

Around the Club – February 2019



Happy 2019 everyone – my name is Frank Pizzo and I'm President of the Northern Falcons. I'm excited about the season ahead for our club and thought it would be a good idea to let you know some of the things that have been happening in preparation.

Late last year, the Club announced *Project 22*, the strategic plan that will see us through to season 2022. The entire strategic document is on www.northernfalconsfc.com, and the work is already underway to implement it. We want to keep everyone informed and involved, so here's an update on the bigger-picture items:

Seniors

Our experienced new coaching panel led by Kaan Kalayci and George Jolevski have already brought a fresh enthusiasm (and some fresh new players!) to the club. Pre-season training has been going extremely well and a positive new culture is already evident. Game 1 is on March 23rd and there is a real buzz about the season ahead.

Girls and women

We have a clear motivation to increase participation amongst girls and women at the club. We have had some great meetings with local women's clubs to learn and to hopefully develop some strategic partnerships.

Coaching

Our junior coaches are a vital cog of our club. This year they will all be attending a two-day coaching course before the season – accreditation is important for us to keep providing high-quality coaching.

As we have grown, we have also recognised the need to appoint a Club Coaching Coordinator, but more on this in the coming weeks.

Teams

Just like the seniors have a Senior and Development team, so too are we striving for each junior age group to have two teams – Advanced and Development. That way we can offer the football (and coaching) that is right for our players' stage of development, and therefore be a true community club. Four of our age groups are already at that point for 2019.

Communications

We have a new website, we have a club-wide TeamApp and we have a plan to ensure that everyone at the club knows what it is happening around the place.

Clubrooms

Plans are in place to give the clubrooms a bit of a spruce-up before the seasons begin.

Council (and grounds)

Enough space to play the game we love is a constant issue, but we have made some steps forward by securing Mott Reserve (opposite Bell City on Bell Street) for 18 months from March of this year. It's a wonderful facility but it doesn't have lights, so the next step is to work with council to rectify that situation. This season we will share training (and maybe games) between our old home at Hayes Park and our new one at Mott Reserve. More than likely, the seniors will play home games at Mott Reserve in 2019.

Football Victoria

The last thing that I would like to add is that as a part of a survey and investigation that Football Victoria conducts with every club, we were only one of six clubs in Victoria to achieve a 5-star rating, based mostly around participation, inclusiveness, organisation and facilities. We will continue to work with the governing body to get even better!

I reckon that's about enough from me. We'll keep you posted throughout the season, and don't forget to ask any questions or make any comments at northernfalconsfc@gmail.com. See you around!

Frank Pizzo, President