

## More volunteers or increased fees: we ask for your support

With Christmas fast approaching and the AGM just around the corner the Board of your Club, as happens every year, has been pondering the demands of the year ahead. Our Club has reached an impasse, a Waterloo and we need your help. For too many years the number of people who volunteer to run our Club has been in decline. Quite reasonably a number of our small band of volunteers have decided to call it a day. It is grossly unfair for us to expect, whether consciously or in the secret hope that we will not ourselves be called upon, for these members of the Board to feel pressured by the resounding silence in answer to the call for nominees or volunteers to step up again. Your families are the reason for and the heart and soul of our Club

Our aim is simple - to continue to provide the community with a family club supporting both junior and senior sport. We cannot do this without your help but most of you are unwilling to help. At present a number of Board and other positions are vacant. As a consequence the burden on the present Board is becoming unbearable and a number of our seasoned board members will not return next year. In good conscience we can neither expect nor ask them to. We can not pressure them by our own intransigence to stand again.

The Annual General Meeting is on Friday 15 November 2008 at 7:00 pm at Putney Tennyson Bowling Club. At that meeting all Board Member positions will be declared vacant and nominations will be sought for the following positions:

President	Secretary
Treasurer	Membership Registrar
Men's Football Director	Women's Football Director
Netball Director	Facilities & Equipment Director
Communications Director	

Our immediate past Secretary, Rachel Owens, stood aside earlier this year due to the arrival of her first baby. Our Netball Director, Ruth Colsell, has filled this position since then. We have not had a Facilities & Equipment Director this year. The Membership Registrar, Inez Hunt, who has been a Board member for the past seven years and our Communications Director, Rebecca Haagsma, are both definitely standing down. Some Board members will stand again, but our small band is being asked to take on more and more and with a membership of 1200 it has become too much.

There are two options as we see it.

### **Option 1**

Either more people need to volunteer to help with Board positions and other crucial tasks such as:

- Men's Football Registrar (the Club provides a Laptop)
- Trophy Organisers (needed during September/October)
- Social Event Co-ordinator + committee (only 2 – 3 events a year)
- Gear Steward
- Website liaison (html a bonus)
- Newspaper liaison (photos, articles and results to local newspapers)
- Sponsorship Co-ordinator
- Newsletter Co-ordinator

### **Option 2**

Or, the Club will be forced to employ an Administrative Assistant to undertake the tasks which were previously performed by our Board and other volunteers. It seems ominous but appears inevitable unless you are prepared to help. We anticipate that fees will need to be increased by not less than \$20.00 per Club member. This would be a shameful blight after so many years of selfless voluntary work by so many. Our future is in your hands.

Nominations will gladly be taken for Board positions prior to the AGM or on the night. If a written nomination is forwarded it needs to have a nominator and a seconder who will both need to be current financial members of the Club.

We appreciate the contributions made by all associated with the Club - our coaches, managers, trainers, scorers, canteen helpers, supporters, drivers and shirt washers – there are lots and lots of you. You have all contributed to the success of our Club. Help us to ensure that the Club is a success for our children and their children. Please volunteer now. Even the smallest contribution can make a world of difference.

Contact a member of the Board or your sports director if you and your friends can fill one or more of the roles or if you can help in any other way. Simply use the Contact tab on the Ravens website to get in touch – [www.gladesvilleravens.com.au](http://www.gladesvilleravens.com.au).

Thank you.

