

Firstly I would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of the land that we stand upon and I pay respect to their elders both past and present.

As we reflect on the football season just completed we can all feel proud in the achievements of Maccabi FC Caulfield. From launching a new identity to beginning a new initiative for our older members to representing our country in Mexico , you must admit that 2019 was a truly momentous year for the club.

For a start the club adopted a new name in Maccabi FC Caulfield.

Then in only 12 months since the last Year Book we have added Futsal, both senior and junior, Walking Football, a national radio event, Macca City Cup representation, dual Kanga Cup representation and even Pan Am representation in Mexico. Added to that we have regular teams playing in respectable leagues in Football Victoria competitions including the senior women's team that played in State League 1 this year and who have secured their position for season 2020.

From our Maccabi Little Strikers to our Walking Football players we can now proudly boast of having members from the ages of 4 to 85. We can now truly say that we are covering members of the community from toddlers to walkers.

It all sounds so easy and wonderful but it is not that simple. There is a lot of hard work that goes on behind each team that takes to the field to represent the club. From Team Managers to coaches to committee people right up to the president, the planning that goes into running all these teams is akin, as I am often reminded, to running a full time business.

We do it all to get your children and maybe even your grandparents on the park playing football for enjoyment, however we acknowledge that some of you want to take it more seriously than just having fun and we try our very best to challenge you both on and off the field.

If you think that after another stellar season in 2019 that we will be resting on our laurels, then you are severely mistaken. Plans are already being put in place for some exciting developments in the next 12 months.

All we can do is to put the best club experience that we can on the field for you but it is up to you to respond and support what we are trying to achieve for your benefit.

At the end of the day we are, essentially, a football club and it is football people that we rely on to make things happen at the club. We continue to adopt best coaching practises and our focus is on the player development rather than the short term results of a team. Our football department includes Michael Kan, Michelle Dubrowin, Igor Aleksenister, Paul Platus and other dedicated people, who all have put in hours of work to achieve the clubs goals. Without this team you would not have a club to play at and they are greatly appreciated. We are also indebted to club life member Boris Seroshtan who gives valuable advice in all football matters.

My thanks to the 2019 MFCC committee for all their support and efforts throughout the season.

We are indebted to all our coaches, managers, administrators, volunteers, Maccabi Victoria, Glen Eira Council and FV for all their efforts. It is your hard work and dedication that allows over 500 players of our club to participate in football each weekend.

Oh, and last but certainly not least.

I am proud to finally announce tonight that Maccabi FC Caulfield can now say that we have two professional football clubs in Israel as partners of the club.

In the Jerusalem area it is Betar Nordia.

In the Tel Aviv area it is Maccabi Tel Aviv.

Over the coming months and years we will be working with these two clubs to provide opportunities for our members both on and off the field like never before. Personally, I can't wait to get started with those projects.

Thank you for a wonderful 2019 season and lets get cracking on season 2020!

Go Maccabi FC!

Kevin Milstein, President MFCC