



## AFL Yarra Ranges

(Yarra Valley Australian Football Commission Limited.)

**To: AFL YARRA RANGES CLUBS, KEY STAKE HOLDERS**

**From: TONY MITCHELL - CHAIR**

**CC: AFL YARRA RANGES STAFF AND COMMISSION**

**Date: 17/10/2018**

**Re: CRANBOURNE AND COMPETITION STRUCTURE 2019**

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The AFL Yarra Ranges commission met to consider an application from the Cranbourne Football and Cranbourne Netball Clubs to join the AFL Yarra Ranges for season 2019 and beyond (AFL Outer East from November 1<sup>st</sup>).

Cranbourne's joint club applications were made following unsuccessful applications at clubs to join the Mornington Peninsula Football Netball League (MPNFL).

The commission findings are as follow:

- Under AFL Victoria Rules, By-laws and affiliation agreements there were no grounds to decline the Cranbourne Club's applications.
- It was the commissions opinion to decline Cranbourne Clubs submissions to join our competitions would be considered frivolous under the current AFL Victoria's rules, by-laws and affiliation agreements, which our commission is 100% committed too.
- It was our commission's view not to place the Cranbourne club in a position to either consider options such as: going into recess or in a worse case folding the club operations completely.
- The commission was of the strong belief to approve the Cranbourne Clubs applications was best for both football and netball within our region.
- Cranbourne's applications were first class, and the clubs' have made a full commitment to embrace the new Outer East structure, future direction, and they consider our competition as their most viable, sustainable, and long-term home for both their football and netball clubs moving forward.

Cranbourne will be placed into our proposed Premier Division, making this competition a nine (9) team structure. Division 1 will consist of eight (8) teams and Division 2 will remain unchanged as Yarra Ranges Division 2 for season 2018 i.e. nine (9) teams.

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### **AFL Yarra Ranges**

**inc. AFL Yarra Ranges Senior Football & Netball, AFL Yarra Ranges Junior Football & Yarra Ranges Umpires Association**

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The development and introduction of new teams within the Casey and Cardinia regions are considered a priority moving forward, as well as ensuring the sustainability of all clubs currently competing in the Yarra Ranges competition.

AFL Yarra Ranges is committed to the continual growth of our competitions to ensure maximum participation, growth and community-based entities.

The commission considers the recent events and processes that the Cranbourne clubs have had to endure over the past two months are clearly not in the spirit of our game, and it disappointing that the views of certain clubs within the MPNFL have blocked an opportunity in gaining a quality club within their football/netball community.

Our commission further commits to: -

- Enhancing competition structures to meet growth demands in the local area/regions
- Promoting competition equalisation through divisional structures
- Increasing pathway effectiveness and opportunities
- Football sustainability and growth within our region
- Development of the game and junior pathways
- Better considering geographic and economic factors currently restricting and burdening some country football clubs and competitions

Any queries should be directed to Commission Chair Tony Mitchell or Region General Manager Aaron Bailey

Tony Mitchell

Chair

AFL Yarra Ranges

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