



Avoca Football Netball Club

Annual Report 2024



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FORWARD

The Avoca Football Netball Club presents this Annual Report for the 2023/24 year. This report aims to inform our members, sponsors and other key stakeholders on the performance of the Club over the 2024 football and netball season.

Moving forward, the Club will look to create a new Strategic Plan focusing on player and coach development, further training and automation of tasks 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

Let me begin by thanking everyone in the Club who contributed to another successful and enjoyable season. Our coaches, players, umpires, parents and volunteers do an incredible job ensuring we get seven netball grades and five football grades playing every week.

A season highlight was our A Grade team's back-to-back premiership. Congratulations to Kerry and Maddy Egan and the players on their success.

Our Under 14.5 footballers also did a great job making the grand final. Despite falling short on the day, they represented our Club to the highest standard, and we are very proud of their efforts. It was extremely encouraging to have several football and netball teams make it through to the finals, which is a great result.

We welcomed many new players and their families to the Club this season, and we hope you have enjoyed your year and continue your journey with us. Individually, congratulations to Maddy Egan, who took out the MCDNFL A grade Runners Up Best and Fairest award, Kodie Greenwood, who took out the MCDNFL B Grade netball Runners Up Best and Fairest award and Matilda Davis, who won the MCDNFL C Grade Best and Fairest. We are very proud of all of you. Jarrod Collicoat was runner-up in the MCDNFL U11.5 Best and Fairest.

For the first time this year, MCDNFL introduced two new awards - the senior football and netball "Team of the Year". We had four netballers and one footballer make the Team of the Year. Congratulations to Stacey Blair, Elisa Pica, Maddy Egan, Caitlin Drummond, and Byron Wynd (aka Bryan!).

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 for our senior football, but things are looking promising for 2025 with our new coach, Matt Newton, at the helm.

Off the court and oval, the Club continues to invest significantly in the upgrade of our facilities, which this year included new digital scoreboards for football and netball, extending the netball shed and upgrading the netball court lighting. We thank the Avoca Community Bank, and the AFL for their financial contributions to the scoreboard.

This also could not have been 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.

I'd also like to thank everyone who supported our Toyota Good for Footy Raffle, which this year was again combined with our local raffle, including donations from our business partners. To raise through this fundraiser is an amazing achievement, with this money being put back into our facilities. Thanks also to Toyota and the AFL for providing this fundraising opportunity to clubs.

We are the lucky recipients of a Toyota Good for Footy Raffle prize. Many thanks to Sean and Casey Cooper from Coopers Bakery for generously donating the prize to our Club. We are grateful for their gesture.

My first year as President of the AFNC was daunting as I didn't think I could be the leader of the Club. But you know what? There is no 'I' in team!

I am so 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.

For those recommitting or joining the Club in 2025, 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 2025 season and beyond.

Sandie Ward
AFNC President

Committee Operation & Club Personnel

Utilising our club structure, the following people were appointed during the 2023/24 season:

Executive Committee Members

President: Sandie Ward

Vice President: Alana Burge

Secretary: Kylie Coghlan

Treasurer: Kylie Gollop & Stephanie Wardlaw

Football Operations Manager: Ben Coghlan

Netball Operations Manager: Alana Burge

Junior Football Operations Manager: Luke Davis

General Committee Members

Canteen Manager: Simone Beavis

Bar Manager: Robert Rayner

Social Events Coordinator: Colleen Drummond

Wellbeing Officer: Colleen Drummond

Independent Members: Andrew Wardlaw

Football Report

The Club appointed Zac Lubeek and Cody Kirby as senior coaches and Gavin Bayne and Nathan Field as reserve coaches at the end of the 2023 season.

Unfortunately, the start of 2024 didn't go as well as we all would have liked, but both sides had a stronger finish to the season. Our reserves played in the first round of the finals, and this was exciting as it's been many years since a reserves side last played in the finals.

The senior group suffered with a couple of players suffering season-ending injuries. The group continued to work hard, coming in strong in the middle of the season and finishing with some hard but good wins.

Our reserve group got a taste of winning by working hard together, and they were rewarded with making it to the first round of the finals. Unfortunately, they didn't progress, but seeing the hunger in their eyes for it was fantastic.

The Club is focusing on rebuilding and restructuring our senior and reserve football operations, and we are slowly but surely setting up to see more success.

Training was generally very well attended for the year, with numbers higher than we've experienced for some years. We hope this commitment moving into 2025 will have better results on the scoreboard.

In the off-season, we have appointed Matt Newton as senior coach, and Gavin Bayne and Nathan Field returning as joint reserve coaches. We wish them all the best.

Our first preseason training is on Wednesday 27th of November, and we will have four sessions before Christmas. All top-age juniors are welcome to attend.

We have been busy recruiting players for the 2025 season and look forward to welcoming a few new fresh faces. The majority of the current playing group has resigned.

I would like to thank Zac Lubeek and Cody Kirby for their part in the rebuild that has taken place over the past two years of the Club. We look forward to still seeing them around the Club.

In closing, I'd like to thank the Committee for all their support, the trainers and everyone who has assisted throughout the season. We look forward to what the 2025 Season will bring to our Club.

Ben Coghlan
Senior Football Manager

Junior Football Report

Auskick

Nathan Coghlan was our Auskick coordinator for the 2024 season. Nathan did a fabulous job in his first year, holding Auskick on Sunday mornings after home games, rounding up helpers and feeding the kids a sausage in bread afterwards. On behalf of the Club, parents and participants, I thank Nathan for all he does for our Auskickers.

Under 11.5s Football

The U11.5s football team had a fantastic season in 2024, finishing 3rd after being knocked out in the preliminary final - congratulations, girls and boys. Justin Dillon did an excellent job with our under 11.5 team in his first season as coach. Justin took to the role like a duck to water. Thanks also to Matthew Wardlaw and Aaron Burge, assistant coach and Mentor. Thank you to Lisa Wardlaw for mastering the Team Manager role and all parent helpers for successfully completing their rostered duties. Congratulations to Jarrod Colliccoat for winning the AFNC under 11.5 Best & Fairest award, and the Club and League leading goal kicker.

Under 14.5s Football

Our Under 14.5 football team had an excellent season, coming runners up for the second year in a row—big thanks to Tom Elliott for coaching this great group of players. Thanks to Kimberly Corcoran for being the team manager and all the parent helpers for timekeeping and goal umpiring. Congratulations to Mitchell Wardlaw for winning the 14.5 AFNC Best & Fairest award and Jaxon Carmody for being the Club and League leading goal kicker.

Under 17.5s Football

The 17.5 football team had a good year, finishing seventh under the guidance of first-year coach Byron Wynd. Thank you Byron, for sharing your time and passion with our under 17.5 team. Thank you Kylie Coghlan, for managing our 17.5 team, Irene Dridan for timekeeping and Ted Wardlaw for being the runner and helping Byron out on the bench. Congratulations to Matthew Wardlaw, our 2024 AFNC under 17.5. Best and Fairest, this is a great achievement in his first year in this grade. Congratulations also to Angus Voutier for being the Club's and League's leading goal kicker. Many of our Under 17.5 footballers played either senior or reserve football this season, which is extremely promising for the future of the AFNC.

Congratulations to our Interleague representatives this year: Campbell Blair, Eric Wilkinson, Aiden Colliccoat, Aidan Blair, Jaxon Carmody, Mitchell Wardlaw, Darcy Coghlan, Fred Davis, Emmett Ferguson, Oscar Darlow, Jarrod Colliccoat, Dylan Wardlaw. It's extremely promising to see so many representatives from our Club. Good luck to those players leaving the junior ranks and moving on to senior football. As a club, thank you for being part of our junior program.

Thanks to all AFNC committee members and volunteers who help us field three junior grades of football. A special thank you to our club umpires - you excel in the role that nobody wants to do. Looking forward to seeing our junior footballers continue to develop during the 2025 season.

Luke Davis
Junior Football Manager

Season Leaders & Results

Grade	Coach	Best & Fairest	Position finished
U11.5	Justin Dillon	Jarrod Colliccoat	3 rd
U14.5	Tom Elliott	Mitchell Wardlaw	Runner Up
U17.5	Byron Wynd	Matthew Wardlaw	7 th
Reserves	Gavin Bayne	Jaye Farnsworth	7 th
Seniors	Zack Lubeek	Sean Moyle	12 th

Club Milestones

350 CLUB GAMES

Jaye Farnsworth

300 CLUB GAMES

Andrew Wardlaw

250 CLUB GAMES

Rhys Walkley

200 CLUB GAMES

Josh Powers

150 CLUB GAMES

Brayden Wardlaw
Jason Lever
Nathan Holland
Shaun Cudmore
Eric Wilkinson
Patrick Higgins
Matthew Wardlaw

100 CLUB GAMES

Darcy Coghlan
Noah Porter
Brayden Northern
Theo Field
Fred Davis

Netball Report

Firstly, I would like to thank all players, parents, coaches, umpires, and volunteers who have contributed to the 2024 season, which saw all netball teams competitive in their respective grades.

Again, we were fortunate to bring home the A-Grade Premiership Cup. This makes the girls back-to-back winners for 2024. 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 all of the senior netball teams into the finals again this year. Maddy and Kerry's coaching techniques continue to get results with three formidable senior teams that showcase the AFNC as an exceptional netball group. Maddy has had an outstanding year this year, winning Club Best and Fairest, runner-up League Best and Fairest, and named in the MCDFNL team of the year, all while coaching and playing in a premiership team. Well done Maddy! At the Nalder Tracey Berry Powell League Best and Fairest, the AFNC had netballers in all three grades take home awards. Congratulations to A Grade Maddy Egan and B Grade Kodie Greenwood, who were awarded runners-up Best and Fairest. Congratulations to Matilda Davis for winning the C Grade Best and Fairest award.

We also had four A Grade netballers selected in the 2024 team of the year. Congratulations to Stacey Blair, Maddy Egan, Elisa Pica, and Caitlin Drummond. Avoca had the most representatives in this team. Our junior players were also well represented at the league level, with six players selected to play in the MCDFNL Interleague Team. Congratulations, Emily Beavis, Felicity Rentsch, Jenna Beavis, Shayla Blair, Christina Humphrey and Alana Collicot

We had strong representation from our netball playing group in finals this year, with six out of the seven teams making it into finals. We are incredibly proud of how our junior and senior netballers have conducted themselves during finals.

The U11s team had a very successful year, making it to the preliminary final, where Newstead defeated them. The AFNC congratulates the girls on a fantastic netball season, and we thank Tilly Neil for stepping up and doing a wonderful job in her first year of coaching. It is very positive for the Club to see our top-age junior netballers taking on leadership roles.

Congratulations to our U13s team, who also made it to the preliminary final, where the Giants defeated them in a closely contested match. 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 want to take this opportunity to thank Sarah Neil for coaching the U13s team. Sarah has coached this group of girls over the past 2 years, and it has been a pleasure to watch this group flourish into a very strong playing group.

A stronger Natte Bealiba team beat our U17s girls in the semi-final. It was a huge achievement for this team to make it into the top 8 and the semi-finals. It was unexpected and a testament to the girls' grit and determination.

Unfortunately, our U15s were the only team not to make it into the finals. The girls are to be commended on their attitude, teamwork and support they showed for each other during the season. Thank you to Talia Arrowsmith, with the support of Lucy Howell, for coaching both U15 and U17s teams, providing the girls with positive reinforcement to increase the girls' confidence and ability.

B Grade and C Grade were both defeated in the preliminary final in fiercely competitive matches. We have been incredibly proud of how our netballers performed in 2024.

Thank you to the members of our netball executive, who have been dedicated and committed to all netball matters over the past 8 to 10 years. For 2025, there has been a change of guard and a new executive team has been appointed. Thank you to Gina Beavis, Lucy Howell, Rachel Maes, Ellie Meagher and Tilly Davis, who volunteered to join our new netball executive committee.

The 2024 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	Matilda Neil	N/A	3 rd
13 & U	Sarah Neil	Shayla Blair	3 rd
15 & U	Sarah Neil	Layla White	12 th
17 & U	Talia Arrowsmith	Felicity Rentsch	4 th
C	Maddy & Kerry Egan	Matilda Davis	3 rd
B	Maddy & Kerry Egan	Brodey McKay	3 rd
A	Maddy & Kerry Egan	Maddy Egan	Premiers

Club Milestones

300 CLUB GAMES

Sarah Neil

250 CLUB GAMES

Caitlin Drummond

200 CLUB GAMES

Casey Walkley

100 CLUB GAMES

Macey Gollop

Tilly Neil

Emily Beavis

Matilda Davis

Isabella Thomson

Bulldog Medal Vote Count

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

Senior Football	Winner
Best & Fairest	Sean Moyle
R/Up Best & Fairest (Roly Reynolds Memorial)	Byron Wynd
Best Under 20	Lachlan Wardlaw
Most Determined	Tyson Gray
Leading Goalkicker	Nathan Coghlan
Coach's Trophy	Nathan Holland
Reserves Football	Winner
Best & Fairest	Jaye Farnsworth
R/Up Best & Fairest	Jacob Merino
Leading Goal Kicker	Brett Monk
Most Determined	Josh Rose
Coach's Trophy	Jesse Britnell
Coach's Trophy	Geordie Gollop
Under 17.5 Football	Winner
Best & Fairest	Matthew Wardlaw
R/Up Best & Fairest	Campbell Blair
Leading Goalkicker	Angus Voutier
Most Improved	Patrick Higgins
Most Determined	Blair Holland
Coach's Trophy	Eric Wilkinson

Under 14.5 Football	Winner
Best & Fairest (Leanne Calder Memorial)	Mitchell Wardlaw
R/Up Best & Fairest	Darcy Coghlan
Leading Goal Kicker	Jaxon Carmody
Most Improved	Fred Davis
Most Determined	Aidan Blair
Coach's Trophy	Luke Driscoll
Under 11.5 Football	Winner
Best & Fairest	Jarrold Colliccoat
R/Up Best & Fairest	Dylan Wardlaw
Leading Goal Kicker	Jarrold Colliccoat
Most Improved	Owen Coghlan
Most Determined	Logan Farnsworth
Coaches Trophy	Harry Wardlaw

A Grade Netball	Winner
Best & Fairest Merle Gothard Memorial	Maddy Egan
R/Up	Caitlin Drummond
Amy Walkley Memorial Most Determined	Gina Beavis
Coach's Trophy	Stacey Blair
B Grade	Winner
Best & Fairest	Brodey Mckay
R/Up	Kodie Greenwood
Most Dedicated Sue-Ellen Storer Farnsworth Memorial	Lyndall Thatcher
Coach's Trophy	Rachel Maes
C Grade	Winner
Best & Fairest	Matilda Davis
R/Up	Chloe Reid
Most Dedicated Sue-Ellen Storer Farnsworth Memorial	Matilda Davis
Coach's Trophy	Chloe Reid
17 & Under	Winner
Best & Fairest (D & A Hunter Perpetual)	Felicity Rentsch
R/Up	Emily Beavis
Coach's Trophy	Angelica Flores
15 & Under	Winner
Best & Fairest	Layla White
R/Up	Jenna Beavis
Amy Walkley Memorial Most Determined	Chelsea Britten
Coach's Trophy	Stella Hemming
13 & Under	Winner
Best & Fairest	Shayla Blair
R/Up	Phoebe Porter
Coach's Trophy	Josephine Bievers

Calder Family Memorial Best Club Person

Irene Dridan

Junior Best Club Person

Matilda Davis

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, B & T Pool Painting & Court Surfacing, Hewitt and Whitty, Hollands Buslines, W.D Howell & Co, J M Leech Jewellers, Maryborough McDonalds, Maryborough Off Road & Auto Service, Mount Avoca, Pyrenees Trees, My Pizza & Pasta, R&J Batteries, Summerfield Wines, The Avoca Hotel

Gold Partners: A1 Signage, Avoca Building Services, Avoca Cottages, Bloom CD, Brandt Tractors, Builtt Builders, Centre State Printing, Chrisela Estate, Coghlan Transport, Coopers Bakery, Elders Ltd, Eureka Concrete, Gollop's Garage, H.F. Richardson, Howell Rail, Macbro Industries, Pacific Fuel Solutions, Powers Bus Lines, Pyren Vineyard, Pyrenees Advocate, Pyrenees Premium Cuts, Pyrenees Smash Repairs, Quality Wool, Rayner Construction, RSM Australia, Stawell Windows & Glass, The Springs Hotel, Tim Hill Livestock, Wardlaw Welding, Wendouree Wholesalers, Whitey's Pet Foods.

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

<https://avocafotballnetballclub.com.au/2024-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: 60 Netball, 106 Football, 50 General = **216 members**

Social Events

The Club hosted three major social events for the season including the Annual Ball, Splendor at the Kennel and The Wooden Horse Cup and a number of smaller social events and dinners throughout the season. Thursday night teas were well supported by the senior playing groups and we thank Steve for his hard work in the kitchen.

Financial Report

The Club budget was set at the start of the 2023/24 year, and pleasingly 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 \$10,639.88

Operating financial year - November 1st 2023 – October 31st 2024

<i>As at 31 October 2024</i>	AMOUNT
<i>Gross Income</i>	\$265,199.61
<i>Non-Trading Income</i>	\$7,537.64
<i>Expenses</i>	\$262,097.37
<i>Plant & Equipment</i>	\$49,650.98
<i>Net Profit / Loss</i>	\$10,639.88
<i>GST Refund</i>	\$2,918.00
<i>Club Accounts Balance at 31 October 2024 General</i>	\$11,628.57
<i>Fundraising Account</i>	\$24,532.14

Conclusion

At the end of the 2024 season, the Club undertook a members survey to gain insight and understanding into what the Club is doing well and what can be improved. The results of the survey have highlighted the strengths of the AFNC including members enjoying the fun, friendship and social connection, facilities and playing competitive sport. The three key areas for improve for the Club include player and coaching development, improving social events and member engagement and boosting our equipment and resources. With this information, the Committee will look to update the Club's Strategic Plan and create opportunities for growth and development.

The Club remains in a very positive financial position and looks forward to the upcoming season with some new faces around the Committee table.