



**Richmond Football Club**

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**MINUTES of the 140th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**RICHMOND FOOTBALL CLUB LIMITED**  
**HELD ON MONDAY, 11<sup>th</sup> December 2024 AT 5.30PM**  
**In the Maurice Rioli Room at Punt Road Oval and via Videoconference**

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**1. Welcome from the President**

The President, John O'Rourke, acknowledged the traditional custodians of the land and elders, past and present. He then welcomed the members in attendance at the 140th annual general meeting of the Richmond Football Club. The President outlined the process for the submission of questions and for voting on motions at the meeting.

The President introduced his fellow directors, the majority of whom were present, and acknowledged Shane Dunne, who is also CEO, and Michael Stahl, COO. The President also welcomed the Club's auditors PwC.

The President then declared that he held 40 proxies for the purposes of voting on motions at the meeting and that there was a quorum present to conduct the meeting.

**2. Convening of Meeting**

Michael Stahl, the Company Secretary, convened the meeting and made the following statement: "In accordance with Clause 6 of the Richmond Football Club's Constitution, a notice was placed on the Club's website on Tuesday 21st November 2024, advising that the Annual General Meeting of the Richmond Football Club would be held at the Richmond Football Club on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2024, at 5.30pm, together with a list of business which has to be dealt with at the meeting."

**3. Apologies**

The Company Secretary noted that apologies had been received from director Mary Padbury, the Club's Number One female ticketholder Evelyn Danos, and Number One Male Ticketholder Mark Nelson.

**4. Previous Minutes**

The Company Secretary advised the meeting that the minutes of the 2023 Annual General Meeting were available at the back of the room and that any matters arising from the minutes could be raised under General Business at the end of the meeting.

The Company Secretary requested a motion that the minutes of the 2023 Annual General Meeting be taken as read and confirmed.

Moved: Andrew Sloman  
Seconded: Luke Littlefield

The motion was carried with the required majority.

**5. Election of Directors**

The Company Secretary declared a result in relation to the re-election of two directors of the Club. Henriette Rothschild and Mark Ward had been re-elected unopposed.

## 6. President's Report

John O'Rourke delivered the President's report noting that it had been a difficult year for the Club on many levels, the men's AFL team having only won two matches for the Season and many players suffering injuries. However there is a sense of rejuvenation for the year ahead, with a coaching team dedicated to improved results as well as a change to football department structure that promises well for the future. The President thanked all members for their ongoing loyalty and support throughout the year, noting that the Club had achieved membership numbers of 98,000 at a time when on field performance had been disappointing and also in difficult economic conditions.

The President acknowledged the departing players from the men's game, and in particular noted the retirement of Dustin Martin (302 games for the Club; premierships player), Dylan Grimes (232 games, premierships player and co-captain), Sam Naismith and Marlion Pickett. The President also acknowledged those players who had departed as a result of trades or as free agents.

The President commended the performance of the AFLW team throughout the season and the team's achievement on reaching the elimination finals. He also congratulated the Club's Victorian Wheelchair team on their successful season and as this year's premiers.

The President noted the appointment of new CEO Shane Dunne following the departure of Brendon Gale, noting Shane's experience at RFC as CEO of Aligned Leisure which has grown to be a significant business. He advised that the Club had reported a modest operating surplus for the year ended 31 October 2024, prior to fundraising for the Punt Road redevelopment project.

The President noted that the redevelopment is a high strategic priority for the Club and that non-football department staff would be relocating to leased premises in Wellington Parade shortly, to facilitate a commencement of works at Punt Rd in the first half of 2025. Every effort is being made to minimize disruption to the Club's football program, and he thanked the MCG for use of facilities at Yarra Park as well as all the contributors to fundraising for the redevelopment. The President also acknowledged the ongoing support of the Club's co-major partners, nib and Latitude as well as the Club's other corporate partners, coterie and supporter groups.

The President confirmed RFC's continuing community support, through the Korin Gamadji Institute and the Bachar Houli Foundation. He also noted the Club's ongoing partnership with the Alannah and Madeline Foundation.

The President then welcomed the men's senior coach, Adam Yze, to the stage and conducted a brief Q&A with respect to Adam's observations of the 2024 season. Adam acknowledged the new recruits to the men's team and highlights footage of the new recruits was played.

The President then welcomed the Club's AFLW coach, Ryan Ferguson, to the stage. Ryan gave an overview of the highlights of the AFLW season, including the RFC AFLW team reaching the elimination finals. Ryan noted the retirement of Tamara Luke, acknowledging her contribution to the women's team, and congratulated the winners of the Club's AFLW best and fairest competition.

## 7. Acknowledgments

The President acknowledged the AFL players who had retired or otherwise left the Club in 2024.

The President then acknowledged those players, members, officials, and supporters who had passed away during the previous 12 months, including the sad passing of Chris Toce, head recruitment manager for RFC.

## 8. Life Members

The President noted that, to date, the Club had awarded life membership to 395 players, officials, coaches, sponsors, or supporters of the Club.

The President welcomed three new life members to RFC. Firstly, Anthony Schache, who has fulfilled the role of Club physio since 2000. Anthony has provided outstanding service in his role as a dedicated professional. John welcomed Anthony to the stage to receive his Life Membership certificate and pin. Anthony thanked the Board for the honour of being awarded Life Membership of RFC.

The President then announced the second new life member, former volunteer and now property manager Johnny Paravizzini. Johnny provided outstanding service as a volunteer in the property management area between 2001 and 2022 and now continues in this role as a dedicated employee. John welcomed Johnny to the stage to receive his Life Membership certificate and pin. Johnny thanked the Board for the honour of being awarded Life Membership of RFC.

Lastly, the President announced the third and final Life Member for 2024, Monique Conti, who was unable to attend the meeting. Monique is one of the Club's inaugural AFLW players, and as an elite player has been awarded many honours, including winning six Best and Fairest Awards for RFC.

## 9. Alice Wills Award

The President noted that the Alice Wills Award is named in honour of Alice Wills, the Club's first female life member and first female inductee into the RFC Hall of Fame. The Award recognises the outstanding dedication and commitment by a volunteer of the Richmond Football Club.

The President presented the Alice Wills Award to Andrew Sloman, in recognition of his role at the Club in a voluntary risk advisory capacity. Andrew has undertaken this role for the last ten years, utilising his professional expertise as a member of RFC's Risk, Compliance and Integrity Committee and more recently as a board member of Aligned Leisure. Andrew also chairs the Aligned Leisure Risk Committee. The President welcomed Andrew to the stage, and he thanked both RFC and the Board for recognition of his contribution and acknowledged the late Neville Crowe who introduced Andrew to his volunteer role at RFC.

## 10. Finance Report

The President advised that Tina De Young, director and chair of the Club's Finance, Audit, and Investment Committee, whilst present had unfortunately lost her voice and that he would deliver the Finance Report on her behalf.

The President then delivered the Club's 2024 finance report, including coverage of the legal requirements associated with the tabling of the financial statements for the year ended 31 October 2024.

There were no questions from members in regard to the financial report.

The President requested a motion to accept the finance report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 October 2024.

Moved: Luke Littlefield

Seconded: Russell Telford

The motion was declared with the required majority.

**11. Other Business**

The President answered several general questions from members, from those in attendance and those attending online.

**12. Closure**

There being no further business, the President thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the 2024 Annual General Meeting of the Richmond Football Club closed at 6.35pm.

Signed as a true record of this meeting.



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John O'Rourke - President

\_\_\_\_ 12.12.2025 \_\_\_\_\_

Date