



WFC Member Update

Upcoming General Meeting. What is this all about?

This update from the WFC Board of Directors gives members background information about an upcoming general meeting. The meeting will take place on 30 November at the Seaview Event Centre at the Club's ground in Morris Street, Williamstown. All members will shortly receive an official notice of the meeting, which will include the formal information required by law.

To provide more information to Members ahead of the general meeting, the Board has prepared some FAQs. If any Member has any further questions or concerns, please do contact the board via admin@williamstownFC.com.au.

1 Why has this meeting been called?

A group of members (Action Group) have requested that the Board call this meeting. The Action Group led by Trevor Monti and Ray Moloney wish to remove all of the current board members of the club and appoint themselves as directors.

The current constitution put in place in 2015 by (then) CEO Jason Reddick and past Club President Trevor Monti must be changed to allow this to happen. First and foremost, 75% of voting Members must pass a Special Resolution to amend the Club's Constitution to allow this to happen.

The current constitution is set up to ensure proper governance and transparency of the director appointment process.

2 What is the current process for election of directors to the Williamstown FC Board?

The Club's constitution sets out rules for the election of directors. The rules provide that anyone who wants to be a director must go through a process including attending an interview with the independent nominations committee (INC). One third of the Board stands down at each Annual General Meeting (AGM), and anyone wishing to nominate to become a Board member can do so by going through that process. This process for the appointment of directors was put in place over ten years ago.

In 2015, Jason Reddick (former CEO of the Williamstown Football Club) and Trevor Monti (then president of the Club) engaged K&L Gates Lawyers to update the Club's constitution. A letter dated 11 December 2015 refers to K&L Gates lawyers confirming that the instructions from Jason Reddick and Trevor Monti were as follows:

'... that WFC intends to update its current articles of association and memorandum of association with a new constitution that reflects contemporary governance standards and introduces a more transparent appointment of director process.'

The current constitution was put in place in 2015, consistent with instructions from Jason Reddick and Trevor Monti outlined above. The Action Group now want Members to agree to

change the rules so that all of their proposed directors can be appointed without going through the application process.

Every one of the current Board directors have been through the appointment process.

3 Are the Club's board appointment processes standard for football clubs?

By AFL/VFL standards the current constitution reflects best practice, good governance and modern standards. These processes provide stability for the Club.

Each club has different rules about how members may nominate to become a director, or how directors may appoint other directors, depending on their respective constitution. Many AFL and VFL clubs include provisions almost identical to our Club's constitution (our constitution was based on the Carlton Football Club's constitution).

For each of these clubs where its constitution is publicly available, no club allows for a process the Action Group want Members to agree to adopt (removing and replacing all directors).

The proper process is and should continue to be the election of directors at an AGM.

4 Why does the Action Group want to remove the board?

The Action Group has expressed concerns about the business skills of the Board, its financial discipline and transparency in decision making. In addition, the Action Group claims the Board does not communicate effectively with its Members and makes other claims about the state of the Club's website and even the quality of bread used for team meals.

5 So, is the Club in crisis?

Absolutely Not! Here are some key points for Members to consider:

- **Women's football: a history-making season:** our VFLW side won the Minor Premiership and for the first time, fought through a tough finals series to reach the VFLW Grand Final, where they met reigning premiers North Melbourne-Werribee at IKON Park in front of a large, passionate crowd. The result did not go our way, but the season set a new benchmark for the program. VFL Competition Operations Manager, Jennie Loughnan acknowledged on VFLW Grand Final day the Club's commitment to and investment in women's football as a standalone club;
- **Recognition of Williamstown's VFLW program:** At the VFL/VFLW Awards night Paul Groves was named VFLW Coach of the Year, Emily Eaves won the VFLW Best and Fairest, Mia Zielinski was VFLW Leading Goal Kicker and Emily Eaves, Mia Zielinski, Laura Blue, Georgia Howes and Naomi Ferres were named in the VFLW Team of the Year. A record-breaking year for our program.
- **Men's football – another finals appearance:** after another wildcard win, our men made it to the elimination final stage of the 2026 finals series, playing Essendon in what was their fourth successive finals appearance.
- **VFL appointments and signings:** the Club looks forward to an exciting and even more successful 2027 and with new VFL senior coach, Torin Baker leading the side and player retention currently at around 70% from 2026.
- **AFL draftees flying the Seagulls flag:** 2026 mid-season draftees Joel Fitzgerald (Melbourne) and Hugo Hall-Kahan (Adelaide) were both regular starters since joining

their respective clubs, with both taking the field for the 2026 AFL finals series. In addition, GWS has very recently committed to take Alex Mirkov in the pre-season draft.

- **A strong lineage of WFC talent:**
 - a number of our VFLW Grand Final team came through local junior ranks and more young supporters are embracing the blue and gold, building a strong foundation for the future.
 - AFLW premiership winner Ruby Tripodi and Gabby Biedenweg-Webster (Suns and Fremantle) are both AFLW draftees from our VFLW program
 - More recently, Charlie Dean (Collingwood), Marty Hore (Melbourne), Oscar McDonald (Fremantle), Lucca Grego (West Coast), have all come through the Seagulls.
- **Club hero returns:** Ben Jolley is back at WFC as a Football Sub-Committee member.
- **Newport Social:** secured on a new long-term lease through to 2052, the venue has completed a \$1.2 million upgrade and was formally re-launched in September 2026. Newport Social is a cornerstone asset and our largest source of commercial contribution, directly supporting investment in our VFL and VFLW programs.
- **Seaview Function Centre:** has outperformed expectations in 2026, achieving record revenue and profitability and growing in popularity as a strong asset for WFC.
- **Commercial partnerships up 65% over three years:** 2026 is our highest level of sponsorship on record and our highest number of TV games, following our biggest naming rights deal in Club history with DSV in 2022. Corporate sponsorship has reached record levels of partner and sponsor contribution.
- **Membership and merchandise:** continued membership growth, with particularly strong expansion in the Social Club and Speccie categories along with merchandise sales tracking more than 40% ahead of expectations.
- **Community engagement:** more than 10 million social media views, representing over 300% growth on the prior year.
- **Facilities investment:** Mobil has committed extra investment on top of its significant investment in WFC and the Williamstown community, to complete the Mobile Recovery Room, including a new sauna for our men's and women's programs for Season 27, complementing the cold plunge pool and new change rooms.
- **Facilities challenges:** the Club relies on local council for all repairs and maintenance to the ground and facilities. Earlier in the year the hot water system servicing the venue, including the change room showers, failed and was determined by the Council to be beyond repair. The Club did everything possible to speed up the process but was in the hands of the Council and its internal procurement processes. The Club kept players informed, made them aware it was doing everything it could to speed up the process, and that it was reliant on Council to complete the works as soon as possible. The works were completed in just over four weeks from the issue being identified.
- **Janet Dooley Canteen:** the Club canteen has not operated for the past two seasons due to challenges with resources. During that time our commercial department

partnered with a local family business providing food trucks for game day events. The Club receives a percentage of sales generated from the food trucks, so there is a direct financial benefit for the Club (and Members have a range of food options on game day). Discussions commenced early in this season regarding the possibility of a partnership with the food truck provider to re-open the canteen. The Club has been actively progressing those arrangements and expects to see the Janet Dooley canteen re-opened for season 2027.

- **Stage 1 of the change room renovation:** this builds on the \$2.2 million change room renovation completed in 2025, backed by \$1 million from the State Government and \$500,000 from the Federal Government, with strong local support from Hon Melissa Horne MP and Hon Tim Watts MP. The Club looks forward to implementing the stage 2 (new gym space) and stage 3 (additional change rooms) of the redevelopment.
- **Community programs:** major sponsor of the Williamstown Primary School Fair in 2023; clinics across the west through our partnership with Port of Melbourne (Yarraville, Newport, Spotswood and Williamstown); school food programs (also sponsored by Mobil) and an accelerated football program with Bayside College.

It is clear that the Club is performing well, on and off the field. The Board and management work hard to get the best outcome with the resources available to a community club. There are always going to be challenges as a standalone not for profit football club, with ageing council owned infrastructure but as Members can see the Club is in great shape.

6 Have you tried to discuss these concerns with the Action Group?

Yes, we have tried to get the Action Group to speak with the Board so we can provide them with further information. The Action Group has declined repeated requests to meet with the Board to discuss their concerns. A meeting would give us a chance to better understand the issues raised and address them in detail. Because the Action Group has not shared the specifics of their concerns with us, we have been unable to respond to those concerns directly.

On 15 August 2026, some of the Board met with Ray Moloney at his request and he advised it was his intention to 'spill the Board' (that is, to hold a vote to remove all existing directors and elect new ones). Mr Moloney claimed that Members were concerned and had been for the past five years. The directors asked to meet with the Action Group to discuss the concerns.

Mr Moloney declined that request in writing, stating that:

'...the group I represent met last night and discussed the email from Michael Howlett [being the invitation to meet] ... and ... We will continue to prepare the documentation required to call a General Meeting, and we will not meet with the current board.' (Parts of the email not relevant to this update have been omitted from the above quote.)

After further requests from the Board, the Action Group did indicate they would meet but declined to attend the Board's scheduled September board meeting and would not agree to discuss alternate dates.

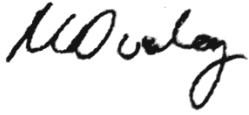
7 What do Members need to do?

Members will receive an official notice of the general meeting. The notice will include details of the meeting. Members are encouraged to review the material and contact the Board if they have questions.

Members can attend the meeting in person and vote, or fill in a proxy form (this will be included with the official notice) and send it to the Club before the meeting. A proxy form allows a member to have their vote counted even if they cannot attend in person.

Signed

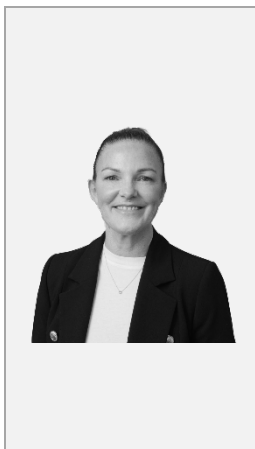
Merryl Dooley

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Dooley", written in a cursive style.

For the Board

Your Board of Directors

Meet the current directors of the Williamstown Football Club Board.



Merryl Dooley

*President – Member of Strategy, Risk and Governance Sub Committee
Commercial and Partnerships Sub Committee*

Merryl has served the Club as a volunteer for most of her life. Her mother Janet Dooley and Great Uncle Larry Floyd are both members of the WFC Hall of Fame. Merry was awarded life membership at the age of 21 and is the Club's first female President.

Merryl is a member of the AICD and holds a Master of Business Administration (Executive). Merryl is currently a senior executive of a large ASX-listed business and has more than 25 years' leadership experience at the most senior levels of large listed and private businesses.



David Ginnane

Director – Club Treasurer - Co-Chair of Finance and Facilities Sub Committee

Davis was appointed a Director of the Club in 2024. He is the Club's Treasurer, and Co-Chair of the Finance and Facilities subcommittee.

David is a graduate of the AICD, and holds a MBA from Melbourne Business School, and a Bachelor in Economics and Finance. David is a senior commercial executive with more than 25 years' leadership experience across global and Australian businesses. He has held senior executive roles including CEO, managing Director and Group Executive positions.



Alex Dobson

Director - Co-Chair of Finance and Facilities Sub Committee

Alex has served as a Director of the Club for six years, and is Co-Chair of the Finance and Facilities subcommittee.

Alex is Chief Operating Officer at one of Australia's largest privately owned residential property development and building businesses. He has held senior executive positions within private, listed and member-based organisations.



Michael Howlett

Director – Vice President - Finance and Facilities Sub Committee

Michael has served on the WFC Board for the last 14 years, as Treasurer, President, and Vice President.

Michael is a qualified CPA Accountant with over 40 years' experience in finance management roles.

Your Board of Directors (continued)



Simon Woolley

Director – Vice President and Club Secretary - Chair of Commercial and Partnerships Sub Committee and member of Strategy, Risk and Governance Sub Committee

Simon was appointed to the Board in February 2025, is the Club's Secretary and Vice President. He has served on various subcommittees since 2017, and now Chair's the Commercial Growth and Partnerships subcommittee and is a member of the Strategy, Risk and Governance subcommittee.

Simon is a commercial Barrister with over 20 years' professional legal experience.



Troy West

Director – Vice President – Premiership Captain and Chair of Football Sub Committee

Troy has been a director since 2020 and Vice President since February 2025. Troy is the Chair of the Football subcommittee.

Troy is one of the most decorated past players of the Club. He commenced his career in 1994, and was co-captain of the Club's 2003 VFL premiership side. He played over 200 games, captained the VFL team, and later appointed as assistant coach. Troy has also coached at State level with Port Melbourne and Western Jets.



Emma Woolley

Director - Strategy, Risk and Governance Sub Committee

Emma has served on the Board for over 7 years, and is the Chair of the Strategy, Risk and Governance subcommittee.

Emma has over 30 years' experience as a lawyer, is a member of the AICD, and a chartered tax advisor. Emma is the Chair of the board of partners of a leading independent law firm of 150+ partners and 1400 staff nationally, and Chair of a privately owned agricultural business with an annual turnover exceeding \$1 billion.



Cameron Lockwood

Director – Premiership Player and Member of Football Sub Committee

Cam has served on the Board since 2024 and is a member of the Football subcommittee.

Cam is a decorated Seagull. He is a one-club player, Premiership vice-captain, best and fairest winner and Life Member. Professionally, Cam has over 20 years' experience in project and business management. He currently co-owns and directs a commercial flooring company, responsible for hiring and managing over 75 staff.