

# **Bullits Annual General Meeting**

## **President's Report 2018-19**

This has been my third year as President of Bullits and the club continues to grow. After registering 83 Bullits teams in the competition for the Winter 2018 Season, we had a record number of teams in the Summer Season where we cracked the 90-team barrier for the first time! We had a total of 93 teams playing in the Summer - an amazing number of teams! The number dropped back to 86 teams this Winter Season which is still a terrific number of teams considering we had 40 teams in total in the Summer 2011/12 Season! We registered our first Men's team last Winter and continue to have one team in the Women's Comp. One team continues to play in the McKinnon competition due to clashes on game day with other sports.

The club continues to provide trainers at training sessions and also run a weekly Skills Sessions for players. We have had a changing of the guard with two of our experienced trainers, James Mouat and Sam Callaghan, leaving the club after many years as both Bullits trainers and coaches. Both young men left the club to take up full time work. We thank James and Sam for their many years of commitment to the club and wish them both luck for the future.

We have been lucky to have Nathan, Lucy, Ryan, Dougal, Evan and Max all do a terrific job as trainers. We thank them for all of their hard work throughout the year.

It is pleasing to see that the number of Juniors coaching our Bullits teams has risen to 35 this season. We have paid for 22 coaches to attend the Basketball Victoria Level O Coaching Course and 3 have completed their BV Level 1 Coaching Course.

The club definitely has a presence around the Association with Bullits teams in most grades of most age groups. I am proud that we are a club that gives players a chance to play in A Grade, as well as the other grades through to D Grade.

There was a huge representation of Bullits teams over the Grand Final weekends. Last Winter 2018, we had 15 teams make the Grand Finals, with five teams finishing Premiers in their grades. The Summer Season (2018/19) was another successful season for the club with 25 teams making it through to the Grand Finals and fourteen teams coming off as Premiers.

A big thank you to Michelle Ferguson for organising decorations for the stadium over the grand final weekends and to the Committee members and our Life Member, Rowena Francis, for scoring many of the games, as the association decided they were no longer going to provide scorers for Grand Finals. Anne-Maree Nunan spent the whole weekend at the stadium taking photos of nearly every team in the finals and posting them on our Facebook page. A huge thank you to Anne-Maree for giving up her whole weekend!

The Committee had a focus on fundraising this year. We held a successful Sausage Sizzle at Bunnings in May. Thank you to Michelle Ferguson and Mel Harrison for their efforts with organising the BBQ. We sold Entertainment Books to raise some funds, and we have asked Team Managers to sell a box of Cadbury Chocolates among their teams to raise some money this year. The money raised through these ventures will help to keep registration fees down as well as help fund our Junior Coaching program which continues to grow. Hopefully we will be able to continue with these efforts next year and in the years to follow.

We had three U14 Girls Bullits players represent Sabres in the U14 National Championships in Shepparton in September. The club supported the girls with a payment towards uniform costs.

The Bullits website has been updated to a new platform (Wix) that will enable us to utilise more functionality as the Club continues to grow. We will have more online forms to help streamline some of the processes and we plan to explore online uniform sales going forward. A Sponsor page ([www.bullits.org.au/sponsors](http://www.bullits.org.au/sponsors)) with Sponsorship Package options and information was also added to the

updated website. With this we hope to attract some more sponsors to the Club, particularly local businesses, that will also help support our junior coach program and keep registration fees down.

Facebook and Instagram continue to be utilised as the Social Media platforms for the Club. We currently have 325 Facebook page 'likes' and 202 Instagram followers. Engagement significantly increases during finals as we promote the teams and share photos from games of teams playing in finals games.

Thank you to The Famished Wolf for their sponsorship over the past year, including 'player of the match awards' for the Winter 2018 Bullits grand final matches.

We continue to track Working with Children Checks using Everproof which has proved a very effective tool. For Winter 2019 we are currently tracking at 98% compliance (non-compliances mainly due to waiting on submitted WCC applications for new and expired cards). This year we have also added in First Aid qualifications for our Trainers to allow us to more easily track this.

A Special General Meeting was held in March, where a new Constitution was passed for Bullits Basketball Club. The new Constitution complies with the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 and clarifies the types of Club members, as well as the rights and powers of Members and Committee members.

The Finance & Governance Sub-Committee was established earlier this year, consisting of the Treasurer, Club Accountant and Secretary. The objective of the sub-committee is to monitor financial compliance and position, including budget and management of investments. From a governance perspective, the objective is to provide oversight and ensure ongoing compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, regularly review the governance framework, constitution, by-laws and policies (as applicable), and recommend updates to the Committee.

A big thank you to Heather Simurina, my Vice President, who helps support me at meetings, worked on the Domestic Sub Committee at the Association level, and for just generally being there for me to bounce ideas off. It is much appreciated.

To Anne-Maree Nunan who was the driving force behind our new constitution, as well as managing our Social Media platforms, and among other things, helping me to deal with any complaints that come in - a huge thank you for your support.

Thanks to Jenny Mouat and Lou Thompson, our Treasurer, once again for their tireless work on the committee. Thanks to Sandy Celantano for all of her help as Age Coordinator for numerous age groups, for sorting out many problematic teams, and for chasing up registrations - you helped me immensely. I hope to recruit a number of new Age Coordinators for the upcoming Summer Season to lighten our load.

Thank you to Michelle Ferguson who has the impossible task of Training Coordinator. It takes hours to get the training roster organised, trying to give everyone their first or second preferences. A thankless job indeed! Michelle also works tirelessly behind the scenes looking for additional training venues, as the club continues to grow. Thanks also to Mel Harrison for coordinating and ordering our end of season medals for all the teams.

A big thank you also to April Whitaker also continues to do a great job in her role as Uniform Coordinator.

We have a wonderful supporter of our Club, Jayne Marlink, who lives in the US, and came out to visit Australia late last year. The Committee was fortunate to meet her and we were able to take her to watch some Bullits teams in action. Jayne has made a number of generous donations to our Club and we are so appreciative of her support and enthusiasm for grassroots sport.

We've had an awesome 12 months as a club and look forward to another successful and rewarding year ahead.

Lisa Mouncer

Bullits Basketball Club President 2018/19