



# ANNUAL REPORT

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SEASON 2006

## SPONSORS REPORT

The IMB Wollongong Lions would like to acknowledge and thank the following sponsors for their wonderful support during the 2006 footy season



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**ATTENDEES**

President – Ian Ferguson

Vice President – Michael Love

Secretary – Steve Rowland

Finance Manager – Kim McConnochie

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Brad Ainsworth

Colin Bartlett (Ground Manager)

McConnochie (Canteen Manager)

Karen Kemmery

Bernie O'Neill

Terry Little (Publicity Officer)

Kerry Little (social committee)

**LIFE MEMBERS**

1978 G McQuinn

2005 B Ainsworth

1980 N Allen

2005 D Collier

1981 R Hanson

2005 J Collyer

1982 B Werfel

2005 M Love

1985 M Peckman

2005 M Manojlovic

1987 N Sandry

2005 B Mitrevski

1988 P Hogarth

2005 G O'Dea

1991 P Dunwoodie

2005 S Rowland

1992 M Marning

2005 P Veerhuis

1997 G Wells

2005 W Weaver

1997 S Holmes

2005 R Werfel

2000 B O'Neill

2005 C Werfel

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

## IMB WOLLONGONG LIONS SEASON 2006 ANNUAL REPORT

The 2006 Season has been another tough but rewarding year for the WAFC both on and off the field.

On the field the 2006 Sydney AFL competition evened out considerably and so, even though our 1<sup>st</sup>s won more game than last year we finished one position lower on the ladder. On the positive side, however, our reserve grade team became the first WAFC senior side to play in the Premier League finals, with our under18's also qualifying for the finals.

Once again we started the season strongly, only to fall away in the second half of the season, except for a good win against 2005 premiers North Shore.

Our senior coach Leigh Forsyth resigned midway through the season due to increased work commitments and was replaced by Greg Nugent. Leigh will always be fondly remembered as the coach who brought the WAFC its first senior Sydney AFL premiership with its win in Division 1 in 2004.

My thanks must go to our coaches Leigh Forsyth, Greg Nugent, Ian Burns and Mark Siely and their host of assistants who all worked tirelessly throughout the season to improve our playing group. Special thanks to Greg Nugent who took over the 1<sup>st</sup> Grade at short notice and really worked hard to change the team's culture.

Player recruitment has proved difficult for the Lions in respect to attracting quality players to Wollongong. However the Board continues to work diligently in this area and I am sure things will change in the near future, particularly if we can secure a well credentialed coach. To aid in recruiting talented young players to our club we have established two (2) scholarships with the University of Wollongong for talented players who wish to study at University of Wollongong and pursue their football careers with WAFC. This will commence in the 2007 season.

Once again our club physiotherapist Ray Dubber and his assistants Carolyn White and Beth Worboys provided us with a very professional medical team. It is always comforting to know that if an injury occurs then the player is receiving the correct treatment immediately. Our medical team is definitely one of the best!

Off the field our administration has once again performed well. This can be seen in the balance sheet and our performance in the club of the year award.

Soon after our last AGM the newly appointed board accepted an offer from Kim McConnochie to become its first paid Finance and Administration Manager, thus ensuring Kim's long term involvement in our club. This position involves preparation of financial statements, administration duties such as meeting minutes and all correspondence as well as all spheres of sponsorship. This position is seen as vital to the club's strategy of raising the professionalism of club operations. The position is funded by a retainer and a small percentage of sponsorship raised.

The Board has worked throughout the year to improve its off-field performance and it is my belief that we have now got it pretty right. This now allows the Board to concentrate on strategies to improve on field performance. I would like to thank all members of the Board for their efforts

this year with special thanks to our Ground Manager, Col Bartlett who continues to excel in his job, Football Manager Steve Rowland, still one of the best in the business, Vice President Michael Love in all his various roles, our Junior Co-ordinator, Rick Joyce and Terry and Kerry Little for their hard work in a variety of social activities and the production of our Annual Report.

The Sydney Swans once again held their community camp in Wollongong during February 2006, with the WAFC was again invited to host a dinner at the Master Builders Club with all Swans personnel in attendance. This function was a great success both financially and socially and gave another huge boost to the profile of AFL in the Illawarra.

Our match day canteen, under the management of Kim & Susy McConnochie, with great support from Barb Bartlett, Silvana Pattison, Robyn Stanton, Carol Williams and Judith Ferguson, maintained its reputation as one of the best in Sydney AFL. This year's highlight was the freshly made salad rolls which were a hit with our diet conscious patrons. Well done ladies and thanks to all who helped throughout the year.

By the time the 2007 season commences a major re-development of our home ground North Dalton Park should be completed. This will include new lights, new playing surface and an underground irrigation system, along with a sealed car park. This re-development has been brought about with the financial support of the NSW Government, AFL NSW/ACT, Cricket NSW, Wollongong City Council and the North Dalton Park Trust. This will allow elite cricket and AFL matches to be played there, with the first of these hopefully being the Sydney Swans playing a preseason game in March 2007.

In closing I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped the club in any way during 2006. Special thanks to our generous and loyal sponsors for their continued support which enables us to function. Special thanks to my wife Judith who supports me and gives me the time to do my job. Thank you all and I look forward to working with you in season 2007.

Ian Ferguson  
President

## FINANCE REPORT

### IMB WOLLONGONG LIONS SEASON 2006 ANNUAL REPORT

The Wollongong Australian Football Club recorded a net operating surplus of \$5,165.50 for the year ended 31 October 2006, with net assets increasing accordingly to a total of \$23,440.92, an increase of 28%. This increase was mainly due to the increased surplus of the NDP canteen and the success of the Sydney Swans dinner during their community camp.

Although cash at bank increased by only \$2,803.71 the current liquidity position (cash plus debtors less payables) increased by \$5,681.79.

The club continued to manage its finances in a sound manner, as reflected by the surplus for the year being on budget. The club is also debt free. Critical to the club's recurrent revenue stream is its ongoing sponsorship (cash and non cash), which totalled \$65,486.00, being only slightly less than the previous year.

The continued support from major sponsor the Master Builders Club, the IMB as the "naming rights sponsor", Gordon Macdonald Electrical as the "playing shorts sponsor" and Mainteck Services as the "warm-up jumper sponsor" have allowed the club to operate and compete in the Sydney Premier League.

To ensure that these important club sponsors, along with a variety of valuable associate sponsors, were well serviced by the club, the management committee continued its promotional strategy with Southern Cross TEN, primarily to provide further media exposure for its valued sponsors. This was done to ensure that they received real value for money, and a return on their investment.

This recurrent revenue increase allowed the management committee to plan its operational activities/expenditure during the season with greater certainty. It also allowed the club to continue to reward the playing group by making available performance based incentive payments.

The hosting of the Sydney Swans during the preseason added significantly to club funds, returning a surplus of \$13,288.36.

Due to the improved management of the NDP canteen a surplus of \$9,062.30 was achieved for the season, an outstanding result. This is an increase of \$2,055.11, or 29%, on the 2005 season and can be attributed to vastly improved stock purchasing strategies. No price increases occurred for the season. It should be noted that the surplus in 2004 was \$3,001.84, thus highlighting the improved efficiency and service provided by the club to its customers.

During the season the club incorporated the financial operations of the WJAFC under its management. Net equity (cash) of \$3,210.51 was transferred to the club.

The management committee will continue to identify sponsorship and other revenue opportunities in season 2007, and will continue to manage club finances in a most prudent way to ensure the maximum benefit to its members and stakeholders.

Following this narrative is the independent audit report and a complete set of financial statements for the year ended 31 October 2006.

Kim McConnochie  
Finance & Administration Manager

**WOLLONGONG AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL CLUB INC.**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

**AS AT 31 OCTOBER 2006**

		<b>2006</b>	<b>2005</b>
		\$	\$
<b>Current Assets</b>	<b>Notes</b>		
Cash at Bank		25,592.15	22,788.44
Inventory	13	263.64	779.94
Receivables	14	8,692.73	2,403.80
GST Receivable		133.40	617.91
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>34,681.92</b>	<b>26,590.09</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Accounts Payable	15	10,094.20	7,257.81
GST Payable		1,146.81	1,056.85
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>11,241.00</b>	<b>8,314.66</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>23,440.92</b>	<b>18,275.43</b>

**WOLLONGONG AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL CLUB INC.**

**INCOME STATEMENT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2006**

<b>Income</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2005</b>
		<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Operating Activities</b>			
Sponsorship	1	57,500.00	60,205.00
Grants	1a	-	11,950.00
Donations		577.86	1,363.55
Club Development Initiative Program		2,510.00	-
Senior Fees		6,865.45	6,098.18
Under 18 Fees		2,590.91	3,181.82
Registration - juniors		72.73	-
Social membership		309.09	145.45
Senior Presentation	2	4,290.82	5,245.64
Junior Presentation		36.82	-
Bank interest		793.23	749.29
Swans dinner		24,252.72	19,586.45
Sale of playing jumper		-	150.00
Sale of club jackets		1,370.00	-
Sale of club singlet		9.09	-
Sale of club beanies		150.00	-
Sale of socks		-	9.09
Sale of shorts		159.09	109.09
Sale of polo shirts		81.82	272.73
Trivia night		1,298.95	2,309.77
Raffle \$1000 Draw		2,529.09	3,678.73
Raffles at NDP		802.50	699.09
Canteen sales - seniors		15,313.05	15,117.09
Canteen sales - juniors		1,711.32	-
Footy Tipping - juniors		55.68	-
Pizza Night - juniors		110.68	-
Lions Ball	3	3,331.64	5,077.27
Grand Final DVD sales		-	30.00

Bus hire - player donation		68.18	285.00
Catering, BBQs etc		-	318.15
Equity transfer from WJAFC		3,210.51	-
Other income	4	693.23	119.27
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>130,694.47</b>	<b>136,700.67</b>

**Expenditure**

**Operating Activities**

AFL insurance & affiliation - seniors		6,340.00	6,340.00
AFL insurance & affiliation - juniors		1,380.68	-
Master Builders membership		87.27	116.36
GST on non-cash sponsorship		798.60	578.34
Clothing	5	9,287.50	10,496.66
Touch football donation		-	600.00
Playing & office equipment		4,252.73	4,860.57
NDP repairs & maintenance		3,127.69	20,648.29
Courier		104.38	104.40
Bank charges		332.15	273.80
Swans dinner		10,964.36	8,258.25
Season launch		627.27	390.91
Advertising		5,121.71	3,942.82
Dept of Fair Trading		42.00	-
Umpires Fees		10,014.64	9,499.00
NDP ground markings		1,787.91	528.46
NDP ground hire - seniors		3,136.74	1,462.85
Equipment hire		545.44	945.43
Ground signage		2,720.00	6,515.00
Medical expenses	6	10,642.44	13,070.30
Dietetic expenses	6	1,020.00	-
Training and match day expenses	7	1,738.81	2,496.36
Sponsor entertainment		1,610.86	2,126.36
Printing and stationery		30.35	101.78
Administration fee		3,724.80	-
Website maintenance		176.32	144.55

Postage		45.45	698.90
Senior Presentation	11	4,545.95	5,693.46
Junior Presentation		664.31	-
AFL NSW/ACT Presentation Night		1,700.00	1,700.00
Canteen stock - Seniors		6,250.75	8,109.90
Canteen stock - Juniors		1,120.43	-
Catering, BBQs etc		677.30	673.30
NDP Food inspection		53.64	-
Lions Ball	8	3,061.23	5,309.09
Trivia night		423.33	430.00
Raffle \$1000 Draw		1,202.85	1,179.36
Raffles at NDP		39.83	-
Megadraw		1,505.45	700.00
Tubs in the harbour		-	40.95
Player and coaching expenses	9	19,831.50	21,495.00
Wollongong University player rebate		-	350.00
Bad debts		805.44	90.00
Club Development Initiative Program		2,510.00	-
Junior promotion		681.82	-
Coach education		104.55	104.55
Grand Final DVDs		180.00	30.00
Grant - WAFC juniors	10	450.00	681.82
Other expenses	12	60.50	65.08
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>125,528.97</b>	<b>140,851.91</b>
<b>Net Operating Surplus/(Deficit)</b>		<b>5,165.50</b>	<b>(4,151.24)</b>

## WAFC 2006 SOCIAL REPORT

### IMB WOLLONGONG LIONS SEASON 2006 ANNUAL REPORT

Having successfully negotiated our first year in the Premier League, 2006 provided even more challenges in maintaining the excitement and enthusiasm experienced as a result of our elevation. Naturally we were thrilled but not necessarily surprised when the Sydney Swans announced a second Community Camp to Wollongong after the resounding success of the 2005 visit. Along with this great opportunity to host another gala dinner, however, came the expectation of delivering a night as we had done a year earlier. With the assistance of experience and the attraction of such a great product, there were no difficulties in securing the attendance of close to 300 Swans and Lions supporters to the Illawarra Master Builders Club for "Dinner With The Swans". The night was another huge success with MC Dave Stretton from 198FM providing plenty of insight into the Swans culture through probing interviews with Paul Roos, Brett Kirk and Leo Barry. Again, the memorabilia auctions and raffles were well supported to round out a sensational evening.

With the Swans Dinner over, it was then time to focus on our regular season functions aimed at promoting club spirit, social interaction and of course a little bit of revenue raising. Our first major club function was the Lions Ball held in May. This year we took a very laid back approach to the Ball with a view to allowing attendees to entertain themselves. After a number of years of quality and at times not so quality comedians heading up the night's attractions, this year we relied on good food, fine wine and infectious music to satisfy the appreciative crowd. This proved to be a great success with a packed dance floor all night and most attendees kicking on to the early hours of the morning.

The 2006 Trivia Night took on a whole new flavour with Kerry and Terry Little taking over proceedings and providing another very entertaining evening. Prizes were donated by Foster's Australia yet again and many thanks go to Warren Weaver and Jean Flood for their continued support. Obviously the club greatly appreciates the efforts of Kez and Tez for their efforts in running the night. I think most would appreciate the preparation required and stress involved in taking on such a job so well done guys and we hope to see you back on the social scene in the future. Special mention must go to Tez for the extensive research into his wide repertoire of jokes delivered during the night. Don't give up your day job sunshine.

With the formal side of the Social Calendar dealt with, it was time to return to the Clubrooms to walk the financial tightrope that is the \$1,000 Draw. Throughout the night punters enjoyed the ups and downs of Horseracing and Blackjack while enjoying complimentary beverages supplied by our great friends at Foster's Australia. This year saw the introduction of Lions Texas Hold 'Em with card sharks from all around risking it all for a spot at the final table. In a massive come from behind win, semi-professional cardman Troy Bartlett swamped the devastated early chip leader Drew Holmes for a winner take all victory. The success of the tournament is sure to see it return bigger and better in 2007. With all other festivities over it was down to the final draw for the winner of the \$1,000. Not surprisingly the big bucks were won by a syndicate ticket bought late in the draw. The winners have asked to remain anonymous.

With another successful year over it is important to thank everyone involved. Special mentions must go to Kerry and Terry Little and Justin Johns for their input over the season. Thanks again to the Illawarra Master Builders Club for providing great venues and Foster's Australia for their continued support. To all of the young guys who sold raffle tickets, manned the door and generally helped out thanks heaps. And of course well done to all involved in the Swans Dinner which could never have been such a success without a great team effort.

## GROUND MANAGER'S REPORT

### IMB WOLLONGONG LIONS SEASON 2006 ANNUAL REPORT

Throughout our second season in the Premier League, the club has been able to successfully run all of games within the requirements of the SFL, and in many instances exceeding them.

The ground condition again deteriorated throughout the season, principally from a combination of training sessions occurring on a restricted area of the oval due to the lighting limitations, initially a lack of rain and then late in the season a spell of quite wet weather, which caused the playing surface to somewhat 'chop-up'.

A considerable number of improvements to the facility were again achieved and only made possible by the generous support of our sponsors and considerable volunteer effort, increasing the change room area for the umpires were made during the year. These improvements included completing the umpires rooms with proper seats and painting it out, new double access gate and concrete all weather path from the car parking area to the grandstand.

New year is anticipated to be one of consolidation of the work being done so far, completion of a number of maintenance/renovation type jobs and a lesser number of significant improvement projects.

The game day assistance from some of the senior players for goal umpiring and running the scoreboard, along with the volunteer efforts of the following personnel have been absolutely critical to the success of the running of game days:

- Time Keeping, Paul Dunwoodie, Ian Ferguson and Steve Rowland;
- Goal Umpiring, Shawn Rush, John Bown, John Bignal;
- Boundary umpiring, Steve Rowland, Chops, Barry Mitrevski;
- Umpire Escort, Peter Patterson
- General, Mark Sieley for getting the oval and outer areas setup with the U18 lads, Team Managers Greg Phillips and Mark Jackson for getting the team paperwork in on each home game day, assistance with the tidy up at the end of game day including Michael Love, Peter Patterson, Steve Rowland, Leigh Forsyth, Ian Ferguson and Kim McConnochie.

The Committee support throughout the year has been critical and appreciated.

Thanks to everyone who assisted in anyway, and we look forward to continuing to present excellent home games and achieving more improvements next year.

# FIRST GRADE REPORT

## IMB WOLLONGONG LIONS SEASON 2006 ANNUAL REPORT

The 2006 season was an extremely difficult one for the senior group. Despite winning one more game than the previous season the side finished one position lower on the ladder at year's end. After another encouraging start to the Premier League season, the group fell away badly in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the season and recorded several non-competitive losses. On an extremely sad note, 2006 also saw the resignation of Leigh Forsyth mid-season after a long and successful coaching tenure with the club. Greg Nugent ably took over the senior coaching role for the final five weeks of the season

Highlighting individual games as positives indicates a poor season overall, but 2006 did see the Lions record their maiden victories over Western Suburbs, University of NSW/East Sydney and North Shore. Other clear positives to come out of the season were:

- The selection of Troy Bartlett (co-captain), Adam McConnochie, Luke Norton-Smith and Cameron Stanton in the Sydney AFL representative team vs. AFL Canberra.
- The selection of Aaron Jackson and Mat Rush in the Sydney AFL Under 21 team vs. Sydney Reserves.
- Sam Dowling earning an NAB Rising Star nomination.

By contrast, the severe and season-ending leg injury suffered by Scott Hancock was terribly sad. Scotty's enthusiasm and commitment to his teammates were sorely missed as the season wore on.

Our skill level remains below that of the good sides in the competition and must be a key focus of preparations for 2007. Until we improve this facet of our game, our good work around the ground in one on one contests and general play will go unrewarded on the scoreboard. We are a young group still maturing, but our mental toughness and discipline must be improved.

As ever, there is a long list of individuals and organisations that contribute greatly to the success of the club in both an on and off-field capacity that must be thanked. In football operations, a large thank you goes to:

- Ian Burns, Mark Siely and Steve Wilson for their work with the lower grades and in specialist coaching roles.
- Michael Love and Mark Jackson for their roles of team runner and team manager respectively.
- Ray Dubber for his tireless efforts as physiotherapist and head trainer on training and match days. Ray's care for the well being of all players is exceptional.

In off-field roles, the support from the following groups has been tremendous:

- Chris Roots and Mike Driscoll for the continued support of the Illawarra Mercury. Thanks also to WIN TV And Southern Cross TEN for their continued association.
- Chris Whitmore for his production of the Lions television commercials and other promotional DVD's.
- All our valued sponsors without whose support we could not operate.

The committee would like to pass on their sincere gratitude to Leigh Forsyth for the fantastic job he performed as senior coach during stints from 1994 to 1996 and from 2001 to mid 2006. During his time, Leigh took the senior team to three 1<sup>st</sup> Division grand finals including the Lions only senior premiership since joining the Sydney competition, and guided the club through its transition to the Premier League.

Leigh's passion and dedication to the club and its players has been nothing short of outstanding, and he has always dealt with all club members with the utmost respect, honesty and sincerity. Without doubt, Leigh is one of the most influential figures in the Lions history and will always be held in the highest regard at the club.

Our sincere gratitude to Greg Nugent who took over the senior coaching role without hesitation following Leigh's departure and guided the team through a difficult period.

Stephen Rowland (Football Operations Manager)  
on behalf of **Leigh Forsyth & Greg Nugent (2006 Senior Coaches)**

## FIRST GRADE LADDER AND PLAYER LIST

### IMB WOLLONGONG LIONS SEASON 2005 ANNUAL REPORT

POS	TEAM	P	W	L	D	B	PTS
1	Western Suburbs	16	15	1	0	2	60
2	Pennant Hills	16	14	2	0	2	56
3	North Shore	16	11	5	0	2	44
4	UNSW/Eastern Subs	16	10	6	0	2	40
5	East Coast Eagles	16	9	7	0	2	36
6	St George	16	5	11	0	2	20
7	Wollongong	16	3	13	0	2	12
8	Balmain	16	3	13	0	2	12
9	Campbelltown	16	2	14	0	2	8

First Grade Players	Games Played 2005	Total
Justin Ayre	2	48
Thomas Balding	11	18
Troy Bartlett	16	51
Graham Batty	9	26
Adam Berwick	4	105
Nathan Bibby	5	56
Simon Boom	3	37
Damien Brunton	8	30
Matthew Brunton	10	29
Trevor Burnett	14	59
Jade Collyer	14	161
Daniel Crouch	7	70
Jeffery DeRooy	11	56
Michael Doecke	15	15
Bryan Firth	12	38
David Goodley	7	66
Scott Hancock	2	51
Mitchell Hogan	3	18
Nathan Hynd	2	36
Aaron Jackson	10	30
Tim Laws	11	12
Daniel McClure	15	30
Adam McConnochie	8	18
Allan McPhee	9	65
Peter Murphy	1	1
Luke Norton-Smith	13	29
Adam Patterson	2	59
Bradley Patterson	15	66
Leonard Pooley	4	4
First Grade Players	Games Played 2005	Total
Kevin Pritchard	9	135
Nigel Smith	5	15
Chris Smythe	2	8
Cameron Stanton	15	49
Joshua Tier	1	64
Michael Toussis	13	27
Peter Veerhuis	16	167
Chris Walmsley	16	21
Gregory Wellington	6	16
Clinton Wells	13	50
Corey Werfel	7	184
Billy Wood	4	8
Evan Young	2	4

## RESERVE GRADE REPORT

### IMB WOLLONGONG LIONS SEASON 2006 ANNUAL REPORT

August 2005 after the last game and missing the semis we sit in the sheds at North Dalton having a beer and laugh looking back over our 1<sup>st</sup> year in the big time. 12 months later 2006 we make the semis and get beat in the 1<sup>st</sup> semi, we have had a better year but the bad taste in our mouths stop us from enjoying what we have achieved, (until later that night) we could not get out of that ground quick enough. But what a great year we have had to get to the semis, the improvement and the belief you showed was well above what any one expected, did we achieve above our abilities, not knocking where we got too, I still think we under achieved.

The semi against North's, all 22 gave all they could, had we made better use of some opportunities we would have won, a great effort on the day and to see some of the young guys stand up was great and gives the club a lot to work with and you all should be proud of your efforts on that day and all year and to some players who mist out on the semi, Brownie (shoulder), Terry Little (king hit in town at 2am), the twins Rafters and Justin Johns, Doug Sweeney, Glen the Pea Robinson and to all the players who played 2<sup>nd</sup> graded in 2006 thank you all for your efforts and support.

Some of the young players who great year and should offer the club a lot more next year. Richard Sykes his 1<sup>st</sup> year in the game and played some great footy, Josh Lewis a heart bigger than his body, we are looking forward to him training and playing a full year, Drew Holmes as he worked on his two way run beat all those he played on and was rarely out marked and when asked to play of the half back flank not only beat his man but got us going forward with some great runs, Jason Dowling with out doubt the best on the ground in the semi (Jason also won the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade b/f) and should be come one of the clubs best 1<sup>st</sup> graders, Mitch Hogan did a great job at center half back, Tim Laws we need to get a full year from him, Jimmy on the wing was good all year I could name each player but Steve Rowland would make me pay for the printing. To the lucky guys who captain the side during the year Sam Lewis, Kevin Pritchard and Jade Collyer thank you for your support and leadership during the year, it is good to see that Jade will be around again next year as a player and leader. Steve Rowland thanks for your help with team sheets and jumpers each week.

Thanks to the under 18s who played 2<sup>nd</sup> this year. The 9 under 18s who come up in to grade next year all are good footballers and should be looking to play in 1<sup>st</sup> grade and to all the players' thanks for your support at training.

The runners a very important part of the coaching staff (now you know why we lost the semi with a name like 2 dicks as a runner) Doug Sweeney thanks for your help after you had your shoulder surgery and to the main man Chris (also known as 2 chins) Gleeson you did a great job and thanks for your support.

I wish all the players who have long term injuries all the best in their recovery and look forward to seeing you back on the paddock, some we should hope to see in 2007, Wick, Milk, Murphy, Billy Wood, Nathan Hancock, and others back in 2008 Scott Hancock, Doug Sweeney and Matt Williams.

The medical team of Ray, Carolyn and Beth thank you for your efforts this year.

To the other coaches Greg thanks for a big effort in the last 5 weeks, Steve, Mark and Leigh thanks for your help in 2006. Sorry if I have missed thanking any one.

To the ladies who work in the canteen you do a great job and offer great food and if the players had to cover the canteen I am sure we would only get pies and beer.

To the committee thank you for the opportunity to coach the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade over the last 2 years, I wish the club all the best in years to come with the improvements to the ground and the quality of players in the club, you should be set for some big years ahead, starting in 2007 when you should be looking to make the semis in all grades. The club does have the talent to win 1<sup>st</sup> grade in 07 the players and others just need to believe, work hard and be positive and you will win, do not wait for next year or the year after as they mite do come, injuries do put players out for long periods and jobs see players move on.

Thank you all  
Ian Burns.

## Reserve grade ladder and player list

### IMB WOLLONGONG LIONS SEASON 2005 ANNUAL REPORT

POS	TEAM	P	W	L	D	B	PTS
1	UNSW/ Eastern Subs	16	15	1	0	2	60
2	East Coast Eagles	16	14	2	0	2	56
3	Pennant Hills	16	13	3	0	2	52
4	Western Suburbs	16	10	6	0	2	40
5	North Shore	16	7	9	0	2	28
6	St George	16	5	11	0	2	20
7	Wollongong	16	4	12	0	2	16
8	Balmain	16	3	13	0	2	12
9	Campbelltown	16	1	15	0	2	4

Reserve Grade Players	Games Played 2005	Total
Matt Adamson	1	13
Brad Ainsworth	15	239
Brett Andrews	16	70
Thomas Balding	2	18
Nathan Bibby	1	56
Simon Boom	4	37
Ben Broadhead	16	16
Dylan Brooke	14	22
Chris Brunton	7	7
Damien Brunton	5	30
Mathew Brunton	1	29
Dion Burke	13	27
Ian Burns	1	1
Daniel Crouch	3	70
Fred David	1	94
Jeffery DeRooy	1	56
Jason Dowling	2	29
Ben Forsyth	3	19
Dan Forsyth	1	17
Chris Gleeson	1	25
Daniel Gleeson	2	82
David Goodley	10	66
Scott Hancock	13	51
Matthew Heather	1	4
Mitchell Hogan	1	18
Andrew Holmes	4	53
Nathan Hynd	2	36
Justin Johns	9	17
David Kelland	11	20
Reserve Grade Players	Games Played 2005	Total
Tim Laws	1	12
Joshua Lewis	4	19
Sam Lewis	11	81
Terry Little	16	26
Michael Love	12	201
Allan McPhee	6	65
John Mion	13	13
Barry Mitrevski	11	231
Marcus Morgan	8	8
Shaun Paget	1	26
Adam Patterson	3	59
Kevin Pritchard	2	135
Adrian Raftery	7	7
Nigel Smith	10	15
Chris Smythe	3	8
Doug Sweeney	13	13
Joshua Tier	12	64
Christian Van Reece	2	34
Warren Weaver	4	190
Gregory Wellington	10	16
John Wiley	11	36
Matthew Williams	5	18
Lewis Wilson	4	30
Billy Wood	4	8
Hamish Wood	2	36
Nathan Wood	12	12
Alastaire Yorke	1	1
Evan Young	2	4

## U 18'S REPORT

### IMB WOLLONGONG LIONS SEASON 2006 ANNUAL REPORT

After a slow beginning to pre-season training, the Lions assembled a very talented group of young players for the 2006 season, and ultimately qualified for the finals series in the highly competitive Premier Cup U18's after missing out on the finals in 2005. Our 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish on the ladder was an extremely encouraging result given the stop-start nature of our season interrupted as it was by wet weather and forfeits. Whilst our performances in the finals series were not what we hoped for, the fact that we were defeated by two clearly superior sides shows us that much work still needs to be done, and provides a goal to work toward for all players in coming seasons.

Throughout the course of the year a total of 32 players pulled on the Lions colours in the U18's. Furthermore, 10 of those players represented the club at higher levels gaining valuable experience for their footballing futures. Of particular note was Sam Dowling who played half a season in the senior side and gathered a NAB Rising Star nomination in the process. Looking ahead to next season, 22 players from the 2006 squad are still eligible for U18 football and will provide the basis for a competitive team in 2007. We also look forward to a fresh crop of youngsters coming through from the ever-improving Illawarra Juniors.

To those boys moving on to open age grades, thank you for your effort and application during your time with the U18's. We wish you every success with your future work and university careers and sincerely hope you all stick with the game and with the Lions in particular over the coming years.

Congratulations to Scott Phillips, Mat Rush, Matt Adamson and Ben Wellington for their 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> placed finish respectively in Best & Fairest voting. Well done to Hugo Fullagar who took out the Players Player award in his first season with the club.

I would like to thank Greg Phillips, Wayne Miller and John Bignell for all their help during the season. These men filled the role of team manager, runner and goal umpire respectively on a weekly basis, all of which are essential roles in getting the U18's on the ground, especially in the two-tier U18's competition which often sees the boys playing at different venues to the seniors. A big thank you to all other parents, who not only acted as drivers, but performed other voluntary roles as required during the season. Paul Dunwoodie in particular was always on hand setting up the canteen, looking after timekeeping duties or carrying water.

I wish to thank senior coaches Leigh Forsyth, Greg Nugent and Ian Burns for their support at match days and training nights all year long. Thanks to head physiotherapist Ray Dubber and his support staff, especially Beth Worboys for the 1<sup>st</sup> class level of care they provided the players. And finally, I would like to thank Club President Ian Ferguson and his committee for their continued confidence in me, and for entrusting me with coaching duties for the 2007 season.

Stephen Rowland (Football Operations Manager)  
on behalf of **Mark Siely (Under 18 Coach)**

## U 18 LADDER AND PLAYER LIST

IMB WOLLONGONG LIONS SEASON 2006 ANNUAL REPORT

POS	TEAM	P	W	L	D	B	PTS
1	Redbacks	11	10	1	0	0	40
2	St Ignatius College	11	9	2	0	0	36
3	Pennant Hills	11	8	3	0	0	32
4	North Shore	11	8	3	0	0	32
5	St George	11	8	3	0	0	32
6	Balmain	11	7	4	0	0	28
7	Wollongong	11	5	6	0	0	20
8	East Coast Eagles	11	5	6	0	0	20
9	Western suburbs	11	3	8	0	0	12
10	Greater West	11	2	9	0	0	8
11	Campbelltown	11	1	10	0	0	4
12	Holroyd - Paramatta	11	0	11	0	0	0

U 18 Players	Games Played 2005	Total
Matt Adamson	12	13
Justin Ayre	12	48
Paul Balding	14	14
Thomas Balding	5	18
Guy Bartlett	2	2
Simon Boom	14	37
Harry Brown	10	10
Chad Cook	14	14
Jason Dowling	15	29
Sam Dowling	13	13
Ben Dunwoodie	17	31
Dan Forsyth	16	17
Chris Gleeson	7	25
Mitchell Hogan	14	18
Andrew Holmes	16	53
John Huxtable	11	31
Matthew Jansen	17	17
Joshua Lewis	12	19
Shaun Paget	17	26
U 18 Players	Games Played 2005	Total
Adam Patterson	15	59
Ben Paulson	17	34
Scott Phillips	14	30
Andrew Thomson	5	5
Anthony Tibben	14	14
Christian Van Reece	14	34
Ben Wellington	16	19
Lewis Wilson	17	30
Hamish Wood	16	36

JUNIOR REPORT

IMB WOLLONGONG LIONS SEASON 2006 ANNUAL REPORT

The Wollongong AFL Juniors completed the 2006 season in a relatively healthy position. Through continued hard work, our small group of committeemen were able to keep the Juniors operating. This occurred despite three washed out rounds and two of these were home games and this significantly reduced our income.

The Illawarra AFL Association had six age groups operating. These included Auskick, U9, U10, U11, U13, and U15's. However, our Juniors were only able to field five out of the six age groups. Due to low numbers we could not field **an U10 team**. There were a total of 67 registered players.

**Only the U10** and U15's participated in the finals. The U15's finished fourth and the U9's second. Despite the lack of success it was pleasing to see all registered players stay with the club throughout the year.

Thanks must go to the coaching staff and team managers who assisted on the training track and on game day.

A list of volunteers include:

**Committee Members**

Chairman	Mr. Rick Joyce
Vice Chairman	Mr. Mike Christie
Treasurer	Mr. Ashleigh Christie
Secretary/Registrar	Mrs. Kim Warner
Canteen	Mrs. Donna Hinds

**Coaching/Team Managers**

Auskick Coordinator	Mr. Steven Keyte
Auskick Team Manager	Mr. Ken Sanders
U9's Coach	Mr. Mike Christie
U9's Team Manager	Mr. Grant Wilson
U11's Coach	Mr. Steve Maciejowski
U11's Team Manager	Mr. Darren Eager
U13's Coach	Mr. Rob Maciejowski
U13's Team Manager	Mr. Steven Keyte
U15's Coach	Mr. Jeff Warner
U15's Team Manager	Mr. Gary O'Dea

**Representative Football**

The Illawarra Storm took part in the Greater Sydney AFL Carnival for U12, U13 and U14 age groups. Congratulations to: Kayne Jennings in representing the U12's; Will Cook, Mark Mura and Liam Joyce in representing the U13's and Brandyn Threlfall for the U14's.

Special congratulations to Liam Joyce in progressing to the Sydney Pigeons U13 representative team for the Greater Sydney area. The state carnival was held at the Sydney Showgrounds for three days during the term two school holidays.

Rick Joyce  
Junior Chairman

## AFL DEVELOPMENT REPORT

### IMB WOLLONGONG LIONS SEASON 2006 ANNUAL REPORT

As expected 2006 has been an both an eventful and fruitful year for AFL in the Illawarra. Junior numbers continued to increase on the back of the Swans premiership success from 2005 and their subsequent visit to the area as part of the AFL's Community Camps program in February.

2006 was also the year the AFL Greater Sydney Juniors regional structure was introduced and as with all new initiatives not all was smooth sailing to start with but as the season went on the Regional Committee members of AFL Illawarra Juniors settled into their roles and set about the task of conducting the best season of Junior AFL football ever for the Illawarra.

AFL Illawarra Juniors finished the year with a net player growth rate of almost 30% placing the region close to the top for growth in the Greater Sydney Region. In real terms this meant approximately 150 extra children were playing the game in the Illawarra in 2006.

We went from 6 clubs to 8 with the inclusion of the Dapto Eagles and the re-emergence of the Port Kembla Blacks. In 2007 Port Kembla will be re-established as an independent junior club and playing as the Port Kembla Dockers.

Dapto ended the year with 55 players and the previous year's new club the Shellharbour Swans finished with 62 and were recorded as the region's highest recruiting club (relative to their starting base).

The Lions were instrumental in several events and initiatives in the region and once again we were invited to "Dine with the Swans" as part of the Community Camp Visit.

The AFL NSW/ACT introduced the Club Development Incentive scheme and the Lions had three willing participants in Troy Bartlett, James Weavers and Dan Posch. The scheme required SAFL players to work with AFL Development Staff in schools in the region conducting skill sessions and running games of AFL. The three Lions players were excellent and we believe they did a great deal in placing the game and their club in the minds of Illawarra secondary students.

Lions players were also involved in the Bluescope Steel Health and Lifestyle Big Day Out 2006. This is a major event where sports and recreational activities are on show to employees of Bluescope Steel and their families. In the course on one day an estimated 3000 plus people attended this day.

And finally in what has become a local tradition, we were fortunate to once again have the services of the WAFC once again on grand final day of AFL Illawarra Junior Football at Shellharbour. Lions players and officials assisted with boundary and goal umpiring.

AFL Game Development has had an extremely busy school year with more programs covering more areas and speaking to more children than ever before. Once again we had a successful Paul Kelly Cup program and a very popular High School 9 a side competition with teams from all over the region and Southern Sydney attending.

2007 looks like more of the same as this great game continues to grow at all levels in numbers and in profile and AFL will continue to establish itself as an integral part of the Illawarra sporting landscape.

Dave Johnson  
AFL Game Development Manager – Illawarra  
AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE  
AFL (NSW/ACT) Commission Ltd.







## CLUB OF THE YEAR TABLE

IMB WOLLONGONG LIONS SEASON 2006 ANNUAL REPORT

Club	1's	2's	18's	18's N	18's S	Div 2	On-field	Administration	Total
Pennant Hills	14	13	8	4		7	1060	3840	4900
Western Suburbs	15	10	3		3		770	3440	4210
North Shore	11	7	8	3			690	3370	4060
East Coast Eagles	9	14	5	3			710	3240	3950
<b>Wollongong</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>		<b>3</b>		<b>330</b>	<b>3585</b>	<b>3915</b>
St George	5	5	8		5		510	3055	3565
UNSW-ES	10	15				17	940	2470	3410
Campbelltown	2	1	1		1		120	3240	3360
Balmain	3	3	7	4		3	430	2690	3120

Club	1's	2's	18's	18's N	18's S	Div 2	On-field	Administration	Total
Pennant Hills	14	13	8	4		7	1060	3840	4900
UNSW-ES	10	15				17	940	2470	3410
Western Suburbs	15	10	3		3		770	3440	4210
East Coast Eagles	9	14	5	3			710	3240	3950
North Shore	11	7	8	3			690	3370	4060
St George	5	5	8		5		510	3055	3565
Balmain	3	3	7	4		3	430	2690	3120
<b>Wollongong</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>		<b>3</b>		<b>330</b>	<b>3585</b>	<b>3915</b>
Campbelltown	2	1	1		1		120	3240	3360

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<b>Wollongong</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>		<b>3</b>		<b>330</b>	<b>3585</b>	<b>3915</b>
Western Suburbs	15	10	3		3		770	3440	4210
North Shore	11	7	8	3			690	3370	4060
Campbelltown	2	1	1		1		120	3240	3360
East Coast Eagles	9	14	5	3			710	3240	3950
St George	5	5	8		5		510	3055	3565
Balmain	3	3	7	4		3	430	2690	3120
UNSW-ES	10	15				17	940	2470	3410