



## CRICKET EAST METRO STAKEHOLDER UPDATE – APRIL 2019

### **“COMMITTED TO KEEPING YOU INFORMED AND ENGAGED”**

As another season closes for the BHRDCA, ECA and RDCA, planning for the future of Cricket in the Eastern suburbs of Melbourne continues to take place.

Cricket is a key part of the Australian way of life and we intend it be that way for decades to come. Whilst cricket isn't broken, as you know, we are being faced with some major challenges. One of the key challenges facing all sports, is the increasing volunteer burden. Many clubs and Associations are finding it harder to attract and retain volunteers and the next generation coming through are less likely to be able to commit to the many hours required. Clubs and Associations are being asked to do more and contend with more complex issues each year. Growing pressure is on to raise more money each year, keep costs down, establish more teams, provide better facilities, connect to a changing demographic landscape, deal with increased legislation requirements and so on.

These are some of the reasons for the need to review how cricket is structured to best capitalise on our collective strengths and work smarter – not harder. These discussions are happening not just across our zone, but right across metropolitan Melbourne with the view to creating five Metropolitan zones for cricket governance, each with a locally elected regional Board elected by clubs in the region and a full-time administration structure complementing (not replacing) the great work done by a wealth of volunteers.

Over several seasons now, key representatives from the BHRDCA, ECA and RDCA have been working with CV to address some of these challenges. Some of you will recall the release prior to Christmas last year where the parties agreed to a historic “Heads of Agreement” to articulate how discussions would proceed.



### **Cricket East Metro “Heads of Agreement” signing session @ RDCA offices 18/12/2018**

*Back row:* Michael Van Zuyden (BHRDCA Secretary), Neil Dalrymple (North Balwyn CC President), Dick Menting (East Collaborative Group Chairman), Brian Barnard (BHRDCA Tribunal Chair), Greg McLeod (ECA Turf Wicket Manager)

*Middle row:* Clinton Kennon (CV East Metro Area Manager), Paul Milo (CV Club & Community Cricket Manager), Sharon Lynas (ECA Girls Administrator / CV Inner East Club Officer), Rod Patterson (ECA Operations Manager), Pat Meehan (RDCA Life Member, VMCU Junior Sub-Committee)

*Front Row:* Mike Finn (RDCA President), Mike Slattery (ECA President), Peter Rosenthal (BHRDCA President)



Since the signing of the Heads of Agreement, the “Cricket East Metro Collaborative Group” and a smaller sub-committee the “Cricket East Metro Working Party” have been developing key documents that will articulate how the new structure will work. These will be outlined through the following:

- CV / Cricket East Metro Services Agreement;
- Cricket East Metro / Association Deeds of Transition; &
- Stakeholder presentations

In the process of developing these documents the Cricket East Metro Working Party has identified so far, 17 key administrative protocols that need to be addressed. In no particular order they are:

Governing body name	Constitutions & policies	Competition names
Divisional names	Awards	Association history
Membership	Voting rights	Playing rules
Competition operations	Treatment of Assets	Affiliation fees
Team entry fees	Treatment of sponsors	Umpires
Tribunals & appeals	Representative cricket	

Ultimately the Collaborative Group members are committed to seeking to establish solutions that will help support cricket clubs to grow and develop not only for now but be well placed to see cricket grow in to the future. There is so much still to do to get this up and running – including more input and ultimate consideration by Associations and Clubs. It is therefore unlikely that players and clubs will see any change for the 2019/20 season – with benefits kicking in for the 2020/21 season and beyond.

We look forward to sharing more updates and providing the opportunity to hear from members of the Collaborative Group in the months ahead about the ideas to help cricket in the eastern suburbs of Melbourne. If you have any questions or need more information in the interim, please contact your association president or Clinton Kennan.

Yours in cricket

**Dick Menting**  
Group Chairman

**Peter Rosenthal**  
BHRDCA President

**Mike Slattery**  
ECA President

**Mike Finn**  
RDCA President

**April 2, 2019**