



Eastern Lions SC Newsletter

– Issue 1 2018

Welcome back everyone to what looks like an exciting year ahead down at the den. Welcome also to all our new families it's great to have you all on board.

Junior Players' Kits

The season is upon us and the Junior Playing Kits have arrived. The kits will be presented to the players this Saturday at the Club Rooms as follows:

Kit Presentation
Saturday 24th February
Gardiners Reserve



Squad	
U15	
U14	
U16	
U18	
U13	
U12	

Congratulations to all involved in getting this year's kit ready to go. Those "in the know" will tell you that it has been a marathon effort to get organised. Well Done!

U18 Girls Squad



It's official! The Under 18 Girls Squad has commenced pre-season training. The girls are having a great time being coached by club Technical Director Clive Pieterse. What an awesome opportunity. The girls have one message for any other girls that would like to join them: "What are you waiting for? Come and Play!"

Weekly training sessions will be run from now till the end of March as follows:

Mondays: 6.30pm to 8pm at Ashwood college Reserve

Fridays: 6.30pm-8pm at Pitch 1, Gardiners Reserve (Home Ground)

If you'd like to join the squad, simply click the following link:

<https://teamstuff.com/join/2018-elsc-u18-girls/df1d6972>

See you on the Pitch!!!

AGM

In December last year the following members were elected

NORM WILCOCKS – PRESIDENT

NIGEL REED – VICE PRESIDENT

SECRETARY – REQUIRED

TREASURER – GRAEME O'NEILL

ROB MOSCHETTI – GENERAL MEMBER

EDDIE LIAW – GENERAL MEMBER

ALEX RUSMIR – GENERAL MEMBER

John Milway has been Club Secretary since the early 2000s and a committee member in excess of 30 years. We sincerely thank John for all his hard work over the years but he's decided to park his pen and put his feet up. Therefore we have a need for a Secretary, if anyone is interested now is the time to put your hand up. The committee meet once a month, if you're interested or would like further details please contact Norm on 0416036346.

PITCH 2

Exciting times for the Eastern Lions! As the photo shows the new synthetic surface on Pitch 2 is rapidly being prepared and early indications are that the pitch will be ready around Easter.

President Norm Wilcox, Tom Kalas (father of Christos from the U18 team), Anthony Nicholls (EL strategic adviser) and a number of committee members have worked collaboratively with the Monash Council and former mayor Councillor Rebecca Paterson in order to gain approval and funding for the new pitch.

This wonderful addition helps to continually improve our facilities although the synthetic pitch will be a shared resource between ourselves and Mount Waverley Soccer Club. It's available to EL teams on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday (same as last year).

The hard facts are that there are not enough grounds within close proximity to suit everyone's preferred training times, 6pm-8pm. The club are looking to gain access to and funding for alternate grounds especially for the juniors. Talks are continuing with council to improve the quality of pitch 3 and possibly Ashwood Reserve.

We ask that all players and parents be patient as we continue to work with council on a variety of options. The committee will do our utmost to communicate progress as and when it happens.

YOUNG LIONS ROAR ON EUROPEAN STAGE



Seven Eastern Lions' youth players have just returned from a trip of a lifetime after being selected on the recent Melbourne Football Stars 2017 European football tour in November.

The boys have all come back to Pre Season training with a clear understanding of what it is like to experience being a professional footballer after an arduous 3 week Tour. Four of the boys (Robel Wondimu, Dakota McCallan, Eddie Clark & Harry Moschetti) have been selected in our Under 20's team for 2018 and three (Sam Beehre, Riley Beck and Greg Jordan) will continue their football development in our U18's team. The boys are looking forward to applying all their learnings from the tour this season and expect a successful season ahead.

George Campbell, the club's under-18s head coach, is the founder and principal of Melbourne Football Stars which has been opening up the world of professional football to groups of teenagers for more than a decade. Campbell first signed as a professional with Aberdeen in his native Scotland and the winger's skills earned him the nickname of the "White Pele".

When he made his debut for Aberdeen he was the youngest player ever to do so at just 16 years and eight months and went on to represent Scotland at youth level. He joined South Melbourne in the National Soccer League in 1978 and at the time his transfer fee (\$50,000) was an Australian record for an overseas player. He had a successful playing career here which involved stints with Preston, Green Gully, Box Hill, Fawkner and Nunawading and in 1999 was awarded legend status by South Melbourne and has since been inducted into the club's Hall of Fame.

Campbell has coached at Essendon Royals, Northcote City and Dandenong Thunder and has also been in charge of Victorian state junior teams. He holds a UEFA B licence and will return to Scotland in May to complete his A licence. He is highly regarded as a developmental coach and takes pride in what has been achieved by his academy ever since its first tour back in 2008.

"The MFS tour provided the lads with a second-to-none opportunity to benchmark the standard of elite players overseas and measure themselves against that standard," said Campbell. "The tour also provided them with an opportunity to experience first-hand the intensity and atmosphere of top-class games and help them understand the history and culture of the world game."

The tour has involved training sessions conducted by world-renowned coaches, matches against top-class opponents as well as attending top-flight games (SPL, EPL, La Liga, Bundesliga) and tours of some of the world's iconic stadia.

To date the MFS itinerary has taken in Scotland, England, Spain, Holland and Germany and some of the clubs that the MFS boys have lined up against include Rangers, Aberdeen, Hearts, Manchester City, Newcastle, Crystal Palace, Fulham, Espanyol, Valencia, Feyenoord and Darmstadt. The tour, which is also open to parents, aims to provide young players with a life experience that will live long in their memories.

EASTERN LIONS NEED YOUR HELP

Whilst we all know that fees to play NPL across all clubs is a significant family financial commitment we aim to be transparent and provide insight on how the fees are used. To be a part of the National Premier League is an extremely costly exercise and the club pays a hefty licence to the FFV annually.

Participation in the NPL is a great opportunity for all of our players. Continued participation within the NPL structure requires a fine balance between the imperative for Youth Development and the imperative for First Team success. It is critical that the club maintains its NPL status and accordingly, the First Team must remain remain competitive. The senior football program does require significant funding which comes from a mixture of registration fees and fundraising efforts by the club.

EL is blessed with an incredibly high standard of coaches throughout the club and this also comes at a cost. Another major cost to the club is the provision of uniforms, these are included in the fees and every player receives a substantial amount of clothing and we hope you all agree that the quality is excellent. With all this in mind we need help, we ask that parents put their hand up to help make the club in which your child plays the best that it can be. Please let your team manager know if you have some skills that we can tap into whether it be fund raising, helping gather sponsors, first aid or any other skill set that may be useful to the club.

Each team has a Team Manager to support the coach and provide a line of communication between parents, players, the coach and the club. Team Managers will shortly be setting out rosters and each week they require a Club Marshal (referee escort), oranges (for juniors) and often a linesman may also be required. Each team needs a first aid officer and we are asking that each team

put forward a parent that is able to fulfil this role for the season, the club will provide first aid training at no cost to parents.

COACHES AND TEAM MANAGERS FOR 2018

Squad	Coach	Manager / Assistant
U08/09 White	Achille Costabile	
U10 Red	Daniel Willcocks	Achille Costabile
U11 Red	Feargal O'Farrell Jason Grieve	
U11 White	Craig Fathers	Jadran Sango
U12	Tony Mclean	Michael Locaso
U13	Mario Bonaddio	Eddie Liaw
U14	Jean Dimanche	Dominique Bijoux
U15	Pedro Ramos	Atholl Johnstone
U16	Ange Piperidis	Andrew Dumville
U18	George Campbell	Ben Clark
U 20	Marty O'Hare	Steve Smith
Seniors	Jimmy Williams	Chris Bayston

A massive "Welcome Aboard!" to all of our sponsors. Please take the time to familiarise yourselves with them and their services. We will be featuring each of our sponsors right across the year and we trust that you will all make yourselves known to them as the opportunities arise.

We choose to bank with the Ashburton Community Bank

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Surrey Hills and Balwyn
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We choose to celebrate at the Mulgrave Country Club



Mulgrave Country Club

Your Club

Our Goalkeepers are Proudly Supported by Direct Medical
Care

dmc

Our U13 Team is Proudly Supported by:



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