

2020 Annual Report



Ormond Junior Football Club Inc

2020 Committee

President	Gavan Dwyer
Vice President-Administration	Lyndon Loader
Vice President-Football Operations	Michael Whitney
Treasurer	Leigh Jobling
Digital Media, Communications and Merchandise	Brett Hardiman
Director of Coaching and Development	Anton Levine
Girls Coordinator	Tanya Cumming
Child Safety and Mentor Program	Kirstie Edwards (APTF)
ASD and FairGo Football Coordinator	John Howard
Facilities and Equipment	Mark Brady
Coaching Operations	Warren Bailey
Girls Program Operations	Matthew Sharp
Merchandise and Fundraising	Debbie Hammon
Heritage	Allan Jenes
Auskick	James Warfe

Club Awards

The 2020 Committee conferred the following Club Awards:

Life Member – Lyndon Loader

Adlington Award – Anton Levine

Club Captains – Will McCartney and Evelyn Foscolos

Goldstein Shield – Oscar Whitney and Tarkyn Isaacs

Southwick Shield – Charlotte Fisher

President's Report – Gavan Dwyer

On behalf of your Committee I am pleased to present the 2020 Annual Report.

The 2020 Season is perhaps the most unusual and challenging that the Club has faced in its 60-year history. The outbreak of the COVID 19 virus its suppression and then subsequent second wave has had a profound effect on our community and junior football.

The Club prepared for the 2020 season as normal. Prior to the COVID pandemic becoming a material concern in Victoria the Club pressed ahead with bringing forward on the best season in years. This included:

- fielding the largest number teams across all age levels including two U17 teams and an U14 girls team. We also continued our FairGo footy program and saw the continuing transition of a number of players into game day teams
- Maintaining and growing our Development Model and Mentor programs to be recognised as leading edge across the League
- Securing agreements with Glen Eira City Council, the Australian Government and other tenant clubs that resulted in the refurbishment EE Gunn, so it provides welcoming unisex facilities and safely rerouted the bike track past the Pavilion. This rounds out other refurbishment work including the refresh of our Canteen Facilities and the installation of competition standard lighting
- significantly revamping and relaunch of our website and merchandise range led and executed by our Web Master and Committee member Brett Hardiman
- refreshing our logo to reflect our history and culture and alignment with the branding across the senior and junior club we continued the building of a One Ormond Culture with a joined-up approach to club development and culture.

Initially the season was delayed as the first wave of the COVID pandemic began to spread, and we

- worked closely with the league, AFL, Glen Eira City Council and health authorities to ensure the club was compliant with the COVID protocols as they emerged and then evolved. This required considerable operational planning, logistics and record keeping and innovation
- transitioned all teams to TEAMAPP and further upgraded its website to ensure we communicated clearly and effectively.
- supported the OAFC as it faced a range of unique operating challenges with the VAFA season more severely impacted than our own in the early stages of the pandemic.

As we emerged for the First Wave our preparations enabled us to move rapidly toward practice matches and season commencement. This required a considerable compliance effort across the club and led by our amazing Registrar, Philippa Thompson and COVID compliance led by Lyndon Loader Mike Whitney and Mark Brady.

As the second wave of COVID began to grow the season was initially further delayed just two days before the first competition games of the season were to commence.

Our focus had been to be prepared for a range of potential outcomes. This included being game ready if the second wave was contained and keeping our players and member families supported and connected if the situation deteriorated. This provide invaluable as to the great misfortune of all in our community the second wave deteriorated and some weeks later the SMJFL took the responsible step to cancel the season.

As part of our COVID strategy we:

- established online training modules and regular weekly zoom sessions for teams to connect up online – we encouraged these to evolve organically overtime recognising the varying circumstance of coaches and families across the club
- developed Online challenges for players and parents to help support one another
- placed a significant focus on keeping our players and families informed on League developments
- established a Club Care Centre – with support and referral information. Provided household support to families in need. A significant number of families donated funds to enable us to provide emergency relief
- refunded registrations to families to in difficulty as their household circumstances dramatically altered
- fulfilled merchandise orders as supply chain closure and reopening allowed.

Over the course of the season we took great care to minimise expenses – many of our significant initiatives were costless to the club due to the volunteering of time and skills and the awarding of grants. We worked along-side other clubs and the league to provide a common approach to refunds of registration and also donations. Some expenses were unavoidable such as player packs they were pre-ordered in advance. Further details of these expenses and the finalisation of registration refunds are provided in the Treasurers report. The Club has carefully tried to balance fairness and equity across a diverse group of teams and families. We have been very grateful to the large number of families who generously donated their registrations to the club.

I would like to thank our game day volunteers especially our coaches and team managers. This has been a difficult and challenging year for them. They have been our frontline service providers and have had to flexibly adjust to changing circumstances. They were also at the pressure point end of COVID compliance – including participation records and infection control but also importantly keeping our community connected and supported.

I also wish to acknowledge those recognised in this Annual Report as Club Awardees. In particular, the service and leadership awardees are to be recognised as pivotal people in your community at a critical time of need.

In turn I would like to acknowledge the work of your Executive and General Community that delivered all these outcomes for you. Your Committee met frequently via Zoom and were always ready roll up their sleeves and get things done for you. They worked so well together – it has been wonderful to be among such a positive group of people who cared so much about your kids.

It was if you will – a season within a non-season. One we don't wish to repeat but are nonetheless proud of and in some respects better as a result of. The delays and then cancellation enabled the Club to upgrade and refresh a number of its operating and planning platforms that enabled it to deliver the services it did through COVID. But also, our communication and data management systems and coaching resources are now significantly more sophisticated going forward and will be incredible assets for the Club going forward.

With my son now having completed his final year of junior football it is appropriate I retire from the OJFC. It has been an honour to serve as your President for the last two years. I am grateful for all the support and encouragement you have all given me. The Club is in a strong position strategically, financially and operationally.

Go Monders!

Administration – Lyndon Loader

It was once again a great privilege to be part of the Ormond Junior Football Club committee in season 2020. The investments made by the club in the preceding 2 years in setting up the digital platforms – new email system, utilising team app for management of teams and the transition to the new digital website over the offseason enabled the administrative functions of the club to be handled and completed much more efficiently than could have been envisaged in the past.

COVID-19 threw up a whole series of new logistical and administrative requirements prior to the season commencing - implementation of a COVID Safe plan for the club, adherence to Return to Play protocols and setting up a system to record player and coach attendance at training were eagerly embraced by the committee.

Phillipa Thompson once again capably filled the role of club administration officer and registrar and her experience and knowledge of the leagues systems enabled the rest of the executive to focus on trying to deliver the anticipated season in a period of great uncertainty. Changes to league and government requirements which changed on a weekly if not daily basis were a challenging task which Phillipa ably supported. Handling player registrations and transfers as well as accreditation of club officials associated with coaching accreditation, medical / first aid, working with children checks were all met on time and was setup ready to go in event the season could commence.

Unfortunately, it was not meant to be. I'd also like to thank John Howard for his support in arranging medical courses and first aid – ably supported by Chris Howley. Kirstie Edwards was once again a proficient and extremely capable Child Safety Officer, the club was in good hands in ensuring that the policies, procedures and adherence to these important requirements were met.

Finally, may I take this moment to acknowledge the contribution of Gavan Dwyer in his role as President over the prior two seasons. Gavan brought a new level of professionalism to the club, not only internally in setting up the Ormond Development Model but developing a strategic plan and focus that will stand the club on solid foundations going forward. But importantly he has given voice to Ormond to the external stakeholders – SMJFL, Council, local government, fellow clubs and Presidents. In representing Ormond, Gavan always put Ormond first and the vision and framework he has implemented will be felt for a generation.

It is also my last year at Ormond as my son transitions from juniors into the Ormond seniors. I could never have believed the amazing and fortunate journey I have experienced over the last 9 years. Whether just being a parent watching on the sidelines, running the boundary, holding a clipboard as an assistant coach, coaching, participating in general committee and then on the executive it has been a wonderful experience. I wish the club ongoing success in the future.

Football Operations – Michael Whitney

Season 2020 will live in our memories for all the wrong reasons and unfortunately it came at a time when football at Ormond was primed for a fantastic season. We had a strong Auskick program ready to go, excellent numbers of registered players in all junior age groups, with our strongest numbers of girls, and an U17 squad that were right in contention for a division 1 premierships.

We were ready to field teams in every age group from U8 to U17 with girls teams at U10, U12 and U14. Around 250 boys were registered and 45 girls

All of this is no accident, it is directly attributable to the Ormond Development Model implemented over the last few years and executed by our outstanding group of coaches. Anton Levine outlines in his detailed report below the hard work that he and our coaching cohort had undertaken until COVID shut the season down.

I want to thank all of our coaches this season for their dedication and hard work. They remained positive and encouraging and, in many cases, embraced online learning and engagement with their teams right up until September. I want to recommend to the 2021 Committee that all coaches appointed for 2020 are given the chance to coach their teams for the 2021 season.

To our U17 squad who 'graduate' from Junior football we wish you all the best in your footy journey and thank you all for your years of service to the Ormond Junior Football Club. To the rest of our players we need to see you back next year, fit, strong and ready to continue the fun of playing footy with your mates

Treasurer's Report and Financial Accounts – Leigh Jobling

While unfortunately no football was played, the 2020 season was challenging off field in many ways, including the club finances.

This year revenue was almost exclusively annual membership fees, along with some government grants we were fortunate to secure. The largest of which was around \$16,500 as our contribution towards Glen Eira Council's refurbishment of the change rooms and shower/toilet facilities.

The upgrade is fantastic and will provide far superior facilities for both home and away teams, including the opportunity to attract and grow our girls football program in future years

Typically, we would have revenue from sponsorships, sales of club clothing and merchandise, canteen sales and our annual social event. Unfortunately, other than minor merchandise sales, we had no other income.

We decided not to approach our loyal sponsors for a contribution to the club this year due to the trying business conditions.

Expenses were naturally lower than we had budgeted for. Most notably, the SMJFL waved 100% of their league fees and insurance costs.

Costs were managed carefully, and non-essential expenditure deferred, however many expenses were incurred in the lead up to the season as (until at least July) we needed to plan for training and some games to take place. In addition, we spent club funds on on-line training resources, our mentor program with "A Path to Follow" and gift cards and vouchers as part of our Club Care program as COVID-19 took hold and made life difficult for everyone.

The committee felt local club servicing our community with values built around supporting those families connected to Ormond JFC, we wanted to offer what we could and ensure our players maintained a connection with the club while they could not train and play together.

We also invested significantly in purchasing a full range of new club merchandise which will be available for sale next year.

The most difficult decision this year was regarding the approach to refunding membership fees. We were mindful of other clubs and indeed a number of other sports we approached the issue to different ways.

Ultimately, we felt the decision to refund 50% of fees was appropriate. While we know this would result in a loss for the year, we did not want to undo all the financial progress made last year. In addition, to ensure the club's financial sustainability and ultimate survival and further to ensure we can continue to invest in our clubs mentor, coaching and player development programs, we were keen to ensure we entered the off-season and into 2021 with cash reserves to ensure we can thrive going forward.

While the processing of refunds is pending, we are expecting to return approximately \$35,000 as refunds, creating a \$12,000 loss (from the \$23,000 profit noted below) and reducing cash reserves from approximately \$85,000 to \$50,000.

While \$50,000 is still a reasonable cash reserve, uncertainty around the ongoing impact of COVID-19 on the 2021 season, including player numbers and revenue such as sponsorship income means a conservative view is prudent and the extra club funds will mean we can see out this global pandemic.

We provided full refunds for many families experiencing financial hardship and some families offered to fully "donate" their fee paid to the club.

Whatever you decided, we appreciate your support of the Ormond JFC and look forward to seeing you again next year.

Finally, the club also owns shares in the Ormond/McKinnon branch of the Bendigo Bank.

The club paid \$1 per share in 2010 and owns 10,000 shares.

Subsequent to 30 September the bank advised our shares are worth approximately \$0.50 per share.

We therefore expect approximately \$5,000 to be repaid to the club if the Bank buys-back our shares from the club.

BALANCE SHEET – AS A 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

	Total
CASH AT BANK	
Bendigo Cheque Account	49,637.87
Auskick Account	1,714.24
Bendigo Term Deposit Account	35,951.72
TOTAL CASH	87,303.83
OTHER ASSETS	
Shares - Bendigo Bank	10,000.00
Gift cards	600.00
TOTAL ASSETS	97,903.83
LIABILITES	0.00
NET ASSETS	97,903.83

PROFIT AND LOSS – 12 MONTHS ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

	Total
INCOME	
Membership Fees	71,971
Auspice Income	560
Merchandise Sales - club gear	790
Merchandise Sales - shorts and socks	7,673
Community Grants	21,796
TOTAL INCOME	102,789
Less COST OF SALES	
Merchandise Purchases - club gear	9,557
Merchandise Purchases - shorts and socks	9,265
TOTAL COST OF SALES	18,821
GROSS PROFIT	83,968
EXPENSES	
Mentor Program	2,084
Development squad	350
Auskick Expenses	136
Bank Fees	1
Merchant Fees	871
Coaching Expenses	5,156
St Kilda Saints Ambassador program	1,100
Equipment - general equip	172
Equipment - Game Footballs	2,208
Equipment - Training Balls	2,920
Equipment - Canteen equip	266
Foxtel	1,860
Gifts & Donations	577
Training Apparel & Player Packs	15,048
Medical Equipment Expense	690
Medical Training	552
Line Marking	940
SMJFL Jumpers	490
Consultant Fees	1,374
Postage & Delivery	171
Trophies & Medals	1,891
Utilities	1,866
Miscellaneous Expenses	1,134
MYOB	576
Admin Support	3,275
TOTAL EXPENSES	45,708
OPERATING PROFIT	38,260

Plus, OTHER INCOME	
Interest Income	668
ClubCare Donations	734
Less OTHER EXPENSES	
Capital works - club contribution	16,796
NET PROFIT	22,865

Coaching and Development - Anton Levine

The pre-season began in earnest as in past years, with some teams getting a jump start during the summer months.

Several returning coaches were appointed, some new appointments were made, including prospective St Kilda AFLW girls head coach. The addition of some paid coaching roles was utilised to fill some gaps and make sure all teams had secure coaching staff for the season.

All age squads looked likely to field teams and numbers bolstered during early pre-season, for example, the U16 squad, initially light on numbers, was built to a healthy list size of 20+.

Pre-season training allocation programme was instituted in March for all team age squads boys and girls.

To build upon and extend the clubs U11-U14 development programme, committee agreed to outsource the programme and to give it continuity and sustainability beyond its founder Anton Levine (current director of coaching).

OneonOne Football (head by Andrew Raines) was engaged for a fixed fee to run the OJFC U11-U14, 15 week development squad programme, with experienced high performance AFL credentialled coaches, inhouse, at EE Gunn reserve, scheduled to run from April to August, 2 nights per week.

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 restrictions, training, the commencement of the season and the development programme was put on hold during Victorian government lockdown rules instituted during early April.

As a consequence, BD sports (head by Joshua Burke with Chris Mayne) was engaged (paid by OJFC), for access to an online football at home programme to keep players engaged and involved. This was a great initiative, but the uptake was minor. Additionally, some of the coaches recorded some footy skills videos as an aid for the kids to learn and keep engaged at home. The cessation of all sport and personal contact during the lockdown, served as a real disconnect threat to the OJFC community (and the wider community of course) – committee worked hard to maintain positive engagement with members and kids throughout.

Once the initial lockdown was released, coaches and players could return to actual training in early June, under strict COVID-19 protocols. These included designated training group times and limits, strict ‘get in get out’ protocols, no contact training and social distancing rules amongst others.

A potential season start was listed at this stage for early July. Due to AFL strict COVID policy, Rob McCartney was not allowed to conduct U17 training(head coach of OJFC U17 and Hawthorn FC

coaching staff), so stand in coaches were utilised to run the U17s training programme(Anton Levine & Mark Brady)

A new training plan was instituted to support whole of club COVID safe training plans and all members & coaches were certified in COVID-19 requirements. Subsequently all squads recommenced COVID restricted training, supervised by club appointed COVID officers (and regular visits from council officers) whilst the season proper was on hold.

As inter club practice matches could not go ahead, at the end of June, a series of intra-club practice matches was organised, culminating in a Friday night double header under lights at E.E. Gunn. (U15vU16 and U17 v U17). This was warmly welcomed by footy-starved coaches, players and parents. The practice match programme was a great success but, unfortunately, would become the only footy matches the OJFC kids would play in 2020. And, sadly, the final match for the U17s at OJFC.

Soon after this, in early July, as a result of a second wave of COVID-19, Victoria once again went into hard lockdown, thus training and season commencement was re-suspended indefinitely.

This time, it was decided to use the inhouse club's established Team app platform (skilfully set up and rolled out by Brett Hardiman over last 24 months) to run online footy squad comms groups for all age squads. This included weekly skills, tricks and video postings by coaches and players. The club also encouraged weekly zoom calls which some groups did to great effect. Despite the inability to get down to the Gunn with their cohorts, the OJFC age squad coaches maintained their 2020 'coaching' commitments. This was a real positive in bleak times and kept the kids engaged and connected on a weekly basis during the longer second lock down period, whilst the glimmer of hope for a potential season dwindled.

Although actual training and footy was very limited for the 2020 season, the positive engagement and club wide cohesion created during these unprecedented and stressful times, was a season not totally lost and definitely one to build upon for 2021. These and many other initiatives instituted by a tireless and supportive OJFC committee and coaches, served to strengthen the coaching and development prospects for the club and its members for the future.

Girls Programme – Tanya Cumming

The 2020 season for the Girls programme at Ormond too was affected by COVID-19. The response for the girls was aligned to the overall club's strategy – looking to keep female players engaged and participating in an ever-changing environment.

The overall strategy for the season continues from 2019 and includes:

- Celebrating achievements of players both on and off the field
- Increase penetration of female transition from Auskick to game format
- Increase penetration of female participation from the game format supporting Auskick
- Field teams across under 10, 12- and 14-year olds with a long term strategy of 2 cohorts per age group
- Increase participation year on year
- Create a coalition of advocates for girls football across the club

Prior to postponing the season there were 45 registered players a 12.5 per cent increase on 2019 numbers. Players were registered across three age groups, an improvement on 2019, with an U14 girls team of 19 registered for the first time since 2015. The squad completed with eight under 10 players and a healthy 18 under 12 players, with 69 per cent players returning from the previous season.

Our calibre of coaches continues to be high quality with Sean Rowe transiting from a mixed to girls' coach for the u10 team. Premiership winning coach of 2019, Brent Orr returning to coach the u12 girls. Further, for the first time, the girls programme secured a female assistant coach for the u12 girls - Lisa Laing. And also joining the girls' u14 squad was experienced coach Michael Fisher.

In 2020 an arrangement with St Kilda football club promised to create great connections between Ormond and the St Kilda AFLW team. Impacted by the pandemic, the programme looks to leverage this relationship in the 2021 season.

In the pre-season that was, female players also participated and enjoyed the benefits of the mentoring programme (2 participants in 2020).

Looking beyond 2020 and into next season the programme is looking to retain representation across u10, u12 and u14 team.

Mentor Program – Kirstie Edwards (A Path to Follow)

The Mentor Program, hosted by A Path To Follow, in partnership with Ormond JFC, is designed to maintain and enhance community connection of young people in their community, with its underlying philosophies based in the prevention and early intervention of mental wellbeing challenges commonly experienced by young people.

The Group Mentoring Program, in 2020, consisted of 12 Junior Coaches and their Mentors across U8s, U9s, U10s, U12s & U13s. 7 Junior Coaches were participants in 2019, with 5 new recruits joining us in 2020. This unique program, through the vehicle of AFL, offers opportunities to Junior Coaches (as young as 12 years), under the guidance of the Senior Coaches (Mentors) to learn skills in football coaching, but more importantly, in attaining life's skills.

Some of our 2020 Highlights are listed below.

Glen Eira Photographic Award



Our Community's Future

Our entry into the 2020 Glen Eira Photographic Award of Charlotte participating in our Group Mentor Program at Auskick came runner's up. Charlotte has been an integral member of the program, since it's launch and her role has epitomized the worth of young females in sport and seen Charlotte grow in confidence and leadership.

Well done, Charlotte and thank you.

<http://gleneira.smedia.com.au/news/>



The Junior Coaches Online: I would very much like to say thank you to those Junior Coaches who took the step, with their Mentors and teams, online. I would especially love to shout out to Oscar and Tarkyn, Junior Coaches of the U10s, for their awesome initiative in developing, filming and sharing coaching drills with their team weekly. For one such video, see [here](#).

Through the Eyes of a Junior Coach: To those Junior Coaches who took the bold move to share a little about themselves in our Newsletter, thank you. Thank you to those who have shared so far. Below is a photo of Liam, who took the time out of his schedule to answer some questions about himself via video. To read our Junior Coaching stories, sign up [here](#)

Finally, my heartfelt thanks to the Ormond JFC Committee for their ongoing belief and support of our vision to support the mental wellbeing of young people and families. To our Mentors and Junior Coaching parents, thank you for your support and participation. If the program runs again next season, I hope it will return to some type of “new” normal. Junior Coaches, you are the reason APTF exists; with you and for you. Keep being amazing young humans and thank you.

Social and Digital Marketing – Brett Hardiman

Although the club did not make it onto the park in 2020, our social and digital marketing was the primary mechanism to communicate with our parents and players. Social, Team App, Email and the Website were used weekly, and in some cases on a daily basis, to keep our parents and players informed and engaged. From speaking with colleagues in community football, Ormond JFC was a leader in the use of digital communications during COVID-19.

In the lead-up to the launch of the 2020 season the clubs Digital Marketing platforms including the website and TeamApp were updated with all team and player information ready to support the club for season launch. The season was not to be however it was amazing to see the team coaches use TeamApp and Zoom to keep players and parents engaged throughout the lockdown. Coaches, Team Managers along with parents and players are all to be congratulated.

A huge milestone for Ormond JFC’s digital marketing in 2020 was the launch of the club’s new website. The new website was designed with significant emphasis on the OJFC’s updated branding developed as part of our “One Ormond” strategy as we more closely align with our Senior Club.

The fresh, dynamic site was specifically designed to work seamlessly on mobile phones and has a fully integrated online shop carrying our new merchandise range, plus a News section to keep members up to date. The website backend is also easier to manage than the previous website.

In 2021 we will roll out new website features including those which will provide our sponsors with additional value and allow Ormond JFC to monetise the website along with email and mobile communications.

Plans are underway for a new mobile app which will provide the club and its parents an improved user-experience and engagement with the app. We are looking to reduce some of the issues Team Managers have with the current app and help TM’s streamline their weekly activities. More to follow in early 2021.

2021 will be one of the most dynamic years for the club and the plans in place for social and digital marketing will assist Ormond JFC continue to lead the digital space, allowing the club to grow and most importantly, continue to actively engage its members, players and the local community.

Merchandise – Brett Hardiman

The new merchandise range was launched in 2020 with a completely new look. Carrying the clubs updated logo and color scheme the new merchandise range projects the club in a strong, confident position. Using a direct sourcing strategy, the club was able to procure the merchandise cost effectively helping us keep prices reasonable.

The all new range included Men's, Women's and Kids T-shirts, Polo shirts, Caps, Beanies and Scarves along with the all new Training Top carrying the club's new motif and color scheme. The new club hoodies were unfortunately delayed due to COVID supply issues outside of our control however they will be here ready for 2021.

The new website and online shop worked exceptionally well in presenting the merch online and allowing parents to easily purchase online. The website also worked very well in providing the platform to sell team shorts and socks in preparation for the season.

COVID restrictions and lockdown timing made it exceptionally difficult for the club to deliver merch orders, including socks and shorts orders. We understand some socks and shorts orders may not have been delivered or picked up from Team Managers yet. With lockdown restrictions easing we will look to get outstanding orders to families.

The good news is we are well positioned for next year as the merch range is in stock and ready for the 2021 season. The new website will enable the club to easily promote the merch online and the plan is to offer pick-up at the season launch and family days, something we could not do in 2020. Plus, with regular games at EE Gunn we plan to offer merch sales through the canteen while providing easy click and collect at each home game.

As restrictions ease and competition resumes in 2021 the merch will provide the club with additional revenue opportunities allowing our parents and players to wear their club with pride.

Resources and equipment – Mark Brady

The Club undertook a comprehensive stocktake of all its equipment before the season commenced. New Game day balls were ordered, and team kits were refreshed.

Reflecting COVID concerns drink bottle trays were discarded and the club will purchase new pressure drink bottles for Season 2021.

The COVID guidelines also required us to undertake comprehensive sanitisation of equipment before and after training as well as player sanitisation.

The club purchased in bulk wipes and liquid gel sanitiser. Sanitising stations were set up at each training and guidelines were provided to all coaches and team managers.

ASD and FairGo Footy - John Howard

The OJFC philosophy is all kids have the right to play football.

In the 2020 season, the OJFC has again had the privilege of having several ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder) diagnosed young men within the club's U13 & U17 teams. With such an inclusive and community-based ethic existing within the club, the boys have been able to develop and thrive throughout their time with us, despite it being a mainstream environment.

To build upon this success, at the end of the 2019 season an ASD program/plan was put forward to committee for their review. The main suggestions for consideration include additional Coaching Resources, Game day Storyboards, Communications Plan and Parent Welcome pack. The plan was put on hold during 2020 due to COVID, and the suggested initiatives are ready for evaluation by the 2021 committee.

The Club also continues to host FairGo Footy an all abilities program lead by Jonny O'Connor. The COVID safety arrangements meant we were unable to conduct sessions this season. However, this year we were able to continue the transition of a number of FairGo Footballers into game day competition teams.

Heritage - Allan Jenes

I am continuing to research into the rich history of this great Club. Please contact me if you have any historical information, documents (such as old Club newsletters) or photographs that I could use. My email address is ajenes@optusnet.com.au

New Honour Boards listing Club Presidents & Secretaries, Life Members, and Mark Adlington Award winners have been made, and will now be unveiled at the season launch in 2021.

Special thanks to Michael Oaten for making the Boards, transporting them to and from the signwriter in Geelong, and erecting them in the Clubrooms. Michael is a true legend of the Ormond Football Community. He played his junior football with our Club in the 1970's, and under 17 & 19 with OAFC. In 1980, he was drafted and played in the VFL with South Melbourne Football Club/ Sydney Swans. After his VFL career was cut short by injury, he played for OAFC and retired after being a member of the 1985 A Grade Premiership team. He then coached a number of OAFC Under 19 teams and was head coach of the senior team in 2010 & 2011. In 2013 & 2014, he coached Under 14 & 15 teams.

The wonderful sixty-year history of our Club can be found on the website under "Heritage". I encourage everyone to get involved in the activities of the Club to ensure its future success.

Auskick – James Warfe

We concluded the 2019 Auskick season by celebrating the achievements of nearly 120 footy-loving kids and farewelling Chris and Gina Meehan after two fantastic years at the helm. We had a strong membership foundation and big plans going into 2020.

Early in 2020 we were well-placed for another great year, with 35 early registrations, multiple AFL and AFLW half time grid games slots confirmed, and commitments from the Melbourne and St Kilda FCs for the always popular player visits. New equipment was purchased, coaches recruited and trained, and the online advertising campaigns in full swing.

As the date crept closer to April and the first lockdown hit, I knew the season start would be delayed but was confident we would be out on EE Gunn by winter. We all know what happened from there.

In my first season as Coordinator I was bitterly disappointed not to be able to share my Saturday mornings with the next generation of Ormond footy stars. I took this role to contribute to our local community and give all boys and girls, no matter their background, the chance to give our national game a go. I believe this club provides invaluable connections and opportunity within our area, and the best place to start is at Auskick.

Ormond Auskick is now better integrated into the Ormond Junior Football Club than ever before. Initiatives like the Junior Coach program and providing Auskickers with authentic OJFC training merchandise, proves this and that we are a step ahead of local alternatives.

I'm looking forward to 2021 now more than ever. The Auskick team will be back to give your kids, their friends, and anyone else who wants to have a go, their first taste of footy. I hope to see you all back on the park then. Until then, stay safe and enjoy summer.