



GM2008/8

Minutes of General Meeting held at Harrie Denning Football Centre on Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> August, 2008.

Meeting opened at 7.35 pm

G. O'Rourke presiding

**ATTENDANCE:** G. O'Rourke, J. Jones, B. Rivett, T. Hill, B. Jones, G. di Stefano, D. McGoldrick, B. Charlton, R. Foulcher, D. Anderson, C. Rigby, C. McCallum, G. MacFarlane, G. Lockwood, S. Simonovski, S. Wackwitz  
Clubs as per Attendance Sheet  
B. McIlveen – Life Member

**APOLOGIES:** G. Burvill, J. Mitchell, B. Grogan

### **BUSINESS ARISING**

#### 1. **Minutes**

- 1.1 GM2008/7  
M/S Minutes be taken as read. Carried.  
M/S Minutes be adopted. Carried.

#### 2. **Appeal**

- 2.1 St. Patricks re forfeits on Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2008. Paul Kendall spoke on behalf of St. Patricks arguing that the forfeits applied for these matches should be waived.

M/S That the fines applying to St. Patricks for forfeiting games on 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2008, be only the normal double match fees. Special fines applying to teams forfeiting in one of the last three rounds to not be applied. Motion lost.

#### 3. **Small Sided Games**

- 3.1 Gary Lockwood spoke on the research and review of SSGs that have occurred during the 2008 season.





## **Small Sided Games (SSG) – Rooball**

### **Introduction**

SSG was conducted throughout the Sutherland Shire in the age groups U6-U9 during the 2008 Season. This saw some significant changes to the way in which the game was played. As part of any change process it is important to gather feedback and put in place mechanisms for further change based on this feedback. During 2008 we collected feedback, both positive and negative from various sources, including;

1. SSFA Club Committee/Members
2. Coaches involved in SSG
3. Parents involved in SSG
4. SSFA Club Head Coaches
5. Other State Federations
6. Other NSW Associations

The following recommendations have been endorsed by the SSFA Coach and Player Development Panel (SSFA CPD) as a result of feedback and research. Interestingly, over the course of season, the feedback became more focused around achieving the stated outcomes of SSG as opposed to reverting to other formats.

### **Rules**

#### **Operation**

1. That SSG extend to U10's in 2009 as per the FFA delivery program
2. That the rules for Rooball be self contained to preclude any ambiguity when read in conjunction with local rules.
3. Except under special circumstances it will be mandatory for players to play in their respective Rooball age groups. These circumstances will be clearly defined.

#### **Game**

1. That goalkeepers in U9 and U10 age group play the ball out by throwing, rolling or from a pass out – no player can challenge the goalkeeper for the ball when they are in possession of the ball in the goal area
2. That restarts are from the centre of halfway after a goal is scored
3. The term “goal tending” be defined for inclusion in the Rules of Rooball





4. The goal area size be reduced to 8m wide by 4m deep – this will be done in consultation with FFA

Again, 2009 will see us further refine the way in which SSG is played – it is important that the established outcomes of SSG are achieved through the playing of the game. This will follow the same consultative process between Clubs, SSFA and FFA.

### **Grading and Playing Groups**

1. Clubs to ensure grading is used (where practical and applicable) to group together players of like playing ability. This was a key feedback from not only our association but others who have been moving through this landscape.
2. Playing groups/competitions should be reduced from the current size to either 6 or 8 team groups to allow for an ongoing club based regrading mechanism and for the integration of Gala Days into the season proper.
3. Assistance in creating a grading system will be provided by the SSFA CPD particularly for those starting from scratch – if necessary a club grading meeting can be organised to discuss grading methods
4. Clubs should provide scores to the SSFA for the purposes of ongoing grading; however these scores should not be published as per previous instruction from SSFA.

### **Game Leaders and Instructing Referees**

1. Decentralised courses (on a zone or multi-club basis) will be run preseason for GL and IR's – these will be run by an SSFA Representative except where a club has developed its own approved training course. The course will be documented to provide for consistency
2. We are seeking to utilise, in conjunction with SSFRA, cadet/junior referees to cover U10 games as a method of ensuring higher quality match coverage and also providing a less confrontational experience for young referees
3. Ongoing education for GL and IR should be club based and provided at regular intervals throughout the season – the SSFA CPD will provide ongoing updates in relation to education where applicable.

### **Codes of Conduct and Behaviour**

1. It will be mandatory to have Codes of Conduct and Behaviour visible in ground control areas (player, spectator and official versions) – these will be provided by SSFA





2. Coaches to wear lanyards to identify them as the coach (in the same way as managers are required to be identified by their jackets) – the coach's code of conduct and behaviour will be printed on the reverse side. This should apply to all Junior age groups to reinforce acceptable behaviour by coaches.

### **Competitions**

1. Utilisation of 6/8 team competitions to work Gala Days run by Clubs and/or SSFA tournaments into the season proper (mid and end of season)
2. Revisit the utilization of zones in assembling competition playing groups. TO BE PUT TO CLUBS AFTER SURVEY
3. Revisit School Holiday breaks in Rooball age groups based on the 6/8 team competition formats – feedback from clubs on this is that due to teams having less players there have been significant difficulties in forming teams during school holidays. TO BE PUT TO CLUBS AFTER SURVEY
4. For players moving from U10 into U11 in 2010 SSFA will operate a competition gala day at end of season during semi final series.

### **Surveys**

1. Coach/Parent/Officials online survey is available via [www.shirefootball.com](http://www.shirefootball.com) to ensure ongoing feedback can be provided and used. The results of this survey will be made available soon.

### **Education**

1. The SSFA CPD will continue with its Grassroots education program
2. The program to be run on a decentralized basis to ensure we have as many junior coaches as possible attend – the long term view is to make Grassroots Certificate mandatory for all coaches
3. A greater emphasis will be placed on transition from the training paddock to the playing field
4. Preseason meeting of U9 and U10 coaches to lay out the philosophy and requirements of SSG

### **Other Items**

#### **Change to Field Size**

The SSFA CPD Panel discussed at length the possibility of moving the 2008 U9 to a half park format in 2009. However, early season feedback and opinion changed during the season and for most players in the U9 age group it was deemed that the playing format used in 2008 would be the best for use again in 2009.





## Field Setup

During 2008 it was reported that there were variances in field sizes in relation to FFA requirements. It is important that fields are setup in accordance with these requirements to ensure that the outcomes of SSG are achievable.

## Ongoing Changes

It is imperative that all clubs are part of the change process – the SSFA CPD provides the forum for clubs to provide feedback in terms of the SSG and coach and player development in general. It also allows the movement of information from our coaching panel back to clubs in terms of education, events, courses and other developments. Each club should have a representative to engage in this process in 2009 – in this way we are ensuring that information pertaining to the playing of the game is communicated to the right people.

## Thanks

Finally, I would, on behalf of the Association and the Coach and Player Development Panel like to thank all clubs for their patience, effort and organisation during the 2008 season in ensuring that we not only got SSG on the park but that it was a great success.

## 4. Treasurer

- 4.1 Accounts have been provided to the Clubs prior to the meeting. Major future items of expenditure include Football NSW, Trophies and the Annual Dinner.
- 4.2 Clubs are urged to get their accounts up to date.

## 5. SSFC

- 5.1 Paul Smith provided an update on the Sharks. First Grade claimed the Premiership. The final will be on the 24<sup>th</sup> August, 2008, 3.00 pm at Seymour Shaw. The Under 20s finished in fourth place. The Under 13s and Under 14s also finished first as did the Under 12s, with the Under 11 third. All girls' sides are still in contention for the semi finals.
- 5.2 Seven players have been successful in reaching State Level.





6. **Operations Manager**

- 6.1 Football NSW has an alcohol policy for its matches. Liquor licensing laws apply at Association matches.
- 6.2 Australian Sports Commission has the relevant policy on photographing children.
- 6.3 State Titles are to be held in October.
- 6.4 Clubs who have problems with spectators who have been drinking and refuse to follow instructions should contact the Police.

7. **Home of Football**

- 7.1 The President provided the attached power point presentation on the Association's plans to update the Harrie Denning Football Centre.

M/S The recommendations be approved. Carried.

8. **Proposed Changes to the Constitution**

- 8.1 The President outlined the proposed changes to the Constitution. Clubs will be provided with the proposed changes to be discussed at a future meeting and voted upon prior to the AGM.

9. **General Business**

- 9.1 Some problems occur with Club Secretaries having to provide cards to the Association office by a certain date. Procedures will continue to be reviewed in the future and Clubs are encouraged to provide suggestions.
- 9.2 A couple of matches were not covered by referees on Sunday. All centres are covered for Finals and all matches will have two Assistant Referees.
- 9.3 Eight Clubs have been given Grand Finals. These Clubs have been provided with guidelines for running these matches.
- 9.4 The President thanked all Presidents and Secretaries for their work within their Clubs.

Meeting closed at 10.40 pm.

