

The whistle blower

Congratulations to GFUL life member Mick Robinson awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) last weekend for 'Service to the community of Geelong' in the Queen's Birthday Honours awards.

I was at Thompson last week and they were playing arch rivals East Geelong, and my old mate Keith Jamison just couldn't help himself. He had a dig at me when he delivering the team sheet, all good. Then at quarter time Keith was out on the ground prancing around with a jar full of lollies for his players, I thought he was maybe trying to bribe the umpys. He came over to the umpy's and offered us a dip into his jar. Keith said this is about the first thing he has ever given the umpy's. Knowing Keith, he gives "heaps" to the umpy's every week. Good on ya Keith.

A Big milestone last week was Greg Cullen, with some of the bigger milestone the umpires can put in a request. Not all of them work, Dave Chaston had a pretty big milestone last year owing to him, he requested the GFL grand final. Anyway congratulations to Greg Cullen, he umpired his 300th game last week of course it was at Werribee but he had some very big names umpire with him. The chairman, Brendan Beveridge, and the Director of Umpiring, Steve Keating.

Congratulations to Jason Jock Hillgrove, he is off to Canberra to look after the umpires up there. (I'm not sure if that also involves some part time work as the umpire when parliament sits.) Jason will be missed from the coaching panel, he has run the umpires preseason camp for the last few years and has been one of the key coaches with the development squad. I know Jason every year has some time off on the Queen's birthday weekend. He announced it at the coaching panel meeting last week, "I won't be observing this weekend it's the Queen's birthday." The coaching panel was rather amused.

Steve Keating had a week away a couple of weeks ago. We had other coaching panel members deliver the coaching sessions. Alan Grant spoke about what to and not to wear. It was agreed, neat casual with a GFUL polo. Thongs and trackies were out. (I guess one of the boundaries the following week missed the coaching session as he turned up in thongs and trackies). Alan's final words of wisdom "your first impression makes a lasting impression". Thanks Al.

Tony Brooks was part of the coaching session and went through the review of the order off rule.

Make sure if there is a late change you get the message to Kmac as soon as possible. FOS (Gary Flowers informed me not too long ago he took a phone call for a late change at 10 to 11 on a Friday night). Way too late for Gary, he had already had a few hours sleep, and was due to get up at about 3am.

Coming up - Exchange week July 3; 1st year Members night July 6; Life Members night July 8.

Good to see plenty back at the rooms last week, this week we will have a night off from the rooms and head down to the Elephant and Castle for a catch up.

The following week we will be back at the rooms for some Karaoke?

Macca Damian McMaster GFUL



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