



Victorian Football Umpires' Association Annual report

2024



2024 VFL Grand Final umpires



L-R: James Rizio, Adrian Pretorius, Anthony Laughton, Jack Howard, Joel Clamp, Sam Whetton, Lachlan Menara, John Cooper, Luke Monea.

2024 VFLW Grand Final umpires



L-R: Jenna Green, Ben Myatt, Monique Galea, Genevieve Devenish, Adam Bailes, Ned Welsh, Mitch Bellingham, Olivia Grcic, Jack Kennedy.

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Executive Committee 2024



President	Joon-Yip Wong
Vice-president	Andrew Talbot
Vice-president	Benjamin Rofe
Administrator	Emily Jose
Members' Representative	Vacant

Track Representatives:

Senior Field - Michael Willcox
Development Field – Ian Herman
Senior Boundary – Harrison Bell
Development Boundary – Daniel Mortlock
Senior Goal – Brad Kellett
Development Goal – Connor Petrie

Historian-statistician David Flegg AM

President's report

With 2024 coming to an end, I've found myself immersed in deep reflection. This past year has seen our association rise to new challenges and achieve significant milestones. We have worked tirelessly to improve and uphold our remuneration and conditions, ensuring that every umpire, whether just starting or with years of experience, has the tools and support needed to perform at their best and take the next leap in their journey towards the elite levels. We've faced many changes and unknowns, as we always do, but we've met them with professionalism and a steadfast commitment to our duty and to our members.

To my incredible committee, your unwavering dedication and passion for both the association and your peers truly leave me in awe. The hard work you pour into improving the umpiring culture behind the scenes, day in and day out, is nothing short of remarkable. Michael Willcox, Ian Herman, Harrison Bell, Daniel Mortlock, Brad Kellett and Connor Petrie, through your tireless efforts, you've elevated the respect and recognition our group deserves throughout the league. From the bottom of my heart, thank you. I simply could not have made it through this year without your continued support.

This season also saw a changing of the guard. With the retirement of Peter Howe, we welcomed our new Administrator, Emily Jose. Emily has made a significant impact in her first year with us and I look forward to her continued enthusiastic management for many years to come. Her mastery of project and event management skills have been invaluable to the committee, which was demonstrated by the exemplary delivery of the Annual Ball, in the face of rising costs and venue salvation. She has also been instrumental in setting up our new online store; helping us to go cashless for greater accounting efficiencies.

I also wish to personally thank my vice-presidents for their undoubted dedication and support. Andrew Talbot and Ben Rofe both stood up to help with the absence of an event

manager in 2024 to plan and execute the Lawn Bowls and Grand Final After Party and the Mini-Olympics respectively. I wish to personally thank Andrew for relieving me of the social media and website functions during the year, he has done a fantastic job in continuing the quality content in our feeds and communication platforms.

Together with the supporting talents provided by David Flegg (Historian/Statistician and QAP Program Manager) and Matthew Mahoney (Honorary Treasurer) the Strategy Team has with unwavering dedication, insight, and wisdom continuously supported me in achieving our strategic objectives and executing our tactical plans.

With Talbo's connections, our Executive Planning Day was held at Cricket Australia's Jolimont headquarters and provided an inspirational backdrop for the committee to be inducted for the year ahead. My key message for 2024 was to offer and return as much value as possible to our members. Using the feedback from track representatives, we endeavoured to mix up the way we have done our traditional formalities. Such initiatives included greater investment in the photographic services of Chris Powney at more of our major events, holding our association meetings at Victoria Park after training with a food truck for greater convenience and working with the Umpiring Department (UD) to schedule in more joint training nights to enable more of our events to be held while we are together on the track.

Our social calendar was jam packed in 2024. We switched up the venues for all of our traditional events - lawn bowls at the Richmond Union, mid-season squad socials, our life members dinner at the Hotel Collingwood, the grand final after party at the Princes Park Bowls Club (you can't argue with the location!) and our annual ball at the Rydges Melbourne on Exhibition Street. The season also saw the return of the Past Presidents' Function at University Café, Carlton.

The annual Mini Olympics was held again on the final night of training, complimented by the grand final panel announcements. The Paul Anderson Memorial Shield was won by the Senior Field squad, ending a multi-year streak by the Development Boundaries. We were honoured to have Denise and Sally Anderson attend once again whilst raising funds for the Cancer Council. The event raised \$1,594 at the time of this report - well short of beating our target (\$2,500) and last year's tally.

Nevertheless, I remain extremely proud and grateful for the generous donations our umpiring family and friends had made to the admirable cause and sincerely thank everyone who had also volunteered their time and efforts to make the event a success.

Members and friends can still make a donation directly through our dedicated Cancer Council fundraising page -

<https://fundraising.cancervic.org.au/fundraisers/vfua/vfua-mini-olympics>

As we bring this incredible year to a close, I want to take a moment to celebrate the outstanding individual achievements and milestones of some of our most iconic VFUA members.

Having a pocket at Victoria Park named after you and an AFL timekeeper's lanyard was not enough for Christopher L. Doyle. After many years of dedication and tortuous fitness tests, our old mate finally cracked VFL life membership in Round 1. Congratulations Doyley – this is certainly a feat that will become much rarer for flag wavers in the modern-day competition.

On a similar theme, I wish to congratulate John Cooper on smashing the VFL boundary umpire match record and notching up 200 VFL matches; you don't get to that milestone purely by relying on your scalp's aerodynamics!

But the king leading the peloton would be Andrew Talbot cracking 250 VFL matches – an accomplishment that has no equal. I almost

wish he had a custom-made yellow cycling jersey to wear on the track to signify his massive lead from the pack.

I would also like to say farewell to our retiring VFUA members, and to celebrate their remarkable careers. Their years of service, talent, and dedication have left an unforgettable mark, not only on the field but in the hearts of everyone with whom they've umpired. Although they are hanging up their boots, they'll always be a cherished part of the VFUA family:

- After 15 years, 188 VFL games, 2 TAC Cup GFs and VFL life membership, Adam Bell has had an outstanding career! 'Belly' has been a leader for the boundaries for many years and will be missed.
- After 119 VFL and NEAFL, 65 Coates Boys, 12 VFLW and 2 Coates Girls matches, goal umpire Adam Gardner has also decided to call time on his state league journey.
- After 57 VFL, 31 Coates Boys, 25 VFLW and 1 Coates Girls matches, former VFUA President Matt Mahoney has decided to wrap up his career. Matt's contribution to the VFUA will last for generations of umpires after negotiating the first umpire contract for part-time employment outside of the AFL and securing the JobKeeper benefit for our members during the pandemic.

Another achievement that cannot go without a royal proclamation was David Flegg being elevated to Legend status in the AFL Umpires' Association Hall of Fame. A legendary achievement for a legendary man; surely worthy of a petition to have a bronze bust of him at the MCG forecourt.

I also wish to offer my heartfelt congratulations to all our 2024 award winners! These prestigious honours carry a legacy that is so deeply woven into the fabric of our association, and it is vital that we continue to uphold them with the highest regard.

My personal congratulations go to all our members appointed to the VFL/VFLW and Coates Talent League Boys and Girls Finals, selected for

the 2024 AFLW S9 competition and those elevated to the AFL list in 2024.

It has also been pleasing to see a growing presence of our members acknowledged in the VFL award formalities, with our Umpire of the Year recipients receiving their recognition and awards at the Liston Trophy night.

Congratulations to Joel Clamp (field), Anthony Laughton (boundary) and Luke Monea (goal).

For the first time since lockdown and the amalgamation of the east coast second-tier competitions, the SANFL vs. VFL state game was revived and three of our best were dispatched to Glenelg Oval in Adelaide to represent the Big-V. Jack Howard (F), Anthony Laughton (B) and James Rizio (G) did us proud in what was a cracking game.

This season was the first of three in our Fees and Conditions term and it was a perfect period to stress test unanticipated situations in a collective bargaining agreement. Some of the key activities that kept me diligent throughout the year included:

- Working with the AFLUA to manage burn-out and inadequate breaks between the AFLW and VFL Competitions
- Monitoring the sustainable approach to 4-umpire appointments in field and boundary disciplines, whilst ensuring adequate injury and list management with the UD
- Updating the traditional "double-up" allowance to capture the inconsistent fixturing patterns
- Holding the UD to account with respect to the consistent application for loss of wages allowance during pre-season matches
- Holding clubs and their managers to account for abusing appointment allocations in pre-season matches (changing quarter lengths and timekeeping protocols without consultation or considering the health and wellbeing of our members)
- Ensuring consistency with the Administration Manual and the application and communication of policies and procedures (weather, performance, conflict of interest etc.)
- Advocating for appropriate member support and reinstating remuneration for tribunal appearances outside of contracted contact hours (MOU amendment)
- Defending the initial non-payment for our state game representatives, the first since lockdown and the amalgamation of the east coast competitions – will now be included in an amended MOU.
- Confidentially supporting members with grievances through the AFL's People and Culture (HR) and Integrity investigations
- Strengthening our relationship with other state-league umpiring associations around the country and the AFLUA.
- Successfully advocating for an equitable training nutrition allowance for NSW and Queensland umpires, after the success of reinstating the Victorian training nutrition program.
- Advocating for consistent definition and application of match fees for wildcard matches between our SLTP competitions.
- Bolstering appropriate travel management policies with increased instances of interstate appointments throughout the season, including development squad competitions
- Actively reviewing the definition of "metropolitan vs regional grounds" – working with the AFLUD to redefine what this means for contract schedules and travel allowances.
- Regularly working with stakeholders in the QAP program to ensure feedback is addressed and improvements are implemented appropriately.

For the first time since its incorporation, the Executive had to exercise the association's member disciplinary process as governed by our constitution. While the process had the effect of addressing an unfortunate incident, it highlighted the limited measures available to appropriately apply a sanction that was commensurate with the incident. A constitutional amendment was successfully ratified by members to provide the Executive with the broadened flexibility to determine its own sanction whilst still providing appropriate regulation to its discretion.

As we look to the future, our focus must remain on growth and development. The game is

evolving, and so too must we. Whether it is through embracing new competitions, improving communication with the wider league, or expanding our diversity and inclusion efforts, we must continue to lead with vision and integrity. We are also committed to the well-being of our members. The physical and mental demands on umpires are significant, and we must ensure that every umpire feels supported, valued, and equipped to handle the pressures of the umpiring.

In 2025, we will be due to revise our association's Strategic Plan for 2026-2029. To adapt our visions and objectives for the next four year term, we will be reinstating the bi-annual members survey to gain as much guiding data as possible to ensure our purpose as your association remains aligned to your values, priorities and the changing nature of our national game. The information from this survey will help the Strategy Team review and reevaluate the structure and operations of the Executive and ensures that the right resources and budgets are planned with sustainable governance and skills development for succession.

I call on all our members and life members to continue to uphold the values that make our association the strongest in the country. Let us work together to mentor the next generation of umpires, to support one another through the highs and lows, and to always strive for excellence in everything we do. The VFUA is more than an association; it is a family, and I am honoured to be a part of it. Let us go forward with pride in our role and a renewed commitment to making every game we officiate the best it can be.

Our association is only as strong as its members, and it is our collective voice that makes our employer accountable for our welfare and to make our umpiring experience enjoyable and rewarding.

I thank you for your support of the association in 2024 and look forward to your continued allegiance in 2025.

Joon-Yip Wong
VFUA President



Administrator's report

In my first year as VFUA administrator, I have enjoyed getting to learn more about the difference in priorities of the organisation in contrast with the trials and tribulations of community umpiring associations, which has been my administrative experience to date. With an increased professionalism on the field at State League and Talent Pathway (SL&TP) level comes an increase in responsibility for the association to deliver for its members, and I hope I've played my role in supporting our umpires behind the scenes to a standard that is commensurate with their contribution to the game this year.

Our first official meeting for the year after the AGM was the Executive Planning Day, where some salient points were raised by those present on the day, pertaining to the changing landscape of the AFL state league competitions and how future challenges or opportunities may arise for the VFUA and its members. It was noted that members who are also awarded AFLW contracts have a near 12-month commitment to umpiring and that it was incumbent upon the AFL and VFUA to work together to manage umpire health and wellbeing, mitigate risks of burnout and keep umpires invested in umpiring to their fullest potential.

In the absence of a members' representative, Yippy Wong has worked closely with Lucy Shaw, Darren Harris and the SL&TP Operations Team to advocate for members at all opportunities. Thank you to Yippy, ably supported by Andrew Talbot and Ben Rofe, for rising to this additional challenge and continuing to deliver the best outcomes for our members at every opportunity. Our thanks must also go to Lucy and Darren for their support and appreciation of the role that the VFUA plays in advocating for our members. It is symbiotic relationships such as these that are essential in ensuring a harmonious environment in all aspects of umpiring.

We finished the season with 171 members, representing a 94% rate of membership among umpires on SL&TP squads. A special mention must go to the Development Boundary and Senior Goal squads, who achieved 100% membership in 2024. We hope that those who did become VFUA Members this year consider themselves to have achieved a return on investment, and we will continue to work to present an offering that encourages all umpires to buy into an association that strives to deliver advocacy in the areas of fees and conditions negotiation, performance and list management and umpire wellbeing, just to name a few.

The format of association meetings was widely debated at an Executive level throughout the season. The provision of a barbeque by the SL&TP Operations Team at the Sir Doug Nicholls Round joint training session in May was gratefully received but stymied our efforts to try out a new venue for an offsite association meeting. In July, we tried something different by engaging Pasta Face to bring their food truck to Victoria Park. They served up three delicious varieties of pasta for our members to enjoy post training. We welcome feedback from members with regards to preference of location, menu offering and price so we can develop a regular format of association meetings that will incentivise attendance from as many members as possible.

Another fan favourite is the generous partner benefits that are afforded to VFUA members with thanks to our liaison with Peter Kelly and the AFL Umpires' Association. Members had the opportunity to purchase products from Nike, 2XU, Musashi, Sherrin and Budgy Smuggler at considerably discounted prices, however we understand that some offers would have been more enticing and beneficial to members than others. Although the association faces challenges in attracting partners and sponsors due to the inability to sell uniform advertising space, this is an area that we can seek to diversify in 2025 and beyond to ensure that our membership offering is keeping with the times and provides relevant value for money.

Many people, me included, will tell you that it's the friendships that really make someone's umpiring career a successful and enjoyable experience. This sentiment is what was harnessed by our track representatives in organising and delivering the mid-season squad functions. Whether it was golfing, 'balling' or a good old fashioned pub outing, these events were well attended by members of the respective squads and our thanks must go to Michael Willcox, Harrison Bell, Brad Kellett, Ian Herman, Daniel Mortlock and Connor Petrie for having their finger on the pulse and working with their members to deliver these association-subsidised events as an opportunity to have some fun away from game day.

As the season drew to a close, it was time to get the long awaited VFUA Annual Ball up and running. Early in the year proposals were sought from several preeminent venues in the Melbourne CBD and surrounds. It quickly became apparent that it would not be financially viable for ticket prices to be frozen as was done in previous years, regardless of venue. Rydge's Melbourne became our preferred venue due to its central location and increased value proposition compared with the offerings of other venues. Although tickets were still generously subsidised by the association, it was wonderful to see the support from the membership for the ball with a final head count of 205 people attending. I was personally very happy to flex my event management muscles and hope everyone enjoyed themselves on the evening as much as I enjoyed working with the team to bring the night together.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my inaugural season as the VFUA administrator and having developed a solid understanding of the association's priorities, I look forward to working with the Executive team in 2025 to deliver further innovation and improvements for our membership. While our members are working hard on the field and training track to get the most out of their umpiring careers, let

us continue to work hard behind the scenes to provide a well-rounded and diverse experience for all in every aspect of their involvement with our great game.

Emily Jose
VFUA Administrator



Members 2024

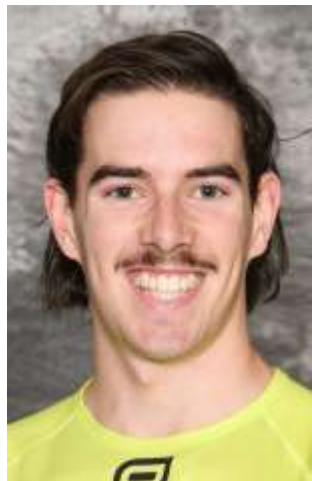
Field	Field	Boundary	Goal				
2024	Adam Bailes	2024	Aiden Tester	2024	Finn Horan	2021	Brady Gutbier
2019	Jack Cannon	2024	Sophia Tozer	2023	Thomas Kreun	2023	Bradley Heffernan-Benfield
2017	Joel Clamp	2023	Shannon Van Boven	2014	Anthony Laughton (d)	2023	Georgie Henderson
2023	Jonathan Clark	2022	Kyle Van Raay	2022	Mitch Lea	2015	Josh Hickman
2022	Lisa Compton-Robins	2024	Sarah Vanderschoot	2017	Madeleine Lum (e)	2021	James Kandler
2021	Lachlan Coyne	2023	Harry Warmington	2019	Corey Malcolm	2019	Bradley Kellett
2019	Sebastian Dalglish	2023	Ned Welsh	2024	Aidan McDonald	2022	Damon Kelly
2021	Genevieve Devenish	2023	Michael Whelan	2024	Ben McShane	2023	Jack Kennedy
2019	Shamus Dundon	2024	Hayden Whitehouse	2019	Lachlan Menara	2023	Zak Kenny
2023	Liam Dye	2018	Michael Willcox	2021	Ben Merrick	2022	Charlie Lodge
2017	Sam Ferguson (a)	2018	Cameron Williams	2023	Solomon Miesen	2017	Tayla Manning
2022	Lachlan Flinn	2023	Jeremy Zhou		Greta Miller	2023	Jackson Mansell
2019	Jackson Gillespie			2023	Daniel Molino	2024	Shaun Meredith
2023	Sophie Gleeson			2023	Daniel Mortlock	2022	Noah Meyers
2024	Josh Hamilton			2019	Zac Mousaco	2023	Issa Mikhael
2021	Connor Hawes			2023	Ben Myatt	2016	Brendan Moloney
2023	Douglas Haworth			2019	Luke Myatt	2016	Luke Monea
2019	Ian Herman			2021	Mitch O'Neill	2022	Connor Petrie (a)
2017	Jack Howard	Boundary		2022	Jonathon Peck	2021	Phillip Pettinella
2023	Campbell Hymans	2024	Jenny Alley	2021	Lachlan Perdon	2022	Samuel Polden
2019	Elias Kafritsas	2023	Shaylee Anderson	2023	Oliver Pratt	2018	James Rizio
2021	Arron Knezevic	2022	Wade Anderson	2023	Ryan Pulley	2021	James Rodwell
2024	Kezia Laker	2023	Nicholas Bahr	2019	Benjamin Rofe	2018	Samuel Rogers
2023	Ben Lefebvre	2023	Ashlee Ball	2016	Melissa Sambrooks	2021	Bridget Saftenberger
2014	Lucinda Lopes (b)	2019	Kaitlin Barr	2023	Dominic Schiliro	2022	Cohen Shannon
2024	Brett Lynch	2009	Adam Bell	2023	Lachlan Smith	2018	Jack Stammers
2017	Thomas Lyon	2022	Harrison Bell	2015	Lewis Spiker	2019	Adam Steger
2017	Matthew Mahoney	2024	Rylan Bell	2023	Ben Tingiri	2023	Courtney Stelling
2021	Ryan Mann	2024	Mitch Bellingham	2024	Cody Tuder	2017	Nelson Tucker (h)
2023	Cooper Marriott	2023	Lachlan Bezzina	2016	Daniel Urbans	2016	John Varker
2023	Christopher Menara	2024	Darien Blair	2021	Andrew Van Keulen	2015	Joon-Yip Wong
2024	Kaileb Monroe	2016	Trent Bowes	2024	Luke Walley	2023	Dylan Wood
2019	Hugo Morgan	2019	James Brayshaw	2015	Jesse Wilkie	2024	Tim Wood
2021	Emiel Morvell	2023	Ryan Brown	2021	Lachlan Wright	2021	Emma Young
2017	Alex Murray	2022	Jack Buller				
2023	Oliver Pearce	2023	Angus Cameron		Goal		
2019	Jordyn Pearson	2011	John Cooper	2024	Connor Ahmed	Notes	
2016	Luke Porter	2023	Michael Court	2022	Laura Brogan	(a)	Off list 2023.
2023	Brock Reid	2016	Jake D'Angelo	2006	Chris Doyle	(b)	Field 2014-16, 2018-24. Boundary 2017
2023	Samantha Ritchie	2022	Mitchell Dorling	2022	Josh Dudman-Doyle	(c)	Off list 2022
2021	William Ross (c)	2022	Reuben Dyer	2023	Nathan Dugdale	(d)	Not eligible 2015, 2017-2020.
2018	Nick Scott	2015	Kyle Fisher	2012	Matthew Edwards	(e)	Not eligible 2019-2022
2024	Jack Seymour	2023	Monique Galea	2003	Adam Gardner (f)	(f)	Not eligible 2009-2016
2023	Scott Simpson	2022	Cooper Geall	2019	Thomas Gath	(g)	Off list 2020
2023	Jai Smith	2023	Luke Gonis	2022	Benjamin Geleit	(h)	Off list 2018
2024	Jye Stannage	2022	Olivia Grcic	2024	Katie Gillespie		
2008	Andrew Talbot	2018	Lachlan Higgs	2023	Jenna Green		
2021	Austin Tattersall	2024	Asha Hinton	2024	Liam Green		

Best First Year Umpires

Field	Boundary	Goal
2012 Hayden Gavine	2012 Lachlan Rayner	2012 Sam Walsh
2013 Pat Burns	2013 Kieran Ferguson	2013 Matthew Dervan
2014 John Howorth	2014 Sam Stagg	2014 Kate Griffiths
2015 Leighton Rowe	2015 David Park	2015 Cameron Milich
2016 Cameron Dore	2016 Chris Williams	2015 Brad Standfield
2017 Sam Ferguson	2017 Joel Davis	2016 Pat Dwyer
2018 Josh Ball	2018 Matthew Crowley	2017 Sian Atkins
2019 Shamus Dundon	2019 Corey Malcolm	2018 James Rizio
2020 No award	2020 No award	2019 Thomas Gath
2021 Lachlan Coyne	2021 Riley Guerin	2020 No award
2022 Kyle van Raay	2022 Harrison Bell	2021 Emma Young
2023 Scott Simpson	2023 Solomon Miesen	2022 Josh Dudman-Doyle
2024 Adam Bailes	2024 Cody Tudor	2023 Zak Kenny
		2024 Shaun Meredith



Adam Bailes



Cody Tudor



Shaun Meredith

Frank Leverett Shield

Overall best first year umpire

1992 Alan Letson	2003 Neil Woods	2014 Sam Stagg
1993 Adam Skidmore	2004 Matthew Lafite	2015 Leighton Rowe
1994 Steven Hanley	2005 Jacob Mollison	2016 Cameron Dore
1995 Adam Bastin	2006 Chris Gordon	2017 Joel Davis
1996 Gordon Muir	2007 Graham Bergroth	2019 James Rizio
1997 Glenn Guzzo	2008 Matt Maclure	2019 Corey Malcolm
1998 Matthew Tippet	2009 Brendan Hosking	2020 No award
1999 Matt Stevic	2010 Luke White	2021 Riley Guerin
2000 John Neaven	2011 Daniel Butcher	2022 Harrison Bell
2001 Luke Walker	2012 Hayden Gavine	2023 Zak Kenny
2002 Rob Haala	2013 Matthew Dervan	2024 Cody Tudor

Most Improved Umpires

	Field	Boundary	Goal
1992	B. Allen	T. Anderson	C. Clark
1993	S. McLaren	M. Vitiritti	G. Billing
1994	K. Nicholls	S. Williamson	D. Humphries
1995	V. Sercia	S. Jansen	M. Harrison
1996	T. Shearer	S. Davies	M. Russell
1997	W. Mann	R. Frampton	A. Galea
1998	G. Twitt	S. Nathan	C. Evans
1999	S. Jeffery	M. Vitiritti	D. Dixon
2000	A. Davis	G. Boland	P. Gonis
2001	C. Donlon	S. Smith	D. Flegg
2002	C. Kamolins	-	C. Appleton
2003	M. Stevic	-	A. Galea
2004	R. Findlay	-	P. Nastasi
2005	J. Armstrong	-	L. Walker
	A. Mitchell		
2006	T. McCarthy	-	J. Venkataya
2007	B. Ritchie	-	-
2008	R. Mills	S. Jones	R. Thwaites
2009	A. Mitchell	T. Morrison	B. James
2010	M. Curtis	M. Tomkins	A. Kyrkou
2011	B. Hosking	J. Andrews	M. Maclure
2012	T. Carlos	T. Lougoon	C. Wong
2013	R. OGorman	J. Mather	S. Walsh
2014	P. Burns	A. Leggo	S. Plumridge
2015	H. Gavine	L. Buwalda	C. Leonard
2016	J. Howorth	D. Main	M. Edwards
2017	A. Gianfagna	L. Harty	P. Trotter
2018	P. Rebeschini	A. Hawkes	J. Varker
2019	L. Porter	M. Crowley	J. Rizio
2020	No award	No award	No award
2021	M. Young	K. Fisher	M. Edwards
2022	J. Ball	A. Laughton	C. Thornton
2023	J. Howard	L. Menara	B. Kellett
2024	C. Williams	C. Malcolm	A. Steger



Top: Cameron Williams
Middle: Corey Malcolm
Bottom: Adam Steger

VFUA life members

Darren Agnew (1995)	Mikel Donsen (1993)	Peter Kelly (1996)	Doug Purs (Found.*)
Peter Allsop (1992)	Gavin Dore (1993)	Greg Kennedy (1998)	Frank Raiti (1994)
Paul Anderson (2018*)	Chris Doyle (2023)	Hayden Kennedy (1993)	Gary Ramm (1999)
Jason Armstrong (2006)	Brendan Dye (2004)	Colin Larter (1999)	Denis Rich (Found.)
Peter Balding (2010)	Jack Edwards (2023)	Nick Laurence (2015)	Michael Richardson (2006)
Dan Beard (2004)	Judi Elliott (1997)	Andrew Leggo (2019)	Linton Roe (2000)
Gary Best (1994*)	Brendan Elvey (2017)	Matthew Leppard (2009)	Greg Russo (1999)
Anthony Black (1998)	Stephen Evans (2006)	Richard Leslie (2002)	John Russo (Found.)
Michael Blair (2013)	Ray Fargie (1993)	Stephen Luckman (1992)	Paul Saville (Found.)
Michael Boss (2011)	Rob Findlay (2007)	Andrew Malcolm (2002)	Melissa Sambrooks (2023)
Alan Brewer (1996)	Lloyd Fisk (2003)	Wes Mann (1999)	Rowan Sawers OAM (Found.)
Graeme Brewer (1993)	David Flegg AM (1997)	Shane Mason (2003)	Graeme Scherger (1992)
Nick Brown (2019)	Rob Frampton (1999)	Dean Maxwell (1995)	Colin Segota (1996)
Tristan Burgess (2013)	Joy Gelly (2005)	Peter McDonald (1998)	Roger Selwood (1992)
Daniel Butcher (2016)	Stephen Gloag (2005)	Anton McKernan (1993)	Michael Sexton (1998)
Keith Callaghan (1997)	Darren Goldspink (1993)	Scott McLaren (1999)	Bryan Sheehan (1993)
Peter Cameron (Found.)	Peter Gonis (2005)	Richard Mills (2013)	Michael Sneddon (Found.)
Mark Canning (2000)	Doug Gourlay (1994)	Chris Mitchell (Found.)	Chris Snell (2003)
Peter Carey (1992)	Doug Gower (1993)	David Mitchell (Found.)	Harry Stamatopoulos (2003)
Brendan Carland (Found.)	Ian Green (1993)	Kevin Mitchell OAM (2006)	Justin Stephenson (2001)
Barry Carmichael (Found.)	Kate Griffiths (2020)	Sam Mounajed (2018)	Steven Stirling (1998)
Geoff Caulfield (1995)	John Hall (1997)	Geoff Morrow (Found.*)	Brad Strachan (2000)
Craig Clark (1996)	Michael Hammond (2003)	Geoff Mowat (1992)	Terry Suitryk (1993)
Andrew Clifton (2005)	Lindsay Hardman (2000)	Peter Nastasi (2004)	Phil Sutton (Found.)
Andrew Coates (1994)	Shane Harris (1992)	Ben Naughtin (2008)	Andrew Talbot (2017)
Alan Cook (1993)	Darren Holt (2003)	John O'Leary (1993)	Simon Tursi (2008)
Michael Curtis (2018)	Colin Hood (1997)	Malcolm Owen (1993)	James Van Beek (1994)
Damien Cusack (2013)	David Howlett (Found.)	Laurie Page (1994)	Jason Venkataya (2005)
Graeme Danne (Found.*)	David Humphries (2001)	Liam Pain (2023)	Michael Viney (1993)
Russell Davidson (2000)	Anthony Hunter (2014*)	Brian Philp (1994*)	Matthew Vitiritti (2000)
Rod Davies (1995)	Steele Irish (2007)	Daniel Pieper (2016)	Phil Watson (1993)
Andrew Dempster (2001)	Ben James (2006)	Steve Piperno (2015)	Andrew Wheeler (1998)
Greg Denison (2012)	Michael Jennings (2010)	Simon Plumridge (2019)	Graeme Williams (Found.)
Frank Dicosmo (2006)	Dean Jones (2019)	Mark Powell (1998)	Adam Wojcik (2007)

Notes: Year indicates year of life membership. (Found.) Foundation life member. * deceased. # Special Award

Social Report

Season launch

For what is becoming a nice little VFUA tradition since COVID, the 2024 season kicked off with a season launch in the form of lawn bowls on Saturday 6 April at the Richmond Union Bowling Club. Despite not being before the start of the season, the early season bye for the state game gave umpers a chance to socialise while the weather was still acceptable for outdoor entertainment. Hear from each discipline about the day they had:

Field umpires

They say the State of Origin rivalry is fierce, but that is nothing compared to what happens when you put a competition in front of a group of umpires.

It was great to be able to watch on as Jack Howard, Anthony Laughton and James Rizio represented the state in Adelaide during Gather Round doing a great job despite some curve balls with modified rules.

Once this finished it was time for the bowls to take centre stage. There were some strong competitions within the squads and only a few balls bowled facing the wrong way!! It was great to see so many people joining in and enjoying some good company given we don't often get the chance to have all three disciplines together. Two huge results also occurred in the raffle with people that bought a lot of tickets actually winning the main prizes and Liam Pain turning his back on the raffle. Could the raffle need to be renamed?

Boundary umpires

As well as having the opportunity to watch and support three VFL umpires in the SANFL vs VFL state game on the big screen, the numbers already started to build amongst the VFUA members at the Richmond Union Bowls Club.

The sensational weather and a great turnout at the club provided a great night for some lawn bowls. After a quick brief from Bowls club

member Ian, the night provided plenty of conversation, laughs and even bringing out a competitive nature in some.

The night was topped off with a few great words from Talbo and Yippy followed by a raffle draw where some members cleaned up!

Goal umpires

The bowls day was a really nice and smooth event. It was a good space for goal umpires to gather and just hang out with each other.

Several lawn bowl rinks were used to play which created several groups who were competing together. There were plenty of prizes through Painy's raffle on the night which saw several goalies walking away with their hands full.

Overall, the night was a good vibe put on by the VFUA and being the first time for a few umpers, some are already counting down to next year's version!

Field umpire mid-season event

For the first time since the pandemic, the senior and development field squads organized a joint event for our mid-season function. It was a rare Sunday with few games scheduled, and with the King's Birthday holiday on Monday, we seized the opportunity to gather at Harlow in Richmond to watch Essendon take on Carlton on the big screen. The atmosphere was lively, with drinks flowing and delicious food being ordered as everyone settled in to share their thoughts and predictions for the evening's game.

As the match reached its conclusion, the dance floor opened and the energy shifted gears. One by one, colleagues and teammates found their groove, dancing and celebrating what had been an enjoyable season to date. The night wore on, filled with laughter, camaraderie, and the joy of being together again after so long apart.

As morning approached and reality set in, people gradually began to make their way home, reminiscing about the night and already looking forward to the next gathering. It was more than just a social event; it was a much-needed opportunity for both squads to

reconnect, strengthen bonds, and celebrate being back together in person. The event marked a memorable milestone in our journey, reminding us of the importance of camaraderie and shared experiences both on and off the field.

Boundary umpire mid-season event

FORE! This year the boundary squad ventured out into the world of golf, and what a wild result that certainly brought.

From self-proclaimed professionals to Rylan Bell, we definitely witnessed a mixed bag of tricks.

Whether you brought your own personal glove and a tucked in polo shirt or just wanted to try drinking three ciders at once there was plenty of entertainment wherever you looked. Across the night there was plenty of food and drink to go around, kindly served by the friendly staff at Melbourne Golf Park whilst everyone in the eight booths booked on top of the second floor were trying their very best to either see how far they were capable of driving a golf ball or playing one of the built in games that each booth provided.

The quality night was enjoyed by all involved. There wasn't anyone who didn't participate or have a go at driving a ball, even if some probably landed in the car park.

All in all it was a very successful night across the entire boundary squad with only one broken club courtesy of Angus, it was a fantastic social occasion across the board and everyone involved had a cracking night!

Goal umpire mid-season event

Our mid-season function saw us once again head to Ballers' Clubhouse, this time in Carlton.

Through darts, table tennis, shuffleboard and lots of other mini games the competition could not have been higher.

Issa Mikhael controversially led the way in the darts and for a second year running, the computer software has announced Issa as a winner which is only riddled with conspiracy.

The table tennis once again saw Luke Monea lock in and try to take on the whole room, but the efforts of track rep Connor Petrie were what we would call 'exceeded'.

We found a table tennis table within a ball pit.. fair to say it was harder to move in than the mud at Vic. Park but, it was a ton of fun and we only lost three goal umpires among the balls, fingers crossed they make it out soon!

Once Ballers' kicked us out, the goalies spent the rest of the night in the city enjoying each others company. 3 votes: J. Stammers. 2 votes: J. Green. 1 vote: C. Lodge. Thank you to our track reps Brad, Connor and the social team behind them for putting this together.

Life Members' dinner

The VFUA life members have made a significant contribution to the association from its inception and each year gather to both reminisce and keep in touch with umpiring goings on.

The event was held on Sunday 16 June at the Hotel Collingwood in Smith Street and began with pre-dinner drinks in the main bar followed by a dinner in the upstairs private function room.

President, Yippy Wong, welcomed guests and brought them up to date with the affairs of the association.

Life membership certificates were presented to 2023 life members Liam Pain, Melissa Sambrooks, Chris Doyle and Jack Edwards. There was also a belated presentation to Dean Jones who has waited since 2019 to receive his certificate.

Thanks to the Executive Committee for organising a successful event and to the 16 life members and current Executive who were in attendance.

Past Presidents' dinner

After a hiatus reaching back before COVID, the return of the Past Presidents' dinner to the



Boundary umpires teeing off at the mid-season function

social calendar marked the final piece of the VFUA's return to normality after the pandemic.

Ten former presidents joined current VFUA President, Yippy Wong and several current Executive members at the Universal Restaurants function room in Lygon Street, Carlton, to catch up, talk of days gone by and association activities that have brought the VFUA to where it is today.

The presidents were briefed on recent events and the future goals and projects of the association. While there have been many changes and improvements over the years it was clear that some aspects of the league and association's relationship remain the same.

Thanks go to Andrew Talbot for organising the night and here's hoping we can gather in another two years to rekindle friendships and celebrate more association successes.

VFUA Ball

Umps take over Rydges

After a few years at Showtime Events with the infamous saxophone, the 2024 Annual Ball saw a bit of a shake up and it was well worth it!

This year, the umpires of the VFUA descended on Rydges Melbourne for the night of nights. After the traditional pre-drink gathering in the holding area where a few cocktails were enjoyed, attendees were greeted with a grand new function room and

the sweet sounds of tunes provided by DJ Murph. The Master of Ceremonies also had a fresh makeover. The blonde locks were replaced with a well groomed beard in the form of VFUA Life Member, Nick Brown.

Once again, the night adequately recognised a number of achievements and awards after the successful ventures of the State League season. All four grand final panels had their opportunity to reflect and thank the important people who support and sacrifice for us all during the winter months. This year we saw another umpire granted VFL Life Membership. Chris Doyle, although not present while on his USA junket, notched up 175 matches for his automatic inclusion. That wasn't the only milestone recognised on the night. Talbo was on stage (yet again) for game 250. JC became the boundary version of Talbo after breaking the all-time VFL boundary games record and notching up 200. Matt Edwards rounded out the triple figure milestones with 150, before a myriad of umpires were recognised for 50 VFL games and VFL debuts.

It was appropriate to recognise a few of those who won't be returning to Victoria Park in 2025. Adam Bell (B), Adam Gardener (G) and Matt Mahoney (F) have all said their farewells after their distinguished careers.

The event is also the time for announcements of two award categories - Most Improved and Best First Year.

After all of that was interspersed with three delicious meals, the dance floor was full with all walks of life getting involved. Whilst impressive to see potentially the first ever baby getting their groove on at the ball, many were concerned to see that it was Clampy carrying the poor thing! At the end of the night, the party animals did... well, what party animals do, and the smart ones made their way home sensibly.

It was another fun-filled night and season. A big thank you goes out to Emily, VFUA Administrator for pulling together a fantastic night! The night is also not successful without the buy-in of the members, life members and partners who attend the night. The entire VFUA Executive thanks you for your support throughout the year and we wish each of you a relaxing and safe break, and look forward to working with you, for you and supporting you all in season 2025!

Mini-Olympics

The 2024 running of the Mini-Olympics, like many of the preceding editions, was an exciting affair of camaraderie, competition and mateship. Remembering one of our own, the Mini-Olympics are contested annually by all squads, a range of events are conducted where the aggregate winner is awarded the Paul Anderson Memorial Shield.

Paul was a boundary umpire who was on the VFL list from 1995 to 2000, umpiring 41 VFL senior matches. Sadly, during 2001 Paul lost a courageous battle with Cancer.

The 4 x 100 relay was a competitive showdown of pure speed and power to start the on-field proceedings. With all runners working around the Vic Park track in the handicapped race. Luckily, photo finish wasn't required, and the senior field squad took the honours. We are on the lookout for a new handicapper for 2025 please enquire within if you have more of an idea than the last bloke.

Senior field showed their strength paired with a delicate touch in the egg throw. Managing the longest throw without breaking their egg. While no one left with egg on their face (that we are aware of), handshakes at the conclusion of the event, however, were optional.

Rock, paper, SCISSORS! Saw the senior field squad flex their primary school skills in the nail biting, best-of-3 finale. After winning the first, there was an almighty come back to level 1-1, before ultimately becoming victors in the final round 2-1.

This year was the debut of 'Football Golf'. Teams bent dribble kicks around cones and through hoops, scoring strokes in the conventional way. The senior field squad's team were measured and precise to win the event.

The crowd favourite event, without a doubt, is the round-ball counterpart being soccer. Across the 3 rounds, the senior field squad amassed 3 goals and 2 wins to win the event outright. The development boundaries need to cross train in soccer over the offseason if they wish to hit the scoreboard next season.

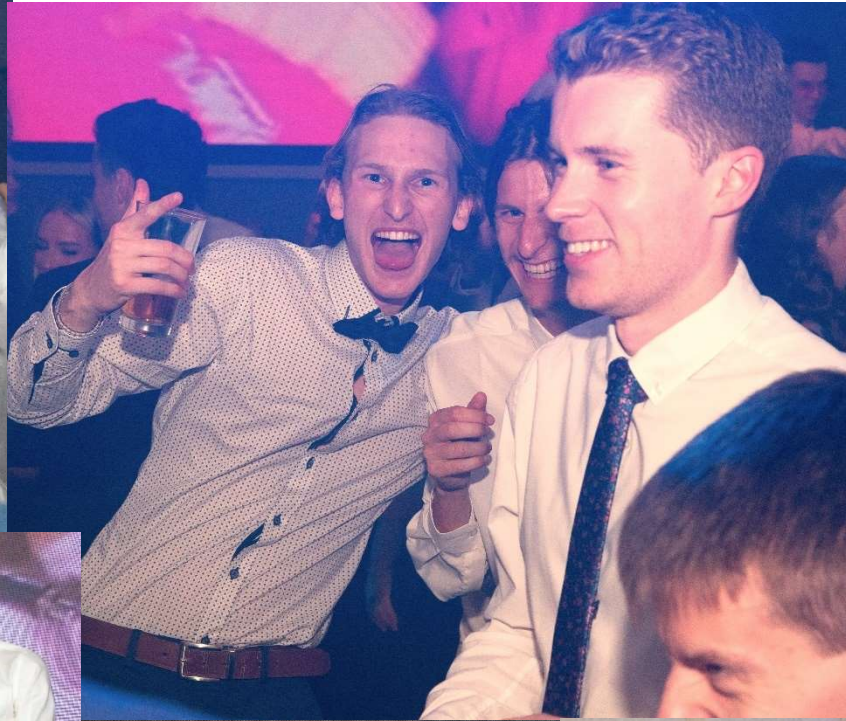
With the bulk of the events in the history books, it was time for the bounce contest. With valiant efforts by the senior goal and development goal squad, the senior field squad, off the back of a season of training for this very event, walked away the victors.

Shortly after the push up challenge commenced, all competitors looking strong after 10, even 20, a few starting to show the signs of fatigue by 30, the shakes started at 32, then they all dropped like flies with the senior goal just falling short of the senior field, outlasting the rest.

The final event conducted for 2024 was the boundary throw in contest. With the throwing alley lined with all umpires, the distinctive 'OOOOOOOOO-AAY' for each throw was said to be heard from 3 suburbs away. In a surprise showing, senior field umpire Tom Lyon showed his roots and landed the closest to the bin.

Over the BBQ dinner, the scores were collated. For the first time since 2019, the development boundary squad WEREN'T going to retain the Paul Anderson Memorial Shield. In reverse order; Development boundary (19 points), senior boundary (22 points), development field (29 points), development goal (30 points), senior goal (31 points) and the victors – senior field (40 points). Congratulations to the senior field squad, take good care of the shield in your barracks over the next 12 months. Thank you to everyone who attended, participated and added to the atmosphere of the night.

Until next year!



Grand Final After-party

The end of the football season was marked by the annual VFL Grand Final After Party celebration, where we once again returned to the Princes Park Carlton Bowls Club at the conclusion of Werribee's thrilling 6-point victory over Southport at IKON Park. The evening was expertly catered by Roadhouse Barbeque and our very own DJ Clodge kept the tunes spinning all night. The raffle draw was an exciting highlight of the night, as was the celebration of our VFL Grand Final umpires.

We even welcomed some of our Queensland counterparts, who made the trip south to attend the game! We thank them for joining us to celebrate and for their teamwork in VFL games throughout the season. Thanks also to our VFUA Members for making the day and night one to remember for our esteemed Grand Final umpires, and congratulations once again to those appointed to the match.

Squad Reports

Senior field

2024 saw a stellar grand final between two standalone VFL clubs. Umpired by Joel Clamp, Jack Howard and interstate 'intruder' Sam Whetton. Werribee dished up a belter performance and achieved redemption after being defeated last season.

It was during the year though that some of the most memorable moments happened.

Our medical staff were put under the pump with umpires entering concussion protocols, both in game for Tom Lyon, and on the training track for Emiel Morvell.

We had great variety with our training, with Veli putting us to the sword at Princes Park, Sam Hurford and Matt Mahoney going toe to toe in the pool at MSAC, whilst Emiel challenged the squad to a steam room standoff at the same time.

Sam Ferguson was noticed early in the season for his terrific bouncing - and banter at a Williamstown practice match.

A highlight of the year was dinner at The All Nations Hotel, welcoming back past VFUA members and coaches, celebrating the achievements of retiring VFL umpires Josh Ball and Tom Chrystie.

And then of course, by the time AFLW pre-season rolled around, Talbo, Kyle, Jordyn, Tom

Lyon, Seb Dalglish, Shamus Dundon and Luke "Cash-in" Porter did exactly that, and took every opportunity for development and financial gain through club visits and additional games. Congratulations to all for being selected for the AFLW season.

The senior field umpires claimed the Paul Anderson Shield, for winning the VFUA Mini Olympics, for the first time since 2017. The squad celebrated in style, taking the shield on Le tour de Richmond.

Umpires Emiel Morvell and Scott Simpson were two umpires to debut this year in the VFL. Both umpires were new additions to the senior squad, alongside Sam Hurford and Connor Hawes who joined the squad this season after debuting in 2023.

Thank You

The VFL Field Senior Squad was privileged to have such an incredible support network.

We were supported by an incredible group of physios and trainers, the latter headed up by Peter Scott, who when not cracking jokes that put HR on alert, ran an awesome team of passionate people.

Adam Veli ran an incredible strength and conditioning program and team.

Thank you to Hayden Kennedy, Sam Wood, Scott Jeffrey, Chris Kamolins, Brett Allen, Rowan Sawers and Don Cooke for their support on training and match days during the season.

And of course, thanks to the amazing partners, families, and friends who support our squad.

Development field

As a new year dawned for the Development Field Umpires, there was movement amongst both the umpiring and coaching staff. Heath Ryan remained as the Dev Head Coach with right hand men, Leighton Rowe and Tristan Burgess serving as Assistant Coaches. We also congratulate Emiel Morvell, Sam Hurford, Connor Hawes and Scott Simpson on their elevation to the Senior Squad – a testament to their hard work and umpiring ability.

At the beginning of pre-season, we welcomed six new umpires who had been promoted from local league into our squad and were all ready to hit the ground running on a lush Vic Park. The sessions dished up by Fitness coach Matt Whitehead were tough but prepared us well leading into the start of the year. The 2km TT had many on edge with a mix of nervousness, excitement and for many just wanting to get it over and done with. On a barmy evening which saw an overwhelming amount of Oakley sunglasses and carbon fibred footwear worn, Hayden Pearson took out the honours, with strong running shown by all as we continued our preparation for the season.

Practice games came in thick and fast, giving many their first taste of footy in quite a few months, with opportunities for some to even umpire senior footy. This opportunity was relished and provided those umpires to be able to further develop and bring their experience back to the rest of the squad. Before we knew it, the VFLW and Coates Girls & Boys competitions were underway and was great to have consistent footy weekly. Our squad was bolstered with the likes of Hayden Whitehouse, Jye Stannage and Aiden Tester joining the squad at the end of April, who all had experience umpiring Talent league football throughout the season. They adapted quickly to

the group and although they struggled to remember many names early on, they made up for with what they brought to the group.

There were many opportunities for our squad to umpire national championship games and carnivals across the season. Our squad umpired the U16 Boys and Girls Carnivals, with Harry Warmington, Lisa Compton-Robins and Michael Whelan going to the Gold Coast representing the squad. The U18 Boys & Girls national championships games were umpired by those in our squad, with a real highlight being a game at Marvel Stadium.

With Vic Park better resembling a Heavy 10 after a ten race card at Flemington, we were ordered off the track and had to find alternative training locations in the peak of Melbourne Winter. This provided our squad with the opportunity to mix it up and train around Ikon Park and for some swimming at Fitzroy public pool. Although many wouldn't have challenged our Olympians in the pool, it did show us who could swim and who couldn't, whilst also having some light-hearted fun.

A massive congratulations goes to Adam Bailes, Gen Devenish, Ned Welsh and Ben Lefebvre who were rewarded with the VFLW Grand Final in a high-scoring affair at ETU Stadium, as the first of the grand finals for our squad. The Coates Girls Grand Final was umpired by Josh Hamilton, Aiden Tester, Sophia Tozer and Arron Knezevic, with two of our umpires in their first year. Finally, the Coates Boys Grand Final was



umpired by Liam Dye, Harry Warmington, Jack Cannon and Hayden Pearson to wrap up the finals and the year for our squad.

This year provided our group to grow stronger and closer to one another, whilst also developing individually. We look forward to a break to freshen up, before hitting the ground running next year and a big 2025 to follow!

Senior boundary

2024 was a season of new beginnings for the Senior Boundary Squad, with Lachy Harty being promoted to Senior Coach following the departure of Leigh Buwalda and five new faces into the Senior Squad. Wade Anderson, Harrison Bell, Mitch Dorling, Reuben Dyer and Luke Myatt joined the senior ranks in 2024 in Victoria, with Ronin Mahoney jumping onto QLD's senior list. Lachlan Higgs was voted captain for the third year in a row, with Lewis Spiker and James Brayshaw as deputies.

Akin to pre-season 2023, the track at Princes Park saw a fair bit of action in the early stages before the wonderful track at Lakeside for our officially unofficial 4km TT. What wasn't so wonderful was the 33 degree heat that was beaming down on us as we ran.

Despite the heat of the TT, the camaraderie was high and we were in for another fun year.

We kicked off the season with three rounds before the bye for the state game in Adelaide during AFL Gather Round. Anthony Laughton (looking pretty in pink) was selected to represent the group and officiate in the first SA v Vic game since the mid 2010s!

The month of May hit us and so did the run of senior debutants, with Daniel Mortlock debuting in the top of the table clash between Footscray and Box Hill, before Solly Miesen followed suit two weeks after. Cody Tudor became the first first year umpire to debut in VFL in two seasons when he ran out under lights at Williamstown. Rounding out the debuts were Jono Peck and Nic Bahr.

2024 was the year for milestones as well, with 6 boundary umpires reaching 50 VFL Games, Lachlan Menara, Sam Beer, Zach Mousaco, Josh Blain, Daniel Urbans and Mitch O'Neill.

However, arguably the biggest milestone occurred on 25 May, when John Cooper broke the all-time record for most matches boundary umpired, when he ran out for the 195th time on the hallowed turf of the MCG in the Dreamtime Curtain Raiser. Six weeks later, he became the fifth umpire in VFL history to hit 200 matches.

Conditions at Vic Park worsened throughout the year and we had to get creative with space and sessions for a few weeks, as we headed back to Princes Park for a week and sessions along the Yarra Bend Park.

August came along and we were back on track on Vic Park and gearing up for a big finals series.

Solly Miesen, Dan Mortlock, Lewis Spiker and Ben Tingiri were selected to officiate in the 2024 Coates Boys Grand Final on the Saturday before we went back to IKON Park on Sunday for the big game.

For the second year in a row, Anthony Laughton and Lach Menara were selected for the VFL Grand Final. We also saw a Grand Final debutant with honorary Queenslander Adrian Pretorius selected for the big match. To round out the panel, was John Cooper, which saw him run in his fourth VFL Grand Final in five seasons. What an incredible achievement and congratulations to those panels who represented the group with pride on the day.

Bring on season 2025!





Development boundary

The start of the 2024 season had a flying start. Having Alex Keys step up into the head coach position (originally assistant coach) and Raushaan Seychell becoming his right-hand man as assistant coach (originally observer), the development boundary squad were very excited for the fresh 2024 season!

Big congratulations to those who were promoted to the senior squad for this season. But with that, the squad was able to welcome 8 fresh faces onto the development squad, 50% of those coming from the VAFA and the rest from various other leagues. On top of this we also welcomed 2 more during the early-mid season who stood out and proved themselves in academy games!

Adding lots of depth and quality to the squad, the development squad was looking very strong!

The season was already flying through and before we knew it, it was already VFLW finals time. Time flies when you are running circles around Victoria park!

An absolutely stacked panel of Mitchell Bellingham, Monique Galea, Olivia Grcic and Ben Myatt were finalised to umpire the VFLW grand final after all having a fantastic final series.

What a great lead into the Coates Boys and Girls final series where once again, some outstanding talent was shown for eight boundary umpires to qualify in the grand finals.

Coates Boys Grand final panel:
Solomon Miesen, Daniel Mortlock, Lewis Spiker and Ben Tingiri.

Coates Girls Grand final panel:
Lachlan Bezzina, Cooper Geall, Asha Hinton and Luke Walley.

Outstanding weather was the icing on the cake for two back-to-back grand finals being held at the historic Ikon Park. With plenty of support from the other boundaries coming to watch - they were clearly the most enthusiastic and loudest on the day - it was a great example of the camaraderie and support the entire development squad has for each other.

Finally, to wrap up the season, development boundaries took on the Mini-Olympics after four consecutive victories. Other than the talent of Noodles kicking snags in the goal kicking and Ash/Cody bringing out their inner PGA tour in the footy golf, the dev boundaries unfortunately finished on the bottom end of the ladder this year. Must have been a miscount... They'll be back next year just watch!

Couldn't be happier with this bunch, now enjoy your offseason and can't wait to hit the ground running again at the start of pre-season!





Senior goal

I know the Senior Goal Umpires report has gone off on a different tangent the past few seasons and this year is going to be no different. A dear and valued colleague of mine has often equated umpiring to a quest or journey. So I thought to myself how would this 2024 Smithy's VFL Season look as if I was writing a letter home to my beloved parents after an epic journey. I wonder how that would look.....

Dearest Mother and Father,

I'm home, I've made it back to my quiet abode after this latest expedition, the Smithy's 2024/25 VFL season. At times I didn't think I'd make it through these latest travels. It was a rather long and at times arduous 9-month journey but with that being said it was still filled with many things to recognize and celebrate. Our touring party was one of 19 determined men and women keen to tackle the peaks and troughs along the way. Our tour commanders were once again experienced leaders Letson and Dicosmo. They had us well prepared although Dicosmo's '27 things to consider whilst on the journey at any one time, in a split second' was a touch confusing and bewildering for some.

One thing that stood out amongst this party of brave souls was the experience it possessed, and the group heartily celebrated some significant milestones. Senior citizen of the touring cohort and chief meal organiser Christopher Doyle celebrated his 175th expedition and was feted by all including being presented with a pig skin almost as old as he to

mark the achievement. I must admit I'm a bit concerned about this old fellow as he seems to believe any time he does anything of note it is worthy of being 'decision of the year'. No less than four times did he make that claim over the journey over the most mundane of achievements, thereby annoying one and all. Matthew Edwards, who persisted admirably through more hardship than most this campaign also brought up the significant 150 game milestone which drew rightful applause from his travelling companions. Edwards also became the person in charge of providing musical accompaniment when the group was preparing to go out on training missions this season. One must say it has been an interesting array of what the young people call these days 'tunes'.

We also had Brad Kellett (who drew no less than 12 people calling in to send praise at one of our tour meetings) Adam Steger (who received some both positive and confusing accolades) and our President, Joon-Yip Wong (or as one celebrator called him 'John') bring up 50 trips throughout. We even had one of our junior adventurers Connor Petrie join us for two weeks during the season. He definitely had the most equipped belt of all of us that's for sure!

There were others in our cohort who had some recognition throughout our travels this year. Young James Rizio was selected to branch off during the journey and make the 800km detour to the mysterious town of Adelaide to participate in a meeting with our colleagues from the land of Southern Australia. James did end up having to hit the post Burke and Wills style though and make the trip back to Victoria soon enough. We also had Georgia Henderson and Adam Steger chosen to represent us in the annual meeting of young expeditioners in Melbourne. All reports through the telegraph confirmed they represented us well. I must admit Georgie's signaling of goals as seen on social media when scoring them on the soccer pitch could use a bit of work.

Speaking of social media I must report that another of our intrepid crew Joshua 'Pipes' Hickman drew much interest when he decided to don a short sleeve arrangement during the latter parts of the journey when we were



travelling down the bayside area of Sandringham. This part of the tour drew attention from the local television broadcasters who posted footage on their social media accounts. A particular clip of Joshua's bustling biceps drew some 423 people liking what they saw. How disappointed these people must be now considering Joshua is a man soon to be married.

Towards the end of June our weary crew found it necessary to partake in a few relaxing ales and the tavern dubbed the Ballers Clubhouse seemed a suitable place. Our group found this to be most accommodating and enjoyed some of the features such as the ping pong tables or, if you were Emma Young, you particularly enjoyed pestering people in the ball pit. Whilst an accommodating venue the price of an ale was rather steep. This caused some of our cohort to circumvent paying these exorbitant fees in order to taste some delicious liquor.

Our group also engaged in some alternative recreation in the form of a swimming session and also a game of basketball at the Aquatic and Sports Centre of Melbourne. This basketball game pitted our Bendigo native J.A Varker and the 'Steam Train' L.J Monea as opposing leaders. Vitriol and barbs were exchanged between the pair leading up to the tipoff and a riveting contest was expected. Varker's team being the unquestioned victors drew much jubilation from Varker's mob and many excuses from Mr. Monea.

It is unquestionable that we possessed a merry and varied bunch throughout this campaign. Our youngest traveler Joshua Dudman-Doyle proved to be as enthusiastic as ever, Tayla Manning was keen to provide emergency first aid and also a sharp barb or eight directed at Doyle. Nelson Tucker managed to persevere despite getting his nose rearranged in a battle in some weird cage contraption throughout. Jack Stammers was named our rising star, an apt recognition for the hard work he has undergone. Jack also kindly brought in a coffee machine to most engagements to provide caffeine to his teammates. I must admit it is a weird looking contraption though... Brendan Moloney was happy to serenade our group with some piano/organ accompaniments in his understated way. It saddens me to report Callum Thornton is still losing the battle against impending baldness. Apparently, Thomas Gath travelled in our party as well but this is news to me.

It saddens me to report that our sergeant at arms Adam Gardiner of the hamlet of Frankston has chosen to withdraw his involvement from future travels, yet in true understated style decided to tell nobody of the cohort. He will be sadly missed as he dedicates more time to provide glib soundbites to the television news after saving another panicked swimmer at the Frankston beach.

As it came to the pointy end of the adventure both Messrs. Rizio and Monea were chosen to lead us to the summit of the journey. It was Rizio's second time chosen to perform the feat and Monea's third in a row. Adam Steger was chosen to act in a support capacity on the day. It pleases me to report that all acquitted themselves well performing the final duties on behalf of the group and many celebrations were had. More celebrations were had when it is decided that Luke Monea will take part in the AFL expedition next year and ongoing. A fitting reward for someone who has provided a sterling example for one and all over the journey.

So as I go to rest over the next few months my parents, it leaves me content to report on this most successful campaign. It won't be long until we all equip ourselves for another journey and I

look forward to these reportings at a later juncture.

Kindest regards, Your Child

Development goal

You've made it through the fieldies talking about winning the Mini Olympics, the boundaries talking about how many kilometers they run, the senior goal squad talking about themselves, but now, you have made it through to us! Have they saved the best 'til last?

The Dev. Goalies once again had a great year on and off the track. We welcomed six new umpires to our squad; Connor Ahmed, Katie Gillespie, Joshua Aydin, Liam Green, Shaun Meredith and Tim Wood. These new umpires were able to fit in seamlessly to our group and bonded well with one another.

As a group, we had some fantastic times together through weekly dinners, pre training cricket, laughs in coaching, attending other umpires games, or even just catching up for a chat.

Our coaches Matt Lee, Neville Coutts, and Craig Herman were brilliant all year. They were nothing but encouraging for our group always wanting to make us the best possible umpires and aiming to have us exceed the expectations that are placed on us.

It did become interesting mid-year however when Matt Lee headed off to the UK to visit the now "Other Matt" (Former Head Dev. Coach, Matt Lafite). This left us in the trusty hands of the inseparable Nev and Craig. With some spare time in coaching before we were allowed to hit the track, A question was asked on how to clip Hudl videos. Well, fair to say Nev gave us a Hudl rundown we will never forget!

It was good to see Matt Lafite return to Melbourne for a few weeks and watch a few games for us and we appreciate all three coaches along with our many match day coaches and senior umpires for assisting us and coaching us throughout the year.

We had many achievements throughout 2024. Our VFUA track rep Connor Petrie made his VFL debut at Ikon Park which saw Carlton defeat

Collingwood by a whopping 83 points. Well done Connor!

Courtney Stelling, Jenna Green, Laura Brogan and Zak Kenny Travelled interstate to Sydney and Queensland to umpire championship matches which by all reports was a great time and lots was learnt from AFL coaches and umpires.

We are lucky to have a few umpires selected to officiate in the AFLW. Jenna Green made her AFLW debut this year, joining Laura Brogan and Joshua James on the squad.

As we umpire three grand finals, we have plenty of Grand Final umpires to congratulate!

Well done to:

- VFLW Grand Final: Jenna Green and Jack Kennedy. Em: Courtney Stelling
- Coates Girls Grand Final: Phillip Pettinella and Ben Geleit. Em: Zak Kenny
- Coates Boys Grand Final: James Rodwell and Connor Petrie. Em: Cohen Shannon

You all represented us well, congratulations on a successful 2024.

We will also say goodbye to Bridget Saftenberger who has announced she will hang up the flags at the end of the 2024 season. Bridget, our VFUA track rep in 2022 and 2023, also umpired the 2022 NAB Girls Grand Final, 2 seasons of AFLW and 70 games at a state league level. Thank you B for always being a smiling face around our group and such a supportive influence.

Finishing off the year, we had a number of VFUA events which were well supported by the Dev. Goal group. Celebrating the VFL grand final at Ikon Park and the bowls club was great fun with our own Charlie Lodge on the DJ decks. The VFUA Ball was once again a great event full of awards.

We are looking forward to another great year behind the big sticks in 2025!

John Cooper – 195 and 200

JC will always be an incredible husband to his wife Madeline, an amazing father to his daughter Penny and above else, an amazing teammate, mentor and friend. In 2024 he became the VFL boundary match record holder, passing Nick Laurence's 194 and soon after achieved the 200 VFL match milestone. In November it was announced that he had been promoted to the AFL list for 2025.

There's a common saying, "it couldn't have happened to a better bloke," and these words ring true for Johnny 'Super Dooper' Cooper. A man whose selflessness, compassion and genuine interest in others far exceeds his hair line. If you wanted to capture the culture of the Boundary squad in a person, need look no further than Johnny.

Having been at the VFL since 2011, Johnny has been an everlasting presence within the group. After learning from the example of the great Andrew Leggo, took a mix of playfulness, mateship and fun, and combined with this an unquivering approach to continued improvement and high performance. It's easy to forget just how a high performance environment can become toxic, draining and combative, however, under John's leadership, either direct or indirect, he kept the boundary group together.

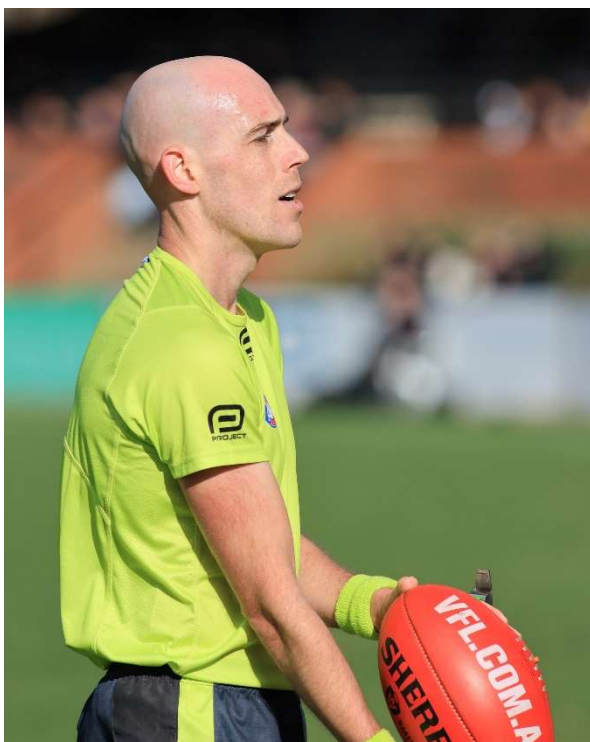
I mention all this because I feel a true measure of someone's career is their impact on others and John has certainly achieved this.

But now for the personal accolades at the completion of 2024; 206 VFL games, 3 consecutive VFL grand finals (4 total), Boundary Umpire of the Year 2022, VFL Life Membership, 25 VFL Finals (highest current number) and 47 AFLW games. Need I say more...

For an umpire who looked after teammates so much, it's easy to overlook John's absolute drive for continued development. To continue to push into preliminary finals over 150 games is an absolute feat. A brave decision to change his throwing style over the COVID-19 break is just one example of John's continued push for improvement and choice to implement feedback.

On a personal note, I could not be prouder of my mate, and to think that same 20-year-old who I trialled with is now the VFL Boundary games record holder, is just amazing, and I couldn't be prouder.

John, may you continue to run well and keep going until you cannot go any further.



Milestones

250 VFL matches

Andrew Talbot	Sunday, 14 April 2024	Northern Bullants v. Geelong (Preston)
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200 VFL matches

John Cooper	Sunday, 7 July 2024	Frankston v. Collingwood (Frankston)
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175 VFL matches

Chris Doyle	Sunday, 24 March 2024	Footscray v. GWS Giants (Whitten Oval)
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150 VFL matches

Matthew Edwards	Sunday, 21 April 2024	Carlton v. Port Melbourne (Princes Park)
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50 VFL matches

Mitch O'Neill	Saturday, 7 September 2024	Geelong v. Southport (Kardinia Park)
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Daniel Urbans	Sunday, 18 August 2024	Coburg v. Essendon (Coburg)
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Adam Steger	Friday, 2 August 2024	Footscray v. Casey (Whitten Oval)
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Joon-Yip Wong	Sunday, 28 July 2024	Collingwood v. Richmond (Punt Road)
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Matthew Mahoney	Saturday, 22 June 2024	Werribee v. Williamstown (Werribee)
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Bradley Kellett	Sunday, 9 June 2024	Casey v. Collingwood (Casey Fields)
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Zac Mousaco	Friday, 7 June 2024	Port Melbourne v. Richmond (Port Melbourne)
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Alex Murray	Saturday, 1 June 2024	Frankston v. Sandringham (Frankston)
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Michael Willcox	Sunday, 5 May 2024	Sandringham v. North Melbourne (Sandringham)
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Lachlan Menara	Saturday, 4 May 2024	Coburg v. Richmond (Coburg)
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Thomas Lyon	Saturday, 27 April 2024	Sandringham v. North Melbourne (Sandringham)
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First VFL match

Nicholas Bahr	Sunday, 28 July 2024	Coburg v. Frankston (Coburg)
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Jonathon Peck	Sunday, 21 July 2024	Coburg v. Port Melbourne (Coburg)
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Connor Petrie	Sunday, 21 July 2024	Collingwood v. Carlton (Princes Park)
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Cody Tuder	Saturday, 13 July 2024	Williamstown v. Sandringham (Williamstown)
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Solomon Miesen	Saturday, 18 May 2024	Northern Bullants v. Southport (Preston)
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Daniel Mortlock	Sunday, 5 May 2024	Footscray v. Box Hill (Whitten Oval)
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Emiel Morvell	Saturday, 23 March 2024	North Melbourne v. Northern Bullants (Arden St)
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Scott Simpson	Friday, 22 March 2024	Sandringham v. Collingwood (Moorabbin)
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Matt Mahoney

You would be hard pressed to find a better description of Matt Mahoney's character than his farewell training session at the 2024 VFUA Mini Olympics. It would have been simple to take things easy but that is not in Matt's character. Instead, he outlasted all other squads in the push up challenge (with over 50 consecutive pushups) helping lead the Senior Field Squad to a memorable victory of the Paul Anderson Memorial Shield.

This hard work and persistence is something that typified Matt. Matt began umpiring in the SMJFL/SFNL before trialling and gaining a spot on the VFL Development Squad in 2017. He worked really hard for the next few years on the development squad before being elevated to the senior squad in 2021. This was not the end of the hard work as it took Matt until Round 11 in 2021 to make his debut in the VFL. A seemingly unspectacular game between Box Hill and Ansley turned into something a bit more when Josh Ball collided with Ned Reeves leading to Talbo and Matt running a two-umpire system. More impressively was that the Ansley coach coming into the umpiring rooms post-game and congratulating the umpires on their excellent performance. This turned out to be Matt's only senior game for the season.

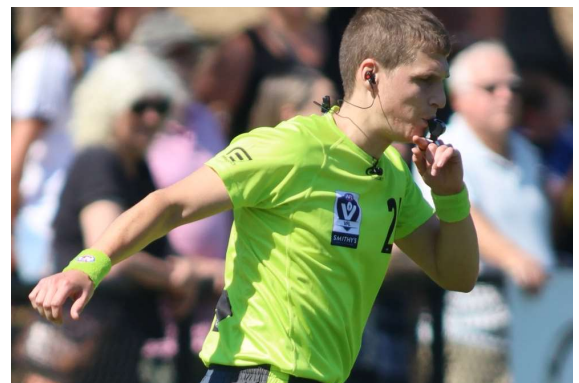
Fast forward to 2022 and a breakout season for Matt. He became a regular senior umpire and umpired every round which was a terrific achievement. His work ethic and constant want to get better was evident to the entire squad and the coaches. This continued for the next two seasons with Matt going from umpiring one VFL game in his first season to umpiring 56 in his next three seasons.

Matt has always personified the values that our Senior Field Squad expects of all umpires. He has always been a standout at training in terms of his own performance but also motivating others to get the best out of themselves. There was never any doubt as to his physical conditioning whether this be for umpiring, one of his ridiculous open water swims or even to make the rest of the squad look silly at MSAC. Probably the area that was most impressive for Matt was his accountability. He worked tirelessly to improve his areas for improvement with his reviews being extremely honest and was even prepared to present on his learnings as a way of developing himself. Matt was also a great mate and teammate for the senior squad. He would be one of the first to check in if someone has had a tough week or missed a training session.

Whilst Matt's work on the field was impressive, he will also leave a significant legacy for his work off the field with the VFUA. He first got involved in 2018 as

the Development field track rep. He stepped up to be vice president in 2019 and took over during the year as President from Talbo. One of his first pieces of work was to complete a review of umpire payments over a number of years resulting in numerous umpires being back paid. Matt's negotiating skills were also critical in signing a landmark fees and conditions agreement with the AFL in March 2020. This agreement recognised VFL umpires as part-time employees of the AFL which proved crucial during the COVID-19 pandemic. All VFL listed umpires were entitled to JobKeeper payments which was a tremendous result for the umpiring group. For someone so young, Matt's achievements as the VFUA President were quite remarkable and something he should be incredibly proud of. He was deservedly awarded the John Russo Trophy in 2022 for his contribution to the VFUA both on and off the field. Despite taking a step back from the VFUA in the past couple of seasons he has still contributed significantly as treasurer and ensuring that the UA remains in a sound financial position for years to come.

Matt's story is one of someone who was dedicated to getting the absolute best out of themselves. Going from someone who was happy to umpire one VFL match to become a staple for three consecutive years is something to be proud of. He will leave a legacy as one of the people that you loved having around as a teammate with his positive outlook on umpiring and care for other umpires at the VFL. His work off the field has gone a long way to setting the fees and conditions to the place they are today and building a positive relationship with the AFL. Matt's work has and will benefit the UA and umpires in the VFL for many years to come. A great person on and off the field who has made a significant contribution to the VFL and VFUA.







VFL grand final umpires

	Field			Boundary			Goal	
1993	D.Agnew	M.Nash		S.Leslie	A.Pizaro		J.Moore	L.Page
1994	K.Nicholls	G.Caulfield		D.Perry	J.Summers		D.Humphries	P.Herrick
1995	S.Hanley	V.Sercia	M.Sexton	P.Bradford	J.Fleming		B.Strachan	M.Russell
1996	A.Malcolm	T.Shearer	M.Sexton	P.Bradford	A.Duncan		A.Letson	H.Stamos
1997	M.Vozzo	W.Mann	M.James	R.Frampton	B.Crossett		F.Raiti	D.Dixon
1998	R.Kelsey	C.Rowe	M.James	R.Leslie	B.Crossett		M.Russell	P.Gonis
1999	K.Nicholls	K.Callaghan	S.Jeffery	S.Smith	K.McCarthy		C.Evans	D.Holt
2000	A.Malcolm	S.Jeffery	G.Twitt	S.Smith	J.Wilson		J.Venkataya	R.Read
2001	J.Quigley	A.Davis	S.Grun	M.Payton	C.Steinman	J.Stephenson	C.Appleton	F.Dicosmo
2002	S.Grun	M.Nicholls	S.Ryan	G.Gibson	C.Morrison	A.Little	C.Appleton	D.Wilson
2003	S.Grun	S.Meredith	M.Stevic	R.Haala	S.Irish	J.Bennison	L.Walker	D.Wilson
2004	C.Donlon	C.Kamolins	D.Sully	A.Coote	M.Foster	M.Lefevre	M.Hammond	L.Fisk
2005	J.Armstrong	M.Jennings	D.Sully	I.Burrows	G.Large	M.Lefevre	M.Hammond	B.Letson
2006	J.Mollison	H.Ryan	S.Stewart	G.Large	M.Lefevre	C.Roberts	A.Clifton	B.Letson
2007	M.Jennings	J.Mollison	S.Stewart	C.Hay	G.Large	N.Woods	B.Letson	A.Wojcik
2008	R.Findlay	M.Jennings	T.Pannell	C.Gordon	S.Jones	N.Woods	P.Balding	S.Williams
2009	M.Jennings	A.Mitchell	B.Ritchie	G.Bergroth	D.Kowalski	M.Marantelli	C.Lai	B.James
2010	M.Brown	M.Leppard	B.Ritchie	D.Kowlaski	M.Marantelli	P.Tongue	A.Kyrkou	C.Lai
2011	D.Harris	B.Hosking	A.Mitchell	C.Esler	M.Jenkinson	M.Tomkins	A.Kyrkou	S.Piperno
2012	T.Burgess	S.Gleeson	D.Harris	D.Cusack	T.Lougoon	B.Macdonald	M.Craig	M.Palm
2013	S.Gleeson	R.O'Gorman	B.Ritchie	D.Cusack	T.Lougoon	J.Mather	D.Benwell	M.Craig
2014	N.Brown	J.Edwards	B.Wallace	J.Andrews	B.Elvey		M.Dervan	S.Piperno
				J.Robertson	J.Scully			
2015	T.Burgess	D.Butcher	H.Gavine	N.Laurence	B.Macdonald		M.Dervan	S.Plumridge
				P.Dineen	L.Rayner			
2016	H.Ryan	D.Butcher	H.Gavine	N.Laurence	B.Macdonald		D.Benwell	M.Maclure
				P.Dineen	D.Main			
2017	N.Brown	D.Butcher	A.Gianfagna	P.Jackson	K.Ferguson		S.Walsh	S.Plumridge
				P.Dineen	D.Main			
2018	J.Howorth	P.Rebeschini	A.Talbot	S.Blight	J.Cooper		C.Leonard	S.Plumridge
				J.Furman	S.Stagg			
2019	M.Pell	P.Rebeschini	M.Rodger	J.Cooper	K.Ferguson		C.Leonard	S.Plumridge
				N.Phillips	S.Stagg			
2020	No grand final							
2021	No grand final							
2022	A.Adair	M.Rodger	M.Young	J.Cooper	T.Duncan		L.Monea	J.Rizio
				P.Jackson	Z.Mousaco			
2023	J.Howard	N.Jankovskis	N.Scott	B.Anderson	A.Laughton		L.Monea	J.Varker
				L.Menara	W.Morris			
2024	J.Clamp	J.Howard	S.Whetton	J.Cooper	A.Laughton		L.Monea	J.Rizio
				L.Menara	A.Pretorius			

VFLW grand final umpires

	Field		Boundary				Goal	
2015	M.Rodger	J.Spencer						
2016	P.Rebeschini	N.Jankovskis						
2017	S.Ferguson	J.Howard	J.Clamp	P.Damato	B.Anderson	B.Dickson	S.Atkins	J.Griffiths
2018	J.Ball	L.Porter	N.Scott	R.Kane	A.Pretorius	B.Dickson	T.Manning	J.Stammers
2019	H.Birch	C.Gibson	B.Hunter	S.Beer	K.Fisher	J.Marnie	B.Moloney	
2020	No grand final							
2021	No grand final							
2022	C.Hawes	H.Morgan	K.Van Raay	S.Bourke	M.Dorling	L.Myatt	S.Polden	C.Shannon
2023	J.Clark	H.Warmington	M.Whelan	M.Lum	S.Miesen	J.Peck	Z.Kenny	C.Petrie
2024	A.Bailes	G.Devenish	N.Welsh	M.Bellingham	M.Galea		J.Kennedy	J.Green
			O.Grcic		B.Myatt			

Coates League (Girls) grand final umpires

	Field			Boundary			Goal	
2019	K.Laker	L.Lopes	C.Williams	K.Barr	C.Malcolm		C.Brown	T.Gath
2020	No grand final							
2021	L.Coyne	S.Dalgleish	S.Dundon	D.Petrucci	M.Sambrooks		E.Young	J.Dorrat-Thorpe
2022	L.Coyne	J.Gillespie	N.Thorneycroft	K.Barr	H.Bell		C.Petrie	B.Saftenberger
2023	B.Reid	S.Ritchie	S.van Boven	A.Cameron	O.Grcic	R.Pulley	J.Green	P.Pettinella
2024	J.Hamiton	A.Tester	S.Tozer	L.Bezzina	C.Geal		B.Geleit	P.Pettinella
				A.Hinton	L.Walley			

Coates League (Boys) grand final umpires

	Field			Boundary			Goal	
1994	G.Deller	J.Kanizay		S.Jansen	C.Scott		P.Gonis	S.Murray
1995	S.Nelis	J.Quigley		K.Colegrave	S.Rock		A.Henry	H.Stamos
1996	B.Irvin	D.Reid		D.Crettenden	C.Morrison		P.Gonis	G.Ray
1997	A.Davis	S.James		M.Kent	S.Nathan		A.Galea	D.Holt
1998	S.Meredith	T.Pannell		J.Formosa	S.Smith		J.Venkataya	R.Condon
1999	C.Donlon	D.Jakymczuk	J.Zampatti	M.Foster	P.Munro		R.Read	M.Tippett
2000	M.Stevic	C.Blanchard	J.Armstrong	A.Little	J.Neavan		M.Richardson	D.Wilson
2001	C.Nash	S.Ryan	D.Sully	J.Kenley	S.Neal		M.Read	L.Walker
2002	B.Dye	C.Kamolins	M.Stevic	I.Burrows	J.Bennison		D.Page	A.Wojcik
2003	C.Donlon	C.Nash	D.Sully	I.Burrows	N.Woods		M.Craig	B.Letson
2004	A.Irvin	M.Jennings	H.Ryan	D.Cusack	L.Stephenson		A.Gardner	M.Lafite
2005	M.Brown	A.Mitchell	B.Pawley	P.Ashmore	N.Liparota	M.Marantelli	E.Malpas	D.Mills
2006	T.McCarthy	R.Mills	B.Ritchie	C.Gordon	J.Robinson	P.Tongue	F.Brady	S.Piperno
2007	T.Burgess	J.Grindal	J.Krull	G.Bergroth	S.Jones	P.Tongue	S.Williams	C.Lai
2008	T.Burgess	A.Mitchell	T.Saunders	D.Kowalski	M.Marantelli	S.Neal	R.Thwaites	C.Lai
2009	T.Burgess	D.Harris	A.Talbot	D.Card	T.Morrison	S.Neal	M.O'Donnell	S.Piperno
2010	M.Curtis	B.Hosking	R.Young	G.Bergroth	T.Morrison	A.M-Smith	M.O'Donnell	S.Piperno
2011	N.Brown	M.Curtis	M.Oakley	J.Andrews	G.Bergroth	A.M-Smith	M.O'Donnell	M.Maclure
2012	T.Carlos	J.Edwards	H.O'Connor	B.Elvey	J.Scully	N.Steel	A.Kyrkou	C.Wong

Coates League (Boys) grand final umpires

	Field			Boundary			Goal	
2013	M.Curtis	A.Talbot	R.Young	J.Andrews	N.Laurence	J.Robertson	P.Balding	S.Walsh
2014	P.Burns	D.Butcher	T.Chrystie	N.Laurence	B.Macdonald	L.Rayner	S.Plumridge	S.Walsh
2015	P.Burns	J.Barry	M.Young	L.Buwalda	L.Coop		D.Benwell	A.Kyrkou
				J.Robertson	A.Bell			
2016	L.Rowe	C.Dore	J.Howorth	S.Blight	P.Jackson		M.Edwards	C.Doyle
				K.Ferguson	A.Bell			
2017	M.Pell	N.Jankovskis	N.Toner	S.Blight	L.Wilkie		P.Trotter	C.Doyle
				J.Cooper	S.Stagg			
2018	P.Bailes	J.Clamp	C.Watts	K.Ferguson	A.Hawkes		J.Varker	P.Dwyer
				T.Horsten	L.Wilkie			
2019	S.Ferguson	N.Jankovskis	N.Scott	J.Blain	T.Bowes		L.Monea	J.Rizio
				M.Crowley	R.Kane			
2020	No grand final							
2021	No grand final							
2022	L.Coyne	S.Dundon	C.Williams	W.Anderson	J.Brayshaw		M.Edwards	J.Varker
				L.Perdon	B.Rofe			
2023	C.Hawes	S.Hurford	E.Morvell	H.Bell	M.Dorling		B.Kellett	J.Rizio
				L.Higgs	J.Wilkie			
2024	J.Cannon	L.Dye	H.Warmington	S.Miesen	D.Mortlock		C.Petrie	J.Rodwell
				L.Spiker	B.Tingiri			

John Russo Trophy

1997	R.Davidson	2006	D.Flegg	2017	M.Curtis
1998	D.Flegg	2008	S.Gloag	2018	A.Talbot
1999	A.Black	2010	R.Mills	2021	M.Sambooks
2001	C.Snell	2012	D.Butcher	2022	M. Mahoney
2003	D.Wilson	2013	M.Curtis		
2004	R.Findlay	2014	S.Piperno		
2005	J.Armstrong	2015	D.Butcher		
2005	A.Wojcik	2015	L.Rayner		

Courage Award

1994	D.Hammond	2004	P.Balding	2012	D.Cusack	2015	G.Verberne
1995	A.Malcolm	2005	B.McCorkell	2013	L.Keen	2017	J.Grindal
1996	D.Beard	2011	B.McCorkell	2013	J.Mather	2017	D.Main
1998	S.Nathan	2011	M.Sanders	2015	B.Macdonald	2017	S.Plumridge
2001	P.Anderson					2023	L.Wright

Statistics - 2024

Field umpire	VFL	VWFL	Coates Boys	Coates Girls	Umpire	VFL	VWFL	Coates Boys	Coates Girls
Adam Bailes	0 (0)	10 (10)	10 (10)	2 (2)	Sophia Tozer	0 (0)	6 (12)	2 (4)	9 (14)
Jack Cannon	0 (0)	2 (22)	17 (49)	0 (11)	Shannon Van Boven	0 (0)	5 (12)	6 (10)	7 (17)
Joel Clamp	22 (95)	0 (7)	0 (26)	0 (1)	Kylie Van Raay	20 (30)	0 (11)	0 (10)	0 (3)
Jonathan Clark	0 (0)	1 (13)	15 (21)	1 (2)	Sarah Vanderschoot	0 (0)	5 (5)	0 (0)	8 (8)
Lisa Compton-Robins	0 (0)	3 (16)	3 (13)	5 (15)	Harry Warmington	0 (0)	2 (11)	17 (23)	1 (3)
Lachlan Coyne	20 (39)	0 (10)	1 (17)	0 (15)	Ned Welsh	0 (0)	11 (15)	8 (13)	3 (8)
Seb Dalgleish	18 (38)	0 (13)	0 (23)	0 (17)	Michael Whelan	0 (0)	4 (17)	13 (20)	4 (7)
Gen Devenish	0 (0)	6 (24)	6 (20)	3 (11)	Alex Whetton	3 (13)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Shamus Dundon	19 (38)	0 (17)	1 (28)	0 (9)	Hayden Whitehouse	0 (0)	1 (2)	1 (1)	13 (13)
Liam Dye	0 (0)	3 (13)	19 (24)	0 (6)	Michael Willcox	20 (64)	0 (17)	1 (14)	0 (5)
Sam Ferguson	22 (86)	0 (10)	0 (31)	0 (0)	Cameron Williams	19 (38)	0 (23)	1 (34)	0 (16)
Lachlan Flinn	0 (0)	2 (16)	15 (33)	1 (8)	Jeremy Zhou	0 (0)	5 (11)	3 (7)	12 (19)
Jackson Gillespie	0 (1)	7 (28)	13 (39)	0 (20)					
Sophie Gleeson	0 (0)	1 (4)	0 (0)	0 (9)	Boundary umpire				
Josh Hamilton	0 (0)	8 (8)	6 (6)	9 (9)	Jenny Alley	0 (0)	8 (8)	0 (0)	8 (8)
Connor Hawes	16 (19)	0 (15)	0 (31)	0 (9)	Shaylee Anderson	0 (0)	10 (10)	3 (5)	6 (7)
Douglas Haworth	0 (0)	6 (15)	4 (7)	5 (10)	Wade Anderson	15 (18)	0 (7)	4 (21)	0 (14)
Ian Herman	0 (1)	2 (30)	17 (47)	1 (19)	Nicholas Bahr	2 (2)	1 (11)	12 (22)	2 (7)
Jack Howard	22 (76)	0 (13)	0 (38)	0 (1)	Ashlee Ball	0 (0)	8 (17)	6 (13)	5 (11)
Campbell Hymans	0 (0)	3 (15)	15 (21)	3 (9)	Kaitlin Barr	14 (29)	1 (26)	6 (22)	0 (23)
Elias Kafritsas	0 (0)	2 (31)	1 (22)	7 (28)	Adam Bell	10 (188)	2 (8)	2 (37)	0 (0)
Arron Knezevic	0 (0)	10 (32)	3 (24)	6 (16)	Harrison Bell	19 (23)	1 (9)	1 (23)	0 (9)
Kezia Laker	0 (0)	0 (0)	7 (15)	4 (16)	Rylan Bell	0 (0)	4 (4)	5 (5)	6 (6)
Ben Lefebvre	0 (0)	7 (12)	9 (12)	4 (11)	Mitch Bellingham	0 (0)	8 (8)	5 (5)	5 (5)
Lucy Lopes ¹	0 (0)	8 (62)	2 (57)	8 (28)	Lachlan Bezzina	0 (0)	6 (18)	10 (15)	3 (9)
Brett Lynch	0 (0)	10 (10)	5 (5)	6 (6)	Darien Blair	0 (0)	7 (7)	4 (4)	9 (9)
Thomas Lyon	16 (64)	0 (11)	0 (30)	0 (4)	Trent Bowes	18 (74)	0 (11)	0 (27)	0 (0)
Matthew Mahoney	19 (57)	0 (25)	0 (31)	0 (1)	James Brayshaw	4 (44)	0 (13)	2 (18)	0 (6)
Ryan Mann	0 (0)	6 (23)	8 (30)	2 (18)	Ryan Brown	0 (0)	5 (9)	5 (12)	7 (13)
Cooper Marriott	0 (0)	4 (13)	17 (31)	2 (6)	Jack Buller	0 (0)	6 (20)	6 (21)	4 (12)
Chris Menara	0 (0)	4 (16)	15 (22)	4 (7)	Angus Cameron	0 (0)	4 (13)	5 (12)	8 (15)
Kaileb Monroe	0 (0)	2 (2)	6 (6)	10 (10)	John Cooper	20 (207)	0 (1)	1 (27)	0 (1)
Hugo Morgan	0 (0)	6 (30)	6 (33)	4 (19)	Michael Court	0 (0)	3 (10)	4 (11)	10 (18)
Emiel Morvell	17 (17)	0 (17)	1 (33)	0 (9)	Jake D'Angelo	19 (80)	0 (12)	1 (28)	0 (3)
Alex Murray	19 (59)	0 (20)	0 (33)	0 (1)	Mitchell Dorling	19 (22)	0 (13)	1 (22)	0 (6)
Oliver Pearce	0 (0)	4 (9)	5 (9)	11 (22)	Reuben Dyer	14 (18)	0 (9)	4 (19)	0 (5)
Jordyn Pearson	20 (35)	0 (13)	0 (11)	0 (4)	Kyle Fisher	14 (75)	1 (13)	3 (40)	0 (2)
Luke Porter	22 (88)	0 (15)	0 (25)	0 (0)	Monique Galea	0 (0)	9 (15)	0 (0)	11 (17)
Brock Reid	0 (0)	4 (9)	4 (9)	11 (22)	Cooper Geall	0 (0)	7 (23)	10 (25)	5 (10)
Samantha Ritchie	0 (0)	6 (11)	1 (2)	0 (11)	Luke Gonis	0 (0)	5 (14)	12 (16)	3 (8)
William Ross	0 (0)	2 (22)	3 (19)	2 (18)	Olivia Grcic	0 (0)	8 (25)	5 (13)	3 (11)
Nick Scott	23 (88)	0 (8)	0 (17)	0 (4)	Lachlan Higgs	17 (76)	0 (11)	0 (20)	0 (4)
Jack Seymour	0 (0)	11 (11)	6 (6)	4 (4)	Asha Hinton	0 (0)	7 (7)	1 (1)	10 (10)
Scott Simpson	16 (16)	0 (1)	0 (15)	0 (1)	Finn Horan	0 (0)	4 (4)	1 (1)	7 (7)
Jai Smith	0 (0)	6 (9)	4 (12)	11 (22)	Thomas Kruen	0 (0)	5 (12)	15 (19)	3 (12)
Jye Stannage	0 (0)	4 (5)	2 (2)	8 (8)	Anthony Laughton*	19 (97)	0 (1)	0 (14)	0 (0)
Andrew Talbot	19 (266)	0 (1)	0 (19)	0 (0)	Mitch Lea	0 (1)	4 (16)	14 (39)	3 (6)
Austin Tattersall	0 (0)	6 (24)	2 (21)	11 (26)	Madeleine Lum*	2 (22)	2 (29)	10 (31)	0 (3)
Aiden Tester	0 (0)	1 (2)	2 (2)	15 (15)	Corey Malcolm	18 (41)	0 (17)	3 (15)	0 (7)

Boundary umpire	VFL	VWFL	Coates Boys	Coates Girls	Goal umpire	VFL	VWFL	Coates Boys	Coates Girls
Aidan McDonald	0 (0)	1 (1)	11(11)	9 (9)	Damon Kelly	0 (0)	6 (20)	8 (19)	5 (16)
Ben McShane	0 (0)	5 (5)	2 (2)	7 (7)	Jack Kennedy	0 (0)	9 (11)	6 (8)	1 (10)
Lachlan Menara	20 (66)	1 (9)	0 (12)	0 (8)	Zac Kenny	0 (0)	4 (11)	10 (18)	5 (10)
Benjamin Merrick	0 (0)	6 (17)	14 (33)	3 (13)	Charlie Lodge	0 (0)	4 (20)	8 (19)	5 (13)
Solomon Miesen	3 (3)	1 (9)	14 (23)	2 (2)	Tayla Manning	13 (64)	0 (20)	0 (17)	0 (5)
Greta Miller	14 (67)	0 (8)	2 (17)	0 (5)	Jackson Mansell	0 (0)	7 (12)	3 (7)	5 (10)
Daniel Molino	0 (0)	3 (9)	0 (2)	14 (23)	Shaun Meredith	0 (0)	6 (6)	6 (6)	6 (6)
Daniel Mortlock	4 (4)	0 (7)	14 (27)	1 (1)	Noah Meyers	0 (0)	2 (10)	7 (21)	7 (17)
Zachary Mousaco	19 (59)	1 (11)	0 (6)	0 (5)	Issa Mikhael	0 (0)	7 (7)	8 (13)	6 (12)
Ben Myatt	0 (0)	8 (16)	9 (15)	0 (10)	Brendan Moloney	14 (49)	0 (25)	0 (36)	0 (9)
Luke Myatt	8 (14)	1 (24)	9 (39)	0 (17)	Luke Monea*	20 (123)	0 (0)	0 (10)	0 (0)
Mitch O'Neill	13 (50)	2 (7)	3 (13)	0 (8)	Connor Petrie	2 (2)	7 (20)	14 (31)	1 (11)
Jonathon Peck	2 (2)	2 (20)	15 (29)	0 (4)	Phillip Pettinella	0 (0)	4 (25)	10 (29)	4 (15)
Lachlan Perdon	17 (41)	1 (8)	2 (21)	0 (10)	Samuel Polden	0 (0)	3 (19)	10 (24)	5 (10)
Oliver Pratt	0 (0)	5 (6)	12 (15)	5 (9)	James Rizio*	20 (97)	0 (5)	0 (8)	0 (4)
Ryan Pulley	0 (0)	4 (16)	5 (12)	10 (25)	James Rodwell	0 (0)	5 (29)	13 (36)	3 (17)
Benjamin Rofe	14 (34)	2 (15)	0 (29)	0 (15)	Samuel Rogers	0 (0)	3 (42)	6 (38)	6 (26)
Melissa Sambrooks	12 (32)	0 (29)	3 (46)	0 (11)	Bridget Saftenberger	0 (0)	6 (29)	6 (19)	6 (21)
Dominic Schiliro	18 (35)	0 (0)	1 (2)	0 (0)	Cohen Shannon	0 (0)	4 (28)	12 (22)	3 (10)
Lachlan Smith	0 (0)	6 (8)	4 (4)	7 (9)	Jack Stammers	16 (71)	0 (11)	0 (15)	0 (4)
Lewis Spiker	17 (80)	0 (7)	3 (31)	0 (5)	Adam Steger	18 (54)	0 (13)	0 (12)	0 (2)
Ben Tingiri	0 (0)	5 (14)	13 (20)	3 (7)	Courtney Stelling	0 (0)	11 (17)	4 (8)	3 (14)
Cody Tuder	2 (2)	4 (4)	11 (11)	2 (2)	Callum Thornton	15 (45)	0 (38)	0 (25)	0 (17)
Daniel Urbans	16 (50)	1 (13)	1 (47)	0 (12)	Harley Trickey	0 (0)	7 (24)	5 (16)	6 (19)
Andrew Van Keulen	13 (27)	1 (17)	3 (24)	0 (4)	Nelson Tucker	14 (38)	0 (34)	0 (22)	0 (7)
Luke Walley	0 (0)	6 (6)	2 (2)	12 (12)	John Varker*	20 (120)	0 (0)	0 (19)	0 (0)
Jesse Wilkie	17 (88)	1 (3)	0 (22)	0 (0)	Joon-Yip Wong	13 (52)	0 (30)	0 (28)	0 (9)
Lachlan Wright	9 (29)	0 (6)	5 (17)	0 (7)	Dylan Wood	0 (0)	6 (14)	6 (10)	5 (16)
					Tim Wood	0 (0)	7 (7)	5 (5)	7 (7)
Goal umpire					Emma Young	15 (39)	0 (10)	0 (10)	0 (10)
Connor Ahmed	0 (0)	7 (7)	2 (2)	8 (8)					
Laura Brogan	0 (0)	7 (22)	4 (18)	6 (16)					
Chris Doyle*	16 (190)	0 (3)	0 (82)	0 (0)					
Josh Dudman-Doyle	13 (25)	0 (8)	0 (15)	0 (3)					
Nathan Dugdale	0 (0)	6 (15)	5 (9)	5 (13)					
Matthew Edwards	20 (166)	0 (1)	0 (32)	0 (0)					
Adam Gardner*	14 (119)	0 (12)	0 (65)	0 (2)					
Thomas Gath	14 (48)	0 (11)	0 (10)	0 (5)					
Ben Geleit	0 (0)	7 (20)	11 (29)	4 (9)					
Katie Gillespie	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	14 (14)					
Jenna Green	0 (0)	11 (22)	2 (5)	4 (18)					
Liam Green	0 (0)	4 (4)	3 (3)	6 (6)					
Brady Gutbier	0 (0)	2 (19)	11 (37)	6 (28)					
Brad Heff' -Benfield	0 (0)	5 (13)	5 (14)	7 (17)					
Georgie Henderson	13 (25)	0 (0)	0 (1)	0 (0)					
Joshua Hickman	15 (80)	0 (9)	0 (24)	0 (1)					
James Kandler	0 (0)	5 (24)	2 (21)	9 (21)					
Bradley Kellett	17 (58)	0 (25)	0 (21)	0 (15)					

¹ Lucy Lopes umpired 5 U18 Boys and 10 VFLW matches as a boundary umpire. Totals: U18 Boys 57, VFLW 72.

* Includes NEAFL matches.

100 VFL matches

13 VFL finals

Umpire	Matches	Umpire	Matches	Umpire	Finals
Andrew Talbot	266	Shane Stewart †	128	John Cooper	25
Peter Balding	235	Steele Irish	128	Peter Balding	21
Dan Beard	224	Cameron Nash	125	Simon Plumridge	21
Dean Jones	207	Rob Young	124	Michael Jennings	19
John Cooper	206	Brett Ritchie	123	Andrew Talbot	19
Michael Richardson	194	Stefan Grun †	123	Ben Macdonald	18
Nick Laurence	194	Heath Ryan †	121	Steven Piperno	18
Chris Doyle*	190	John Varker	120	Shane Stewart	18
Michael Curtis	188	Adam Gardner	119	Shaun Gleeson	17
Shane Mason	188	Jason Quigley	118	Neil Woods	17
Adam Bell	188	Andrew Leggo	117	Nick Laurence	16
Richard Mills	182	Shaun Gleeson	117	Tristan Burgess	15
Tristan Burgess	182	Andrew Malcolm	116	Michael Curtis	15
Andrew Clifton	181	Glenn Gibson †	116	Anthony Kyrkou	15
Lloyd Fisk	177	Adam Wojcik †	115	Brett Ritchie	15
Ben James	172	Chris Donlon †	115	Daniel Butcher	14
Matthew Young*	170	Steven Neal	115	Kieran Ferguson	14
Andrew Mitchell †	167	Matthew Leppard	114	Mark Foster	14
Nick McGinness*	169	Neil Woods	113	Drew Kowalski	14
Matt Edwards	166	James Davey	112	Gerard Large	14
Matthew Brown	163	Robert Findlay †	112	Brad Letson	14
Michael Jennings	162	Andrew Heffernan	111	Michael Marantelli	14
Steven Piperno †	161	Geoff Twitt	110	Richard Mills	14
Jack Edwards*	159	Dan Butcher	108	Steven Neal	14
Jamie Grindal	158	Dylan Benwell †	108	Damien Sully	14
Michael Hammond †	155	Michael Palm †	108	Matthew Brown	13
Ben Macdonald †	154	Kieran Ferguson	106	Patrick Dineen	13
Frank Dicosmo	153	Patrick Burns	106	Mitch Lefevre	13
Simon Plumridge	151	Russell Davidson	106	Shane Mason	13
Brendan Dye	150	Jason Armstrong †	105	Andrew Mitchell	13
Daniel Pieper	150	Drew Kowalski †	104	Luke Monea	13
Anthony Kyrkou	145	Scott Murray	104	James Rizio	13
Callum Leonard	143	Chris Morrison †	103	Heath Ryan	13
Damien Cusack †	142	Andrew McCoy	102	Sam Stagg	13
Cyrus Wong	136	Luke Wilkie	102		
Brendan Elvey	135	Sam Walsh †	102		
Tom Chrystie*	135	Mark Foster †	101		
Stephen Gloag	130	Matt Maclure †	101		
Damien Sully	129	Matthew Oakley	101		
Peter Nastasi †	129	Rob Frampton	101		
		Liam Pain	100		

* includes NEAFL matches

† 100 AFL matches

Senior office bearers 1992-2024

	President	Vice-president	Executive Officer	Social secretary	
1993	John Russo	Keith Callaghan	Peter Bunworth	Peter Kelly	
1994	Keith Callaghan	Mark Prince	Peter Bunworth	Peter Kelly	
1995	Mark Prince	Greg Kennedy	Peter Bunworth	Peter Kelly	
1996	Greg Kennedy	Anthony Black	Peter Kelly	Steven Stirling	
1997	Anthony Black	Greg Russo	Peter Kelly	Steven Stirling	
1998	Greg Russo	Russell Davidson	Peter Kelly	Alf Galea	
1999	Russell Davidson	Anthony Black	Peter Kelly	Dean Paulin	
2000	Steven Stirling	Chris Snell	Peter Kelly	Frank Dicosmo	
2001	Chris Snell	Stephen Evans	Peter Kelly	-	
2002	Chris Snell	Troy Tindill	Peter Kelly	Comm. Officer	Historian-statistician
2003	Anthony Black	Rob Findlay	Peter Kelly	David Dixon	-
2004	Stephen Evans	Rob Findlay	Peter Kelly	David Dixon	David Flegg
2005	Stephen Evans	Rob Findlay	Peter Kelly	Leigh Keen	David Flegg
2006	Rob Findlay	Jason Armstrong Adam Wojcik	Peter Kelly	Matthew Lee	David Flegg
2007	Rob Findlay	Adam Wojcik	Peter Kelly	Drew Kowalski	David Flegg
2008	Adam Wojcik Matt Leppard	Matt Leppard Stephen Gloag	Peter Kelly	Michael O'Donnell	David Flegg
2009	Matt Leppard	Michael Boss	Peter Kelly	Stephen Gloag	David Flegg
2010	Richard Mills	Tristan Burgess	Peter Kelly	Andrew Mitchell	David Flegg
2011	Richard Mills	Tristan Burgess	Peter Kelly	Michael Palm	David Flegg
2012	Andrew McCoy	Graham Bergroth Steven Piperno	Peter Kelly	Daniel Lawlor	David Flegg
2013	Andrew McCoy	Steven Piperno	Peter Kelly	Daniel Butcher	David Flegg
2014	Steven Piperno	Daniel Butcher	Peter Kelly	Adam Havelberg	David Flegg
2015	Daniel Butcher	Adam Havelberg	Peter Kelly	Luke White	David Flegg
2016	Michael Curtis	Callum Leonard	Peter Kelly	Tim Carlos	David Flegg
2017	Michael Curtis	Nick Brown	Peter Kelly	Kate Griffiths	David Flegg
2018	Michael Curtis	Tristan Burgess	Peter Kelly	Andrew Talbot	David Flegg
Administrator					
2019	Andrew Talbot	Matthew Mahoney	Peter Kelly	Joon-Yip Wong	David Flegg
2020	Matthew Mahoney	Liam Pain Joon-Yip Wong	Peter Kelly	-	David Flegg
Members' Repr.					
2021	Matthew Mahoney	Liam Pain Joon-Yip Wong	Brad Noonan	Peter Howe	David Flegg
2022	Matthew Mahoney	Liam Pain Joon-Yip Wong	Brad Noonan	Peter Howe	David Flegg
2023	Joon-Yip Wong	Melissa Sambrooks Andrew Talbot	Brad Noonan	Peter Howe	David Flegg
2024	Joon-Yip Wong	Andrew Talbot Benjamin Rofe	Emily Jose	-	David Flegg

Track representatives 1992-2024

	Years		Years		Years
Blake Anderson	2021-23	Dylan Fulton	2019-21	Ben Naughtin	2005-07
Jason Armstrong	2004-05	Alf Galea	1994	Mark O'Reilly	1995
Peter Bailes	2019-21	Michael Gibson	2003	Ryan O'Shea	2016
Peter Balding	2012	Stephen Gloag	2001-04	Liam Pain	2019
Dan Beard	2001	Kate Griffiths	2016	Michael Palm	2009
Dylan Benwell	2012	Michael Hammond	2000	Brent Pawley	2011
Harrison Bell	2023-24	Lachlan Harty	2016-17	Connor Petrie	2024
Graeme Bergroth	2008-10	Adam Havelberg	2013	Paul Pickett	1995
Anthony Black	1995	Ashley Hawkes	2018	Daniel Pieper	2002-03
Michael Blair	2010	Ian Herman	2024	Simon Plumridge	2017
Michael Boss	2008	Peter Herrick	1993-94	Mark Prince	1993
Corey Brown	2014	Wayne Hoskins	2010	Lachlan Rayner	2015
Nick Brown	2011	David Humphries	1995-96, 1999	Michael Robins	1999
Tristan Burgess	2008-09	Anthony Hunter	2011-12	Greg Russo	1996
Daniel Butcher	2012	Dean Jones	2006-07	James Scully	2014
David Card	2009	Chris Kamolins	2002-03	Bridget Saftenberger	2022-23
Tim Carlos	2011	Brad Kellett	2024	Melissa Sambrooks	2017-22
Ben Cheever	2017	Hayden Kennedy	1993-94	Colin Segota	1993-94
Jason Cook	1997-98	Drew Kowalski	2008	Stephen Smith	2000-01
Lawrence Coop	2014	Anthony Kyrkou	2010-11	Chris Snell	1996
Ashley Crawford	2011-12	David Lambourn	2006-07	Jack Stammers	2019
Michael Curtis	2013-15	Anthony Laughton	2016	Harry Stamos	1997
Damien Cusack	2005	Nick Laurence	2010-11	Steven Stirling	1998
Russell Davidson	1997	Callum Leonard	2014-15	Travis Storti	2001
Curtis De Witt	2015	Matt Leppard	2006-07	Jacob Stuckey	2022-23
Justin Delaney	1993	Tim Lougoon	2014	Andrew Talbot	2012, 2017
Andrew Dempster	1997-99	Matt Mahoney	2018	Callum Thornton	2019
Greg Denison	2005-06	Damien Main	2017	Troy Tindill	2001
Damian Devincentis	2010	Josh Maine	2012-13	Gareth Verbene	2008
Rhys Doughty-Cowell	2009	Wes Mann	1998-99	Andrew Wheeler	1996
Chris Doyle	2012-13	Tayla Manning	2020	Luke White	2013-14
Andrew Duncan	1994	Andrew McCoy	2011	Michael Willcox	2022-24
Jared Dyson	2016	Luke McIlroy	2014-16	Daniel Wilson	2002-03
Jack Edwards	2018	Greta Millar	2020	Adam Wojcik	2004-05
Matt Edwards	2018-19	David Miles	2016-17	Joon Yip Wong	2018
Joel Elliott	2004	Ken Mitchell	2020	Emma Young	2022-23
Brendan Elvey	2013	Luke Monea	2021-22		
Stephen Evans	2000	Joel Morrison	2011		
Jarrold Faoro	2007	Daniel Mortlock	2024		
Rob Findlay	2002	Jack Murfett	2017		
Mark Foster	2004-05	John Murnane	1993-94		

Financial report

Profit and Loss

Victorian Football Umpires' Association
For the year ended 30 September 2024

Account	2024	2023
Income		
Interest Received	774	176
Miscellaneous	(8)	8
Raffle Income	336	408
Subscriptions Received	37,675	33,660
Merchandise Income	753	292
Total Income	39,530	34,544
Total Income	39,530	34,544
Expenses		
Honorariums*	18,889	9,194
Legal Expenses	413	0
Meeting Expenses	1,119	779
Social Functions	22,680	13,057
Trophies and Certificates	1,809	2,927
Merchandise Expense	1,698	1,873
Website Expenses	340	195
Consumer Affairs Annual Statement	48	61
Donations, Gifts and Prizes	70	126
Mini Olympics	200	1,317
Square Fees	828	90
Total Expenses	48,093	29,619
Net (Deficit)/Surplus	(8,563)	4,925

The accompanying notes form part of this financial report. This financial report is unaudited.

*Note that \$6,551 of honorariums relating to the 30 September 2023 financial year were paid on 2 October 2023. As the financial statements are prepared on a cash basis, these honorariums were not included in the calculation of the surplus for the year ended 30 September 2023.

If these honorariums were included in the 2023 year, the result for the 2023 year would be adjusted to a deficit of \$1,626 and 2024 year to a deficit of \$2,012.

Balance Sheet

Victorian Football Umpires' Association As at 30 September 2024

Account	30 Sept 2024	30 Sept 2023
Assets		
Current Assets		
Westpac Cheque Account	22,534	31,872
Westpac Term Deposit	71,161	70,387
Total Current Assets	93,696	102,259
Total Assets	93,696	102,259
Net Assets		
	93,696	102,259
Reserves		
Accumulation Account	102,259	97,334
Current Year Earnings	(8,563)	4,925
Total Reserves	93,696	102,259

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

1. The special purpose financial report has been prepared for distribution to the members to satisfy the accountability requirements under the entity's constitution. The accounting policies used in the preparation of this report are consistent with previous years and are described below:
 - a. The financial report has been prepared on a cash basis of accounting including the historical cost convention and going concern assumption
 - b. The requirements of Australian Accounting Standards promulgated by the accounting profession do not have mandatory applicability to the Victorian Football Umpires' Association Inc. in relation to the year ended 30th September because the entity is not a 'reporting entity' as defined therein.
2. Under the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act (2012)* the Victorian Football Umpires' Association Inc. is a 'Tier 1' entity as revenue is less than \$500,000. Therefore, neither an audit nor a review is required to be conducted.

OFFICEHOLDERS' DECLARATION

In the absence of an audit or review, in accordance with a resolution of the officeholders of Victorian Football Umpires Association Inc., the officeholders declare that the financial statements and notes presented herein:

1. Present a true and fair view of the financial position of the entity; and
2. Are free from fraud.

Emily Jose

Emily Jose
VFUA Administrator

Joon-Yip Wong

Joon-Yip Wong
VFUA President

In line with the VFUA's aim of being a transparent organisation, the VFUA welcomes any enquiries about the financial statements from members. Please direct any enquiry to vfuaexecutive@gmail.com.

2024 Coates League (Boys) Grand Final umpires



L-R: Connor Petrie, Solomon Miesen, Daniel Mortlock, Liam Dye, Jack Cannon, Harry Warmington, Lewis Spiker, Ben Tingiri, James Rodwell.

2024 Coates League (Girls) Grand Final umpires



L-R: Ben Geleit, Luke Walley, Asha Hinton, Adrian Tester, Sophia Tozer, Josh Hamilton, Cooper Geall, Lachlan Bezzina, Phillip Pettinella.

