

The whistle blower

It was nice to have a week off training, but plenty went on in its absence. Tuesday night the first year umpires and their families were invited to the rooms for a formal presentation to them for the season. Each first year umpire was recognised by their respective coaches and received a small trophy. Brendan Beveridge presented to the umpires and their family's a rundown on many of the behind the scenes actions and tasks that are done on a weekly basis. He had some statistics on umpires and umpire numbers and spoke about the upgrade of the GFUL umpires' rooms. The function was well attended and everyone enjoyed the hospitality. Thanks to all those that helped on the evening.

Thursday evening was the GFUL annual Life Member's night. The evening was changed slightly this year with life members having a sit down meal and other GFUL members welcome to attend. We had a guest speaker Colin Hutchinson from the Geelong Football Club. Col is the GFC official statistician. He enlighten us with how football was started in the 1800's and some interesting facts and statistics that happened in the early 1900's. The election of life member for 2010 began; it has also changed with there being a period of 2 weeks where all GFUL members can cast a vote. Life members were eligible to cast their votes on the evening. Mick Robinson was again elected chairman of the Life Members, Noel Hooper vice president and Peter Hedges as the Secretary/Treasurer. It was good to see most life members were able to attend the evening and enjoyed the change in the format of the night.

Don't forget to cast your vote for Life Member for 2010.

Saturday night the junior umpires had a disco night. Thanks to those that turned up on the night and enjoyed the evening. Thanks to the other members for looking after the kids on the night.

Ossie and Alan made it to the disco just before the close. Well I say that because they did travel all the way from Canberra to get there. The boys drove a hire van to Canberra on Friday and returned on Saturday after delivering Jason Hillgrove and his belongings to his new place of residence.

A reminder to all GFUL members - the Board has developed a new constitution for the League which has been posted on the website. Two open forums are to be held on Wednesday 14 July and Wednesday 11 August.

Coming up:

This week it's all umpires on deck as all leagues are un-interrupted for the run into the finals (they are not too far away). You might notice a few different uniforms this weekend with plenty of umpire Exchanges happening. (Safe travel to all those umpires travelling any distance).

Life Members and GFUL Past Umpires & Officials Association game day on Sunday 8 August - Geelong Amateurs v Anglesea at Queens Park - with afternoon tea in the Amateurs Social Room. RSVP to Carl Wood for catering and entry vouchers.

Finals season launch Thursday 19th August.

The rooms have a function booked this week, so if you want to catch up, the Elephant and Castle is the place.

Macca Damian McMaster GFUL



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