



2015
ANNUAL
REPORT

CHAIRMAN'S OVERVIEW

As we sign off on 2015 we are exceptionally fortunate to be welcoming in season 2015/16 which is our Centenary season. Since 1916 we have been the number one sport in the Territory, the most significant recreational activity and more importantly AFL football for a century has been interwoven into the social fabric of the NT. Whilst as an organisation we like to progress at pace to ensure football continues to be the sport of choice for Territorians we also like to regularly look back on our storied history as it is the first 100 years that will shape the next 100 years.

Long serving CEO Tony Frawley departed in September just after the Thunder win to relocate to the Sunshine Coast. Tony Frawley served as CEO for a decade and through his tenure did an exceptional job, guiding the organisation to levels of growth previously unattainable. Tony worked on many major projects including the formation of the Tiwi Bombers and the NT Thunder and oversaw the advent of the Michael Long Learning and Leadership Centre. Tony also increased consolidated revenue by more than 60%, increased participation on average 10% each year and was the driving force behind the development of AFLNT's remote projects.

Tony's contribution to NT football will never be forgotten and his legacy is one he should be proud of.

The year 2015 was a watershed year for AFLNT, NT Thunder and our newest and potentially most significant business unit, the remarkable 'Michael Long Learning and Leadership Centre'. Once again participation grew with more football programs available to Territorians than ever before. The TIO NTFL season was one to remember with record attendances and a thrilling season finale that saw Wanderers go on an amazing journey from 5th on the ladder to 2014/15 Premiers, beating perennial powerhouse St Marys in a thrilling Grand Final.

The Michael Long Learning and Leadership Centre opened on Friday the 13th of March. The brainchild of AFL Legend Michael Long, the Centre provide education and leadership opportunities for young Indigenous Territorians. The Centre has been fully operational since July 2015 and is considered to be the most important element of AFLNT's remote projects. The Centre also houses the NT Thunder football club and a number of AFLNT departments tasked with running the Centre and ensuring it generates myriad positive outcomes for Indigenous Territorians. We are fortunate to have Michael Long as patron in chief of the facility as his vision, guidance and commitment are critical to the success of the Centre.

September saw the NT Thunder beat Aspley Hornets by a solitary point in an enthralling NEAFL Grand Final. Territorians proved once again that they are emotionally invested in the NT Thunder concept with close to 8,000 (a NEAFL Grand final attendance record) turning out to cheer the Thunder home. Credit must go to the head coach Xavier Clarke and his carefully assembled cohort of dedicated coaches and to the players who to a man gave their all to the Thunder cause throughout the season, representing the Territory with pride.

In October we appointed a new CEO, the highly regarded Michael Solomon. Prior to joining AFLNT Michael was the GM operations of AFL Media and in his short time at AFLNT Michael has demonstrated a clear understanding of the unique position AFL football holds in the NT and is well into the process of reconfiguring all facets the business to ensure that AFLNT continues to administer AFL football in the NT for the benefit of all Territorians. Michael is a talented and passionate administrator who is quite rightly focused on the health of the game and has already repositioned female football at the forefront of AFLNT's strategic priorities. Michael has also reconfigured the AFLNT executive structure and for the first time ever the executive is 50% female

which is a clear indication of Michael's determination to ensure the organisation is reflective of our participation base demographic and of the community we serve. Maximizing revenues and securing ongoing funding for remote projects remains a challenge but I am confident Michael and his team will face these challenges head on.

We are very pleased with what AFLNT and NT Thunder achieved in 2015 and look forward to 2016 under the guidance of Michael Solomon as he and his team work diligently and passionately for the good of the game here in the NT. As always I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all our valued partners and sponsors whose support allows us to do the work we do. Thank you.



Ross Coburn
Chairman – AFL Northern Territory

CEO's OVERVIEW

From the day I commenced in my new role as CEO of AFLNT I immediately felt a strong sense of responsibility to the football loving population of the NT. I was appointed on the eve of the Centenary season and feel honoured to be guiding AFLNT through the next stage of its exciting history. One of my first tasks was to take a look at 2015 as a whole and I was impressed with the many successes AFLNT achieved throughout the year, particularly the opening of the Michael Long Learning and Leadership Centre which provides young Indigenous Territorians with a facility as good as anything I have seen in the football landscape. I was extremely fortunate to attend the NEAFL Grand Final where I saw first-hand what AFL football means to Territorians and I congratulate all involved in this win. The NT Thunder is so much more than a football club and we are committed to working as a team to continue to position the club as an important driver of positive outcomes for the many that are involved in the program.

The attraction back to the NT was due to the opportunity it presents to take our wonderful game of AFL to more Territorians. We are fortunate to be supported by a dedicated staff and with financial resources provided by a suite of extremely supportive visionary corporate partners and both levels of Government. AFLNT has unlimited potential to grow in a way that continues to meet the needs of the community and my role is to structure that growth in such a way that the organisation remains robust financially and exceeds stakeholder expectations whether they be participants, volunteers, spectators, sponsors or the legions of Territorians who simply love our game.

At times our team will have to be agents of change and whilst not all decisions we make will be popular, where possible they will be made in consultation with the football community. We will at all times act in the best interest of the game with a view to making it more accessible, more attractive, and more family and spectator friendly. We are well positioned to tap into the valuable resources available to us from our parent body in Melbourne who know the unique position AFL football has in NT society.

Increasing diversity across all areas of the business will continue to be a key focus and we will work tirelessly to ensure that our Board, workforce, clubs and participation base are places where females, Indigenous and people of multicultural backgrounds are welcomed and encouraged.

We are currently devising the initial stages of our 3 year strategic plan which will set the direction we are planning for the organisation. Once again, the plan will be shaped by our commitment to protecting and nurturing the game whilst also being highly aware of the change we will go through in the next decade, likely to be the biggest in recent memory. I know my role is simply a privileged custodianship of the game that means so much to Territorians and I am grateful for the opportunity.

Lastly, I would like to echo the words of the Chairman and thank our sponsors, Government partners and all others involved whose level of financial support allows us to do what we do.
Thank you.



Michael Solomon
Chief Executive Officer AFL Northern Territory

AFLNT FINANCIAL REPORT

Year Ended 31 October 2015

The audited financial statements of AFL Northern Territory Limited, for the year ended 31 October 2015 are attached for your perusal and adoption at this meeting. Northern Territory Football Club form part of the Company Results in these financial statements from 1st November 2014. Previously they were part of the Consolidated results prior to being wound up in 2015.

The accompanying notes form part of the accounts and should be read in conjunction with them to understand the Organisation's financial affairs.

Financial Position

The Company has recorded a statutory loss of (\$108,685) for the year ended 31st October 2015, which was down from the net profit in the prior year of \$17,811.

This result was due to an extra (\$121,163) in spend on the completion of the new Michael Long Learning & Leadership Centre (MLLLC), which was authorized by the Board and the AFL during the financial year. This extra spend was covered by bank interest and use of our retained earnings.

The Operating Result for year excluding this spend was a \$12,478 profit.

Comparing the 2015 results to 2014, there were a few significant changes:

1. The entire operations of the Northern Territory Football Club were part of AFL NT from 1st November 2015, resulting in extra spend of approx. \$2m and revenues of \$1.5m for the Company.
2. The MLLLC opened in March 2015 with handover now making us responsible for all on-going operating costs.
3. Other new areas of business in 2015 also included the Nitro Circus event at TIO Stadium, Borroloola, BRFL & Department of Health, and Remote Festivals and Schools.
4. 2015 also saw the end of many Government and Sponsor funded remote projects including Remote Trainees, Tiwi Islands, and significantly the ABA funding for Remote regions.

There was also continued difficulty in retaining and attracting sponsorship in Darwin, for NTFC, and in Alice Springs; and the collection of debts across the Territory. Full time employee numbers at year end were 40, down from 43 at the same time last year.

Given all of the above the end of year results are very pleasing and all departmental managers and the CEO's of AFLNT should be congratulated for these results.

The Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet) is still strong with the current assets exceeding the current liabilities by \$532,902 which enables all accounts to be met as they fall due which is a very healthy position to be in.

Acknowledgements

The AFLNT would particularly this year like to thank our ongoing and loyal sponsors and supporters, the AFL for their guidance and support and to the NT and Federal Governments a big thank you for your ongoing contribution to AFL Football in the NT. To our many other AFLNT, NT Thunder and Affiliated Leagues, Club sponsors and supporters we appreciate all your support.



Motion of Acceptance

It is my pleasure, to move the adoption of the Statement of Comprehensive Income and Statement of Financial Position, in conjunction with the notes and Auditors Report for the year ended 31 October 2015.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ross Coburn', written in a cursive style.

Ross Coburn
Chairman – AFL Northern Territory