



## AFL Canada 2018 Annual General Meeting Minutes

**Date/Location:** 8:00pm ET/6:00pm MT/5:00pm PT/9:00pm AT, Sunday, December 9, 2018 / Teleconference

TO JOIN VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE: <https://meet.google.com/kfd-vyum-pgz>

TO JOIN VIA PHONE: +1 929-276-1052 PIN: 247 384 451#

(Please note: long distance charges may apply)

### Invitees:

**Executive:** Lachlan Griffiths, President; James Duggan, Vice-President; David Smith, Treasurer; Tricia Rolfe, Women's Representative; Chris Bourque, Men's representative

**Staff:** Penny Bartel, Manager Football Development

**Member Clubs:** all member clubs who are in good standing

**By Invitation Only:** all players or non-member clubs

**In Attendance:** Lachlan Griffiths, \*Yaser Elenein (Ottawa Swans), Lyndsay Smith (Kookaburras), \*Daniel McLeod (Roos), \*Deanna Cook (Kookaburras), \*David Smith (Treasurer), \*Trent Loosemore (Burnaby Eagles), Chris MacLean (Kingston), \*James Duggan (VP), \*Tricia Rolfe (Women's rep), \*Chris Bourque (men's rep), \*Robert (Lumpy) Palmer (Edmonton), \*Kevin Murray, \*Aaron Falcioni (Toronto Eagles), \*Derek Govier (Grand River Gargoyle), Natalia Champagnie (AFL Ontario), \*Jaclyn Halliday (AFL Ontario/Hamilton), \*Bruce Parker (Central Blues), \*Morgan Whyte (AFL Quebec), \*Barry Rooke (Umpire, AFL Ontario), Penny Bartel (AFL Canada Staff) = **17 Voting Attendees**

#	Agenda Item/ Appendix	Type	Person Responsible	Time (mins)	Minutes
<b>Initial Approvals</b>					
1	Call to Order	Information	Lachlan	2	President Lachlan Griffiths called the meeting to order at 8:15 pm ET. Some attendees had phoned in using old conference call details that were first circulated. However, after a short period of confusion, everyone relocated to the same google meeting.
2	Determination of Quorum	Information	Penny	5	Attendance was taken and quorum was declared.

3	Rules of Procedure	Approval	Lachlan	5	President Lachlan Griffiths referred attendees to the Rules of Procedure that were circulated with the meeting notice and can be found on the AFL Canada website. These Rules will govern our proceedings but we hope to not need to refer specifically to them during the meeting.
4	Approval of Agenda	Approval	Lachlan	2	Moved by Derek Govier / JSecoded by James Duggan
5	Approval of Minutes 2017 AGM	Approval	Lachlan	2	Minutes circulated on AFL Canada website with AGM package (copy of Minutes are available as an attachment to these 2018 Minutes) Approval was moved by James (Jimmy) Duggan / Seconded by Chris Bourque
<b>Agenda Items</b>					
6	President's Report	Update	Lachlan	15	See attached President's report
7	Questions Arising From President's Report	Discussion	All	10	<p>Kevin Murray inquired <b>whether the circulated LTAD was the final version or if input was being sought from membership?</b> President Lachlan Griffiths reviewed the procedures by which membership had been consulted to date on the development of the manual. Manager Penny Bartel indicated that this is a fluid document that will be constantly under revision and review. We will always welcome feedback and comments.</p> <p>Derek Govier inquired <b>whether the LTAD was simply referring to athletes/players or if it looked at the sport holistically?</b> Staff Penny Bartel confirmed that the LTAD looks at development of all areas of the sport since players need development of coaches and umpires as well as facilities, competitions, etc.</p> <p>A brief discussion followed <b>regarding how this information will be communicated to membership and the marketing of the materials in the LTAD.</b></p>
8	Financial Report	Update (no approval required)	Treasurer	5	See attached summary of the Treasurer's report A more detailed version of the financial statements will be circulated when the 2018 Audit is completed.

9	Appointment of Auditor	Approval	All	0	Not required, Nicole Henderson approved at 2017 AGM and audits are yet to be completed.
10	Election of Executive Board of Directors  If by-law amendments adopted: a) President b) Vice President c) Treasurer d) Director e) Director	Nomination and Election	All	20	All positions are vacated, as terms are for one year.  See information below re: Director Roles/Nominations.  All directors agreed to have their names stand for re-election in 2019.  A call for nominations from the floor was made by President Lachlan Griffiths. There were no nominations received from the floor.  <b>Directors were re-elected by acclamation / unanimous consent:</b> President: Lachlan Griffiths Vice-President: James Duggan Treasurer: David Smith Director at Large (Men's Representative): Chris Bourque Director at Large (Women's Representative): Tricia Rolfe
<b>Closing Agenda Items</b>					
12	Other Business, if any (to be added during approval of meeting agenda, Item 1 above)	Discussion	President	5	
13	Adjournment of Meeting	Approval	President	1	Lachlan thanked all those who attended the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM (ET)

### **Director Roles/Nominations (Agenda Item 10)**

It is typical that at the time of electing directors, the officers are also put in place. Therefore, we have provided a summary of the roles (old and new) to assist you in determining a suitable nominee for each role:

- A. The **President** will be responsible for the general supervision of the affairs and operations of the Corporation, will preside at the Annual and Special Meetings of the Corporation and at meetings of the Board, will be the official spokesman of the Corporation, and will perform such other duties as may from time to time be established by the Board;
- B. The **Vice President** will act as liaisons between the Board and all committees, will ensure that committees are working within their respective terms of reference, will alternately preside at meetings of the Board, will advise on matters connected to their regions, and will perform such other duties as may from time to time be established by the Board;
- C. The **Treasurer** will, subject to the powers and duties of the Board, keep proper accounting records as required by the Act, will cause to be deposited all monies received by the Corporation in the Corporation's bank account, will supervise the management and the disbursement of funds of the Corporation, when required will provide the Board with an account of financial transactions and the financial position of the Corporation, will prepare annual budgets, will oversee and supervise office staff, and will perform such other duties as may from time to time be established by the Board.
- D. The **Player's Representative (Women)** will have been selected to participate in the most recently held International Cup as a Northern Lights player (and will have attended the tournament, whether or not they actually played) and will act as the liaison between the Board and all female players, aspiring players, or former players within the national program. The incumbent's role will be to ensure these athletes have a voice, and that they have the opportunity to be informed and to provide input into matters affecting them, particularly in the area of national team programming. This input may be achieved through a variety of means, but the incumbent will ensure opportunities are be planned and announced, not determined on an ad hoc basis.
- E. The **Player's Representative (Men)** will have been selected to participate in the most recently held International Cup as a Northwind player (and will have attended the tournament, whether or not they actually played) and will act as the liaison between the Board and all male players, aspiring players, or former players within the national program. The incumbent's role will be to ensure these athletes have a voice, and that they have the opportunity to be informed and to provide input into matters affecting them, particularly in the area of national team programming. This input may be achieved through a variety of means, but the incumbent will ensure opportunities are be planned and announced, not determined on an ad hoc basis.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR 2018 AFL CANADA AGM**  
**Agenda Item 6**

The balance of power for senior footy swung back out east in 2018 with both the Men's and Women's National Championships finals being contested between Ontario and Quebec, with Ontario winning both. At the junior level however, the west continues to stream ahead with North Delta Junior AFL (NDJAFL) celebrating its 16<sup>th</sup> year, AFL Alberta reaching over 16,000 kids through school visits, the Calgary Kangaroos hired the first non-AFL funded full-time junior footy coach and the University National Championships were won by the University of Calgary.

Overall participation across the country enjoyed a year of growth, led by the AFL Alberta School Program, AFL Quebec Leagues and new junior programs in Goose Bay, Labrador. Total AFL Canada led League/Competition/Program participation reached 21,225 in 2018, up over 100% on 2017 figures of 10,448. Our national teams took a break in 2018 but the National Championships returned, hosted by AFL Ontario and more provinces represented with Nova Scotia and Manitoba combining to enter a men's team.

We welcomed Darren Denneman (AFL NSW Head of Talent and Coaching) in April as he led eight Level One Coaching courses across our five major cities. Following these sessions, we now have 80 accredited coaches across Canada.

We had another two Canadian based umpires become approved by the AFL as Umpire coaches, giving us six Umpire coaches able to approve level one accreditation, and look forward to further supporting and helping grow our umpires in 2019.

We hired Penny Bartel as full-time staff in May 2018. Penny is an experienced sports administrator with 20+ years of progressively experienced roles within the Canadian PSO space. Since joining, Penny has assisted at the National Championships and helped write our Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD) Framework, a key step in our goal of being recognised by Sport Canada as a National Sporting Organisation. We are pleased to be able to launch our LTAD today, a framework that will help guide our future growth and foster the next generation of footy players.

The LTAD provides guidelines for development for players entering the sport. It helps administrators structure games and seasons to ensure appropriate development of new players. This document was re-written from scratch and over many months and versions, with consultation across our membership and with *Sport For Life*, we are pleased to issue "Building Australian Football in Canada: Footy For Life". There were over 25 contributors to this document, more than we can individually thank here, with a consultation period spanning many months. We look forward to working with our member clubs and leagues in 2019 on the implementation of this framework.

In March the Edmonton Australian Football Club was invited by the University of Alberta to lead an Australian football component during the Kinesiology Games. This provided exposure of the sport to over 490 University Kin students from across Canada. University of Dalhousie were very worthy winners, and the exposure has sparked interest across Canada in new university clubs.

Over the July long weekend, six provinces were represented at the National Championships at Humber Oval in Toronto. Aaron Falcioni and his team put on an excellent tournament in sweltering heat, providing a development platform for players wanting to move from club play to the national team. It was the 'local' teams that took the honours with the Ontario Men and Women taking out the Quebec Men and Women in the respective finals.

We welcomed Atlas Wealth Management on board as a new sponsor in 2018, with over 200 Sherrins proudly showing their logo as global experts in expat financial planning. Our Sherrin relationship continues, enabling AFL Canada members access to discount footys, providing savings of several thousand dollars in 2018 alone.

While International Cup 2020 may seem a while away we've already started planning our return to Melbourne and are very pleased to re-appoint Cody Royle as Head Coach of the Men's National Team, Northwind. He will be joined by Brad Heidebrecht as Team Manager and Ewan Williams, Rowan Shields, Damin Bodnar and Justin Settle as assistant coaches. An initial squad of 60 players has been selected for the first of two training camps to be held in Edmonton, Alberta over May Long 2019.

The Northern Lights say farewell to long-time coach Jason Arnold and welcome in former player, Candace Kwan as the new Head Coach. Candace has cut her teeth as a decorated multi-sport high-school coach through her career as a PE teacher and recently has been leading the High Park Demons Women's team in the AFL Ontario league. She will be joined by two more former players in Lyndsay Smith as Team Manager and Sarah Ennor as Assistant Coach, alongside Callum Norris and Essendon VFLW coach Brendon Major who is returning to the Lights program as an assistant coach. The Lights will use a return to a club-based Women's Nationals as an opportunity to select their initial squad, being held in Calgary, Alberta over May Long 2019.

At the participation level, we had another year of overall growth, driven primarily by the AFL Alberta Juniors, AFL Quebec Senior leagues and new junior program in Goose Bay, Labrador. AFL BC, AFL Saskatchewan, AFL Manitoba, AFL Ontario and AFL Nova Scotia were all relatively flat on 2017 participation figures.

During 2018 we've been in touch with new and potential new clubs with the Forest City Phantoms (London, Ontario), Kingston AFC and Penticton AFC all looking to grow footy in their regions in 2019. We are currently re-evaluating how we can better support new and emerging clubs to ensure we are a catalyst for growth in new regions.

We were pleased to approve a number of grants in 2018, including; a grant for AFL BC to host an Umpire Clinic, AFL Alberta Schools Program support, Edmonton AFC running Australian Football at the Kin Games, junior footys for Goose Bay's new junior program, and three new club grants to help the Vernon Roosters, Sydney Giants and Winnipeg Bears.

Under the guidance of our Communications Manager, Lisa Dalla Rosa and Shane Hendrickson our online footprint has grown by 31% in 2018. Thanks to both Lisa and Shane for the countless hours they put in managing our website and social media platforms that have helped grow exposure of the game over the past year.

The AFL again has recognized our work over the past few years stabilising our governance and engaging with our members, and increased our funding again for 2019.

As you can see, AFL Canada has continued to make significant progress in 2018, supporting its members, building relationships with leagues, governing bodies, and sponsors, supporting our national development programs and working to provide value to its members. But there's plenty left to do.

The board continues to engage with Sport Canada to develop policies and best practices in line with other NSOs and have been working with our larger leagues to start the discussions around each province receiving PSO recognition.

In closing, I want to thank the 2018 board, staff and volunteers for their hard work and significant accomplishments. I'd encourage all clubs to continue to increase the communication and engagement among themselves and with their leagues and AFL Canada. This will help football to continue to grow here in Canada.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lachlan Griffiths  
President  
AFL Canada

**TREASURER'S REPORT FOR AFL CANADA 2018 AGM (Agenda Item 8)**

<u>Revenue:</u>			
Assoc Fees		28,898.00	
Balls		3,517.00	
Sponsorship		5,329.60	
AFL Grant		71,745.00	
Commissions		-	
Merch		2,204.60	
Other		951.50	
	Total Revenue		112,645.70
<u>Expenses:</u>			
Bank Fees		178.00	
Merch		3,564.36	
International Cup		1,133.92	
Footballs		21,152.23	
Shipping		4,075.27	
London Carn		-	
Promotion		6,495.20	
Other		26.20	
Grants		3,660.07	
Translate		-	
Train/Conf		651.68	
Insurance		20,820.75	
Prof Fees		1,066.00	
Nationals		5,760.85	
Dev Mgr		57,146.41	
University Championships		666.41	
	Total Expenses		- 126,397.35
<u>Suspense</u>			
			-
Increase (Decrease) in Cash			<u>- 13,751.65</u>
Start Balance (November 1, 2017))			\$79,841.10
Ending Balance (October 31, 2018)			<u>\$66,089.45</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Cash			<u><u>-\$13,751.65</u></u>
<u>Date of last Revision:</u>		02-Dec-18	



