



# Avoca Football Netball Club

## Annual Report 2023



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### FORWARD

The Avoca Football Netball Club presents this Annual Report for the 2022/23 year. This report aims to inform our members, sponsors and other key stakeholders on the performance of the Club over the 2023 football and netball season.

Moving forward, the Club's new 2020-2024 Strategic Plan, focuses on further automation of tasks and roles to take the pressure off volunteers. Committing to being the benchmark in compliance and regulatory activities and achieving further success in the premiership race.

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## Presidents Report

Can I begin by thanking everyone within the Club who has contributed in any way to another successful and enjoyable season where we celebrated our 150-year anniversary.

Unfortunately, the October 2022 floods impacted our season, which had significant ramifications on our pre-season and first half of the year. Thanks to everyone for the way that you accepted and took on these challenges.

I would like to thank our coaches, players, umpires, parents and volunteers for all the wonderful work done again this season and your valuable contribution to the Club.

The season's highlight was our A and C Grade girls breaking through for a well-deserved premiership with C Grade going back-to-back. Congratulations to Kerry and Maddy Egan and both teams on their success.

Our B Grade netballers and Under 14s footballers did a great job making their respective grand finals; however, they fell just short on the day. Well done to all involved.

It was extremely encouraging to have a number of football and netball teams make it through to the finals, which is a great result. Again, well done to all involved.

We welcomed several new players and their families to the Club this season, and we hope you have enjoyed your time at the Club and continue your journey with us. Individually, congratulations to Kodie Greenwood who took out the B Grade league netball Best and Fairest and to all our Bulldog Medal and individual trophy winners for your year.

Our junior football and netball program continues to go from strength to strength, and we saw some good improvements across our senior program. There is still work to be done in the senior program from now on.

Off the court and oval, the Club continues to invest significantly in the upgrade of our facilities which this year included new netball lighting and the commencement of the installation of new digital scoreboards at the ground. We also thank the Avoca Community Bank Branch Bendigo Bank (\$40,000) and the AFL (\$25,000) for their financial contributions to the scoreboard. Combined with the Club's contribution, these investments total in excess of \$110,000, and this will add to the outstanding assets and facilities we enjoy.

This could not be achieved without the financial assistance of our Principal Partner, Peter Jess and our amazing business partners, who continue to support our Club. We are extremely appreciative of the ongoing support of all our business partners.

Can I also thank everyone who supported our Toyota Good for Footy Raffle, which this year was again combined with our local raffle that included donations from our business partners. To raise over \$5,000 through this fundraiser is an amazing achievement, with this money being put back into our facilities through the acquisition of digital football and netball scoreboards. Thanks also to Toyota and the AFL for providing this fundraising opportunity to clubs.

We are lucky to have a strong, united committee representing this great Club, and I thank you all for the continued involvement and leadership you show in the pursuit of success both on and off the court/oval. Four of our committee members will not seek re-election; however, they will stay around to assist. Thank you for your valuable contribution to the Club.

For those who are recommitting or joining the Club in 2024, we look forward to welcoming you to the Club over the coming weeks and months. Those who are moving on, thanks on behalf of all at the Club for your services, and we wish you well.

I hope everyone enjoys and stays safe in the off-season, and I wish all the best to the incoming club executive and Committee for the 2024 season and beyond.

Bill Drummond

President

## **Committee Operation & Club Personnel**

Utilising our club structure, the following people were appointed during the 2022/23 season:

### *Executive Committee Members*

President: Bill Drummond

Vice President: Gary Daley

Secretary: Kylie Coghlan

Treasurer: Kylie Gollop & Stephanie Wardlaw

Football Operations Manager: Jason Hunt

Netball Operations Manager: Alana Burge

Junior Football Operations Manager: Luke Davis

### *General Committee Members*

Canteen Manager: Simone Beavis

Bar Manager: Robert Rayner

Social Events Co-ordinator: Rachel Maes

Wellbeing Officer: Colleen Drummond

Independent Members: Sandie Ward, Ben Coghlan,  
Jeremy Coghlan

## **Football Report**

Unfortunately, the 2023 season once again did not reach our expectations; however, we did see a number of improvements across many areas of our senior football program.

Following a large turnover of players from the 2022 season, we were successful in recruiting a number of good-quality players to the Club, with many of these recommitting for the 2024 season.

Once again, we lost several close, winnable games throughout this season, which limited our ability to play off in finals; however, the reasoning behind this is preventable and will be worked on through the upcoming season.

This contributed to a disappointing season across both grades of senior football; however, we believe we are in a much better position now with the group we have to push up into the finals this season.

The season saw us again get some games into our up-and-coming juniors, and we thank them for assisting us and making themselves available when able.

A review has been completed on the season, and one significant change is that we have now implemented a football executive department similar to the netball executive structure.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Zac Lubeek and Cody Kirby for their roles coaching our senior grade and Damian Scott and Mick Drury for coaching our Reserves.

In the offseason, we re-appointed Zac Lubeek and Cody Kirby and appointed Gavin Bayne and Nathan Field as reserve grade coaches. We wish them well in these roles and look forward to working with you to improve the Club's success.

To any players who may be moving on, we wish them well. We will announce some exciting new recruits over the coming weeks and look forward to them joining our current group when our pre-season kicks off.

In closing, I wish to thank the Committee, our three trainers, Julie, Anne and Melissa, Bob Farnsworth and everyone who has assisted throughout the season.

Jason Hunt  
Senior Football Operations Manager

## **Junior report**

### **Under 11.5s Football**

The U11.5s football team finished in the top six in 2023, enjoying some finals footy. Excellent effort girls and boys. Thanks to Mark Blair for coaching again in 2023, Kimberly Corcoran for being the Team Manager, and all parent helpers for completing their rostered duties without fail. Justin Dillon has been appointed under 11.5 coach for 2024. We thank him and wish him the best of luck. Massive thanks to Mark Blair for coaching the juniors for seven years. Mark is staying involved in season 2024, helping all junior coaches with some individual skills training.

### **Under 14.5s Football**

Our Under 14.5 football team did us all proud, representing the Club in the Grand Final. Unfortunately they were beaten by a better team, but it was a sensational effort, boys and girls. Thanks again to Tom Elliott for coaching, Kylie Coghlan for being the Team Manager and all parents for helping. Tom Elliott is signed on and excited to coach again in 2024.

### **Under 17.5s Football**

Our Under 17.5 football team finished in the top four in 2023. Thanks to Gavin Bayne and Nathan Field for coaching, Chris (Curl) Robinson for helping with the paperwork, Irene for timekeeping and all parents who helped on match days. Gavin and Nathan are moving on to coach our reserve team in 2024. Thanks for your contribution to our junior program. Cameron Antonio and Byron Wynd are excited to be our under 17.5 coaches for season 2024. We wish them the best of luck and thank them for getting involved.

Congratulations to our representatives in the Under 13, 16 and 18 MCDFNL interleague squads. It was fantastic to see such a vast representation from Avoca.

Thanks to all AFNC committee members and volunteers who helped us field three junior football grades. Thank you to our trainers, umpires, parents, sponsors, local businesses and individuals who donate goods and money for junior incentives, half-time oranges and treats. Finally, a huge thanks to our junior footballers, I am very excited to see everyone back for the 2024 season.

Luke Davis  
Junior Football Manager

## Season Leaders & Results

Grade	Coach	Best & Fairest	Position finished
U11.5	Mark Blair	Jarrold Colliccoat	6 <sup>th</sup>
U14.5	Tom Elliott	Matthew Wardlaw	Runners Up
U17.5	Nathan Field & Gavin Bayne	Sid Robinson	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Reserves	Mick Drury & Damien Scott	Lachlan Wardlaw	12 <sup>th</sup>
Seniors	Zak Lubeek	Scott Cawthan and Jordan Hayes	12 <sup>th</sup>

## Club Milestones

### **650 CLUB GAMES**

Trevor Field

### **250 CLUB GAMES**

Riley Wardlaw  
Lachlan Wardlaw

### **200 CLUB GAMES**

Joel Howell  
Noah Wardlaw

### **150 CLUB GAMES**

Geordie Gollop  
Rory Wilkinson

### **100 CLUB GAMES**

Tommy Barber  
Aiden Blair  
Jaidyn Cocking  
Aiden Colliccoat  
Jayden Humphrey  
Thomas Redpath  
Cree Ward  
Keith Wilkinson

## Netball Report

Firstly, I would like to thank all players, parents, coaches and volunteers who have contributed to the 2023 season, which saw all grades of netball competitive in their respective grades.

We were again fortunate to bring home two premierships with C Grade and A Grade awarded 2023 Premiers and B Grade runners-up Premiers. Thank you to all supporters who came out in club colours to cheer the girls on and celebrated with them after the game.

Congratulations and thanks to our senior coaches, Maddy and Kerry Egan, for getting the senior netball teams into the Grand Final. Maddy and Kerry's coaching techniques continue to get results with three formidable senior teams that showcase the AFNC as an exceptional netball group. Training as one united team instead of 3 individual grades has contributed to the team's success and club spirit.

The U11s team also had a very successful year, making it to the semi-finals where they were defeated by Natte Bealiba. The AFNC congratulates the girls for a fantastic netball season, and we thank Sarah Eldridge for doing a wonderful job in her coaching role. This was the first year of netball for many of the U11 players, and Sarah has done a fantastic job introducing the girls to the game and developing their basic skills. It is very positive for the Club to see our young girls making their mark on the MCDNFL at such a young age.

Congratulations to our U13s team for making it to the Preliminary Finals, where Harcourt defeated them. Watching these girls play, you can see that the future of Avoca netball will continue to be strong, with many of these girls having the potential to be future A Grade players. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Sarah Neil for coaching the U13s team. There was a significant difference in the girl's skills, abilities and how they worked as a team from the start of the year to the end, which can only be attributed to Sarah's commitment to getting the best out of her players.

Our U17s team unexpectedly made it to the semi-finals, where they were defeated by Harcourt. It was a huge achievement for this team to not only make it into the top 8 but to make it to the semi-finals. It is a testament to the girl's grit and determination.

Unfortunately, our U15s were the only team to not make it into the finals in 2023; however the girls are to be commended on their attitude, teamwork and support they showed for each other during the 2023 season. Thank you to Stacey Blair, with the help of Colleen Soulsby, for coaching both U15 and U17 teams providing the girls with positive reinforcement to increase the girl's confidence and ability.

We had four junior players representing Avoca at interleague level this year in Macey Gollop, Emily Beavis, Chelsea Britten and Shayla Blair. This was a great opportunity for these girls to experience netball at a higher level and return to the Club with new skills.

Thank you to our netball executive, who continue to be dedicated and committed to all netball matters. This year, we invited coaches and captains to join our executive meetings to ensure we were getting input from the playing group, which proved to be successful.

We look forward to another successful 2024 and unfurling our A and C grade premierships in round 1 against Natte Bealiba.

Senior tryouts will commence in early February.

Alana Burge  
Netball Manager

The 2023 Netball Executive members are as follows:

Netball Operations Manager and Membership: Alana Burge

Umpires Coordinator: Donna Wardlaw

Uniforms / Equipment: Lucy Howell

Match Day Coordinator: Simone Field

Junior Coordinator: Stacey Blair

Grade	Coach	Best & Fairest	Position finished
11 & U	Sarah Eldridge	N/A	5 <sup>th</sup>
13 & U	Sarah Neil	Shayla Blair	3 <sup>rd</sup>
15 & U	Stacey Blair & Colleen Soulsby	Kyra Rouhan	12 <sup>th</sup>
17 & U	Stacey Blair & Colleen Soulsby	Matilda Davis	5 <sup>th</sup>
C	Maddy & Kerry Egan	Colleen Drummond	Premiers
B	Maddy & Kerry Egan	Kodie Greenwood	Runners Up
A	Maddy & Kerry Egan	Elisa Pica	Premiers

### Club Milestones

#### **500 CLUB GAMES**

Stacey Blair

Colleen Drummond

#### **200 CLUB GAMES**

Chantelle Wardlaw

#### **100 CLUB GAMES**

Bonnie Beavis

Maddy Egan

Last but not least, thank you to all volunteers and players who have contributed throughout the 2023 season. The Netball Executive is already looking ahead to next year, and we are working towards appointing our coaches for the 2024 season.

We have already appointed coaches for all grades, which are:

A, B and C Grade Maddy and Kerry Egan

U15 and U17 Stacey Blair

U13 Sarah Neil

U11 Sarah Eldridge



## Bulldog Medal Vote Count

The Clubs Annual Vote Count and Presentation Day was held at the end of the home and away season.

<b>Senior Football</b>	<b>Winner</b>
Best & Fairest	Scott Cawthan & Jordan Hayes
R/Up Best & Fairest (Roly Reynolds Memorial)	Sean Moyle
Best Under 20	Sid Robinson
Most Determined	Byron Wynd
Leading Goalkicker	Jason Hunt
Coach's Trophy	Cody Lubeek
<b>Reserves Football</b>	<b>Winner</b>
Best & Fairest	Lachlan Wardlaw
R/Up Best & Fairest	Nick Drury
Leading Goal Kicker	Trevor Field
Most Determined	Joel Howell
Coach's Trophy	Matt Veitch
<b>Under 17.5 Football</b>	<b>Winner</b>
Best & Fairest	Sid Robinson
R/Up Best & Fairest	Campbell Blair
Leading Goalkicker	Jesse Britnell
Most Improved	Jaidyn Cocking
Most Determined	Eric Wilkinson
Coach's Trophy	Josh Humphrey Angus Voutier

<b>Under 14.5 Football</b>	<b>Winner</b>
Best & Fairest (Leanne Calder Memorial)	Matthew Wardlaw
R/Up Best & Fairest	Aiden Colliccoat
Leading Goal Kicker	Jaxon Carmody
Most Improved	Luke Driscoll
Most Determined	Jenna Beavis
Coach's Trophy	Fred Davis
<b>Under 11.5 Football</b>	<b>Winner</b>
Best & Fairest	Jarrold Colliccoat
R/Up Best & Fairest	Beau Carmody
Leading Goal Kicker	Jarrold Colliccoat
Most Improved	Dylan Wardlaw
Most Determined	Dusty Wardlaw
Coaches Trophy	Oscar Darlow

<b>A Grade Netball</b>	<b>Winner</b>
Best & Fairest Merle Gothard Memorial	Elisa Pica
R/Up	Caitlin Drummond
Amy Walkley Memorial Most Determined	Gina Beavis
Coach's Trophy	Elisa Pica
<b>B Grade</b>	<b>Winner</b>
Best & Fairest	Kodie Greenwood
R/Up	Brodey McKay
Most Dedicated Sue-Ellen Storer Farnsworth Memorial	Caitlin Sleeman
Coach's Trophy	Bonnie Beavis
<b>C Grade</b>	<b>Winner</b>
Best & Fairest	Colleen Drummond
R/Up	Lyndal Thatcher
Most Dedicated Sue-Ellen Storer Farnsworth Memorial	Lyndal Thatcher
Coach's Trophy	Talia Arrowsmith
<b>17 &amp; Under</b>	<b>Winner</b>
Best & Fairest (D & A Hunter Perpetual)	Matilda Davis
R/Up	Emily Beavis
Coach's Trophy	Emma King
<b>15 &amp; Under</b>	<b>Winner</b>
Best & Fairest	Kyra Rouhan
R/Up	Lucy Coghlan
Amy Walkley Memorial Most Determined	Kalifornia Klene
Coach's Trophy	Caitlin Eldridge
<b>13 &amp; Under</b>	<b>Winner</b>
Best & Fairest	Shayla Blair
R/Up	Layla White
Coach's Trophy	Alana Colliccoat

**Calder Family Memorial Best Club Person**

Simone and Lee Beavis & Family

# Marketing & Sponsorship

## Sponsorship Program

The AFNC is very appreciative of the generous support of all of its business partners. The contributions that include both cash and in-kind from 100 businesses ensure that the Club can provide quality facilities and equipment and professional coaches and support staff to make playing sport with the AFNC safe, inclusive and enjoyable.

We acknowledge and thank the sponsors in our Gold, Silver and Bronze categories as well. Sponsorship is vital to the Club and contributes greatly to the overall running of club activities.

**Principle Sponsor:** Peter Jess & Associates

**Major Partners:** Crameri's Mitre 10, Bonney Energy, Avoca Country Grocers

**Diamond Partners:** AGnVET, Avoca Community Bank, Ararat Meat Exports, Hewitt and Whitty, W.D Howell & Co J M Leech Jewellers, Maryborough Off Road & Auto Service, Mount Avoca, McDonalds Maryborough, R&J Batteries

The Avoca **Gold Partners:** A1 Signage, Builtt, Brandt, Hollands Adventure Holidays, Shear Delights Bakery, Summerfield Wines, Centre State Printing, Avoca Building Services, Carey's Ultimate Style, Quality Wool, Elders, Tim Hill Livestock, Pyrenees Advocate, FireFenda, Powers Buslines, Wendouree Wholesalers, Wardlaw Welding, Pyrenees Smash Repairs, Gollops Garage, The Avoca, Bigabila Wines, Burson Auto Parts, Coghlan Transport, HF Richardson, Eureka Concrete, Howell Rail, Pyrenees Premium Cuts, Stawell Glass and Windows, McDonalds Maryborough, RSM, Beefed Up Holdings, Macks Fashion and Surf, Ararat Meat Exports, Petrogas Regional, Bloom Creative Design, Bryson Auto Parts, Chrisella Estate, Home Made Café, Jo's Bistro, Macbro Industrial,

A full list of sponsors is available is viewable on our Club Website below.

<https://avocafotballnetballclub.com.au/2023-partners/>

## Memberships

The Club has made a conscious effort to ensure all players are fully financial, and there has been an increase in the general membership base, which is positive for the Club. Maintaining stable membership prices seems to be the biggest success in encouraging membership. The Club will need to continue to closely monitor expenses associated with playing to ensure membership fees reflect this.

### *Membership Options:*

General Member - \$70 (entry to all eight home games for the price of 7)

Parents Pass - \$110 (entry to all eight home games for two people – saving of \$50)

Player memberships vary according to age/playing level.

**Total memberships: 201**

## Social Events

The social Club was limited in its ability to host functions during the season as the result of the club rooms being out of action. There was time to hold three major functions – the Annual Ball, Doggiechella, and the 150<sup>th</sup> Celebration and Reunion weekend.

## Financial Report

The Club budget was set at the start of the 2022/23 year, and despite the challenges of hosting home games for the first half of the season, the Club has achieved a net profit outcome. Successful fundraising efforts and grant applications that helped add new assets to the park (lighting and electronic scoreboard) have assisted the Club in posting an overall net profit this year of \$24,902.63.

Operating financial year - November 1<sup>st</sup> 2022 – October 31<sup>st</sup> 2023

<i>As at the 31<sup>st</sup> of October 2023</i>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
<i>Gross Income</i>	\$ 198,958.53
<i>Non-Trading Income</i>	\$ 83,053.61
<i>Expenses</i>	\$ 196,567.71
<i>Plant &amp; Equipment</i>	\$ 60,541.80
<i>Net Profit / Loss</i>	<b>\$ 24,902.63</b>
<i>GST Refund</i>	\$ 2,773.00
<i>Club Accounts Balance at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023 General</i>	\$ 46,555.55
<i>Fundraising Account</i>	\$ 24,006.16

## Conclusion

Despite the challenges from the October 2022 floods, the Club and its members have remained resilient and connected. There is much to be proud of, and together with the Avoca Sporting and Recreation Committee of Management, the Club is the beneficiary of upgraded and improved facilities. There are some very positive gains from an infrastructure point of view, which will be a significant benefit to all club volunteers. The Club remains in a very positive financial position and looks forward to the upcoming season with some new faces around the Committee table.