

*23 September 2013*

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The Annual General Meeting of the Ivanhoe Amateur Football Club will be held at 7.00pm Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2013 at the Ivanhoe Park club rooms.

The AGM will include the Presidents report, Treasurers report and election of office bearers and general committee members. The election of office bearers and members of the general committee shall be in accordance with the clubs constitution. Nominations for these positions shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary, Howard Neilson, at [hcneilson1@bigpond.com](mailto:hcneilson1@bigpond.com) not later than 7 days prior to date of the Annual General Meeting.

Members are entitled to appoint another member as their proxy to represent them at the meeting. The appointment of a proxy must be in writing and signed by the member making the appointment and submitted to the Secretary no later than 24 hours prior to the meeting. A proxy form is available by clicking [here](#).

*9 September 2013*

## **VALE ALEC WESTON, PREMIERSHIP COACH AND ACE RECRUITER by Phil Skeggs**

DUAL premiership coach **Alec Weston**, who died in Wangaratta last week aged 89, will be remembered as one of the club's great recruiters during a golden era at Ivanhoe Park. Frank Alexander 'Alec' Weston was a sports master at Northcote High School during the 1950s and 60s and never missed an opportunity to bring a rising star to the Hoes.



Among the players whom he helped recruit from the school were **Doug Gott**, who played seniors at Ivanhoe as a 15-year-old before he went on to play 98 senior games for Collingwood and later coach the club in the mid-1990s, team of the century member, 1971 B&F, premiership player and life member **Dave Berry**, team of the century centreman, state rep, 1962-63-66 club B&F and life member **Barry Sproule**, state rep, premiership player and 1965 B&F **Euan Logan**, 1956 B&F, All-Australian, Collingwood player and Ivanhoe coach **Lloyd Williams**, life member and 1960 B&F **Barry Morrison**, team of the century member, premiership player and life member **Rusty Burt**, team of the century member and 1967 B&F **Jim Fawcett**, premiership players **Peter Whitaker**, **John Paterson**, **Ralph Bourke**, **Peter Phillips** and **Russell Knight**, life member **Norm Shearer**, **John Ibrahim**, who later played for North Melbourne and Victoria, and former VFL boss and Collingwood player **Jack Hamilton**.

Weston had played footy at Northcote in the VFA until a knee injury ended his career. It's not known who originally recruited Weston as an under 19s coach at Ivanhoe in the early 1950s, but he guided the team to a flag in 1953. Among his young charges was **John Miles**, who recalled how Weston took the unusual decision to

get a piano accordion player to belt out a few "calming" tunes for the team before they took the field for 1953 grand final at Old Scotch's former oval in Swan Street. The music evidently made the lads a bit too relaxed and the idea wasn't too well received by some of the older heads around the club - John's father **Arthur** who often goal umpired for the club was one who was shaking his head in dismay. The Hoes lost the grand final by about 7 goals, but because they were minor premiers they exercised their right of challenge under then VAFA rules and turned the result around against Hampton Scouts the following week ... minus the bloke with the squeezebox.



Weston was given the senior coaching job the following season and the Hoes won the 1954 B grade flag. Weston, a non-smoker, teetotaler bachelor with a quick wit who loved telling jokes, had another season as senior coach in A grade in 1955 before being replaced by **Harold Wienberg**. Weston returned as club secretary in 1969 when we won the B grade flag.

A member of that 1969 premiership side, **Russell Knight**, who stayed in regular contact with Weston, credited him with not only being a key recruiter for the club but also playing an important role in fitness and physio work. "He was phenomenal for treating blokes with injuries ... (team of the century members) **Billy McWhinnie**, **Timmy Robinson** and myself were all helped by him. He knew all about physio. If someone had a

swollen leg or something he would get you down on the hot beach, pack it in sand and sea salt on top and it would take the swelling out.”



Weston regularly took a group of Ivanhoe players for Sunday morning training runs at Sandringham. "He had all these tracks with sandhills that he would have us run up, through the tea-trees, and a 7-mile run to the old wreck (*Cerberus*) and then back along Beach Rd," said Knight. "When we finished running, he would get us standing in the water to the tops of our thighs. He was very good with injuries and fixing people up."

Weston was also well known as a trainer of some of Australia's leading cyclists of the era, including world champion track cyclist **Sid Patterson**, Olympians **Russell Mockridge** and **Geoffrey Smith**. Weston also regularly featured in the cycling segment on the iconic *World of Sport* on Channel 7 on Sundays. "The other thing that people would not know was that he coached **Ron Barassi** as a young fellow too. He also had a close association with (Collingwood B&F winner and seven-time Victorian player) **Thorold Merrett**, who had a sports store in High St Northcote and Alec used to work there some nights after school."

Another member of the 1969 team, **Don Blackwood**, was a beneficiary of Weston's training programs. "He was very generous with his time and it all originated from his home gym in Northcote. He took a group of us out to the old Essendon board tracks and brought us into his bike training interests," he recalled.

Weston died peacefully at the Illoura Nursing Home in Wangaratta on September 4. Ivanhoe Amateur Football Club extends its condolences to Alec Weston's family. A funeral service will be held in the Chapel of Tate Funeral Services, 59-63 Greta Rd, Wangaratta on Wednesday September, 11, commencing at 11am.

A special thank-you also to Jeff Jones who alerted us to Alec's passing.

## **UNDER 19s SEASON ENDS**

On Saturday the Under 19s were unable to hold off St Marys Salesian in the Preliminary Final, drawing an end to another fantastic season for our young guys. Although it didn't end the way we all hoped, the boys should be very proud of their efforts and they all have a bright future ahead. Well done on a great season guys.

## **LEAGUE B&Fs**

Last week the VAFA held the vote counts all leagues and grades. Congratulations to Paul Harris, who almost went back to back with league B&Fs, falling one vote short of the winner in second place. Also, congratulations to our top vote getter in the Under 189s, Stefan Zervides who was 3 votes back from the joint winners, despite missing quite a few games playing in the seniors.

*2 September 2013*

**RECORD 4th HEC RUTHERFORD MEDAL FOR HARRO**

On Saturday night captain Paul Harris took out his 4th Hec Rutherford Medal as the Senior Best and Fairest Winner, a club record. Paul had another outstanding season, leading a young team in a tough year with a positive attitude, easily winning. A massive congratulations to Harro on this wonderful achievement. In second place was mid-season returnee, Tim Williamson and third was young gun Mitch Lovell (who was level with Paul before breaking his arm).



First - Paul Harris



Second place - Tim Williamson



Third place - Mitch Lovell

In the Reserves it was a tie between two long serving players for the Colin McDonald Medal, Sebastian Conley and David Neilson, well done boys.



Equal First - David Neilson



Equal First - Sebastian Conley

In the Under 19's it was Charlie Robinson who took out the Rob Pearce Medal in a season he dominated, well done Crob.



First - Charlie Robinson

### **TEAM OF THE YEAR**

Two weeks ago the VAFA announced the Team of the Year for all grades. Apologies to those selected for this to be recognised on here. A massive congratulations to Paul Harris for being selected as Ruck Rover in the D2 2013 Team of the Year. We also had three boys selected in the Under 19 North 2013 Team of the Year, congratulations to Charlie Robinson (ruck rover), Will Cuthbert (full back) and Keke Blackmore Moore (forward pocket) for their selections. Well deserved for all four players.

### **UNDER 19s GO DOWN BUT AREN'T OUT**

The Under 19 boys put up a great fight on Saturday against top team Old Ivanhoe but unfortunately fell 9 points short in the Second Semi. This week they head to Bill Lawry Oval for a 9:15am game against St Mary Salesian in the Preliminary Final. It is now do or die, so let's all get along to support them in their battle to make the Grand Final the following week.