



2 November 2021

Dear Members,

### **Governance Update and Call for Nominations for Standing Committees**

I write to advise you about a number of important governance matters.

#### **Constitutional Review and Governance Improvement Project**

As you are aware, in 2020, the Board of Football NSW established the Constitutional Review Working Group (**CRWG**) to undertake a review of the Football NSW Constitution (**Review**).

The CRWG made significant progress before the Board, on the recommendation of the CRWG, paused the Review to allow Football Australia to finalise its own Constitutional Reform agenda. That agenda includes proposing a range of amendments to the Football Australia Constitution with that Constitution then intended to form the model constitution for Member Federations.

My letter to Members dated 18 May 2021 advising them of decision to pause the Review and detailing the reasons for that decision can be accessed [here](#).

By way of update, Football Australia's Constitutional Reform has unfortunately been delayed for a number of reasons. However, a draft Football Australia Constitution is expected to be tabled at Football Australia's AGM later this month with a short round of further consultation to take place before a final version is tabled and voted on at a Special General Meeting to be held within three months.

Once the Football Australia Constitution has been approved, the model constitution for Member Federations will be finalised and we will then be in a position to re-start the Review.

While the delay is disappointing, for the reasons outlined in my letter dated 18 May 2021, there is little point in moving forward with significant amendments to the Football NSW Constitution until Football Australia's model constitution for Member Federations is finalised.

#### **2020-21 Annual General Meeting**

We advise that the Football NSW Annual General Meeting (**AGM**) for the 2020-21 financial year has been tentatively scheduled for the evening of **Friday, 25 March 2022**.

#### **Changes to the Football NSW Men's Competitions Standing Committees and the Inter-Club Zone Councils**

As previously announced by Football NSW, for the 2023 season and beyond, the Football NSW Men's Competitions will be restructured such that the number of competitions will be reduced from four to three



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and the number of clubs per competition will be increased from 12 to 16. The total number of clubs participating across the three competitions will remain at 48.

As a result of this restructure, the Football NSW League Three Men's Competition (formerly, the NPL 4 Competition) will cease to exist at the end of the 2022 season.

Consequently, a number of amendments will need to be made to the Football NSW Constitution and to the Football NSW By-laws ahead of the 2023 season to reflect this change.

In the case of the Football NSW Constitution, amendments will need to be made to remove the League Three Men's Standing Committee (referred to as the "Conference league Standing Committee" in the Football NSW Constitution). Given the ongoing review of the Football NSW Constitution, it is presently Football NSW's intention to propose a temporary amendment such that there is no dilution of voting rights, an issue which will continue to be explored during the review process.

In the case of the Football NSW By-laws, the required amendments will include:

- removing the League Three Men's Standing Committee;
- establishing any Standing Committee created by the abovementioned amendment to the Football NSW Constitution;
- amending the number of members in the NPL Men's, League One Men's and League Two Men's Standing Committees from 12 to 16; and
- amending the size and composition of the Inter-Club Zone Councils.

The Board and management are currently considering a number of options in this regard and will provide an update in early 2022 with a view to potentially tabling any required amendments to the Football NSW Constitution at the March 2022 AGM.

### **Call for Nominations for Football NSW Standing Committees and Inter-Club Zone Councils**

With the terms of current members of the Standing Committees and the Inter-Club Zone Councils due to expire on 31 December 2021, it is now time to call for nominations for membership of the Football NSW Standing Committees and Inter-Club Zones for the period 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2023.

Please note though that because of the amendments to the Football NSW Constitution and Football NSW By-laws that will need to be made to reflect the removal of the League Three Men's Competition and the removal of the League Three Men's Standing Committee ahead of the 2023 season (as discussed above) and because of changes that may flow from the Constitutional Review, there may be a reduction in the terms of office of Standing Committee and Inter-Club Zone Council members and a reduction in the period for which the Chairs and Deputy Chairs of Standing Committees and Inter-Club Zone Councils will remain voting members of FNSW.

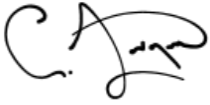
The Standing Committees were created to represent the interests of various stakeholders in Football in NSW. The purpose and goal of the Standing Committees is to act as important vehicles for assisting Football NSW in achieving a better environment and value equation for the Football community. This includes all participants in our game, including players (men and women, elite and grassroots, junior and senior), coaches, referees, administrators and the broader Football community.

Further information about the Standing Committees, the Inter-Club Zone Councils and the nomination process is available on the Football NSW website or by clicking [here](#).

Please note that the deadline for the submission of nominations for the Standing Committees and the Inter-Club Zone Councils is **5.00pm on Thursday, 18 November 2021**.

If you have any questions in relation to the Standing Committees and the Inter-Club Zone Councils, please contact Michael Kantarovski, Legal & Regulatory Officer, on 8814 4409 or [standingcommittees@footballnsw.com.au](mailto:standingcommittees@footballnsw.com.au).

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gilbert Lorquet', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Gilbert Lorquet**  
Chairman  
Football NSW