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## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

To all our valued Members and Stakeholders,

My thoughts are with you and your loved ones at this time as our world continues to face this growing pandemic. I do hope you are well - please take care of yourself, friends, work colleagues, footy mates & family.

As with every community group our thoughts now turn to what we can do to play our role in supporting the response to the Coronavirus COVID-19. At this point in time I would like to share with you some crucial club decisions made today.

### FRANKSTON FOOTBALL CLUB UPDATE

During today our Board Executive and CEO had phone meetings to consider the steps we need to take as a club following the suspension of the VFL and now the AFL season until May 31<sup>st</sup>. This includes the suspension of all Football Club Training by the AFL/VFL until they advise us further. We also discussed government guidance on the conduct of business.

As a result of that discussion we believe it in the best interests of all parties to suspend all activities of the Club until we have a clearer picture of the resumption of training & some of our more normal club business activities. This action is in line with government and AFL/VFL direction and importantly will assist with the community response to control the spread of the pandemic and protect our people.

The effect of that decision is that our regular club, football and functions activity ceases as of today. Adrian Lloyd and the Board will lead the Club during this time and today we have regretfully informed all other employees or people in volunteer roles of the difficult decision to stand them down until we receive advice from the AFL/VFL and the Government to start up our normal operations again. This includes employee roles in our Club, Football, Functions By The Bay and Sunday Market operations. We would like to make it very clear that we have not terminated any staff and will be ready to resume as soon as the AFL/VFL notify us to do so. We think it is the right decision to make until we are able to resume training and club business. This is not a decision that we make lightly as we know that it will have a significant impact on our people and in the next few days we will initiate a series of phone calls to ensure that they have all had personal contact from the Club.

It is our clear commitment to endure this interim period and have our club ready to go when the Government and AFL/VFL give us the green light to resume. To ensure we successfully traverse the period of suspension our CEO Adrian Lloyd and members of the Board will continue to work for the club to guide us through the interim period so our Club can be in the best position possible when we resume full business. Please contact Adrian or myself if you have any club enquiries, preferably by email if it is not urgent.

To all our members we express our best wishes to you and your families and ask that you stay connected with the Club until we resume, and if there is something that you think we might be able to do to assist you with please do not hesitate to contact us. The Board, Adrian and I commit to staying connected with you over the coming weeks and keeping you informed in the hope that our communication supports you in some small way. Be assured that the board, staff, players and coaches are communicating well with each other to maintain their Dolphin spirit and get through this time.

#### **FRANKSTON FOOTBALL CLUB INC.**

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You may be aware that our clubs guiding behaviours are to Care, Share & Achieve Together and now is the time to live those values out. We will **Care** for our Club, footymates, friends and families and act with respect, **Share** information, feelings, ideas and thoughts with each other, work to **Achieve** a future outcome where we have survived the pandemic with the least impact on our lives and our club. This will only happen if we work Together with people in all spheres of our life.

I'd like to publicly thank all our members, staff, coaches, players, volunteers, sponsors, partners and stakeholders for their work over the last few months to put us in what was a good position to start a season that is now delayed. I know everyone will be hurting in many ways at this time and urge us all to stick together. Please look after yourselves and your families & let us know if we can help with anything.

This is a very trying & testing time for everyone but we will get through it together.

Sincerely yours (even in these hard times and with this difficult announcement).

Looking forward to the future when we resume and can be together once more.

PS: Please observe all government rules and guidelines over the coming months – our Australian community will get through this crisis by maintaining personal discipline, good spirit and doing what each of us can do individually to help all of us as a collective.

Kind regards,

**Peter Geddes**



**PETER GEDDES**  
President

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