and junior football in general. Life Membership is the highest individual accolade the Club can award any to any individual, given in recognition of many years of additional voluntary service that any individual member may provide, either in their playing or non-playing capacities. It is open to all financial members of the Club, both male and female.

Andrew Murray - Andrew joined Epping YMCA in 1989 after playing juniors with Beecroft. He came across with several friends from Carlingford High, playing All Age initially before being recruited into Premier League by Alan Booth in 1990.

He first joined the committee in the late 1990s as club secretary under George Brincat's presidency, serving for several years. He became club president in the early 2000's for two seasons. He remained on the social committee for a couple of years following the birth of his children before becoming equipment manager between 2007 and 2011.

'Muzza' has now played for 29 seasons and been a committee member for at least 10 years. Contributing in many capacities down the years. He remains a player in the Over 35 Division 1 side.



Super League

At one point before the season started it looked like we would struggle to get a squad together at all. The pre-season was less than ideal also with wet weather and lack of ground availability adding to the frustration. From that point onward it was a very different story...

First Grade

PREMIERS... GO YOU GOOD THINGS!!! An awesome effort from the lads to get the club back into the top-flight where it belongs. After 18 Premiership rounds with 13 wins, 3 draws and just 2 losses, scoring 49 goals and only conceding 20 in the process, we finished 5 points clear at the top.

It was a season of mixed line-ups with the seemingly un-ending player juggles and positional changes through injury and availability that produced some inconsistent performances at times. Our determination and the depth of the squad, combined with a solid defence led by the skipper (Cam Jones) made the difference at the end of the campaign that our competitors couldn't match.

With a solid senior player group at the heart of the squad and promotion to Premier League with new facilities on offer from next season, the scene is set for a new era for the club's top grade. The lads are pumped and looking forward to next year already.

Reserve Grade

In the Premiership rounds we finished 3rd on the ladder, played 18 games, had 9 wins, 6 draws, 3 losses, scored 48 goals and conceded 21.

We played some really nice football at times which was quite an achievement given that the team line-up was often disrupted while we managed player availability and injuries. Adding to that, everyone called on did a fantastic job as substitutes to support 1st grade and formed an integral part of the overall success of the squad. Many thanks also to those players from the 21's and 35's who filled in for us when we were short.

With the restrictions on player substitutions between 1st and Reserve grades for the last 5 competition rounds and into the finals, the tail of our campaign became even more challenging.

A comprehensive 3-1 win in the first semi against RSU left the door open to continue through the finals series. The lads backed that result up the following week with a 1-0 win against the Premiers to secure a Grand Final berth against Redbacks. The boys brought their A-game to the final at ELS Hall and never let Redbacks into the game. A dominant display of possession led to a first half goal to Lewis McMurtry. The upset was complete with a nice finish by Tom Russell put the result to bed in the second half.

Special Mentions

Leaders – Cam Jones and Tommy Pearson

Youngsters – Harry Gordon and Tom Russell outperformed all expectation.

Leading goal scorer – Kye McLean

Impact – Lewis McMurtry

Workaholic – Kyle Sheather

Mr Dependable – Luke Sheather, Richie Sarsfield

Off the Pitch

A huge thank you to Reuben Forrest for taking on the manager's duties for both grades and to Fraser Foristal for assisting with training. At the end of the day, a very enjoyable and successful season with these lads. On to Premier League next season!

Ian Richards - Coach

All Age Division 1 Womens Blue

If you had said we would finish 5th in our first season in a 10 team AA1 comp at the start of the season, I would have been delighted with that result and so it was, I was delighted with the season...just outside the 4 but competitive each week. The side was stronger each week and gave the other sides in AA1 a bit of a surprise with the highlight being knocking off eventual premiers Winston Hills to progress to the quarter-finals of the state cup. This on top of wins in Champions of Champions 2016 for both U21s and Summer 6-a-side caps a stellar 12 months for the squad...with U21 Champions to come again in a couple of weeks. Given the quality of the football and the results, it's sometimes easy to forget that ALL players in the squad are still U21 with plenty of time to continue to develop and learn.

All players improved this season and at no stage did any player seem overwhelmed with the jump in standard. In fact, after last season where we won 23 games straight, the players were ready for a new challenge. And a challenge it certainly was. The step up from 2s to 1s is substantial with the biggest being dealing with the increased physicality and staying switched on for the full 90 minutes. Some of the harder heads in other sides demonstrated both of these attributes and it was a lesson we quickly learnt. But we never forgot the style of football we play and the sideline was regularly enthralled with demonstrations of quality passing, movement, defending and finishing. The number of times we played out and reach half way with uncontested possession, was testament to your skill and understanding.

I have always encouraged attacking football, winning 5-4 is more fun than 1-0. This season we rarely played dual 6s as we did last season but played dual 10s giving greater attacking options which yielded over 50 goals in all competitions. Twelve of the 16 players in the squad scored with 4 players (Mia, Carmen, Em and Katherine) getting 6+ and Mia the golden boot for the second year running with 14. She was provided with quality supply by wingers, Rosie, Caitlin and Carmen to achieve this. And who could forget Kathryn's hat-trick in 20 minutes against the Bats – not bad for a centre back! But it's not all about scoring and the defense was well organised and led by Chloe. Around her Sami, Alice, Kirra, Loz, Aimee and Clare all played their part. In goals, Madz showed great bravery and team spirit. At the heart of the midfield, Em continues to weave a merry web of deception as opposing players struggled to know what she would do next. She was joined by Katherine who developed a strong understanding with her and was a welcome asset to the side with good vision and athleticism. At 6, Sami, Alice and Jaz all had times where they shone. In a side with this much talent, competition for time in your preferred spot must be earned and so versatility is second nature. Welcome to the new players ; Aimee, Katherine and Carmen. They contributed strongly to the improved performance of the side.

Thanks to all of the people that made this possible, particularly assistant coach Joel and manager Clare. Additionally, thanks to the other coaches/managers, PK and the committee for their efforts and support. To the players who filled in Tam, Lauren and particularly Shannon, who pulled off some cracking saves in the State Cup, thank-you. Finally, thanks to the AA1 white side, they have assisted us to develop over recent years and were very gracious after the draw against us that effectively finished their premiership chances in the second last round.

The squad continues to develop and each member plays a very important role in a variety of positions – it's like an orchestra.... every now and again one of you steps up for a solo performance but most of the time it's all the team contributing together to the performance. Congratulations to Chloe, Sami Alice, Mia, Katherine, Caitlin, Rosie, Kirra, Madz, Clare, Loz, Aimee, Jasmine, Em, Carmen and Katheryn.

Bruce Hort – Coach

Under 6 Red A

2017 was a wonderful introduction to soccer and team sports for our young team, all newbies this season. They learnt the skills and rules of the game with the good-humoured guidance of our coach Leanne who was a fantastic motivator. Well done for a great season to Angus, Christopher, Kian, Michaela, Naomi and Victoria.



Janette Hudson

Under 6 Yellow A

U6 Yellow A had a wonderful season!

For the majority of the team this was their first season of winter soccer so it was a bit of a learning curve for all. We started off a little unfocused and lacking a bit of confidence. However, as the season progressed, the boys improved in leaps and bounds.

By the end of the season, the boys were able to pass the ball and position themselves defensively. They had also gained enough confidence to intercept and really fight hard for the ball. Most importantly all the boys became great friends and had an amazing time.

A huge thank you to Yvonne for being our SUPER (patient) COACH! And for Sung and Leah for stepping in every now and then to help out.



Well done to Robert, Caleb, Esteban, Lorenzo, Ian and Micah! Hope you loved playing as much as we did watching!

Jenn Kwaan

Under 6 Yellow B

It really was a season that the boys could be proud of. Each and every player really gave their best, whether it be turning up to training every week, or showing up raring to go on a Saturday morning.



For Joel and I, if we could help the boys learn a few skills, but more importantly instil a love for the game, we would have been happy.

A big thanks needs to go to the parents of the boys too. We couldn't have asked for a better or more supportive bunch. They always had the boys at training each and every Friday and were great supporters every Saturday.

Mitch Bradshaw - Manager

Under 7 Girls

What a great season from the Under 7 Girls in 2017 and what a privilege it was to coach them this year. Every girl developed as a player, which is all that any parent or coach can ask. The following is a brief summary of each girl's season.



Eva: Eva plays and trains with enthusiasm and that trusty left foot has scored some wonderful goals this season. Even more impressive has been her awesome defensive efforts when needed. Her ability to run down the opposing attackers and position herself perfectly has been a delight to witness. Well Done Eva.

Annalise: Very few goals are conceded when Annalise is in defence. Her desire and determination to stop any attacker in their tracks with very physical tackling is a pleasure to watch. Throw in a number of length of the field goals and you have a very valuable asset to any team. A fantastic season Annalise.

Sanduli: Sanduli was our quiet 'Miss Consistent' this year. She could be relied upon to read the play and be in the right position at the right time. Sanduli displayed wonderful control with both feet and she played every game with a smile on her face. An awesome season Sanduli.

Sophie: Sophie has developed so much as a player this season. She was willing to play in any position and she was more confident and involved as each game went on, culminating in a well-deserved goal in the last game of the season. Keep up the great work Sophie.

Adelaide: Adelaide has done a wonderful job all season playing in both defence and attack when needed. She has developed a strong passing game and she always listens to instructions, especially when implementing set plays. It was also pleasing to see Adelaide score a couple of determined goals towards the end of the season. Keep up the great work Adelaide.

Yvette: Yvette was the envy of many teams when she skilfully dribbled her way straight through the heart of opposition defences on a weekly basis. She was also able to find free space regularly which put her in great position to score many goals throughout the season. Congratulations Yvette on a wonderful season.

Charlotte: Charlotte is our trusty forward who loves scoring multiple goals for fun and she only knows playing tough. She charges on to the ball with pace, purpose and power and she has the ability to use both feet when needed to terrorise the opposition. Congratulations Charlotte on a terrific season.

Thanks Kate for all the organising, the emails, the team sheets, the chasing up of so many behind the scenes issues and the support you have given me - you have been amazing!!!

A special thank you to Josh. He has happily helped the girls every Friday night and refereed games week after week. His enthusiasm and support of all the girls has been remarkable. Josh, you are a credit to your parents and your help has been greatly appreciated! Thank you so much.

To Big Sophie, thank you also for helping out the girls whenever you could. I know the girls loved having you around to help and support.

To all the parents, thank you for bringing the girls each week, for being an awesome and encouraging cheer squad and for supporting me and making me feel worthy of looking after your girls this season.

Finally, to the girls, Wow what a season!!! How far you have come in such a short time! I have loved seeing you enjoy the time spent together and the happiness you show when you are on the field and the friendships you have made. The way you have played soccer as a team and grown as players has also been a pleasure to watch. I hope you all stick together and come back next season on the bigger fields.

For the record, the girls scored 63 goals and conceded just 24 over the season.

That is pretty impressive!!!!

Congratulations girls!!

Looking forward to 2018.

Chris Boland

Under 11 Girls

Thank you girls for yet another entertaining season. Slowly but surely we are becoming a more coherent team and by the end of this season were really showing signs of huge improvement and confidence. With only 9 girls registered initially, we struggled each week to have a full team on the field but regardless the girls just gave 100% and kept on running and running without complaint. The two Under 9's EFC girls teams were kind enough to lend us their super talented "pocket rockets" occasionally to make up our numbers and then we were lucky enough to have Keira decide to join us half way through the season which was a huge help!!

A big thanks to Emma for training the girls and giving the team some structure by working out each of the girls strengths and positioning them accordingly. Also, thanks to the dads who stepped in to coach the girls when Emma was unavailable – really appreciate your efforts and flexibility.

Thanks also to our fantastic parents for your positive support of the girls and nurturing their love of the game. And of course for the sideline conversation and entertainment (even if it meant we often missed some of the highlights!!!)

Onwards and upwards next season girls – things are really starting to click and think next season will be our best yet!!!



Well done Heidi, Neve, Caitlin, Annika, Matilda, Lauren, Sarah, Keira, Tiffy and Ruby :)

Sally Carpenter

Under 11 Division 1

What a great season. All games were very competitive and there were very few blow outs in score lines which is just what you want in the top division.

This is a very talented bunch of boys who play a wonderful brand of football and they lost only a couple of games all season. The boys seek to maintain possession at all cost and rarely give the ball away. It is scary at times as they pass out from the back and often frustrating when they pass it around the opposition goal rather than take the shot. That said we scored some superb team goals but some equally wonderful long range efforts when the coaches said to stop passing it and pull the trigger.

These boys continue to develop as both players and a team and we look forward with anticipation to what lies ahead in their first year of competitive football in the U12 competition next season.

Players player went to Dilshan for the second year in a row – he had wonderful season no matter where he played but is most at home scoring goals – and lots of them. Coach's award went to Harry G who grew more than any other player this season to end up our most reliable player week in week out and one who never had a poor game.

Thanks to Rick who performed the role as team manager and kept us organised all season and Daniel who co-coached and does so with the passion of a parent despite having no child in the team.

Mal Arnold - Coach

Under 12 Division 3

Our first season of 'The Beautiful Game' on the big field and what a season it was. Finishing 2nd on the competition table, then defeating the Premiers to claim a spot in the Grand Final, and capping it all off with a Grand Final win in a thrilling, last minute, nail biting 1 – 0 victory over a gallant Epping Eastwood. The resounding cheers from the parents as the goal was scored could be heard far across the waters at Morrison Bay.

Every player worked for the good of the team, they are mates on and off the field and are always supporting each other with encouragement and sporting spirit - including respect for the opposition. These young men are a pleasure to coach, very good listeners, and importantly, they never gave up at any stage. The team also proved they were able to hold their formation and combine this with a style of Football based on a passing game and keeping possession.

A big thank you for your help and support to our wonderful parents/carers on the sidelines. Your enthusiastic cheering and positive attitude have inspired the players to always do their best.

Thank you also Matt Gorringe and Matt Elliott for your help at training, as well as Gavin and Hojin for your tireless patrol of the sidelines with the trusty yellow flag.

A fun and rewarding season, so, onwards and upwards for Season 2018 - Division 2 here we come!

Special thanks to the EFC U11/1 football team. Your half hour of match play at training every week gave us the extra preparation we needed to face the hard opposition teams throughout the season.



The brilliant U12/3 football team from defence to striker:

Jethro - aka 'Jet' – 'The Keeper' in the true sense of the word. Grew in stature, always brave, ever diligent, made the penalty box his own turf. Many athletic saves often gave him/us a clean score-sheet. Continues to improve in this very key of positions.

Darryn - 'The Rock' – the foundation of our defence. He was always in the thick of tough tackling and clearing from the danger zone. Darryn also provided great delivery with the corners as well as free kicks.

Patrick - A thinking footballer – proved to be a player who could judge when to jockey an attacker or swoop and take possession. Patrick also formed a great relationship with the keeper in deciding whether to make a deft pass back, clear, or initiate an attack with a passing move.

Justin - A great defender and a fine utility player – just as effective in attack. Justin could always be relied upon to play any position depending on what we needed. A real team player who kept going, running, and tackling right to the final whistle.

Ian - The quiet achiever – Ian held his defensive positions with skill and determination. Could play on the left or right, or the middle when needed by the team. Improved exponentially as the season progressed.

Danny - Always stuck to the game plan and formation. Danny improved more and more as we moved into the Semi's. He made sure we had a player who could fill any position when needed. He constantly stepped up to challenge the opposition.

Tony - A ferocious tackler and defender. Tony also added attack and passing to his game. He was more than willing to play out of normal position in order to fill the gaps we needed covered. At training, he always wanted to learn more.

Edward - Has Football in his blood. Reads the game very well, knows when to play the right ball/pass, attack, or defend. Great combination with his fellow mid-fielders, as well as poise on goal when the final shot was needed. Edward is wished all the very best in his future Football endeavours.

Samuel - A gifted footballer and prolific goal scorer. Samuel has pace and the ability to get the ball, control it, and put it in the net. An attacking and tireless mid-fielder, he knows when to pass and when to run onto the passes, with great judgement. A fantastic season!

Liam - In the engine-room of the midfield, Liam used the team formation and passing game to the best advantage. The one-two's, and through-balls were great to watch and often resulted in a goal for us on the score-sheet. Pretty handy on the far post with the volley shots as well.

Ben - A midfielder who was as adept in attack as in defence – his cover defence and tenacious tackling more than often got us out of trouble. Ben's ball skills improved all year and proved important in the final games of the season when we needed to keep possession and set up the strikers.

Yuyang - One of the big improvers this season. Yuyang increased his ball skills, tackling, as well as his determination to win. He trained hard all year and was always willing to help with the team effort in playing any/all of the positions we needed.

Asher - Our gun striker and a natural leader. Asher knew when to lay-off the pass or take the shot. His combination with the midfield and ability to hammer the back of the net gave us momentum throughout the season and especially in the big games in the Finals.

Sam - Throughout the season, Sam was the player we could turn to – to score goals when needed, defend when needed, be the goal-keeper (!!), as well as cover any position on the field as a utility player. This was especially true when he played in mid-field in the Semi's. A great team player.

Shiv - aka "Mr. Football" – Shiv thinks about the game and then does it on the field. His determination to succeed is only outweighed by his skills in both attack and defence. He can truly play any position in Football. Needed... – passing?, or tackling? - leave it to Shiv!

Leighonie Callan - Manager

Tom Callan - Coach.

Under 14 Division 1 Girls

Most of these girls have had 3 years in competitive football and have an amazing record, which includes;

- 43 wins, 2 draws and 2 losses
- 142 goals for, 23 against
- 3 grand finals
- 3 championships
- 2 premierships.

2017 was another good season with the girls not losing a game and ironically only dropping points in round 1 against the eventual wooden spooners who we drew 0-0 with despite creating about 50 chances.

I believe the girls enjoy their soccer but am convinced they just as much enjoy the opportunity to socialize at both training and games – this makes for a wonderful environment that means they seem to enjoy playing – however it can often provide frustration for the coaches when we struggle to get their attention when required.

All girls contributed again this season but the very deserving winner of the players player award was Peta who has narrowly missed out in past seasons. Peta led from the front as Captain in many games, no more so than her grand final performance, while she is also one who talks and motivates her teammates on the field. The coaches award then went to Rhiannon who was a conscientious trainer all season, rarely complaining about the role she was asked to perform and played every single position on the field throughout the season, doing them all well.

Thanks to Catriona for her second year as manager and keeping us organized and to Sam Collins for helping out with coaching all season.

Hope to see them all back again to try for number 4 in 2018 !

Malcolm Arnold

Under 14 Division 2 Girls

The year started with the news that there would not be an Under 13 Division 1 competition and that the 13 & 14 girls would be combined, with the strongest U13 teams to play in Under 14 Division 2.

While this meant the girls faced some challenging games against older, bigger, stronger girls, in the end the top 4 teams who qualified for the semi finals, were the strongest Under 13 teams, including EFC.

The girls had a great year, coming in third on the ladder and throughout the year, only losing games to the two teams who ended up playing the Grand Final. Across all statistics, the girls improved over 2016 – more points accumulated, better goal difference, less losses.

The girls were the top scoring team in the competition. What was most pleasing was that while we relied on Lily as our main goal scorer in 2016 (no one else scored more than 3), in 2017, Lily, Nat and Caitlin our super sub from U11's all scored 7 goals and JR led the way with 11.

So while a couple of disappointing results at the back end of the season ended our chances of the premiership & grand final appearance – both of which we competed strongly for and gave it a real close go – the girls can be very proud of their year and strong improvements and results.

Jenna was again wonderful in goals, putting her body on the line, week in, week out. Alicia stepped up to fill the vacant sweeper role and was outstanding, winning the Coaches Player of the Year. She was ably supported in defence by Brooke, Bronte, Iris and our new recruit for 2017, Yas, who was outstanding through the year. The midfield engine – led by Lily & Sophia – were brilliant, with Sophia just amazing when asked to tag strong opposition players. Our other new (returning) player Bree found her feet in defensive midfield with some excellent performances and Jemima, Kiki, Kate, Maya & Nat ran hard in midfield throughout the year. Congratulations to Maya to picking up the Most Improved Player for the year and to Nat for winning the Players Player of the Year.



While the NSWFF competition was of course the most important, the highlight of the year was the team's involvement in the 2017 Kanga Cup in Canberra. The Kanga Cup is the Southern Hemispheres largest junior football tournament with around 400 teams competing from ages 9 through 17. Having marched in the Opening Ceremony at the Australian Institute of Sport, the girls took the field in their opening match, excited about the week ahead, where they played 6 games in 4 days.

In terms of results, the girls went down to two narrow unlucky 2-1 defeats early in the tournament but ended the week on a high, rewarded for all their efforts against very strong teams with a great win , defeating Canberra Olympic - 5th in the ACT Premier League - 3-1.

The Kanga Cup was a great learning experience for the girls and gave them the opportunity to bond & have fun as a team and also see firsthand, by playing some high quality teams, what good looks like in terms of teamwork and passing, which they can then bring back to their training & regular matches.

To top off a wonderful week, at the end of the tournament, our team were recognised for our respect for the opposition, rules & referees and our honourable efforts against teams from higher

Richard Rasker

Under 18 Division 1

After a brilliant 2016, which saw the team make the champions of champions grand final, 2017 was all about going one further and repeating the successes of the previous year. Before the season started, we unfortunately lost 3 members of last years squad, but gained good replacements in Jack, Stove and Gehan.

Throughout the season, we continued on from last year in following the idea of "if you score 2 we'll score 4 model" in favour of scoring more goals then the opposition to complement the mostly attack minded players throughout the squad. This showed as we scored a bagful of goals, hitting 5+ goals in games 7 times in the season, and with no team being able to keep a clean sheet against us until August. Unfortunately we couldn't replicate our title winning form in the GHFA competition this year, with a severe case of "second season syndrome" suffered. Second Season Syndrome is a condition suffered by many of the elite, including Chelsea, Leicester, Manchester City and Jose Mourinho. For us, injuries, missed chances and Howard Webb just striking at the wrong times throughout the year meant things did not go our way.

The team did however save their best performances this season for the state cup, as we played two of our games of the season in our cup run to the quarter finals. Firstly, heading out to Mount Druitt and facing the giant Glenmore Park side, containing Australian under 18 Futsal players and all being 6ft4 tall. With just the bare 11 players due to injuries, a significant height disadvantage, and the 90% chance of our valuables being stolen...we produced the performance of the season to date as Samo deservedly grabbed a golden goal extra time winner after we dominated in hot and tiring conditions. This was topped 2 weeks later as we welcomed Wollongong United, a rep team from the South Coast to Hayes park, where after going a goal down early, we blitzed back to win 5-2. Courtesy of a goal of the season con-tender from Tom, an assist of the season contender from Liv, an individual master-class from Fax, goals from Sam and Rat and a team performance that Johan Cruyff would of been writing home about.



The team:

Adam "Mousse" Moussa - Epping FC's answer to Ngolo Kante, improving immensely throughout the season, never running out of Stamina in midfield and tack-ling almost anything that moved. Won our player of the year for collecting most MOTM points throughout the season, well deserved Mousse!

Steven "The Rat" Bessis - Sir Alex Ferguson once said "Give me Rat and 10 pieces of wood and I'll win you the champions league". As his 6 goals in one semi final proves against West Ryde - Sir Alex is probably right.

Melique “Honeydip Girl” Martin - Extremely versatile, playing everywhere from left wing to goalkeeper... the number of positions he played during the season was only outnumbered by the amount of times he changed his haircut.

Nathan “I’m a striker not a stopper” Drobnak - Captain Fantastic did his best to emulate the best of Sergio Ramos, bagging vital goals from centre back in a man-ner that would make Tony Pulis proud.

Aman “Sakho” Sandhu - Whether it be, literally, having swipes at the opposition or driving the team forward, Aman never once played short of passion and fire. Also was one of the only forwards in the game to ever request playing at the back to emulate the amazing Mamadou Sakho.

Will “Wev” Evans -A vitally important player for us as he ensured that whenever we scored that everyone knew the score was still “nil-nil”. Also knew how to strike a 30 yard knuckleball as West Ryde found out...

Jack “Jacko” Parkinson - First season as a keeper, and used his outfield experience to bring quality distribution and brilliant communication across the backline, he was just as good with his feet as he is with hands...take note Claudio Bravo!

Lachlan “Fax” Carfax - Paul Pogba’s white brother from another mother, has a strikers eye for a goal, and also a knack of putting opponents on the floor following a challenge in midfield with “Fax”.

Oliver “Xabi Alonso in his prime” Mills - Like he says, “Xabi Alonso in his prime”, two footed with a rocket of a shot and “Alonso like” vision on him, demonstrated in the best 30 minutes of the season to take us from 2-0 down to 3-2 against a parked bus.

Sam “Cramps” Lucas - When he’s not cramping up, he’s running up the right wing. Always seems to pop up when we need a goal most and saves his best for when we need it most on the big occasion... and golden goal extra time.

Steve “Stove” Todd - Was like having Usain Bolt’s Australian cousin playing as a sweeper, nobody ever out-paced him to the ball, combined with being 6ft 5, most attackers would rather run to the corner flag than the goal at the mere sight of “the tripod”.

Brayden “Dewey” Dilley - Following the career path of Yaya Toure... starting at sweeper last season and throughout this year just kept moving up the pitch. With

the goal scoring prowess of Mbappe and tekkers of Lord Bendtner, once his nutmeg completion rate gets into double digits, he’ll be the complete player.

Gehan “G-Train” Samaragunarathna - The fox in the box, who on his day can terrorise defences and finish like the best of them....just ask West Ryde, who are still recovering from his perfect hat-trick.

Pete “Smegsy” Rubie - When he’s not at the Australia v Scotland game he’s an incredible asset down the left side. Was forced to play a lot at left back due to limited number of defenders but did an incredible job and was very dangerous when getting forward.

Tom “Oi Ref” Farquhar - Versatile and always happy to do the dirty work in mid-field. Loved a friendly “chat” with the ref, and also scoring the occasional 40 yard worldie against south coast rep teams.

Anushka “Rui Faria” Dissanayake - Manager and assistant coach this year, not a player but did want to single him out as an incredible help and thank him for all his hard work! Made my life a lot easier and helped out a lot at training and on match days, really appreciate it! Without him around things wouldn’t have run nearly as smoothly, from both myself and everyone in the team, thanks Anushka!

An enjoyable season overall for the boys and myself, one which we were so close yet so far on many occasions. But none the-less It has been a pleasure to coach this great group this season.

Patrick Carfax

All Age Division 3 Women

The 2017 season was at first a bit daunting for our team as we were pushed up two divisions from last year. It was a bit of a roller-coaster season with big wins such as the first round with a score of 6-0 and a hat-trick from Bryana.

However, the year also included some disappointing losses, but we pushed through and grew as a team. Our goal keeper Dani was always there to save the day with astonishing catches and saves.

The defence line was consistently strong through the season and were always there to push us forward. Ellen's voice carried us through and her sidekicks, Emma, Kerry (known for her best goal celebrations), Becca, Nikki and Beth, were there to lend a helping foot.

Mid-field played so well together this season with Jess (players player) and Sanjana constantly having energy and giving the other teams more of a competition. Emily, Lauren and Joyce were the glue which held the team together, being the options on the wing as well as defensive mids. Without great strikers, there are no goals. Karla and Bella continuously played great balls to each other and had many hits at goal. 2 unexpected killer goals were scored by Julia (most improved for the season) as the team finished up in the semi-finals.



All in all, the top four teams were a great competition and as the season played out, we came to work better as a team and family.

AA3 women's were always having a laugh and enjoying every part of the sport of football. A huge thank you to our coach Dylan who has helped us become the team we are today.

Over 30 Division 2 Women

We got through our 2nd season!!!

The first few games were worrying as we had, what seems to be our usual array of major injuries, a severed achillies, ruptured ACL and various muscle strains... But once we got past week number 2, we didn't look back.

We lost a few players from our 2016 inaugural squad, but picked up some amazing talent, which saw us score many more goals than last year, save numerous goals and end up 5th on the Premiership ladder.

We got into the playoffs and managed to beat the Premiers and drew with the Runners Up, but missed out on being in the Grand Final by just 1 little goal....

Thank you to Matt Tyler for coaching us for the first half of the season and a massive thank you to Richard Rasker for taking over the coaching role. Thanks too, to all our assistant coaches (who also acted as linesmen and refs when needed), PK, Mark, Jimmy & Daniel and special thank you to Yvette our chief cheerleader. A massive thank you to our supporters (spouses, kids, friends and committee members) who again were there week in week out... supporting us from the sidelines.



Once again, we've made great new friends, hopefully improved our soccer skills and had lots of fun and laughs throughout the season.

Looking forward to our end of season trip, this year to the Central Coast.

Kim Ross

Over 45 Division 1

Let's not labour the point or guild the lily. In our annual nod to that seminal 90s film, Groundhog Day, we lost this year's GF to the same team by the same difference for the umpteenth time. Copy & paste.

Many excuses, some valid; but just not good enough when the tough questions were asked.

As for the season as a whole? I will let you, dear reader, be the judge.

With many of the team already booked to attend this year's NZ World Masters in April, pre-season training & games were planned early & well attended. A few new players had joined the team & we were justifiably buoyant about our prospects of finally breaking EEW's stranglehold on the premiership.

This year's comp only got off the ground after many a meeting at GHFA HQ. After the withdrawal of two of last year's top 4 teams, & the desire for another couple to play in a lower division, it meant there were only three teams nominating for Div 1. Compromises were suggested & dismissed & accepted & we finally arrived with a combined Div 1 & 2 Comp. Not entirely ideal but such is life. Our GF opponents & long-time rivals wanted us to go with them to 35s. No thanks, been there. We just want to play where as EEW want to win at all costs. Crucial difference.

With no comp games pre- NZ, we started our campaign a few days after winning bronze at the Games. Perhaps unsurprisingly, we were a bit jaded after playing six games in ten days on the hard unforgiving synthetic pitches of Auckland. We laboured through a game we should've won easily & we grateful for the two points. After a full week at home, we'll be ready to rumble next week. Or so we thought.

Unfortunately, we were similarly lethargic the following week against another of the weaker teams & it wasn't until the second half of that game that some of the newer combinations gained some traction. It was to be a pattern that continued all season. Consistency was difficult to maintain in a game let alone as a benchmark of improvement.

It is difficult to recall a game where we played well for the entire game. Perhaps there was one against EEW, where we drew nil all. They always make us play to our best, to their credit, but we probably left the field that day as the more likely to have won. Other than that, our form was patchy & our failure to convert a couple of draws into wins cost us the chance to be playing for the title on the last game of the regular season (against EEW).

Where do we go from here? Not sure. We had recruited well & seemingly filled a couple of troublesome holes, but again, we were left short. Maybe next year, w/o the distraction/lethargy caused by the Masters, we might be able to workshop some positions & combinations & practise some set pieces in pre season but one thing is certain. The comp is only getting more difficult as we age & younger legs can only assist us. A big consideration when recruits are being touted.

Below is a short profile of each player.

Bill "Chicken Legs" Lezes- In career best form & rumoured to be on the radar of Graham Arnold at Sydney FC. Not likely to happen though due to the lack of public transport to Alliance Stadium. Looks better in Fluro than Scott Cam.

Marty "Tiger" Lyne-Barnstorming debut season for a bloke who knows a thing or two about grass. Can be seen most weekends around Cox's Road shops in a fetching pair of tweed plus fours.

Mick "Duck" Mavin-Is as indestructible as one of his famed Granny Flats, he is also as laid back as a chaise lounge. Had a great season after last year's injuries. Scored the winning penalty in Bronze Medal game at WM17 as cool as a cucumber. Ironical because he prefers courgettes.

Graham "Chicka" Clinton-Fantastic season for the wily veteran. Second year back after sabbatical & returned to his best. Played most games despite his modelling commitments with Lowes & full time fathering of his new pooch. Is a master in Etch-A Sketch.

John "Oporto" Oliveira-Another poached player from one of our opponents. Nothing boiled about his performances though; he was as solid as a rock in defence. Reads the play as effectively as he reads palms in his day job as a clairvoyant.

Lindsay "Fox" Every-Solid season for the ever(y)green. Genetically blessed, his family is always a distraction for some in the team when they support. Plays in a Bluegrass covers band on Wednesday nights in his garage with some guys from Hills Hawks.

John "Hammer" Fannis- John was another to join us from an opposing team & made an immediate effect in the change rooms. He is the sort of guy who commands respect in that domain, but now needs to show that same dominance on the pitch. Away from the game, he works on his all over tan & loves entertaining al fresco.

Steve "Creedence" Bywater-These days, one of the stalwarts of this team. Very dependable at both ends of the pitch & handy in the middle also. Has a turn of speed only matched by his 72 orange Escort. Just needs a pair of Amco Bogarts to complete the look.

Darryl "Dims" Mitchelson-A prized recruit from Putney during the off season. Lived up to the hype as a damaging front man leading our attack. Missed some crucial games & team potency suffered. A favourite with the refs, he hopes to learn how to be invisible on the pitch from Larry in the off season.

Daniel "Pants" Pantalone-Daniel came to us with Dims as a package deal in a swap for Pasta Pete & Frankie Valli. Whilst Dan offered much on the field & grew as the season progressed, he could never deliver a half time sermon like Pasta & his phone is nowhere near as interesting. Still has an operating Ant Farm.

Dave "Candyman" Candy-The returning star of yesteryear had a season of diamonds & rocks. Whilst his online namesake continued to grow, our bloke was fantastic in some games & plain cranky in others. His season was truncated by injury but he always went home wonderfully. Listens to Bucks Fizz in his downtime.

"Robbie O" Callahan-A delicate flower, Robbie never settled in. Has trouble getting to know people & hence, wasn't able to command the ball, as a striker should. Will be much more popular after attending our "Couples Weekend" at the Bishwani Tantric Retreat in January.

Anthony "AD" Dyer-Another commanding season for the majestic man in the middle of the park. His early injury, & subsequent exit, in the GF, turned our task from possible to improbable, such is his presence. Deserves a premiership but don't get into a conversation with him about model trains for your own sakes.

Lawrence "Georgie Boy" Temple-Has three great passions in life. Golf, Spurs FC & Solariums. Having coached his son, Jamie, this year, I'm at a loss to see where the boy gets his skill from. Georgie has an innate skill in football of avoiding injury & any skirmish that may result in that. Frustrating for teammates like your correspondent who is the complete opposite & has suffered accordingly. You're smarter than me Georgie.

Andrew "Muzza" Murray-If Duck is our Teflon Man, then Muz must be our wet newspaper man. It appears his brain is writing much bigger cheques than his current body can cash. Offers much in thinking & energy but is being failed by his enthusiasm. Needs to play smarter & do a full pre season like everyone else. Party trick is talking underwater.

Nick Bessis-Formerly known as GAG (Goal A Game) or OTG (Off The Grid), but now it's GESOTG (Goal Every Second Or Third Game).-Did so much in preparation for WM17 that he deserved a good time once there. He went "Off the grid" as he concentrated on playing. Scored some handy goals & looked to be back to his best post NZ. Struggled with some injuries during year but had to play some positions other than his preferred striker role to help team. Hoping to see him return to his best GAG days soon.

Pete "Guru" Raptis-Not only did the Guru play every role in managing the team this year, he also played every position on the pitch too. From goalie to striker, our everyman filled in at some point of the season. He does so w/o complaint such is his demeanour & Buddhist faith. He has a calming nature who steadies uncertain souls as he moves silently amongst the flock during game breaks. Plays bass for a heavy metal thrash band in his spare time.

Fraser Foristal

Annexure – Financial Statements

Epping Football Club

PO Box 414
Epping NSW 1710

Profit & Loss Statement

September 2016 through August 2017

15/09/2017

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Income		
Registration Fees		
Registration Fees	\$169,140.13	
Less: GHFA Fees	-\$74,793.50	
Less: NWSWF Fees	-\$32,540.00	
Total Registration Fees	\$61,806.63	
West Epping Summer Football	\$8,000.00	
Clothing Sales	\$5,539.80	
Sponsorship		
McGrath	\$13,500.00	
Epping Hotel	\$2,000.00	
The Ranch	\$565.63	
Photo Commissions	\$259.05	
Total Sponsorship	\$16,324.68	
Fundraising	\$2,240.00	
Total Income		\$93,911.11
Cost of Sales		
Clothing for Sale	\$10,961.70	
Total Cost of Sales		\$10,961.70
Gross Profit		\$82,949.41
Expenses		
Advertising, email, promotion	\$1,124.50	
AGM/Seniors Presentation	\$2,894.00	
Bank Charges	\$39.19	
Club Clothing	\$35,215.50	
Coaching Courses	\$360.00	
Coop	\$1,720.00	
Couriers	\$49.50	
Equipment	\$3,644.60	
Filing Fees	\$44.00	
Fines	\$1,192.00	
Ground Hire & Expenses	\$15,179.40	
Insurance	\$175.00	
Legal Fees	\$423.50	
Meeting Expenses	\$944.07	
Miscellaneous	\$886.84	
Photos	\$190.00	
Postage	\$186.00	
Presentation Day	\$10,317.05	
Referee Fees	\$673.00	
Total Expenses		\$75,258.15
Operating Profit		\$7,691.26
Other Income		
Interest Income	\$2,204.80	
Total Other Income		\$2,204.80
Other Expenses		
Net Profit / (Loss)		\$9,896.06

Epping Football Club

PO Box 414
Epping NSW 1710

Balance Sheet

As of August 2017

15/09/2017
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Assets

Current Assets

Cash On Hand

Bendigo - Main	\$4,860.28
Bendigo - Website	\$126.27
Bendigo - Canteen	\$443.21
Bendigo - Interest	\$84,523.74
Bendigo - Term Deposit	\$53,895.88

Total Cash On Hand \$143,849.38

Trade Debtors \$8.41

Floats \$710.00

GHFA Bond \$500.00

Total Current Assets \$145,067.79

Other Assets

Stock on Hand \$3,429.50

Equipment \$1,700.00

Total Other Assets \$5,129.50

Total Assets \$150,197.29

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Trade Creditors \$240.00

Expense Accruals \$22,692.20

Total Current Liabilities \$22,932.20

Owing to Mark C \$8.30

Total Liabilities \$22,940.50

Net Assets \$127,256.79

Equity

Transfer from Epping YMCA FC \$103,756.50

Retained Earnings \$13,604.23

Current Year Earnings \$9,896.06

Total Equity \$127,256.79