

MEMO



21st March 2020

JUNIOR UPDATE #2

To Our Shark Community

As was advised on Wednesday by the SMJFL, in the interests of public health and with the best information available to them at that time, a decision has been made to delay the start of the 2020 season until after the 31st May 2020. The VAFA season (the senior competition) has also been rescheduled with a possible start date of the 2nd May. Auskick has also realigned itself to a possible 31st May 2020 start date.

The Junior Committee met on Monday evening to discuss the implications for the club through this season and beyond, both from a football perspective and an operational perspective. Financially there are many issues to work through, some of which will require league assistance, to allow us to provide the best outcomes for you, our key stakeholders.

It was agreed to continue to prepare ourselves to allow the club to keep moving forward, to ensure we are ready for a Round 1 start.

As the AFL have demonstrated, we expect that there will be modifications required. In what form, and how this is presented will be discussed at the scheduled Club Conference (conducted via video link) on Sunday. This conference will include all 26 club presidents of the SMJFL Clubs who will be given the opportunity to discuss the season, its implications, provide feedback to the league, and obtain necessary information to act in everyone's best interests.

Unfortunately there has needed to be some change to our club events. We are exploring ways that our club members can stay connected within current guidelines and we will communicate this to our community over the coming weeks.

We will also provide some at home football practice advice to encourage our players to keep practising their skills wherever they may be.

In the meantime, we ask that you stay connected to the club via facebook, our website and Instagram, and support those local businesses that have supported us. If you have some footy stories you would like to share on how you are practising your footy skills in this current climate, please share them.

We are determined to be part of the whole of community response to slow this virus down – and in doing so, help the broader community and our health systems to cope. Football has had many challenges and despite the size of this one, football will find a way through.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

“Once a Shark, always a Shark”

Nicki Spencer (President - Juniors)