

Welcome to the March edition of the East Fremantle District Snapshot. If you ever have any questions about any of the topics discussed please do not hesitate to contact the Sharks District.

## VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

The RAC WA Football Volunteer of the Year program is running again in 2010 and it is imperative that volunteers in our game are recognised for the great work that they do. Please go online to [www.volunteerinfooty.com.au](http://www.volunteerinfooty.com.au) and nominate a worthy volunteer at your club. It is a simple online form to complete and a great way to say thank you and recognise the valuable contribution that volunteers make to our game. Once again the state winner of the RAC WA Volunteer of the Year will win a trip for 2 to the AFL Grand Final. How great would it be if every one of us took the time to recognise one volunteer in this way.

## AFL SCHOOL AMBASSADORS

AFL School Ambassadors (AFLSA's) play a significant role in the promotion & advocacy of football within the school environment. They are a critical link between the District, WAFC, Community Football Clubs and the schools (and subsequently the kids). As a District we are striving to have one AFLSA in every school within our District. It is also important that community clubs develop a School Community Liaison Officer that can be a direct conduit between your club and the schools. Please contact Brendan at the East Fremantle District should you wish to find out any further information about AFLSA's and the importance of developing positive relationships with schools.

## DISTRICT SPONSORSHIP

The East Fremantle District is one of the leading Football Districts in Australia. The District is responsible for developing & delivering programmes that will continue to grow football within the local area. Subsequently, the Sharks District must source sponsorship opportunities and partnerships that will allow us to continue to 'Grow the Game'.

If your business, or you know of a business that can support football development in the East Fremantle District please do not hesitate to contact either Troy or Brendan on (08) 9339 5533.

## Key dates in March:

- WAFL Season commences – **Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> March**

## CREATING POSITIVE GAME ENVIRONMENTS

Umpiring is one of the most important development areas in the game. The provision of quality umpires to all levels of football is imperative if we want football to continue to grow and develop ... However clubs, parents, players and particularly coaches can play a significant role in their development. We need to create positive game day environments that allow for umpires to develop. There is no longer a place for "Ugly Parents" or "Ugly Coaches" in football. They will not be tolerated!

Everyone that is at a game of football plays a role in the atmosphere or environment that is created ... And if you sit there and abuse the opposition or umpires then you are the problem! The game isn't about you and your frustrations with a developing umpire ... It is about players getting out there, having fun and enjoying the game. Some parents and spectators need to get over themselves! We want umpires to stay involved in the game and to develop into great umpires.

Currently the East Fremantle District has developed 10% of the current AFL umpires, and over 40% of the current WAFL umpires. But we can still do it better!! We achieve this by firstly creating the right environment for this to occur ... And everyone of us plays a part in this ... Including YOU!

## FEMALE FOOTBALL

Female Football is the fastest growing segment of the game. More and more girls are getting out there and playing the game they love. Currently the East Fremantle District has all-girl Auskick centres, School Girls competitions and a Womens Team that plays in the State League. We are also looking to introduce a community based girls competition in 2010 and we need some players. If you are interested in playing or know of someone who may be interested in playing in an under 16's competition then either contact your local junior football club or Brendan Kays on (08) 9339 5533.

EAST FREMANTLE DISTRICT – (08) 9339 5533

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