



NEWSLETTER

Friday 15 January 2021

Happy New Year to all our Fitzroy, Bears, and Brisbane Lions past players and officials!

While plenty of uncertainty still surrounds the COVID-19 situation in Australia, the Club is currently working through plans for matches and events based on the existing AFL and AFLW 2021 fixtures.

For any past player-related queries or questions, please email us at pastplayers@lions.com.au

UPCOMING EVENTS

NB: The Club is planning on hosting reunion events surrounding Brisbane Lions matches in both Queensland and Victoria in 2021.

We are just awaiting on information from the AFL and stadiums as to the available facilities and potential restrictions at venues.

We will communicate plans to our past players and officials as soon as they have been confirmed.



2021 AFL Fixture

The AFL released its 2021 AFL Season fixture in December last year, with only the first six rounds featuring firm dates, times and venues at this stage.

The Lions are scheduled to play 12 games in SE Queensland (including 11 at the Gabba) and seven in Victoria, with additional trips to Perth, Adelaide and Alice Springs.

The 'rolling fixture' is designed to provide flexibility in case the competition is again affected by COVID-19.

[CLICK HERE](#) to see the Club's full 2021 fixture

Clarke's Scholarship

Former Lions defender, **Justin Clarke**, whose AFL career was cut short due to concussion, has been kicking goals off the field since his retirement in 2016.

UQ student Clarke was named Queensland's 2021 Rhodes Scholar, which will afford him the opportunity to study at the prestigious Oxford University in England this year.

He plans to undertake a Doctor of Philosophy (DPhil) Engineering Science at Oxford's Thermofluids Institute.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the full story



AFL Players' Alumni members get access to a range of benefits, services and support surrounding:

• Health and Wellbeing • Financial Prosperity • Continued Education • Social Connections

Find out how you can join by contacting AFLPA Alumni Manager **Brad Fisher**:

T: 03 8651 4300 **E:** bfisher@aflplayers.com.au **W:** www.aflplayers.com.au/alumni



Reunion Functions

Stay tuned for details surrounding our 2021 Past Player & Official reunions planned for both Brisbane and Melbourne.

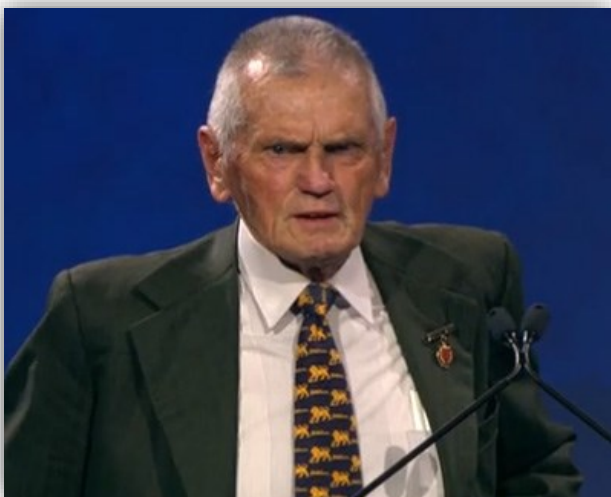
Any past player/official who had already purchased guest passes for our 2020 reunions (prior to their cancellation) will receive credit towards this year's events.

We encourage all past players and officials to use these functions as a good excuse to get in contact with your former teammates/colleagues and get a group together.

We certainly hope to see as many of you as possible there.



Two Outstanding Committeemen: A Tribute



The Brisbane Lions are mourning the loss of **Ivan Smith** and **Lionel Allemand**, who both sadly passed away in December last year.

Both were long-time committeemen of the Fitzroy Past Players & Officials Association, and played active roles in helping integrate the Past Players with Brisbane following the 1996 merger.

Ivan played four senior matches with Fitzroy in 1956, and later joined the Committee of the Past Players' Association - a position he held for over 50 years.

He was made a Brisbane Lions Life Member in 2015 for his enormous contribution.



Lionel played U19s and Thirds with Fitzroy before a serious knee injury cut his playing career short.

He maintained his involvement with Fitzroy through the Past Players, which later earned him Life Membership of the Association.

Both were strong Fitzroy people who remained just as passionate about the Brisbane Lions until their passing.

The Club extends its deepest condolences to their family and friends, and is determined to build on the proud legacy they leave behind for past players and officials.

CONTACTS

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Numbers Are Up

Some of the most famous guernsey numbers across our Club's combined history have been allocated to the Lions' newest recruits, including:

- **#3** (worn by **Michael Voss** and **Gary Pert**)
- **#12** (worn by **Mick Conlan** and **Jason Akermanis**)
- **#20** (worn by **Simon Black** and **Graham Campbell**)

Joe Daniher (pictured) has inherited the #3.

[CLICK HERE](#) to see the full number allocation



Premiership Anniversary

2021 will mark the 20-year anniversary of the Brisbane Lions' breakthrough premiership.

The Lions' Grand Final triumph was the Club's 9th overall (the first eight of which were won as Fitzroy), but was its first as a merged entity.

It was the first time in the history of the competition that the AFL premiership cup headed to one of the Northern states.

The Club plans to commemorate this important anniversary this year, so stay tuned for further information.

Baby Boom

Congratulations to a couple of past Brisbane Lions players who recently welcomed their first children.

Nick Robertson (pictured), who now represents East Perth in the WAFL, and wife Tineka welcomed a son - Isaac James Robertson - on 10 December.

Sam Mayes, currently at Port Adelaide, and partner Cassie Burton (an ex-Lions staffer) also welcomed a baby boy - Cooper James May - last weekend.

We extend our best wishes to both families!



Noble Heads North

The Brisbane Lions congratulate former Fitzroy player, and Club GM - Football for the past four seasons, **David Noble**, on being appointed Senior Coach at North Melbourne late last year.

He joins a host of ex-Fitzroy alumni from the 1990s now at the Kangaroos, including **Scott Clayton** (Head of Player Personnel), **John Blakely** (Senior Assistant Coach), and **Paul Roos** (Consultant).

The Club thanks David for his wonderful service at the Lions and wishes him all the best in his new role.



Brisbane Realty

Looking at buying or selling a property in Brisbane or the Gold Coast? If so, there are a couple Brisbane Lions past players who can no doubt help you out.

Brownlow Medallist **Jason Akermanis** returned home to Brisbane in 2020 and has taken on a role with Ray White Ascot.

Premiership teammate **Jamie Charman** is already established in the property scene, with roles at both Ray White Albion, and his new business Charman Property co. - a boutique residential buyer's agency.

AFLW 5.0

After last season's Finals series was abandoned due to COVID-19, the AFLW competition is more eager than ever to return to action later this month for its fifth season.

The Lions will kick-off their AFLW campaign against Richmond at Punt Road Oval on Sunday 31 January

The Club would still love to hear from any past players who may have daughters that either play, or are interested in playing, women's AFL.

[CLICK HERE](#) for a guide to the AFLW season



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