



COVID-19 Update

23rd August 2020

From the President

Dear Members

We know that as a community, we are experiencing tough, challenging times at the moment, and we hope that you, your families and your friends have been able to keep safe, healthy, fit and well. With Melbourne now in an extended stage 4 lockdown, the prospect of playing a regular season of football is unfortunately slipping away.

Nonetheless, Glen Eira FC aims to keep players physically, mentally and socially engaged with as much football as possible, in times of lockdown and beyond. We are firmly committed to organising football matches as soon as it is safe to return to community sport and we are able to access grounds. The format of a shortened season remains to be determined, but we continue to work with Football Victoria and our neighbouring Clubs to find a way to get the ball rolling.

Since the current lockdown, we have been working hard behind the scenes to develop an online football program for members. Next week, we are launching our Club-wide **Home Football Program**, kicking off with a *Juggling Challenge* with weekly prizes. There are also future plans for a *Crossbar Challenge* and a *Trick-Shot Challenge*.

Season 2020

Some of you are wondering about the Club's position on membership fee refunds for season 2020.

Glen Eira FC is a grassroots not-for-profit organisation. Our annual fees are usually set just high enough to cover our costs for each season. This feeds into the Club's mission, which is to

make football accessible to as many players as possible.

Our costs to deliver a season of football involve much more than just running matches. We have significant annual fixed costs which go well beyond the seasonal costs of running matches.

Our fixed costs for season 2020 typically started in November 2019 with grading and team allocation sessions, and have continued throughout the pre-season period, including the purchase of equipment for each team, hygiene supplies and compliance costs for CovidSAFE training and practice matches, costs for referees, management and coaching staff, as well as player and team entry fees paid to Football Victoria for each member.

The Club's Committee has sought to minimise those costs as far as possible over the last 6 months, and we have been successful in securing some Government grants and subsidies to defray certain costs. However, the Club's financial survival is dependent on its cash flow, which mainly comes from membership fees. Without your continued support, the Club will simply not survive.

Formulating a refund policy in the current uncertain circumstances, and given that our Club encompasses a full service offering to children and adults, has been very difficult for the Committee. Ultimately, the Committee must strike a fair balance between the ongoing financial viability of the Club, and members interests. Accordingly, the Club is offering members the following options for refunds.



Option 1

For members who can bear the cost and remain fully paid up for season 2020, we will be offering a substantial *ClubKeeper Discount** on your season 2021 membership fees.

**The level of this discount will depend on FV refund levels and also how much football we end up playing this year. Both of these factors are unknown at this time.*

Option 2

For other members who would prefer to receive a refund this year, including those currently experiencing financial hardship, you can request a partial* refund of your membership fees by submitting the *Online Claim Form* on the Club website (located under 'Contact Us').

**The level of refund will take into consideration personal circumstances, player contact hours this year, the Club's continued financial viability and other factors (such as FV refund levels).*

We strongly encourage you to adopt Option 1 because, by doing this, you will be making a significant contribution towards securing the survival of our Club's future. We would greatly appreciate your generous support by adopting this option.

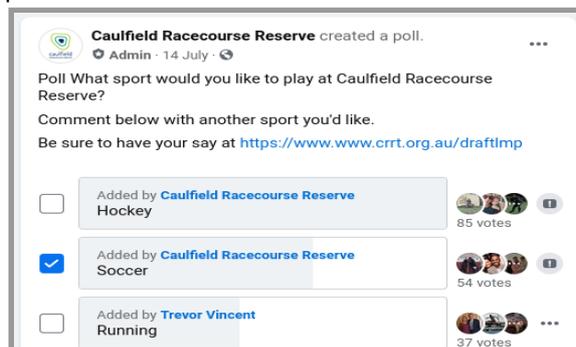
For more information about costs and an insightful update about the state of football in Victoria, please visit:
www.footballvictoria.com.au/news/update-kimon-taliadoros-and-peter-filopoulos

Caulfield Racecourse

Thanks to all those who made a submission to the draft plan of the Caulfield Racecourse Reserve. Glen Eira FC and Football Victoria also made strong submissions, so fingers crossed for a good outcome.

Meanwhile, you can continue to voice your

support for the development of football facilities by voting for soccer and futsal on their Facebook poll:



1. Visit the [Caulfield Racecourse Facebook Poll](#)
2. Click the **+ Join group** button.
3. Wait for Approval (shouldn't take long).
4. Tick the box at the start of the bars for both Soccer and Futsal.

Other Community News

For those of you who are interested, Melbourne City FC is hosting a number of live webinars for their *Cityzens Giving for Recovery* campaign. The funds from the ticket sales of these webinars will go to SecondBite, a leading food rescue charity. The live webinars are set up to hear from players, from coaches and from professional goalkeepers.

In the next few weeks, stay safe, stay healthy and stay engaged and we hope to see you back on the pitch soon.

Best regards,

Michael Westaway
President

Stewart Howell
General Manager

