



**efex**

# West Brunswick Amateur Football Club Inc.

Affiliated with the Victorian Amateur Football Association

Home ground: Ransford Oval, Park Street, Parkville, VIC 3052

PO Box 32, Brunswick East, VIC 3057

westbrunswick@gmail.com

wbafc.com.au



President: Benjamin Lichtenstein	Senior Premierships:	1960, '80, 2002, '08, '14, '15
Secretary: Matt Holmes	Premiers & Champions:	1976, 2015 (res)
Senior Coach: Angus Hamilton	Reserves Premierships:	1989, '98

## Season 2017 The Birdsnest

Vol 47 No 1

Season 2017 officially commences on the 8<sup>th</sup> of April, with an away game v Glen Eira at Packer Reserve, Leila Road, Carnegie.

For West Brunswick this season is the club's 59<sup>th</sup> in the VAFA and we find ourselves in Division 2, having fallen just short last season losing the preliminary final to the Preston Bullants, the premiers one week later.

The fixture for 2017 has the seniors and reserves playing in a ten club competition, and with eighteen rounds of matches we get to play each club twice; what I like to think is the traditional football season.

Season 2017 marks the 47th year of the Birdsnest as the official organ of the football club. Launched in 1970 the Birdsnest was the major communication tool for getting the word out to our members. The views expressed in the Birdsnest broadly represent the facts, but every now and again there may be a little bit of tweaking to assist readers in getting a better understanding of what's gone on. And sometimes an error may occur which can be corrected with a quick email to the editor.

### We have a been growing

Due to our success over the past five seasons West Brunswick continues to get an increasing number of players turning up for pre season training. Trying to avoid a situation of having fifty odd blokes missing out on a game each week the committee

decided to expand the ranks. Consequently the club has entered a 'Thirds' team, in addition to our Club XVIII team.

This means we will have four teams playing each week and will require more non playing helpers each week. In addition to the growth in player numbers is the continuing good news from the womens trial of 2016. Having played a few matches last season the VAFA are running a full season of womens football, and West Brunswick has a team in that competition too.

### Coaching Panel

Why would anybody change a winning formula when they don't have to? Our coaches of 2016 put their hands up again which has been endorsed by the committee. So the panel is as follows:

Angus Hamilton will return as senior non playing coach.

Senior assistants to the coach include Billy 'Morgan' Irving, Aaron 'Bingle' Thompson and Matthew Drain

Craig Mitchell will continue as reserves coach and Paddy Newfella will take on the club XVIII coach. The womens team will be coached by Darren Smith. We have a number of leaders in each team which will assist the coaches, a very different situation from only a few short years ago.

We congratulate Angus, Bill, Aaron, Matthew Angus, Craig, Paddy, and Darren on their

appointments and wish them well for a successful 2017 season.

### **Our Website:**

As players and technologies improve all the time, our website is no exception. !! There is a stack of stuff, most importantly training and playing information, as well as history, politics, science and social interaction opportunities. There is also a news section as well as fixtures, golden magpies etc.

Quiddy & Bingle have got the website looking so good that it may be likely the Birdsnest will become redundant. There are a few videos, great photos and lots of other items of interest.

Since lots of information regarding sponsors, committee etc are already on the website I do not wish to duplicate everything. Space, printing and time can all be managed more efficiently, so I will only cover a few key points and should you wish to dig further, go to [www.wbafc.com.au](http://www.wbafc.com.au). Should you have something to say or whatever, you can also contact the club on [westbrunswick@gmail.com](mailto:westbrunswick@gmail.com).

### **You & Health Insurance**

Footy's a dangerous game. Have you got private health insurance to deal with the likelihood you may need to use it during the season.?? Statistics dominate sporting conversations, and the bad news is that football injuries are the greatest source of income to physios, osteos, chiro, doctors, and are felt by more than 40% of the playing list. The club does not provide insurance to cover your visit to these specialists.....it's up to you.

### **The 2017 fixture:**

The full season's fixture is available on the club website and can be accessed any time.

<b>April</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>v</b>	<b>Glen Eira</b>	<b>Away</b>
<b>April</b>	<b>15</b>		<b>EASTER</b>	
<b>April</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>v</b>	<b>Eltham</b>	<b>Home</b>
<b>April</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>v</b>	<b>Bulleen</b>	<b>Away</b>
			<b>Templestowe</b>	
<b>May</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>v</b>	<b>MHSOB</b>	<b>Home</b>

### **The 2017 Committee**

Thanks to those people putting their hand up to manage the club this season. The growth in the number of teams makes the job ahead considerably more time consuming, and the blending of the womens and mens teams will be a challenge in ensuring everybody can be heard in a very crowded space.

There are lots of people on the committee doing lots of jobs. The social committee is listed later in the 'nest but the full list of the committee is on the website. The executive roles for 2017 are:

<b>President</b>	Ben Lichtenstein
<b>Vice President</b>	Evan Lloyd
<b>Secretary</b>	Matt Holmes
<b>Treasurer</b>	Cody Wills

Thanks to the 2016 retiring committee for their contributions.

### **Noticed That...**

- Sad news of the death of Joan Heenan wife of life member John Heenan, who passed away in December 2016.
- Congratulations to Angus Hamilton for his nomination and acceptance of the VAFA Certificate of Merit award being presented at the 2017 Season launch.
- West Brunswick officially had only a senior and reserves team in 2014, which was fielding 44 players each Saturday. This season we have five teams so we will be putting over 100 players on the field each week.
- Playing jumpers and numbers were once managed by the club, with the jumpers collected after the last match and formally presented at our 'Jumper Presentation Night' on the Thursday night before the first round.
- Round 1 is only two weeks away but the VAFA haven't finalised the fixture yet for the Thirds or the womens teams.

### **Golden Magpies**

This year the membership fee is still \$50.!! Last season we had over 40 golden magpies, the contribution goes a long way in helping the football club provide first class services to our players and take some of the pressure off fees.

## Club Bank Account

### Bendigo Bank

Account Name:

West Brunswick Amateur Football Club

BSB: 633-000

Acc No: 136422383

It would be greatly appreciated that when a deposit is made it is accompanied by the donors name, and a note to the editor too. This will avoid name calling and accusing the editor of forgetting something he has not been told.

## Social Plans:

### Family Day

#### Home game- Round 2

22 April 2017

**Lunch is free and a range of refreshments will be available from the clubrooms.**

**Lunch 11:30am – 2:00pm**

The Festival of the West - our annual day to celebrate all things West Brunswick. As the name suggests, family, friends, partners of WBAFC players and officials are encouraged to come along and see their loved ones in action. Sponsors of our club will also be featured.

We're fortunate to have a great Social Committee this year, made up of Ryan Conwell, Mitch Graham, Jacob 'Turtle' Hyslop, Daisy Jenkins, Becky King, and Brad Wynne, with oversight from vice president Evan Lloyd

## Current Sponsors



We are pleased to announce a new major sponsor the mens and womens teams. EFEX Group. EFEX is a young and keenly progressive managed services company that devises and deploys print, IT, network, cloud and voice and data solutions that are flexible, scalable, elegantly simple yet extremely robust, and surprisingly cost effective. We right-fit a mix of award winning hardware and services to deliver faster workflows. You will easily recognise the difference that reduced downtime and a single point of contact to

support, maintenance and helpdesk issues can make to office productivity.

We're also pleased for the continued sponsorship from the 2016 season of Builders Academy.

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Builders Academy



### Club Partners

Multifit

Brad Teal

Back in Motion

Benjamin Jewellers

The club is looking for sponsors in any form. If you would like to promote your business in the Birdsnest, website or around the club get in contact with Chris Germon ([cgermon@gmail.com](mailto:cgermon@gmail.com)). We can get you promoted in many wonderful ways...posters, tickets, t-shirts, special dedications, small ads on banners of milestone games, inside the inner sanctum etc.

## Looking for Volunteers

We are looking for volunteers to help out around the club – in any capacity. Casual once off basis or a few Saturdays during the year. Jobs include time keeping, goal umpire, running the boundary, match day manager, scorer, helping in the canteen on a Saturday or perhaps cooking up a pot of bolognaise for the boys for Thursday night selection. Contact: Evan 'Red' Lloyd if you can assist in any way.

## Keeping in Contact

The club's has a linkedin Group – West Brunswick Amateur Football Club  
If you've changed your email address send an email to the club [westbrunswick@gmail.com](mailto:westbrunswick@gmail.com) to update your details

## Club award winners for 2016

*David "Max" McAllister Memorial*, Best Clubman **Ben Rodin**

*Bruce Ivey Medal*, Senior Best and Fairest **Dave Ferrier**

2nd Best and Fairest **Scott Hulme**

*Bob Baker Medal*, Reserves Best and Fairest

**Nick Arnold**

Res. 2nd Best and Fairest **Ben Kline**

*Raph Touzel Medal*, Thirds Best and Fairest

**Dan Monacella, & Brad Wynne**

*Stan Hughes Memorial*, Leading Goal Kickers

Seniors: **Bill Irving (41)**, Reserves: **Richard**

**Benjamin (46)**, Thirds **Aaron Thompson (37)**

## Love footy? Over 35? Over 45?

If you can play, why not play **fortnightly**.

We want you at the mighty **Brunswick Mudlarks** - Over 35's AFL in the Inner North.

We're part of the booming Victorian Masters League, and play once a fortnight, for an 11 game season. The rules are slightly modified to prevent injury and to promote **fun and fitness**.

We currently field three teams – 35's, 45's and 50's. So if you've played before or perhaps just 'retired' from open age, check out

[www.brunswick.mafv.com](http://www.brunswick.mafv.com) or call/text our Secretary Kevin Walker on **0457 002 775**.



## Club Rivalries

This season we play against two clubs that might loosely fall into the category of 'Traditional rivals', a phrase dreamed up by those in the marketing departments of the 'corporates' to help sell tickets to games.

In the case of AFL clubs Collingwood and Carlton, the tradition spans over 100

continuous years and the fire in the belly comes from playing against each other in grand finals, with the winner of the premiership rubbing the nose of the loser into the turf at their home ground the following season to display their superiority.

Alternatively the next time they meet, at their opponents home game, the 'grudge' phase appears to make the victor play as hard as possible to regain their honour.

This concept was also surrounded by a few other principles which included loyalty (only play for one club over your career) and consistency (one match at each other's home ground per season) in order to establish the 'grudge' factor. In modern fairytales the Geelong v Hawthorn saga of the Kennett Curse, the two Adelaide clubs and maybe the Dockers v Eagles could be seen as 'traditional'. These rivalries are about bragging rights for people in the streets having a coffee or beer to talk about which club is better or worse that season.

This season we play against Hawthorn, who were runners up in D3 last year and are promoted to D2 this season and St Leos Emmaus both clubs against which we won grand finals.

In the case of Hawthorn we defeated them in the 2002 grand final in D3 Division by 8 goals 8 behinds (56 points), and again in 2014 in D4 Division by 6 goals 2 behinds (38 points). Over the years that we have played against them we have been more successful at our ground and not too flash on their small patch. St Leo's were the red hot favourites in the 2015 premiership race, and had the misfortune of missing out on promotion in 2014, losing their preliminary final by one solitary point. Losing the grand final to West by one solitary point in 2015 was worse than rubbing salt in the wound.

It's true St Leos had key personnel changes in 2016 and were not up to West's standard, with the Magpies victorious on both games, but as another year rolls on there will be plenty still thinking about the one that got away. Just as we are thinking how proud we are of being the winners against both of these clubs.