



### **Football Netball Club Official Statement**

Following the 2023 finals series, Outer East Football Netball, as an affiliate of AFL Victoria, took part in the Community Club Sustainability Program (CCSP) salary cap reviews and audit of all 2023 Grand Finalists across their three divisions, which was inclusive of Emerald Football Netball Club. These reviews were carried out in three stages by AFL Victoria Integrity Officers.

Throughout this process, including the disciplinary hearing where the breaches and charges were discussed, The Club's representatives were commended for their openness and honesty with the AFL Victoria investigator and panel members.

After an extensive investigation, it was deemed that the Emerald Football Netball Club were unknowingly in breach of rule 4, subsections a)(i) and b)(ii), and rule 2, subsection a)(i), due to confusion around the Co-Coaching Rule. This has highlighted a shortcoming in our training and understanding of the ever-increasing complexities for Volunteers running Senior Clubs.

Emerald Football Netball Club would like to send a heartfelt thanks to our volunteers who work tirelessly to run The Club, and in association with Outer East Football Netball, are committed to supporting all club volunteers in administering the CCSP in future so potential breaches are identified early and addressed accordingly.

Mark Pedder  
President