



THE BEAR FACTS

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CAULFIELD BEARS FOOTBALL & NETBALL CLUB

JANUARY 2021 EDITION



Welcome to 2021

Happy New Year to you & your family and welcome to the first edition of The Bear Facts for 2021.

We brought The Bear Facts out of retirement last year however when COVID19 hit and the 2020 season was initially postponed (and ultimately cancelled) we ran out of information to provide to you – but the newsletter is back and will provide all the up-to-date information on what's happening at our club.

The pavilion at Koornang Park is in the process of being extended & refurbished. The extent of the works involves the extension of the existing building and the refurbishment of the interior of the pavilion to provide a modern and accessible facility for the tenant clubs.

The new facility will incorporate:

- improvements to the existing social area with a glazed viewing window;
- improvements to the kitchen/kiosk area;
- internal modernisation of the change-rooms;
- improved access to the pavilion;
- improvements to the existing grandstand (incl. seating);
- much-needed additional storage for the tenant clubs.



The re-development works are expected to be completed by mid-June and will not impact the use of the sportsground or other recreational facilities at Koornang Park.

The estimated cost of the project is \$1.23m which has been funded by the Victorian State Gov't (\$1m)

and Glen Eira council.

And I wish to thank Steve Dimopoulos (State Member for Oakleigh) for the majority of the funding of this project and the staff at Glen Eira council who have been working collaboratively with the tenant clubs in delivering this project.

Xmas Trees

On 5 Dec 2020, we conducted our annual Xmas trees sale and it was highly successful. We had pre-sold 23 trees and managed to sell a further 42 trees in 2½ hours on the day.

Thanks to everyone who bought a tree or helped out on the day (and offered to help) in particular Shane Campbell who drove to Tynong at day-break to collect the trees and deliver them to Koornang Park. We raised just over \$3k in profit.

SFNL Seeking Umpires for 2021

Our governing body is seeking umpires for season 2021 – for more details, please click [here](#).

TAC Survey

We were recently invited to participate in a survey conducted by the Transport Accident Commission (TAC) and due to the number of our players, supporters, etc that responded to our call to help by completing the survey, we've received a \$1,000 voucher to purchase Sherrin footballs & other goods. I wish to thank all the Bears' people who completed this survey and assisted the club in being awarded this voucher – and I'm sure the Sherrin goods will be put to great use.

Football Pre-Season Training

Our footy boys commenced their preparation for season 2021 in Nov and had 6 training sessions prior to Xmas. We averaged approx. 30 players attending each session which was really good and a reflection on the attitude of our playing group as it prepares for a successful season. Training will resume on Monday 18 Jan 2021.

Netball Pre-Season Training

Our netball program will commence its pre-season training on Thursday 14 Jan 2021 at Thomas Street Netball Courts in Hampton – start time 6.30pm.

New players are welcome to attend and are asked to complete an EOI form – please click [here](#).

For information regarding our netball program, please contact Barb Traeger (Tel. 0439 754 318).

Major Sponsors





2021 Football Fixture

Our governing body (the Southern Football Netball League) has recently released its football fixture for Season 2021 – details of our matches are:

Date	Opponent	Venue
10 Apr	S'vale Dists	Koornang Park
17 Apr	Hampton Park	Away
24 Apr	Murrumbeena	Koornang Park
1 May	East Brighton	Away
8 May	Keysborough	Away
15 May	Hampton	Koornang Park
22 May	Chelsea Hts	Away
29 May	Skye	Koornang Park
5 June	Heatherton	Away
12 June	No games	
19 June	S'vale Dists	Away
26 June	Hampton Park	Koornang Park
3 July	Murrumbeena	Away
10 July	East Brighton	Koornang Park
17 July	Keysborough	Koornang Park
24 July	Hampton	Away
31 July	Chelsea Hts	Koornang Park
7 Aug	Skye	Away
14 Aug	Heatherton	Koornang Park

The finals' series will be held on the subsequent weekends commencing 21/22 Aug 2021 and Grand Final to be played on Sat 11 Sept 2021.

The fixture for the netball season will be finalized after grading matches (which will be in early April).

Club Sponsorship

We have partnered with many businesses whom provide financial support for our club which enables us to deliver 2 quality sporting programs to our local community.

If you would like to partner with us, we're sure we have a sponsorship package that will suit your business and your budget.

For as little as \$500 (+ GST) we will promote your business to our players, members & supporters which will drive sales to your business – and you'll be helping your favourite community sporting club.

Contact Darren Stait (Tel. 0407 559 383 or staity29@bigpond.com) for more details.



For all your insurance requirements for your business please contact Darren Stait (Tel. 0407 559 383 or 03 9578 0029)

Support our Sponsors

We have many local businesses that financially support our club and we are extremely appreciative of this support.

These businesses are shown throughout this publication and other mediums (such as Facebook, website, etc) and I encourage all Bears' supporters to support our sponsors whenever & wherever you can – and if you'd like to learn more about any of our partners, please contact Darren Stait on (0407) 559 383.





Bears Golf

Our social golf group (Bears Golf) was formed primarily as a vehicle which current & past players, members and supporters of our club can catch up for a friendly game of golf.

Our first round was played in April 2019 at Cardinia Beaconhills Golf Club and we aim to play each month.

Details of rounds for 2021 are:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Course</u>
Sun 7 Feb 2021	Growling Frog
Fri 26 Feb 2021	Spring Valley
Sun 7 Mar 2021	Club Mandalay
Sun 11 April 2021	Cardinia-Beaconhills
Sun 2 May 2021	Ranfurlie
Sun 6 June 2021	Medway
Sun 4 July 2021	X-Golf Mentone
Sun 1 Aug 2021	Flinders
Sun 5 Sept 2021	Mt Derrimutt
Sun 3 Oct 2021	Devil Bend
Sun 7 Nov 2021	Eagle Ridge
Sun 5 Dec 2021	To be confirmed

Cost to play is usually \$80-\$90pp (or \$300-\$350 for a group of 4 players). The fee includes green fees and lunch following the round.

If you're interested in joining the group, please contact Darren Stait (Tel. 0407 559 383).



And thanks to The House of Golf & X-Golf Mentone for their support of our golf program.



Bears Inaugural Corporate Golf Day

our inaugural corporate golf day to be held on **Friday 26 Feb 2021** (hit-off 1.00pm) at **Spring Valley Golf Course**, Heatherton Road, Clayton South.



Spring Valley GC is home to one of Melbourne's famous sand-belt courses and was recently rated by Golf Australia magazine as # 41 best course in Australia and among the top 10 in metropolitan Melbourne.

Cost: \$200 per player or \$800 for group of 4 players. Cost will cover lunch (from 12noon), 'green fees', gourmet BBQ dinner & drinks (beer, wine & soft drink).

Motorised carts are available – please contact the club on (03) 9562 3811 to book a cart. Cost of cart is not included in above cost.

Dress code applies – please click [here](#) for details.

All welcome but player numbers are limited – so don't delay in booking your spot.

If you wish to make your booking to play or have any queries, please contact Darren Stait on 0407 559 383.





Social Memberships Available

There's no better way to support your favourite community sporting club than becoming a social member.

We have **2 levels of social membership** for you to choose from – details are shown below:

Silver Bears membership will provide you with:

- complimentary drinks and finger food during the half-time interval of all 1st XVIII matches played at Koornang Park this season;
- ½ price drinks at the conclusion of all 'home' matches played this season up to 6.00pm.
- \$30 Bear Bucks that can be redeemed at our club's bar &/or canteen;
- voting rights at our AGM;
- the joy of assisting your favourite community sporting club.

Cost \$110 (incl. GST) per person

Golden Bears membership will provide you with:

- the same benefits of the Silver Bear package plus;
- \$300 of Bear Bucks which can be redeemed at our club's bar &/or canteen;
- 2 complimentary tickets to each match-day luncheon (valued at \$300);
- 2 complimentary tickets to our Major Raffle (valued at \$200);
- personalized glass tankard (value priceless);
- advertising of your business in our clubrooms.

Cost \$1,100 (incl. GST) per person.

Please note, the ½ price drinks benefit mentioned above refers to drinks purchased by the member for his/her consumption and will not apply to other drinks purchased by the social member. The social member will be required to present his/her social membership card whenever purchasing drinks to receive this benefit.

What do you have to do?

Contact Darren Stait (Tel. 0407 559 383 or via email staity29@bigpond.com) now to become a social member of your favourite community sporting club.

HOTEL BRIGHTON

Club Apparel

We have many items of club-branded apparel at very reasonable prices for you to purchase and show your support of our club. Some of the items we stock are:

- polo shirts
- hooded jackets
- scarves
- beanies
- anoraks
- sports bags

and much more.

Click [here](#) to check the full range – and you can order online.



Club Sponsorship

We have partnered with many businesses whom provide financial support for our club which enables us to deliver 2 quality sporting programs to our local community.

If you would like to partner with us, we're sure we have a sponsorship package that will suit your business and your budget.

For as little as \$500 + GST we will promote your business to our players, members & supporters which will drive sales to your business – and you'll be helping your favourite community sporting club.

Contact Darren Stait (Tel. 0407 559 383 or staity29@bigpond.com) for more details.



Player Sponsorship Program

Our Player Sponsorship Program assists in funding our football & netball operations (such as purchasing footballs, netballs, training equipment, medical equipment & consumables, etc) and I encourage you to sponsor your favourite player (or we can select a player for you).

What are the benefits for the sponsor?

An A3-sized poster (sample below) showing a photo of the selected player and your name &/or business logo will hang on the wall of our social room at Koornang Park for all to see your support of our club.

And you will receive a 'Bear Bucks' card valued at \$30 which can be redeemed at our bar &/or canteen.

Who Am I?

This month's "Who Am I Quiz" is:

I joined the club as an 8yo boy in 1992 and played a total of 312 games for the Bears (including games played with both the junior division & senior division of our club).

In my playing days, I was a ruckman with a deft touch and a penchant for a few cold beers after the game.

I am a member of the Bears' Team of the Decade (2003-2012) and was awarded Life Membership of the club in 2019.

I'm still involved with the club in an official capacity today.

I am?

First correct entry wins a Bears Bucks card valued at \$30. Send your answer via email message to caulfieldfootballclub@gmail.com.

Julie Masterson



Sponsored by

Chadstone Toyota

"Quality Service, Trusted Advice"



TOYOTA



General Committee

Our club's affairs are managed by our General Committee which was elected at our Annual General Meeting held in Nov 2020. Members of our GC are:

President	Darren Stait
Vice President	Dennis Nicol
Secretary	Christine Bugden
Treasurer	Maureen Nicol
Netball Operations	Barb Traeger
Football Operations	Dennis Nicol
Social Events	Prue McGowan & Alexander Markham
Fundraising	Shane Campbell
General Committee	Tess Wardrop

We also have a series of sub-committees which manage specific functions of our club's operations (such as social events, sponsorship, etc) – so **if you'd like to give us a hand running the club**, please contact Darren Stait (Tel. 0407 559 383 or staity29@bigpond.com).

Cost \$150.00 (plus GST)

What do you have to do?

Contact Darren Stait (Tel. 0407 559 383 or via email staity29@bigpond.com) now to sponsor a player and support your favourite community sporting club.



Remember When

Below is a photo of a couple of very cute Bears' players taken some years ago and you are challenged to name each player (first name & family name) from L-R in the photo. And I've given you some clues that may assist you. Your clues are:

- We are brothers who grew up a drop-kick from Koornang Park.
- We played most of our under-age football with the Bears and joined the senior division of the club in 2020.
- We will play for the Bears in 2021.
- One of us has played with another SFNL club in 2018 & 2019 but has re-joined the Bears. And his commitment to improvement is so strong he is renowned for completing additional training sessions on Sunday mornings (around 6.30am).

We are?



Good luck – and the first correct entry received at caulfieldfootballclub@gmail.com will win a Bears Bucks card valued at \$30.

If you have any photos of a current or former player, a supporter or an official that you would like to submit to our 'Remember When' segment, please send to us via email at caulfieldfootballclub@gmail.com – and please ensure the photo is in 'jpg' format.

Hall of Fame

In 2018 (which was the 25th year anniversary since the formation of our club following the merging of St Kevins Ormond FC & St Andrews Gardenvale FC), we created a Hall of Fame and inducted 4 people in its inaugural uptake. Over the upcoming editions of The Bear Facts, we will showcase these inductees.

In this month's edition of The Bear Facts, we celebrate **David Folley** who played 377 games for St Andrews Gardenvale between 1963-1982, won its 2nd XVIII Best & Fairest on 4 occasions (1969, 1973, 1978 & 1980), served the club as Secretary (1965-1967), Treasurer (1968-1992) and President (1974 & 1975).



David joined the Caulfield Bears with the merger between its formation clubs (St Kevins Ormond & St Andrews Gardenvale) in 1993 and has served us with the same level of commitment.

He has served us as Treasurer (1997-1999), General Committee (1993-1996) and Timekeeper since 1993 – and resident joke-teller (some of them are quite funny).

David was awarded Life Membership of our club in 2009 and received the Victorian Volunteer Award (Caulfield District) in 2015 in recognition of his 50-years' service to community sport. He was an inaugural member of the SFNL Hall-of-Fame in 2015 and was inducted into our Hall of Fame in 2018.





Club History

Do you know the history of our club? If not, read on.

The Caulfield Football Club was formed in 1993 as a result of the merger of St Kevin's Ormond FC and St Andrews Gardenvale FC. Both clubs had competed in the Eastern Suburban Churches Football Association and their union coincided with the emergence of the new Southern Football League, which was also founded at the same time as a result of the merger of the ESCFA and South Eastern Suburbs Football League.

The newly-formed club made a big impact in its early stages winning the 2nd XVIII premierships in its first year (1993) and both the 1st XVIII & 2nd XVIII team winning premierships in 1994. The club was promoted to the Premier Division of the competition in 1995 and played finals' football in its first season but was beaten in the Preliminary Final by the powerhouse Noble Park club.

Relocation to Princes Park

In 1997, the club decided to relocate from its original base at Koornang Park to Princes Park in South Caulfield (the former home of the defunct Caulfield VFA club).

In 2000, the 1st XVIII team finished in last place of Division 1 (formerly known as Premier Division) and was relegated to Division 2. The club almost completed the horror slide of being relegated in successive years and managed to stave off being relegated to Division 3 in 2001 by a solitary win.

For much of the first decade of the new century, the club meandered through the bottom half of Division 2 with the 1st XVIII only playing in one finals campaign in this time. Both football teams played finals footy in 2007 and the 2nd XVIII team enjoyed finals campaigns in 2002 & 2003 as well.

The club hit some very strong head winds in 2011 with a large number of players leaving the club prior to the commencement of the season and we struggled fielding 2 teams for our weekend matches.

During this season, our 1st XVIII football team were regularly beaten by margins in excess of 100 points and the 2nd XVIII was beaten by even bigger margins – in fact, it was a regular occurrence that the 2nd XVIII team played with less than the requisite number of players. A total of 107 players represented our club in this season with many former players being lured out of retirement to assist the club in getting its teams onto the ground.

This period was an extremely tough time for our club and if it were not for the resolve of a small band of people, the club may well have disbanded. But the club was fortunate to have this small band of warriors who would not abandon the club in its time

of need (despite many others who jumped ship) and they collectively managed to begin the rebuilding of the club.

Following our *annus horribilis* of 2011, the club was relegated to Division 3 and the resurrection of our club began. Our 1st XVIII team managed to win 9 matches in season 2012 and finished in 6th place on the ladder which was an OK result as the club was attempting to arrest its demise.

At the end of this season, one of the clubs in Division 2 (Southern Dragons) had applied to be transferred to another competition which resulted in an uneven number of teams in this division. Our governing body, (the SFNL) approached the top 5 teams of the Division 3 competition of 2012 and asked if any of the clubs would be interested in filling the gap in Division 2 created by the departure of the Dragons. Each of these club declined the offer to be promoted to Division 2. The SFNL Executive had accepted that Division 2 in 2013 would consist of 9 teams only but was encouraged by one of its board members (Steve Barnes) to approach Caulfield – which it subsequently did.

The proposal to be elevated to Division 2 was put to our players, members & supporters who voted in favour of accepting the offer to be promoted to Division 2 despite our 1st XVIII team not finishing in the top half of the Division 3 competition in 2012.

Many clubs thought this was a foolish move by our club due to our fragility and many expected our teams to be soundly beaten in the following season by the teams in the higher division. But these people did not know of the resolve of the Bears clan and whilst our 1st XVIII team only won a few matches in 2013, it managed to avoid relegation to remain in Division 2.

And to further prove how wrong our detractors were at this time, the 1st XVIII team went on to play in 5 consecutive finals' series in Division 2 (2014-2018) and played in the Grand Final in 2016 – and the 2nd XVIII team also made its way to the Preliminary Final in 2017 which is the first finals' appearance of our 2nd XVIII team since 2007.

Another pivotal moment in the history of our club arose in 2012 when the club returned to its traditional base of Koornang Park (which is the home of the junior body of our club). The players, members and supporters of our club were asked to vote on a proposal to either stay at Princes Park or return to Koornang Park and resoundingly a massive 94% of respondents voted in favour of returning to its traditional home.

The relocation of the senior body of the club in 2012 to its traditional home at Koornang Park has



resulted in a reunion with the junior body which bodes well for the future of our club.

We have a strong focus of a 'one club' environment in which young people are recruited to the sport of Australian football via our Auskick program, migrate into our junior program (which has teams ranging from U8-U17) and onto our senior program and thus providing a single pathway in which young footballers can travel the complete journey of their playing careers.

Bears Netball

Our governing body (the SFNL) introduced a netball competition in 2013 and we attempted to recruit players to form a team (or teams) to play in the inaugural competition but were unsuccessful. We tried again in 2014 and again had no luck in recruiting sufficient number of players.

But when you try & fail, you just gotta try again and 3rd time lucky we managed to cobble together enough players to form one team and our first ever netball team wearing our club colours took to the netball court for season 2015.

And the girls made a massive impact on the competition by winning the Division 3 premiership of the Southern Football Netball League. The following season (2016), our netball program had swelled to 4 teams and our Division 6 team played in the Grand Final.

Every year since 2017, we have fielded 6 teams and enjoyed premiership success on another 2 occasions (our Masters' team have twice won the Division 5 premiership in 2017 & 2019).

The introduction of netballers into our club has been a massive injection of vibrancy & diversity and we are mighty proud when they take the court in our club's colours.

Change of Name

Due to the introduction of netball as an additional sporting program, it was proposed and accepted at our AGM held on 28 October 2015 to change our club's name to "Caulfield Bears Football & Netball Club Inc".

Premierships

The Caulfield Bears' teams have won 6 premierships so far – details are:

- 1993 2nd XVIII Football
- 1994 1st XVIII Football
- 2nd XVIII Football
- 2015 Div 3 Netball
- 2017 Div 5 Netball
- 2019 Div 5 Netball

Our formation clubs

St. Kevin's Ormond FC was formed in 1946 and initially competed in the CYMS competition winning premierships in 1948, 1952 and 1963. In 1967, the club transferred to the YCW competition and continued its successful era winning premierships in 1968 and 1974.

The club was originally church based and was one of the very few strong clubs south of the Yarra River in the 1970's playing in the YCW competition. Eventually the constant travelling into the northern suburbs of Melbourne saw the club move to the Eastern Suburbs Churches Football Association for the commencement of the 1976 football season.

The players were a lot happier as there was less travel and the competition stronger.

St Kevin's Ormond Football Club had originally played at McKinnon Oval, moving to the E.E. Gunn Reserve in the 1950's. In 1965, the club moved to Bailey Reserve in Bentleigh East and finally to Koornang Park in Carnegie in 1980.

The club started in C-grade and the 1st XVIII team was Grand Finalists in 1983 (C-Grade – defeated by Mazenod), 1986 (B-Grade – defeated by Box Hill Pioneers) and 1989 (A-Grade – defeated by Donvale).

With the demise in the late 1980's of the original Caulfield FC (VFA club), many of its players and officials became associated with StKOFC which resulted in StKOFC becoming a strong force.

However a few years later StKOFC began to wane as a football power. With an ageing player list, no flow of junior players into the club and a lack of profile within the broader community, the Club decided to look to St Andrews Gardenvale as a joint venture partner.

StAGFC was a resident club at Princes Park in South Caulfield (albeit on the 'outer' grounds) and the administration of StKOFC saw a union with StAGFC as an opportunity to gain access to the main oval at Princes Park.

St Andrews Gardenvale was formed in 1943 and had played in the ESCFA the whole time. Whilst there had been moderate success, the Club had never won a premiership and by 1992 it was heavily in debt and struggling to survive as a club. They had played all their footy at Princes Park and moved to the main oval in the late 1980's. It was this tenancy which assisted with the merger with StKOFC at the end of 1992.

The merger of St Kevin's Ormond FC and St Andrews Gardenvale FC blends the rich footballing heritage of 2 clubs extending over a combined total of almost 100 years.