



24/02/2022

Dear Club President,

In a matter of weeks, a new year of community football will begin for thousands of men and women, girls and boys, across our state.

Pre-season training is well underway for many and, as club leaders, I know your focus is already on getting your teams on the field, keeping your clubs functioning strongly and providing the best possible experience for those who love our game.

On behalf of the AFL Commission, I again want to thank you, and all of your volunteers and staff at your club, and at every club across this state, who do so much week-to-week to ensure the strength of our grass-roots game. Australian football is strong because of our presence in communities everywhere – regional and metropolitan.

This has been a long and difficult two years for all across Victoria, and we have endured much in every part of our lives.

Football has played a role in ensuring the safety of everyone - families, friends and the wider community – and it is now the time for the AFL to say thank you for all you have done. Also, to help you and your club to get back to normal so you are able to continue to maintain the important social role our football clubs play in the community.

AFL Commission Chairman Richard Goyder announced funding support for our game in the state in late 2021 and those announcements will be expanded in the coming months. For the moment, it is time now to enjoy our elite AFL and AFLW competitions as you build towards your own season.

As a way to thank you and your club volunteers, we would like to offer four complimentary tickets to your club across AFL Round One and AFLW Round 10 matches.

For AFLW matches, you will be provided with a link and generic code to redeem your two tickets, these will be available for sharing to your club representatives attending. For AFL matches, a link and generic code will be shared to redeem your tickets for your eligible match, noting you will need to include your club details to redeem. Once redeemed, the two tickets will then be in your account, which can be transferred to any club representative attending.

In addition to thanking you and your volunteers, we are also committed to working with our community clubs to provide additional financial and resourcing support to assist your club in returning to play for 2022, including:

- Covering the cost of Club Liability cover (which includes both management liability and public liability insurance) and base level Asset Protect (contents) cover under the AFL National Risk Protection Program for 2022 for your club;
- Covering the cost of Level One Sports Trainers Accreditation fees for 2022;
- Coaching and Umpiring accreditation fees waived for 2022;
- Appointing paid volunteer support officer roles to assist club volunteers across the state;
- No country affiliation fees to be charged by AFL Victoria.

Across the last two years, the AFL Commission and Executive have sought to protect our game at all levels. I want to particularly acknowledge the work done at all clubs and what you have done to continue to support those who want to play our game. Football has emerged from this long, difficult two years because we have worked together.

Football continues to provide us all with a sense of normality and joy and I can't wait to be at a community game again. Our clubs across Victoria are the lifeblood of the game and the game cannot prosper without you.

Good luck for your year ahead.



Gillon McLachlan

Chief Executive Officer, AFL