

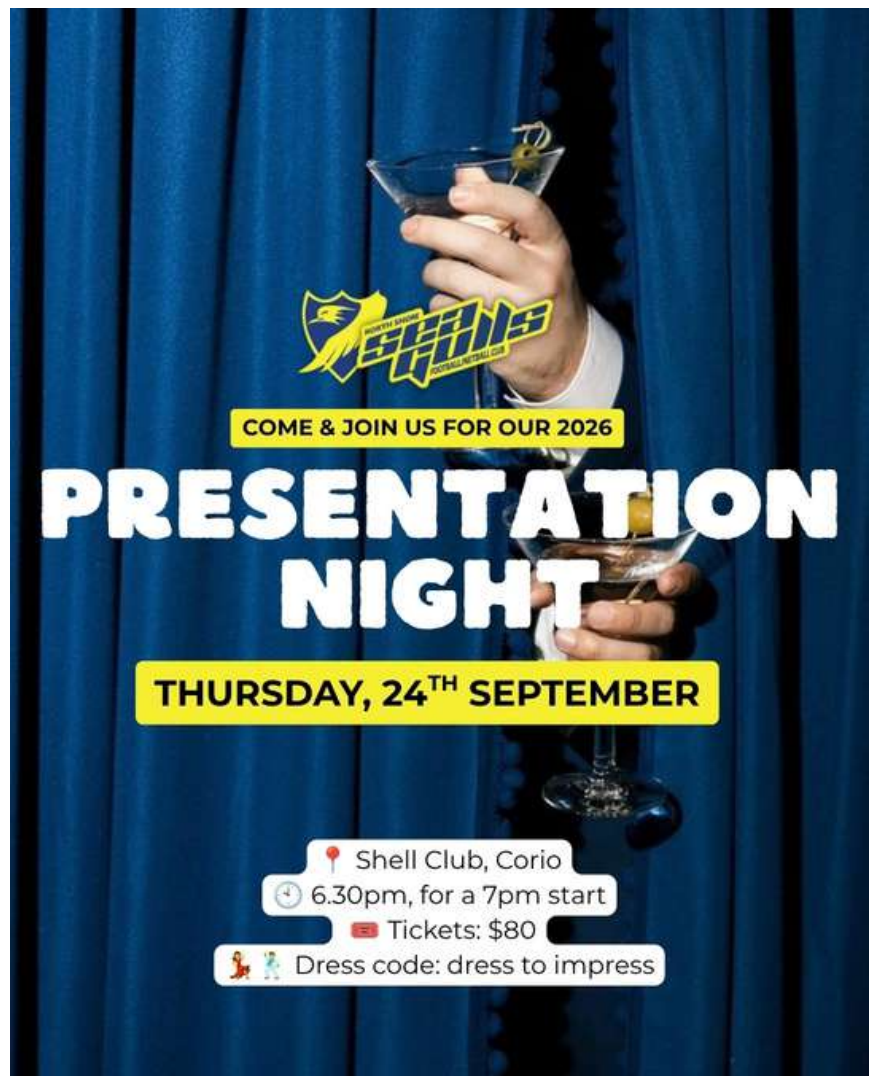


NEWSLETTER

RESPECT. FAIR PLAY. INCLUSION. TEAM WORK.

IN TODAY'S ISSUE:

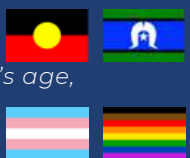
- President's 2026 Season Wrap
- Football & netball reflections
- **Presentation Night →**
- Q&A with Jack Gibb
- 'Here's what you missed on socials'
 - Re-signings and new recruits
 - Vote Count results
- Thank you Sponsors



TICKETS CLOSE TONIGHT 9PM

The North Shore Football and Netball Club would like to acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we train and play on, the Wadawarrung lands. We pay our respects to Elders past and present, and recognise that sovereignty has never been ceded.

North Shore Football and Netball Club provides equality in access to our club regardless of people's age, ability, gender, gender identity, race, religion or sexual orientation.





JUNIOR FOOTBALL + NETBALL IS BACK IN IN 2027

AND WE WANT YOU!

**Do you know someone who is a junior and looking
for a club to call home in 2027?**

**We're on the hunt for high-performance players to
join our teams.**

GET IN TOUCH HERE





CLUB UPDATES

A Message from the President, Maryian Szponar

And just like that, the 2026 season is complete!

What a season it has been. A long one, filled with plenty of hard work, commitment, challenges, great moments and, most importantly, plenty of reasons to be proud of our North Shore Football and Netball Club.

The dedication, effort and commitment from all players throughout the season has not gone unnoticed. We know how much time and energy goes into training, playing and representing our club week in, week out, and we are incredibly proud of every one of you.

A special congratulations to our Under 18 team, who had a fantastic finals series, just falling short of the grand final. It has been wonderful to see our juniors out there competing, supporting each other and representing North Shore with such enthusiasm. Along with a handful of Senior team debuts throughout the season from the group, the future of our club is looking very bright!

Thank you

Of course, none of this happens without the incredible people behind the scenes. To our volunteers, coaches, team managers, committee members, supporters, sponsors, families and everyone who has helped throughout the year, thank you.

Whether you have been at the club every week or helped when you could, your contribution has made a difference. Our club simply could not operate without the people who continue to give their time, energy and expertise.

Presentation Night

Congratulations to all our 2026 award winners who will be celebrated at Presentation Night next week, as we come together to celebrate our players, coaches, volunteers and everything that has made this season special. We look forward to celebrating with everyone next week. Ticket sales close at 9pm TONIGHT (Thursday 17th), so grab your ticket now:

TICKETS 👉 2026 NSFNC Presentation Night

Thank you again to everyone who has been part of North Shore in 2026. We are incredibly proud of what we have achieved together, and we are even more excited about what is ahead.



CLUB UPDATES

Looking Ahead to 2027

We are thrilled to have Wade Chapman announced as our Senior Football Coach for 2027, with a familiar and experienced team around him. There is a real sense of excitement building already, and we can't wait to see what the next chapter of North Shore football looks like.

There is also plenty happening on the netball front, with new and returning players and coaches coming on board, along with plans to add more teams to our lineup. It is fantastic to see the continued growth and enthusiasm around our netball program.

Keep an eye on our socials over the coming weeks as we start to reveal more of the 2027 playing groups, there's plenty of re-signings happening and some exciting new recruits joining us for the Centenary season.

Our Centenary Committee has been working hard behind the scenes to start putting together a very special year for our club. Save the date for a huge weekend celebrating 100 years of North Shore - June 12th & 13th, 2027. More details to come as they get locked in.

And as we look towards 2027, I remind you all that there is a job for everyone. Come along to our AGM on November 25th and put your hand up to help shape the future of our club.

Every player is also a valued volunteer. It doesn't have to mean taking on a huge role or committing every week. Sometimes it is simply putting your hand up for a small job when you can. Our club belongs to all of us, and the more people who put their hand up, the stronger and more sustainable our club becomes.

If you have ever thought, 'I wouldn't mind getting involved,' now is the time!

Bring on 2027 – and our Centenary year!

Go Seagulls!



President
Maryian Szponar
Phone: 0418 990 564
Email: maryianszponar@gmail.com

Senior Football

FOOTBALL

As we move towards the conclusion of the 2026 season, the senior football program has continued to show plenty of fight and development, despite a challenging year on the scoreboard.

ROUND 17 – NORTH SHORE v ST MARY’S

A difficult afternoon against a strong St Mary’s outfit. Despite the result, there were some encouraging individual performances, with Jesse Kerkham, Jack O’Brien, Dylan Bennett, Nic Creighton, Daniel Gudasic and Cody Harrison among our better players.

ROUND 18 – NORTH SHORE v GEELONG WEST

The boys showed plenty of effort against Geelong West, with Jacob Sammut-Miljevic providing a highlight with three goals. Ethan Huxtable, Cody Harrison, Bailey Shelley, Dylan Bennett and Linkon Black were also among North Shore’s better performers.

ROUND 19 – NORTH SHORE v GROVEDALE

There were plenty of positives early, with North Shore going into half-time only 10 points behind before Grovedale pulled away in the second half. Lachlan Vivian, Jordan Purcell, Declan Plozza, Dylan Bennett, Bailey Shelley and Nic Creighton were among our best.

LOOKING AHEAD

While the senior results haven’t been what we wanted in 2026, the season has provided valuable opportunities for a number of young players to experience senior football and continue their development. Our U18 program returned in 2026 for the first time since 2018, providing an important pathway into Senior Football. The development of this group has been one of the real positives of the season, with a number of talented young players showing they have the ability to progress into senior football in 2027 and beyond. Next year, we will take another important step with the introduction of a U16 side, further strengthening the pathway for our junior products.

The focus now is on retaining our current players, recruiting quality people, developing our young talent and building a stronger and more competitive senior football program for 2027.

A big thank you to our players, coaches, committee, volunteers, medical team and supporters for their commitment throughout what has been a challenging season, you are truly appreciated.

In particular, we want to extend a massive thank you to our Team Managers across all grades:

- Carrie (U18s)
- Katherine (Reserves)
- Chris (Seniors)

There is plenty of work ahead, but there is also plenty to be excited about at North Shore. Actions over words.

Simon Riddoch

U18s Football - End of Season Wrap-Up

Hello members, players, families, staff and supporters,

What an incredible, positive season it has been. The group of young men we have in our playing squad are bloody spectacular, and your support every single week has been deeply appreciated. Sport is always more enjoyable when you have a passionate crowd behind you, so from all of us, thank you.

Our U18s finished 3rd on the ladder - with our only minor regular season setbacks being a couple of narrow losses to the top two sides - and launched a deep finals run. The boys pushed all the way to a Preliminary Final, battling hard before going down by 19 points to Torquay.

It was a massive effort by everyone involved, especially considering it was the first year at the club for the vast majority of our squad. A special mention to Cam Hase, Jai Archibald, and Luke House, who all returned to Windsor Park after playing here as juniors.

We managed to recruit 30 players to the U18s squad this season. To every player and family who believed in our vision and helped make it a reality: thank you.

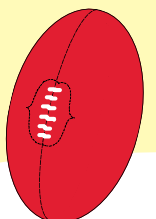
We also capped off the year with some fantastic league recognition at the AFL Barwon awards. Huge congratulations to our U18 Captain **Oscar Denny**, who won the Division 2 League Best & Fairest award, and **Riley Cotter**, who polled brilliantly to finish tied for 3rd overall. Outstanding achievements by both boys!

As 10 of our top-aged players transition into senior football, we have already signed 7 of them for 2027. Adding these talented young players to our growing senior group will set the club up for a long time in the blue and gold. This leaves spots open in our U18s squad for next season as we target a move into Division 1. We are building an environment centred on high performance, strong culture, and hard work. If you know anyone looking to join for the first time or return as a past player, please pass along my details or send their contact info my way - 0499 596 870.

The U16s will be led by Jack Gibb - a close friend of mine and an exceptional coach. We are actively recruiting players for this squad and focusing on bringing local families back to their rightful home at Windsor Park. If you know of any eligible players or families, please reach out to Jack directly - 0420 600 058.

Great clubs are built on thriving, supportive football and netball communities. Thank you for helping us bring North Shore back to being champions.

Thanks,
Dean Rochow



Reserves Football

The last 3 games of the 2026 season provided some tough opposition with the boys unfortunately unable to register a win. However, the growth continued and the commitment didn't waiver across the squad.

That growth and commitment saw some individual highlights for our players, Matthew Jennings & Ethan Huxtable got back into the Senior side and Luke Daffy made his Senior debut. Tyler Russell kicked his first goal for the club and with Matt in the Seniors, Finn Murphy took his leadership of the team to the next level, fantastic achievements by all.

Football clubs create memories and in our Round 17 game against St Mary's, an awesome memory was created for the Rochow family. Our Under 18 coach Dean was able to play the game with sons Taj & Kohen, Kohen making the step up from the 18s and Taj jumping in to help out the side which he has done all season when needed, Taj, it was really appreciated every time you answered that last minute phone call! It was excellent to see the trio all line up across the forward line at one point and I'd be pretty confident the day will be discussed at family gatherings for a long time to come.

Our last game against Grovedale was "The Last Dance" for Joel Washington who has hung up the boots for GFL football. Thank you Washo for all the guidance and support you have given the group. Good luck to opposition sides in the Masters now that you'll be fresher for those games on a Sunday!

With the 2026 season done, I'd like to take the opportunity to thank the entire North Shore community for welcoming me and the family into the fold, it's a brilliant place to be a part of, bring on 2027!

Go Shories!

Warren Bennett

FOOTBALL



NETBALL

Senior Netball

And just like that... the final whistle has blown for the last game of the 2026 season.

WHAT A SEASON THAT WAS!

We accomplished so much this year, welcoming new and returning players to the blue and gold and learning and developing with every game.

The 2026 senior netball season didn't see as many wins on the scoreboard as last year, but wins weren't what we were aiming for. Retention, recruitment, and development were the three pillars of the 2026 season - and those were the wins that we achieved.

As planning for the 2027 season has been underway for many months now, we have a lot of exciting things in the works that we're close to being ready to announce. 2027 isn't just our centenary year - it's the year that netball takes front and centre in its rebuild and finishes off what it started five years ago

A big thank you to everyone who made this season possible.

From our coaches, to our umpires, to our players, our wonderful trainers, supporters and volunteers - we love each and every one of you! Without your support and turning up each week, nothing would be possible.

STAY TUNED because we've got new recruits, new coaches and lots of announcements that are going to be coming in hot over the next couple of months, including our annual pre-Christmas pre-season.

Junior Netball

IS TAKING FLIGHT IN 2027.

At the helm of our Junior Netball Program are two incredible Seagals, Jas Knox and Natalie Murphy.

Jas and Nat are joint E Grade runner-up Best & Fairest winners for the 2026 season, and I couldn't be more excited to be working with them as we bring back Junior Netball to North Shore in 2027.



Vice President - Netball
Edwina Wilkens
Phone: 0421 653 944
Email: edwina.wilkens@canwill.com.au

EVENTS

TICKETS CLOSE TONIGHT!

The season may be over, but the celebrations are just getting started!

Join us on Thursday 24th September at the Shell Club as we come together to reflect on the highs, the challenges, and everything in between from our 2026 season for our senior netballers, footballers and Under 18s.

Tickets here: <https://thq.fyi/se/e92c1b09a44f>



Q&A WITH JACK GIBB



How long have you been at NSFNC? I've been at the club for several months now!

What do you love most about the club? The club follows their values with actions, not just words in the wind.

What's your favourite club function? Winter Ball

What's your go-to canteen order? Strong latte

Favourite person at the club: Dean Rochow

Highlight of your time at NSFNC: So far the highlight for me has been how much the club have embraced both me and my family.

What emoji could you not live without? 🇦🇺

What sport would you compete in if you had to be in the Olympics? Track Cycling Individual Sprint

Re-signings

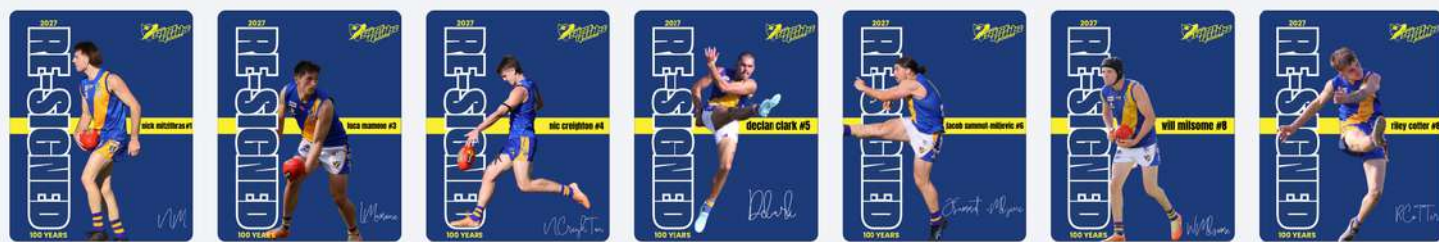
For those who don't follow our social media pages, we have had a massive wave of players commitments rolling in for our 2027 Centenary season!

We are thrilled to share that over 40 players across our football and netball teams have already re-signed for next year.

From locking in our rising U18 stars transitioning into senior footy to securing key netball core groups in the midcourt, circle, and defence, the foundation for the 2027 season is shaping up brilliantly.

Take a look at all the players who have locked in their commitment to the blue and gold so far!

‘HERE’S WHAT YOU
MISSED ON SOCIALS’



'HERE'S WHAT YOU MISSED ON SOCIALS'



Recruits

Alongside our retaining playing group, the club is excited to officially welcome two key new football recruits for our 2027 Centenary season!

- **Will Nicholls:** Premiership-winning junior returns home to the club after stints with Lara, Geelong West and the Geelong Falcons.
- **Bailey Thompson:** Locked in on a two-year deal as a Playing Assistant Coach, bringing years of footy experience and leadership to the club.



OUR SPONSORS

This year marks a significant milestone for our club, with sponsorship contributions reaching the highest level on record. This achievement reflects the strength of our community, the commitment of our members, and the confidence our sponsors continue to place in the club's direction and values.

We extend our sincere appreciation to the club sponsors and player sponsors whose support has been instrumental throughout the season. Your contributions directly enhance our programs, facilities, and player development pathways, and they play a vital role in ensuring the long-term success of the club.

We also acknowledge and thank the members who actively secured sponsorships. Your initiative, professionalism, and dedication have been central to this year's outstanding result. Equally, we express our gratitude to the sponsors who approached the club independently. Your willingness to engage with us demonstrates a strong and growing reputation within the wider community.

To all sponsors, new and returning:
Your support strengthens every aspect of our operations and helps us continue building a club that represents excellence both on and off the field.

As we conclude the year, we recognise and celebrate this collective achievement. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to the club.





Want to see something else in our monthly newsletter?

Do you have feedback, or do you know of someone who would benefit from receiving our monthly updates?

Get in touch with Eliza: lizekramer13@gmail.com

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You are receiving this email as either a current or past player, member or supporter of North Shore Football & Netball Club.

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