

WARATAH WHISPER

ISSUE NO. 26/27 - 01

Official Publication of the Waratah Football Club



CELEBRATING 110 YEARS

HELLO WARRIORS! - WELCOME TO THE 2026/27 SEASON!

We have an exciting year ahead, both on and off the field.

This season is extra special as we celebrate 110 years of Waratah Football Club
as a proud foundation club of the NTFL.

Throughout the season, we'll be celebrating our 110th year and multiple premiership reunions,
bringing our Waratah family together to reconnect, reminisce and celebrate our proud history.

Watch this space, there's plenty to look forward to. GO TAHS!

SEASON 2025-26 review

**The 2025/2026 season has been another significant chapter in the proud history
of our football club.**

**While success is often measured by premierships, this year again demonstrated that the
true strength of Waratah lies in our people, our culture and our commitment to continuing
to build a strong and sustainable football club for generations to come.**

THIS SEASON WE:

- **Grew to more than 604 registered participants across juniors and seniors, up from 516 the previous season.**
- Fielded 19 teams across junior and senior football, including 14 junior sides and 5 senior sides.
- **Continued the rapid growth of our junior program, including 60 Under 9 players across five teams, bringing many new families into the Waratah community.**
- Continued strengthening our women and girls football pathways, with plans underway to reintroduce a Women's Division 2 side next season.
- Hosted AFL personalities including Brownlow Medallist Dayne Swan and Nathan Buckley at club events during the season.
- **Hosted the Masters Carnival at Gardens Oval, showcasing our club and facilities to the broader football community.**
- Saw multiple Waratah players recognised through NT representative honours and Rising Star nominations.
- **Continued advocating strongly for the long-term future, sustainability and security of Waratah Football Club at Gardens Oval.**

SEASON 2025-26 REVIEW

On the field, while our Men's Premier League and Division 2 sides fell heartbreakingly short in finals after leading for much of both matches, the resilience, growth and development shown across the year provides enormous confidence for the future.

Our Women's Premier League side continued to develop strongly under Troy and his coaching group, while our Women's Division 1 side showed they are capable of competing with the best when fully supported and available. Importantly, we continue to see strong development of our younger players and emerging talent across the club.

Junior Program Growth

Our junior program continues to be one of the great strengths of Waratah Football Club. This season we grew to more than 400 junior players and volunteers across 14 teams, making us one of the largest junior football programs in the competition. The continued growth in participation, particularly at younger age groups, reflects the incredible work of our junior coordinators, coaches, volunteers and parents who create a positive, welcoming and family-friendly environment.

The return of all junior teams training together at Gardens Oval next season is an exciting step forward for our club and reinforces our commitment to being one connected football club from juniors through to seniors. We also continue to prioritise the development of women and girls football pathways as an essential part of the future of Waratah Football Club.

Volunteers and Operations

A football club simply does not function without volunteers. I would like to sincerely thank:

- Our coaches, assistant coaches, team managers, sports trainers, water runners, timekeepers and volunteers across all programs.
- Our kitchen and bar volunteers who continue to support our home game operations and club culture.
- Our 100 Club volunteers whose work remains a critical part of both the culture and financial sustainability of the club.
- Baylee, our club administrator, for the enormous amount of work completed behind the scenes to keep the club operating effectively.
- Alison, Nikki and our outstanding sports trainers program, which continues to set the benchmark across the competition.
- Laura and Larnie for their exceptional work coordinating our junior program throughout the season.

Sponsors and Partners

Thank you to all of our sponsors and partners who continue to support Waratah Football Club. Your support goes well beyond financial contribution. You continue to invest in community football, family participation and the ongoing success of our club.

View our our season 2025-26 partners [here](#)

SEASON 2025-26 REVIEW

Committee and Personal Thanks

To our committee — thank you for your continued commitment, honesty and willingness to do the hard work required to keep building this football club. There are always robust discussions, differing opinions and difficult decisions throughout a season, but we continue to remain united in our commitment to the long-term success of Waratah Football Club.

Waratah Football Club continues to grow because people continue to believe in what this club stands for.

We are competitive. We are resilient. We are growing.

We are not here simply to participate. We are here to build a strong, sustainable and successful football club that future generations will be proud to be part of.

To every player, volunteer, sponsor, parent, supporter and committee member — thank you for being part of the journey.

We are Warriors. We are one club. We are one family. Hoorah baby. Go Tahs.

Rohan Langworthy - Waratah Football Club President

INTRODUCING YOUR 2026/27 COMMITTEE



Rohan Langworthy
President



Cindy Hoban
Vice President



Elle Langworthy
Secretary



Chris Mouat
Treasurer



Rob Cross



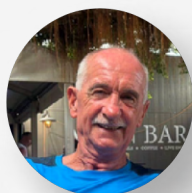
Ewa Finch



Steve Kotz



Sarah Neal



John Schier



Debbie Barnes



Matt O'Kane

WARATAH IN MEMORIAM

This year we reflect on the loss of several valued members of the broader Waratah family.

JOCELYN FINCH

Jocelyn who was a relatively recent recruit to Waratah Football Club but made an impact almost immediately. Jocelyn brought three children to play for the club and helped introduce a new major sponsor in Lottery Office. She was due to join the committee this season and had already started taking on committee responsibilities before she sadly passed away in April.



FORMER CLUB PRESIDENT PAUL GROSS

Paulie began helping the club through simple acts like carrying water bottles at training before eventually progressing into the role of President until relocating interstate in 2020. He was known for his hard work, dedication to the club and his famous catch cry while ringing the bell – *“that’s the smell of success”*. Paulie’s contribution to Waratah Football Club will not be forgotten.

VALE – SUE KOTZ OUR TAHS MUM

I don’t think we can ever fully do justice to what Tahs meant to Sue, and what Sue meant to Tahs. Sue was passionate, fiercely loyal and deeply caring. She gave enormous energy to supporting the club and the people within it over the better part of two decades.

She helped lead the club into a new era, paving the way for greater female leadership within Waratah and setting an example of what genuine contribution looks like. Even during periods of illness and personal difficulty, Sue continued looking for ways to contribute and support the club and its people.

Sue was also an incredibly loyal advisor and an outstanding committee member for well over a decade. Her care for others, loyalty and unwavering commitment to Waratah left a lasting impact on everyone fortunate enough to know her. Sue will forever remain part of the fabric of the Waratah Football Club.

OUR RED AND WHITE SLEDGE HAMMER.

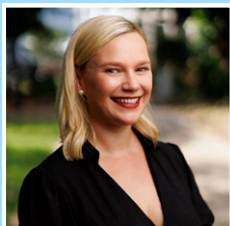


WARATAH JUNIOR

News

ANNOUNCEMENT

We are pleased to announce
LARNIE BATTEN
as
**Waratah Football Club's
new Junior Program Director.**



We would like to sincerely thank Laura Ayres for her many years of dedication and commitment to our junior program. Laura's hard work has helped build a strong foundation for our young players, and we are incredibly grateful for everything she has contributed.

After working alongside Laura throughout last season, Larnie has now officially stepped into the role. She has hit the ground running, working tirelessly behind the scenes during the off-season to prepare for another fantastic year of junior football.

We can't wait to see our junior teams back on the training track and out on the field this season.

REGISTRATION

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

For families registering more than one player using the same linked account, receive 15% discount for each additional player

To register, please use the below link:

[REGISTRATION](#)

WANTED

Junior Coaches and Team Managers for the 2026/27 season.

Can you help coach a junior team?
Or support a team as a Team Manager?

If you're interested, please let us know ASAP so we can finalise our junior teams for the season.

No experience? No worries
We'll support you along the way.

SPONSORS

Thank you to our sponsors who have already committed to supporting Waratah Football Club this season. Your support makes a real difference.

We're still seeking sponsors to help us purchase new junior jumpers and support our Junior Team Awards and programs for the 2026/27 season.

If you, or a business you know, would be interested in getting involved, we'd love to hear from you.

For more information Please contact the club or **[click here for Prospectus.](#)**

WARATAH

25/26 AWARD WINNERS

JUNIORS

THANK YOU TO OUR
EVENT SPONSORS



UNDER 9 GIRLS

Best & Fairest - **Kiana Nickels**

Coaches Award - **Alexandra Foster**

UNDER 9 BOYS (WHITE)

Best & Fairest - **Aiden Mackney**

Coaches Award - **Isaac Moore**

UNDER 9 BOYS (GOLD)

Best & Fairest - **Blake Trehwella**

Coaches Award - **William Noone**

UNDER 9 BOYS (RED)

Best & Fairest - **Francis Weston**

Coaches Award - **Ripley Norman**

UNDER 9 BOYS (SILVER)

Best & Fairest - **Chad Geddes**

Coaches Award - **Harvey Dowling**

UNDER 11 GIRLS

Best & Fairest - **Ruby Daly**

R/Up Best & Fairest - **Eleanor Hallett**

Most Consistent - **Emilia Rantanen**

Most Determined - **Summer Hodges**

Most Improved - **Marlee Dunstan**

Coaches Award - **Mackenzie Budd**

Best Team Player - **Khaleesi Fluri**

UNDER 11 BOYS (RED)

Best & Fairest - **Darcy Rayson**

R/Up Best & Fairest - **Ethan Covers**

Best Team Man - **Jedd Geddes**

Most Improved - **Ned Collins**

UNDER 11 BOYS (SILVER)

Best & Fairest - **Jacob McMahon**

R/Up Best & Fairest - **Edward Lee**

Coaches Award - **Flynn Tetlow-Smith**

Most Consistent - **Tex Butler**

Most Dedicated - **Vincent Hosking**

UNDER 11 BOYS (WHITE)

Best & Fairest - **Alessio Ayres**

R/Up Best & Fairest - **Aiden Howard**

Coaches Award - **Joshua Leuken**

Most Consistent - **Luca Kennedy**

Leading Goal Kicker - **Vincent Nichols**

UNDER 13 GIRLS

Best & Fairest - **Eden Evans**

R/Up Best & Fairest - **Milan Eddy**

Most Consistent - **Amelia May**

Most Determined - **Ciara Olivetta**

Rising Star - **Martha Hewett**

Best Team Player - **Eve McMahon**

UNDER 13 BOYS

Best & Fairest - **Harry Collins**

R/Up Best & Fairest - **Wesley Campbell**

Most Consistent - **Noah Grosser**

Most Dedicated - **Chase Atkinson**

Most Potential - **Oliver Kaelin**

Coaches Award - **Maxwell Winter**

UNDER 15 GIRLS

Best & Fairest - **Bronte Bellot**

R/Up Best & Fairest - **Grace Rogers**

Most Consistent - **Erin Willoughby**

The Players Player - **Poppy Bender**

Most Courageous - **Hannah Priore**

Most Potential - **Ivysha McCann**

UNDER 15 BOYS

Best & Fairest - **Matthew May**

R/Up Best & Fairest - **Preston Oliver**

Leading Goal Kicker - **Jamal Pilakui**

Most Improved - **Nash Eddy**

Best Team Man - **Cooper Hopkins**

Coaches Award - **Tamlin Johnson**

Most Dedicated - **Stephen Kantilla**

UNDER 17.5 GIRLS

Best & Fairest - **Marlee Smallridge**

R/Up Best & Fairest - **Kleo Sailor**

Most Dedicated - **Grace Chandler**

Most Improved - **Chloe Neck**

Coaches Award - **Alexis Skipp**

Most Courageous - **Stella Rashleigh**

UNDER 17.5 BOYS

Best & Fairest - **Max Mackenzie**

R/Up Best & Fairest - **Lachlan Harvey**

Leadership Group Award - **William Kievit**

Most Improved - **Deklyn Patrick**

Most Consistent - **Ioannis Skopellos**

Rising Star Award - **Mickeal Rogers**

THANK YOU

To our coaches, managers, trainers and volunteers
Thank you for your dedication and support.

FUNDRAISING

TOYOTA GOOD FOR FOOTY RAFFLE

Buy a \$5 ticket in the Toyota Good for Footy Raffle and 100% of the proceeds go directly to our club.

There are lots of amazing prizes to be won, including three brand new Toyotas.
Now that's Good for Footy!

[CLICK HERE TO PURCHASE](#)



Ticket sales close 21 September with the raffle drawn 24 September. T&C's apply. To view full T&C's visit toyota.com.au/goodforfootyaffle

BE PART OF HISTORY...
Join Us for Our 110-Year Celebration!

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Registration is open for Players, Coaches, Team Managers, Sports Trainers and Volunteers.

Junior and Senior player registration with merch packs available.

SPORTS VOUCHERS ARE ACCEPTED FOR JUNIORS.

To register, please use the below link:

[REGISTRATION](#)



SENIOR PRE SEASON TRAINING

Commencing 6th August

GARDENS OVAL || EVERY TUESDAY AND THURSDAY || 5:30PM

