



ANNUAL REPORT 2020

01 Jan 2020 – 31 Dec 2020

A high level summary of the key matters from the year

Membership

Season 2020 was an incredibly challenging year for many due to the impact of the global COVID-19 pandemic. The shutdown of sporting activities as part of the public health response imperilled the ongoing financial viability of many sporting organisations, including Toowong FC. It was therefore a relief that we were able to get back onto the pitch after three months and that we were able to manage our financial position with support from our members, sponsors and all three levels of government.

Despite the challenges of the delayed and shorter season, we only had a slight dip in membership numbers, with 524 playing members (down from 565 the previous year).

Our 2020 summer membership held strong, even with a reduced format season, with 361 playing members.

Across the entire playing season, this equates to 754 unique playing members in 2020, which is an outstanding achievement, and testament to the work done by our committee, team officials and governing body to deliver the season.

We continued moving towards our target of fielding girls teams from Under 9 through to Under 16, with the number of teams increasing from 8 to 9, and three teams in the U9 age group alone. Our female membership was 235, 31% of the total (and even higher percentage for the Mini Roos and Juniors at 35%). In addition, 40% of our Mini Roos and Junior coaches at the Club are female, which is a statistic we are very proud of.

Financially the Club remains in a secure position and therefore able to fund further investment in the facilities and operation of the Club. In 2020, the Club continued to employ a part-time General Manager. This again had a significant and positive impact on the way the Club operates. Benefits were shared by players, team officials, player parents and committee members.

I wish to thank all players and supporters for their involvement with Toowong Football Club in 2020. I also wish to acknowledge the valuable contribution of all Club volunteers – coaches, managers, ground officials and of course the Club Committee – thank you to all of you.

Special thanks must also go to our Club Person of the Year for 2020, Becky Ashelford. Becky is at the heart of the Club and exemplifies the spirit of Toowong FC - as a player, captain, coach, supporter, volunteer and Club Secretary. Her efforts played a major part in getting all our teams safely back on the field and we're so grateful for this amazing ongoing contribution.

Facilities

In 2020 the Club received a Sports Infrastructure grant to build a new multi-use changing facility at Dunmore Park. The project allowed the delivery of two new female-friendly and fully accessible changing facilities.

This project would not have been possible without the tireless work of Pete Muir, who carried this project from the initial submission all the way to completion. Pete has led a transformation of our facilities and dedicated so much of his time and energy to achieve this. His legacy will long be part of the fabric of our Club.

Partnerships

Our sponsors help us to provide a fantastic community space for locals to enjoy football, and the ability to support our teams and coaches in the way we believe is necessary. We ask that our members support them in turn.

Key sponsors in 2020 included:

- Priceline
- Maven Dental
- Ziggy Bale Realty
- My Finance Network
- General Painting & Decorating
- Morgans
- Arrivederci Pizzeria

Team performance

Season 2020 was unlike any other, with a significant delay in the start to the season (following a months-long shutdown). Finals, cup competitions and relegation/promotion were scrapped, as the focus remained squarely on playing football, enjoyment of the game and the survival of community sports into 2021. Once the season got underway, teams played a condensed schedule with the BPL and Capital competitions splitting into two competitions (Plate and Premier) after each team played one another.

Despite the difficult lead into the season, our Brisbane Premier League (BPL) Men's team continued their successful run of form from previous seasons, finishing second in the revised competition in the top tier Premier competition.

The Club farewelled Claude Capelli, BPL Head Coach and Director of Senior Football (Men's), who finished up after this season to pursue an exciting new football opportunity at Southside Eagles. Claude worked tirelessly over five seasons to

successfully promote our top men's team from Capital 3 all the way up to the BPL, cultivating a great culture of hard work, effort and professionalism. We wish him all the best of luck.

Our premier Capital Women welcomed a new coaching team to the club (Emilio Raffaele, Renato Raffaele and Gianluca Raffaele), who hit the ground running and worked to establish a squad successfully combining lots of new faces with existing players. While maintaining the positive culture that former coach, Cath Smyth, had worked so hard to implement, the team also successfully finished in the top tier Premier competition of the Capital League, which was a terrific achievement in what was largely a foundational year for the new squad.

Finances

See Audited Accounts and Treasurer Report

2020 Committee

President

Will Vandenberg

Secretary

Becky Ashelford

Treasurer

Tim Kotrlik

Projects Director

Pete Muir

Senior Women's Rep

Penny Channon

Senior Men's Rep

Harry Wimberley

Partnerships

Masters Coordinator

Mark Stones

Miniroos Coordinator

Alex Akinfiiev

Juniors Coordinator

Matt Gore

Media Coordinator

Courtney Green

Director of Coaching

Cail Turp

Operations Manager