

NEWSLETTER

NEW GENERAL MANAGER

We have:

- A new General Manager in Garry Burkinshaw, phone: 0418277051 and email at admin1@bdafl.com.au
- New Board Members in:
 - David Flynn – Cardiff and League captain.
 - John McMahon – former player and coach with Newcastle City.
 - Steve Smith – office bearer with the Newcastle Junior AFL
 - Erin Bommer – from Victoria who holds a degree in Sports Admin
- A new website at www.bdafl.com.au
- Amended the by-laws which include significant changes – copy on website.

PRE SEASON MATCHES

If clubs are playing in pre season matches, particularly for insurance purposes, they must obtain permission to play these games from the General Manager.

COACHES COURSE

If there are any coaches who are not accredited, **THEY NOW MUST BE** or they cannot coach in the league. Coaches who might have obtained accreditation a few years ago and allowed it to lapse have to undergo retraining.

The course will be held in Newcastle on 12 & 13 March. Details and application form Allan Waud the Regional Manager on 0425202045.

A chapter of the Australian Football Coaches Association has been formed and membership will be part of the accreditation.

COACHES MEETING

A meeting for all coaches in the league will be held at Swansea RSL on Wednesday 23 March at 7.00pm. Items to be discussed include: the competition, coaches responsibilities, rule changes, by-laws, rep football, the Coaches Association, country games, etc.

SPORTING PULSE TRAINING

With another season and new faces involved, the league is again conducting Sporting Pulse Training Sessions. One in Newcastle and the other on the Central Coast. You can attend both if you want.

The first will be held on **Wednesday 9 February** at the Tuggerah Lakes Community College, Wyong Road Tuggerah, which is opposite Bunnings just east of the railway line. (on the road to Killarney Vale's ground, off the F3) The college is in the Club Tuggerah Complex, identified with a series of tennis courts and the instructional rooms are contained in a two storey house on the left as your drive in. Same place as last year. 7.30pm – 9.30pm.

The second on **Tuesday 15 February** at the Hunter School of Performing Arts, cnr Lambton Road and Cameron Street, Broadmeadow. Instructions are: **meet at the green transportable** building, for a 7.00pm – 9.00pm session.

There should be a minimum of two per club attend and these should be the people who will be dealing with the inputting of your club registrations and match updates. These training sessions are extremely important. Please supply the General Manager the names of those attending.

CLUB WORKSHOP

This year the league is holding a pre-season workshop to instruct all those involved in the administration of your club the correct and required format of doing things.

With the unavailability of the venue for the initial date, the session has been changed to **10.00am on Sunday 20 February at Swansea RSL** for no more than 2 hours.

This won't be a taxing session but more about the distribution of important information. Please advise the General Manager the names of those attending.

NEWSLETTER

JUMPERS SHORTS AND SOCKS

The League is arranging the purchase of jumpers, shorts and socks through accredited suppliers and from 2005 these garments will hold the league's logo.

The price of this stock varies remarkably and the General Manager is in the process of searching through the best and most reliable manufacturer and the most reasonable price.

All orders to go through the General Manager

FIXTURE CARD

For the first time, the league will print a fixture card. Not only will the card contain the 2005 draw but also details of each respective club's personnel and training times etc.

This fixture card is possible with the backing of the new **BLACK DIAMOND HOME LOANS** which has the support and backing of the league.

2005 FIXTURE

After taking comments into consideration, final adjustments are being done to the fixture with a release date of 1 February. The Board's policy is one of an 18 round season with as little interruption as possible. The fact that we have 8 Black Diamond Cup sides and 10 First Division and Under 18 teams doesn't help the attempts at configuring the draw with the least amount of disturbance to everyone.

The fixture will be structured with a general bye in about mid July. This will be for the playing of any washed out or postponed games. Monday of the June Long Weekend will be another, the league reserves to use as a 'catch-up' day.

BLACK DIAMOND AFL HOME LOANS

The league has successfully negotiated with a leading finance company to provide **HOME, BUSINESS, CAR AND REFINANCING** loans. If the person is successful in gaining a loan and is recommended by a club, the club will **receive 50%** of the allocated profit. Now that's for doing very little, apart from supporting and pushing the loan facility.

Black Diamond Home Loans will shortly be launched publicly.

BUSINESS CLUB

The league is again opening a business club with opportunities for businesses, large and small to be involved in the Black Diamond AFL.

The cost is \$250 which gives a business the opportunity to sponsor one of the twenty or so functions or events the league conducts throughout the year, ie Elliott-Davey Medal, Black Diamond Cup Goal Kicking, Black Diamond Cup Representative Side etc.

The biggest in these opportunities for just their \$250, they can obtain the naming rights for the competition. So it could become the **ABC Plumbing Black Diamond AFL** for example, for the entire season. This is a **huge** opportunity for any business and the marketing opportunities this provides for such little outlay are enormous.

In any case the fact, that all businesses which enter get their name in the **Football Record** and on the league's very popular **web site** for a year, is extra good value.

Its worth while for clubs to use this concept as a bargaining tool when negotiating with potential sponsors and invest \$250 of the sponsorship money into this project. *HELP THE LEAGUE TO HELP YOUR FOOTBALL.* Do you know anyone who might be interested in this project?

RUNNERS, TRAINERS AND WATER CARRIERS SHIRTS

The league is in the process of ordering more of these shirts which will be issued to all clubs before the season starts.