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President's report

I was told off for writing such a long report last year, so I promise to be quicker than a “45-minute half” reffed on a cold, rainy, windy day by a ref who just wants to be back in his armchair.

The second year of the Josie-aucracy has come to a close, and with it, we finally get a chance to rest our creaky bones - well, those of us that are aged and ancient, in our 20s (or beyond)...

In 2025, we fielded 12 Capital League (formerly State League) teams across all six divisions - two in each, with three in Div 5 and one in Div 6. This season saw more washouts than ever, but fewer forfeits, so overall, let's call that a win. Thank you to all of you players and supporters reading this - this Club is run for you and by you, and it's a perfect time to remember all the good that we gain from ANUWFC. Whether it be lifelong friends, a slightly better understanding of the offside rule, or a new Willows graze.

A special shoutout to Div 5 Sharkies, for making it the furthest out of the Club this season. It was a hard-fought grand final, and the number of supporters there showed that the Sharkies are a team the Club is proud of, for their tenacity, their skill and their reliable goodsportspersonship. Honourable mentions to the Div 1 Carrots and the Div 4 Scooters for an exceptional season, leading each to a valiant battle at the semis.

We can't talk teams without acknowledging that this season also saw ANUWFC fold its NPLW squad part way through the season. Unfortunately, we could no longer field a squad without seriously risking player welfare, something this Club will not compromise on. This was a tough decision, and I cannot acknowledge enough the efforts of Sophie, Amalia, and everyone else who supported this process. The dedication and professionalism of all involved made a difficult time that much easier, and facilitated smoother transitions with Capital Football, ANU Sport, and the broader footballing community - many of whom reached out shortly after the announcement to offer their support.

The heart and footballing prowess of these players cannot be understated, evidenced by the sheer number of them that were snatched up by other NPLW clubs.



The 2025 season also saw us bring on a new premier sponsor, Queenies at Kingston. I am still so excited to have been able to partner with a female-owned small business, who in turn, was seeking to support women's community sport. We are so grateful for Queenies' involvement this season, and offering us a cosy (and gluten free!) environment to host our 2025 trivia, the most highly anticipated and hotly contested night of the year.

The last event I want to take up some words with is to acknowledge the changes we made to our Constitution this year. It may seem like a small thing (or perhaps an annoying thing for those that were forbidden from leaving Willows by the Club's bouncers), but this is an important step in further strengthening our Club's governance and continuity frameworks. Again, this sounds boring to many out there, but without these fundamentals, our Club can't run.

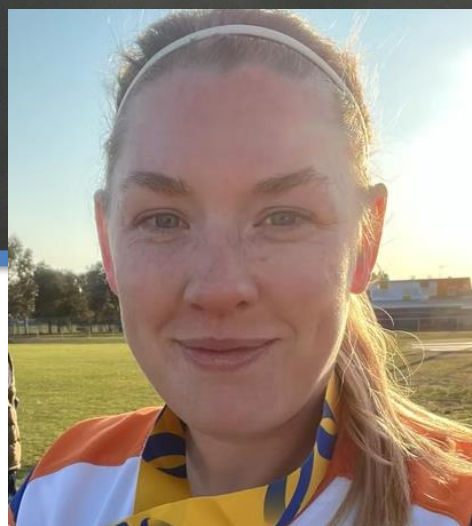
Without you, our Club can't run.

So, I'll see you on the pitch, at Summer 9s (join the FB page!) and at trials - until next year.

xoxo

Josie Chantrell

President, Founder, Leader, and Pioneer of the Josie-aucracy



Treasurer's Report

I'm pleased to share the Treasurer's Report for the 2025 season. It's been a busy year both on and off the field, and while we continue to run on a lean budget, the club has managed to make sure we have met our commitments to players, referees, and the wider competition. None of this would be possible without the generosity of our sponsors and the enthusiasm of our players and volunteers who give their time and energy throughout the year, huge thanks to you all.

Revenue

The Club's primary sources of income for the year were player registrations, sponsorship contributions (notably from Queenies), and several successful fundraising initiatives (raffle, Bunnings BBQ, and player events). Most of our yearly income is driven by the Summer 9s competition, remaining a key income stream. These funds have been vital in covering our running costs and making sure the club operates smoothly throughout the season. High level breakdown includes:

Summer 9s: \$61,795.45

Sponsorship and fundraising: \$25,911.60

Capital of Equality Grant and Heather Reid Bursary: \$8,694.00



Expenditure

This year the club managed a total expenditure of \$127,974.25 with the most significant costs being referee fees and field hire, both of which rose markedly compared with previous seasons. Registration refunds (almost \$7,000) were the third most significant outlay, with refunds issued primarily due to de-registrations (NPL), injuries, and one pregnancy announcement!

- Referee fees: \$19,717.10
- Field hire: \$28,937.50

You can see our player fees and fundraising efforts are being directed to the essentials that keep the club running and competitive, through facilities, equipment, and referees. We'll keep finding the best ways to put our money to use, like working with our main suppliers to get value through bulk deals, exploring smarter investment options for the money we do have, and running a stocktake of our merchandise to tidy things up and see what we can update for the season ahead.

Financial position

Even with some unexpected costs, the Club has stayed financially steady and met all its commitments. We're still working with a tight budget and small reserves and aware of the rising costs that put pressure on our budget. Still, with some well-timed redistribution of Summer 9s insurance fees and close management of the budget, we've finished the year in a stable position, with a net profit of \$33,447.37 and are well placed in preparation for the 2026 season.

Lauren Spring | Treasurer

Please note: due to reporting timeframes and expenditure categorisation, comparisons between 2024 and 2025 are unavailable.



2025 COMMITTEE

President: Josie Chantrell

Vice Presidents: Sarah Callinan + Georgia Bartlett

Secretary: Krissy McKinnon

Treasurer: Lauren Spring

Communications + Sponsorships: Clare Butterfield

Player Welfare Officer: Charlotte Blundell

Events Coordinator: Kirsten Little

Merchandise Coordinator: Caitlin Laurie

Registrars: Caitlin Laurie + Charlotte Blundell

General representatives: Cecilia Tran + Brittany Lum

NPLW Coordinator: Sophie McGlynn



Capital League One – Rabbits

This season was a new and exciting journey for us: it was my first year with the team, and we welcomed 14 new players throughout the season out of the 22-player squad (only one defender played in last year's team). It was not an easy season for us, as season-long injuries stopped many keen players from taking the field. Even so, we showed outstanding resolve and team spirit, competing in every minute of every game. We scored some amazing team goals, including four in the highlight 4-0 win over O'Connor.

I'm proud of how committed my team has been on game days. We showed up early every Sunday to support other ANUWFC teams playing before us at home (and sometimes away), and often filling in as subs. We kept our warm-ups fun with music, but also took it seriously knowing every moment in the game matters. The team's never-give-up spirit, as demonstrated through every overlapping sprint, every last defender chase, and every word of encouragement, deserves appreciation and applause.

The design of training sessions, as I learned from the C-licence before the season's start, was new and exciting for me, and perhaps for the players, too. We worked on a particular principle or technique for 30 minutes every session, starting from the very basics and progressing through variations and difficulties. The players should be proud of the focus and high intensity they brought to these sessions. I'm certainly very proud of seeing the players develop through these focused sessions, especially when they pulled off the exact skill in a game.

The team also demonstrated incredible community values throughout the season, from Ewy bringing her gazebo for rainy game days to share with the team and other teams, to the team collectively contributing a full day at the fundraising BBQ. Injured players were also keen to be involved by showing up to social events, trainings, and games to watch and support the team.

Overall, I had an awesome season and am very proud of the efforts my players put in on and off the field. Hope to see you all next season!

Jack | 2025 Coach



Capital League One – Carrots

The Carrots went from strength to strength this season, with many returning players and a few fresh faces. Committed as always, the Carrots continued to display their love for football throughout the whole season, showing up in numbers in every weather condition.

The Carrots started the first five games of the season with only two points. However, that quickly changed as the season progressed and they beat the eventual champions Majura 2-0 in a heated affair at Willows. The Carrots' good form continued, getting a win against ANUWFC rivals the Rabbits, and a draw against the South Canberra Bees thanks to a 45-yard effort from Hannah in the 90th minute.

In the later stages of the season, I was unable to attend training and games, but as a team the Carrots continued to train and get results to move them closer to a semi-final spot. Another 90th minute Goal by Eloise against university rivals UC inched them closer to 4th spot.

The Carrots overcame some major adversity in the form of a cheating scandal and through the hard work of the ANUWFC Committee and Carrot players alike. These three points were essential for them to make the 4th spot at season's end. The Carrots made their well-earned semi-final appearance and were unlucky to lose to Majura 1-0.

A very successful season for a crop that continues to cultivate Carrots. Can't wait to see what happens in 2026.

Alex | 2025 Coach



Capital League Two – Orange Crushers

A mixture of new players, first year ANU students, and returning players made up the twenty-two players selected for the Orange Crushers squad.

In a season of regular positional and structural change, the players adapted to demonstrate their versatility and determination to give their all, in unfamiliar roles. Our only major defeat was a 6-0 loss to Canberra Juventus FC. There were only two other losing occasions that we were scoreless, 3-0 to UC and 1-0 to O'Connor Knights. However, even in those games we controlled long periods of play but were unable to take advantage of the scoring opportunities we created.

At the season's end, we had three wins and five draws. Our biggest win was a 5-0 defeat of Weston Molonglo FC. Additionally, our final game against Canberra White Eagles FC was in the balance but rightly stopped with 15-20 minutes to play due to a severe injury to an opposition player. A nil all draw was declared the result of the game.

On reflection, had we converted those draws into wins, we may have found ourselves competing for a spot in the semis.

I would like to acknowledge and give a big shout to the coaches and players of the Carrots, Noodles, Runaways, and Scooters for filling in and supporting the Orange Crushers during the season.

To the team, I thank you very much for your support and efforts during the season. It has been an absolute pleasure to coach you. I am proud of you all and have seen vast improvements in your confidence, football skills, and knowledge. I hope you all reflect on the season and your efforts, and are proud of both your personal and team achievements, and realise that you individually or collectively as a team belong in Division 2 or higher.

Sid | 2025 Coach



Capital League Two – Chameleons

It has honestly been an amazing year of football. It was my first time coaching a group of young adults and this season did not disappoint. The Chameleons have come a very long way in their first year together and I can't express how proud I am to have been their coach. We have had a great season filled with many laughs...and fitness drills. Most importantly, it was filled with endless examples of a wonderful team of players showing up for each other.

Coming in this year, I was very nervous about how my coaching style would translate. However, this fear was very quickly dispelled as each player excelled in every drill. The season began with a rocky start. I barely had a voice for the first seven weeks of our season. You could definitely say this made coaching challenging, but I was lucky enough to be surrounded by a group willing to listen, even when it wasn't easy to do so. Each team member met my expectations both on and off the field, quickly progressing from a group of strangers to a cohesive team. I can confidently say each member of the Chameleons put in their all, and I could not be prouder as a coach.

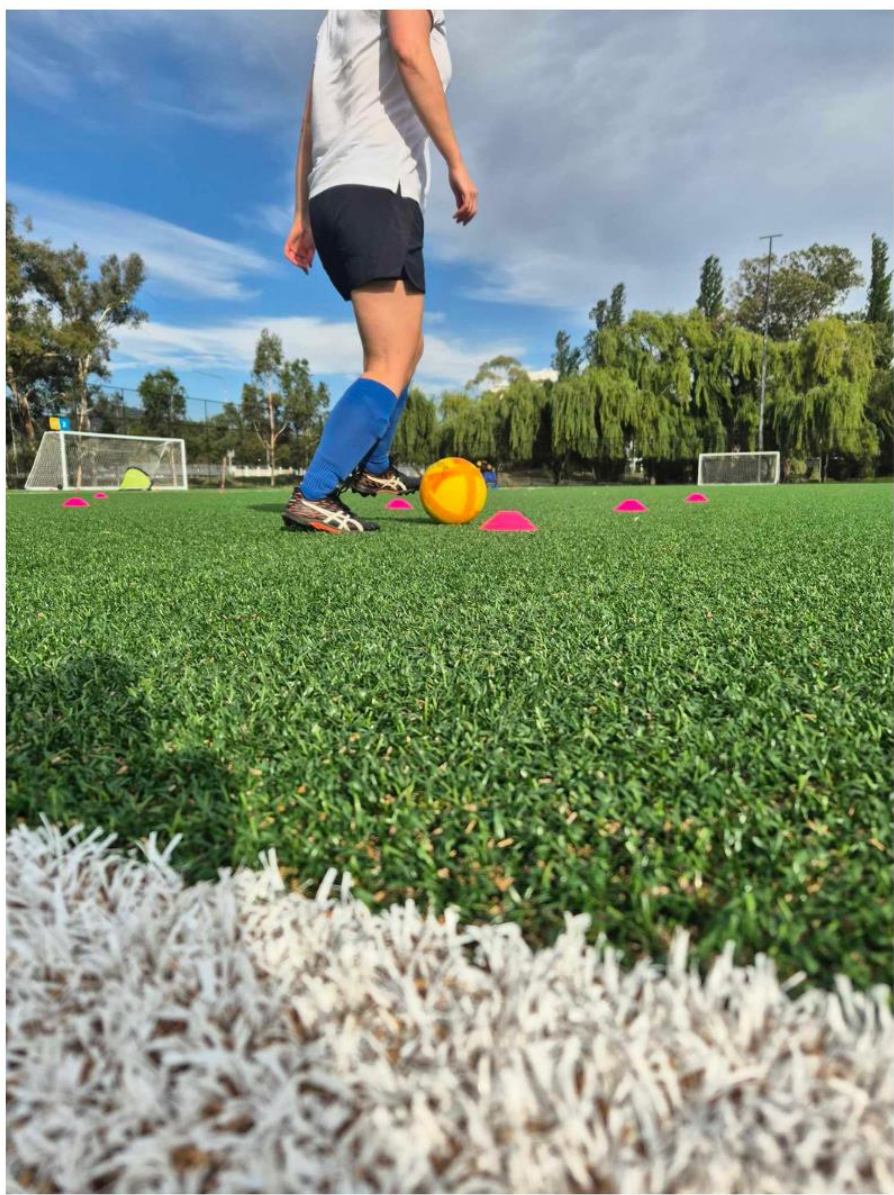
Our opening games were a bit rough, as we hadn't yet found our groove as a team. However, the team never let the score define their passion for the game, and this mindset paid off. As the season progressed it became more and more apparent that this team had the skills and the talent to make it to the finals in the seasons to come. As we got to the end of the season, the team's growing confidence in each other was apparent. You could see the team gelling together, and this was made obvious in our dominant 5-0 win against the Knights.

I would like to give a special thanks to Caitlin and Charlotte, our team committee members. Their constant enthusiasm in promoting club events ensured no-one missed out on the amazing club activities.

In my final reflection as the coach of the 2025 Chameleons, all I can say is that I am very proud to be the coach of an amazing group of players. The team was a vibe, whether it be at games or at training with the Brazilian funk or German house music. This team always showed up with a great attitude and always held each other to a high standard.

Amelia | 2025 Coach







Capital League Three – Strollers

The Strollers played a season of two halves this year. Plagued by injury, illness, and pesky jobs getting in the way, it took until Round 10 for us to field a full team of our own, without the (much appreciated) support of other teams.

As is our way, the Strollers rose to the occasion against harder teams in the division and – ahem – didn't so much against the easier teams. We finished the season in 6th place out of 14 teams – a solid and statistical improvement from last year. With a mixture of grit, guile, and groaning joints, the team pulled together some hard-fought wins and earned well-deserved disdain from opponents seeking an easy win. Though consistency wasn't always our strongest suit, our determination and teamwork shone through, particularly in tight matches that (luckily) demanded experience over youthful energy.

Of course, no Strollers season would be complete without a few spectacular injuries. From heroic tumbles to mystery muscle pulls, this year's casualty list read more like a triage report than a team sheet. Still, those injured found new roles as sideline strategists, semi-enthusiastic line runners, and snack connoisseurs.

This year, every game served as a reminder that we are not quite as young as we used to be. Muscles tensed in protest, knees creaked ominously, and recovery times stretched into days. But our age also brought a bit of wisdom, better banter, and a well-stocked esky. Through the aches and the laughs, the Strollers proved once again that heart, humour, and a decent supply of strapping tape can take you a long way (and sometimes can get you through a second game for another team).

What truly sets the Strollers apart is the team spirit that carries us through every season. No matter the scoreline or the state of our bodies, there's a genuine joy in turning up each week and pulling on our jerseys together. There's something special about knowing you're running (or limping) alongside teammates who'll give their all, back each other up, and share a laugh no matter how chaotic the match may get. That sense of connection – forged through shared sprints, bruises, and sideline snacks – is what keeps us coming back.

Clare | Strollers' Reporter



Capital League Three – Noodles

When I first stepped in to coach the Noodles, I wasn't sure what to expect. I had experience coaching kids' soccer, but this was a university team, adults already deep into their season, playing without a coach. I had no idea what to expect but what I found was so special.

This team had built a culture of resilience. They'd been navigating the season on their own, organising practices, holding each other accountable, and showing up, not just to play, but to support each other. As a coach I didn't come in with any crazy strategies or sweeping changes, I came in to listen, to observe and to offer structure where I could.

They welcomed me without hesitation, and I quickly realised what an amazing team they were and how fun, engaged and hardworking they were. They already had the heart, the grit, and the friendships. All I had to do was reinforce what was already there.

Coaching the Noodles has been an unexpected highlight, scary at first but so meaningful. The Noodles are simply a talented group. They play with skill, intelligence, and heart. Their chemistry on the field is amazing to watch, they work together and build each other's play not just through ability, but with genuine respect for one another. They know when to challenge, when to support, and how to lift each other up. Coaching them wasn't just easy, it was a privilege.

Caiti | 2025 Coach



Capital League Four – Runaways

What a season it has been for the Runaways! While the scoreboard may not always have reflected our efforts, this season will be remembered as one of growth. This season saw the perfect blend of experience and fresh energy. Our ten returning players – Amber, Becca, Beth M, Laura, Josie, Rin, Ro, Rose, Sarah, and Kristin – brought leadership and mentorship to the squad. Meanwhile, our nine newcomers – Sophia, Remi, Izzy, Beth W, Lyn, Lexi, Jess, Jenny, and Bridget – didn't just join the team, they completed it. Each brought unique strengths: blistering pace, technical skills, and most importantly, infectious positivity that lifted the entire squad. Their enthusiasm and fresh perspectives energised training sessions and match days alike, proving that the best teams are built on diversity of talent and character.

With such a dynamic mix of players, the team embraced experimentation and tactical flexibility throughout the season. This approach led to one of our most defining characteristics: the incredible versatility displayed by every member of the squad. On any given match day, you might see the same player starting in defence, moving to midfield to help control the game, and finishing as an attacking threat. This wasn't just tactical necessity – it was a testament to the commitment and flexibility of every Runaway. The willingness of players to sacrifice personal preferences for team success became our calling card. Whether it was a natural midfielder dropping back to shore up the defence, or a defender charging forward to support a crucial attack, every player embraced their role in the collective effort. This flexibility wasn't just about positions on the pitch; it reflected a deeper understanding that success comes through unity and mutual support.

A highlight of the season was Coach Simon securing sponsorship, Cleared Recruitment, that allowed us to sport fancy personalised kits for our games, giving the team a real sense of unity and professional pride. While we didn't make finals, we discovered our identity as a team. Every challenge was met with determination and mutual support. Division Four, consider yourselves warned: the Runaways are coming, and we're bringing everything we've learned from this season. With our blend of experience and youthful energy, our tactical flexibility, and our team spirit, we're ready to show everyone exactly who the Runaways are.

Krissy | Runaways' Reporter



Capital League Four – Scooters

Trials hadn't even ended before the Scooters dispelled any worry we'd had about how this squad of new and returning players would combine. A formidable defence, an adaptable midfield, and an untouchable attack established themselves and started the season strong. We were scoring goals, keeping clean sheets, and winning definitively. Even our losses, while few and far between, proved that the Scooters were evenly matched against the strongest of opponents.

This season was full of highlights, both on and off the pitch. Our first win against Belsouth. Our first hattrick against Belwest, from Nevinka. Nevinka's fourth hattrick, against ADFA. Our first outside-the-box screamer against ADFA, from Penny. Zoe's free kick goal in the semi-finals. Our goalkeeper Catie's first dive. Our comeback goal from four down against Croatia, from Raya. Our centre backs, Caiti and Claire, dribbling half the pitch. Our first ever derby win in this division. Seeing our players' confidence in their abilities grow. Seeing friendships form and inside jokes fly. Seeing skills like shooting, jockeying, goalkeeping, Cruyff turns, and more develop and improve throughout the season. Hearing spectators for our team and the opposition exclaim in awe at a particularly good play.

These and countless more highs were of course accompanied by some lows. Despite this, the team never lost their spirit. They went above and beyond to attend training and games despite injuries, illnesses, terrible weather, being on call, travelling home from overseas, fresh tattoos, and more.

The stats are also impressive:

- 32 goals scored this season
- 7 different goal scorers
- 9 clean sheets
- 11 different ROTR
- 23 players borrowed
- 8 injured ankles
- 7 possible concussions
- 3 injured knees
- 3 players with injured knees and ankles
- 4 games with only one of our defenders
- 2 yellow cards against us
- 1 yellow card for us



At the end of the season, now we have the time to catch our breath, nurse our injuries, and reflect, there is so much to be proud of.

This team's determination, ability, and spirit carried them near the top of the ladder all throughout the season, and to a spot in the finals. They were so impressive. We cannot wait to see what they achieve next year.

On a personal note: as a long time player, first time coach – working with this team this season was the highlight of my football career, despite the additional grey hairs. It's been an honour to ride with the Scooters.

Scoot scoot!

Con and Tash
2025 Coaches







Capital League Five – Sharkies

Another year, another brilliant Sharkies season! We dove into 2025 with a solid core of 14 returning Sharkies and four Sharkie debutants, to create one incredible squad. With the support of the Div 5 and 6 coaches during trials, we were able to kick off some of our pre-season training early.

This team's hard work and dedication at training showed in their fin-tastic performance over the year (it's boasting time!). The Sharkies scored a shell-shocking 63 goals in 16 regular season games with 12 different goal scorers, finishing with a goal difference of 51. No doubt this number of goals is very impressive, and I am a very proud coach for it; however, I am confident that the Sharkies completed up to 10,000 times that in passes with their dominant possession-style football, and it is this stat that has truly blown everyone out of the water. The Sharkies are known for their ability to hold the ball as a team and control the pace of the game. Their calm protection and distribution of the ball, and ability to patiently play out from the back has led to some of the most beautifully constructed plays I have seen. In true Shark fashion, the team bides their time, circles their prey, and waits for the opportune moment to split the opposition defence and strike – so lethal.

Key highlights of the year:

- Our Belsouth game where we were down 2-1 in the second half, decided we didn't want to lose and came back to win 6-2.
- When an opposition coach came to us after our game and said 'I wanted to film your team... this team has the best passing in the league by far'.
- Another year, another crazy stressful semi-final. Down 3-2 in regular time, coming back to draw 3-3. No goals in extra time, and then penalties into sudden death. Think I genuinely lost another five years of my life with the amount of stress I experienced that day.
- Trauma bonding from our grand final loss. It was a tough game, and some odds were against us, *cough* L-*cough*, but you all played amazingly.



People the Sharkies and I would love to thank:

- My fellow Div 5 coaches: Karta, Mischa, and Tom. Though we didn't see each other much this year, your support and hard work during trials meant that I could carry on with trialling/training with the Sharkies returning squad, and I really appreciate that.
- Div 6 coaches, Claire and Maya, for their support in all our combined trainings, and the Eclairs for being the loveliest training buddies.
- My coach Jack, and Div 2 coach Amelia for all the fun combined training sessions (and for allowing me to slack off and join as a player).
- All those who filled in for the Sharkies, in particular Tahlia and Britt. Two incredibly talented and reliable players that fit right into the team when needed.
- The committee for their never-ending work in running the season, organising so many of the things that we can easily take for granted – fields, trainings, events, equipment, sponsorships, enquiries... the list goes on! Thank you for everything.
- Everyone at the club for being the best bunch ever!

To the Sharkies:

I knew I would have a jaw-some time with you all this year, and as expected, it was the best. Thank you for all the good vibes, for the extra Sharkies futsal games, and the most scrumptious potluck I've ever been to (pleaseee you all have to cook for me again). Thanks for the fun nights out, the intense board games sessions, and the introduction to The Summer I Turned Pretty S3 (thank goodness Belly's French gets better??). Thanks for the fun late-night trainings, the exciting One Direction hyped warm-ups, and all the games you played that I had the honour of watching. We'll always be there for each other, and no matter what the Sharkies legacy will live on. I will always be your biggest fan. Shark bait hoo ha ha!

Charlotte | 2025 Coach



Capital League Five – CiKartas

You'd think writing these articles would get easier but where do you even start?

I guess trials? So here we go. I was flooded with new, super keen faces. My first thought was: how am I supposed to select people? Why can't I just have a squad of 40-50 players?

Luckily, the returners (Bec, Madi, and Sami) made everything easier by welcoming the new players. That support, along with Claire and Mischa's leadership, meant the squads clicked quickly and friendships formed fast.

Now, as for my team... let's just say we had some absolute whackos. People rocked up to training with ankles only hanging on by their last ligament, and to my horror, they sang "happy birthday" to me for the entire season.

At one point I swear the chance of someone copping a knock to the head was 70% - whether in a match, training, or even just walking around Lake Burley Griffin. The big question for the Cikartas is: did this behaviour start before or after the concussions?

Usually it takes a season or two for a new group to gel, but we came together quickly. We covered for each other, attacked with great link-up play, and pushed each other to improve.

I'm really proud of this team, and I can't wait to see us go again next season. Thank you to the committee, the coaches, and most importantly, the players for making 2025 such a wonderful season. Coaching you has been a privilege.

And remember: defend as a unit, attack as a unit... and maybe walk around Lake Burley Griffin as a unit too, just to stay safe.

Karta | 2025 Coach



Capital League Five – Bluebells

Back in March of this year, the Bluebells had a tough road ahead of them. They were without a coach, possibly disbanding, orphaned, rejected. Most players had never played together, some had never played at all, and worst of all, the placeholder name for the team was the BLUEBERRIES! (sorry Josie)

I joined the coaching squad late, but I brought along a friend to make up for it. Tom and I have had the pleasure of watching this rag-tag bunch of scoundrels and ne'er do wells turn into a more skilled, more cohesive, team of friends. From meeting the players in the team at our first few trainings, to our draw in our final game against the CiKartas, it's been time well spent getting to know a wonderful group of people.

We had to hit the ground running in our first game, knowing very little about the team we were now a part of and only numbering 9 at the kick off. Diana – our soon to be star winger – volunteered to goalkeep in (unbeknownst to us) her first ever game of soccer! Luckily, we had two coaches, one to be on the sideline and one to yell the rules to her between saves. Few people are aware that ANU Division 5 players are about as tough as they come. Our season was riddled with the frustration of injuries, several games being played out to hobbles, grimaces, and a pile of icepacks ready for the final whistle.

There was certainly room for improvement in our results, but a lot of the games we played this season were closer than the scores would imply. 'If this game was about possession...' was echoed more and more as the season progressed, encouraging the team to set their sights on 'good football' despite more hits off the posts and crossbar than seems probable.

Our backline was solid from the beginning, and seemed to only hit their stride more as the season progressed, with competitive individual defending putting pressure on the opposition.



To start the season, we didn't have a strong plan for our offence, in part due to getting comfortable playing together, trusting each other, and the fact that we (coaches included) were still learning how far we could push each other!

But as training went on, relationships on and off the pitch developed. We began learning how to play to each other's strengths, improved our individual skills, and soon everything we'd been talking about together started to show on the pitch – a very exciting time for all of us, and a difficult feeling to beat!

Thank you, Bluebells, it's been an absolute joy to grow, improve and have a laugh as well.

Your coaches are very proud and cannot wait to see how you continue to impress us.

Being the only blue team at ANU is tough, but we managed to make it look so good.

Mischa & Tom | 2025 Coaches



Capital League Six – Eclaires

After a very long, and very stressful trials process for all involved, our season finally got under way on 6 April with a solid 1-0 win over Weston. We had a great mix across the squad this season. Some returning faces continuing their footballing journey from last season, and others returning after some time away from the game. There were also many taking the daunting step of playing for the first time (and smashing it).

We kicked off the season well and turned Willows oval into a fortress that teams struggled to overcome us at. An unfortunate early season loss away to Yass still managed to help unify the team, with many players staying overnight beforehand, and then persevering without a coach.

It wasn't all good news, though. We unfortunately suffered a few significant injuries over the course of the season, but it was so great to see everyone still involved and supporting one another regardless of whether they were able to play or not. We also had to say goodbye to Oriane mid-way through the season, as she returned from her exchange and went back to Europe.

Despite our strong performances, losing players to a variety of reasons through the middle of the season made the race to make the finals difficult. We fought through every game to the last minute, always holding strong until the final whistle, but this season's finals wasn't to be. Thank you to the supporters who came along to games to watch and cheer on the team. I know everyone out on the field appreciated it. I want to say a big thank you to Maya for joining as an assistant coach when I was unable to attend all trainings and games.

And lastly, a big thank you to every member of the Eclaires this season. Through the stressful times pre-season, the cold mornings and nights, and the injuries. To the highs of the games, fun training sessions, nights at Badger, and hanging out together. Thank you all so much. I know it must have been difficult with two coaches, neither of which were able to be there all the time. But you stuck together on and off the field and were there for one another when you needed to be. As a coach I couldn't ask for any more than that, and it makes me so proud. For those of you moving on next year, or moving away from Canberra, I wish you all the best, and for those returning I can't wait to see you back and ready for more football in 2026.

Claire | 2025 Coach





National Premier League

It was a tumultuous year for the National Premier League (NPL) program at ANU Women's Football Club, but one that truly demonstrated the Club's values and our strength under pressure. As a Club we made the difficult decision to withdraw from the NPL competition at the conclusion of Round 7 (one-third of the way through the 2025 season) and made a conscious decision not to pursue NPL at the Club in the near future. We want to thank both Capital Football and ANU Sport for their support in this process, as well as during the season we had. Our decision prioritised player welfare and underscored our status as a values-based Club.

Following the withdrawal, 55% of registered players went on to play within the NPL system at other clubs. Since we joined the NPL in 2023, and even previous times, ANUWFC has been known for identifying and developing skilled players who boost the overall quality of the NPL competition in the Canberra region. In 2025, an incredible two-thirds of our registered squad made senior NPL debuts.

Following the withdrawal from the competition, 15% of players went on to play Capital League either at ANUWFC or another club. A big shout-out to Lauren and Ariella who joined Div 1 Carrots and Div 1 Rabbits respectively and made huge contributions to those teams.

The final 30% of players decided to pause football for the remainder of the season for reasons including taking holidays, wanting to prioritise other life commitments, and seeking to manage long-term injuries from prior to their time at ANUWFC. Amazingly, not a single player from the 2025 ANUWFC NPL squad sustained a long-term or season-ending injury during their time at the Club. This was a testament to our skilled coach, Amalia Edevane, who implemented evidence-based strength and conditioning starting in the pre-season and throughout the squad's time in the competition.

As the NPL competition continues to evolve and professionalise in the ACT, ANUWFC's community roots, low fees, and lack of junior program make it increasingly unlikely the Club will return to the NPL. However, our time in the competition has taught us that women and non-binary people are hungry to play football at the highest level in an environment that is inclusive, values-based, development-driven, and fun. We have shared these lessons with other clubs across the ACT, and we believe our involvement will influence the competition for years to come.



While it is natural to focus on the withdrawal, we also want to celebrate the time the Club and our players spent in the competition. ANUWFC NPL in 2025 was a new-look squad with a new coach. Promoting women and non-binary players and coaches is a high priority for ANUWFC and we were thrilled to welcome Amalia as Head Coach for the 2025 season. Amalia has since continued her journey to Gungahlin United FC (NPL Women's program) and Illawarra Stingrays FC, again showcasing the pipeline from ANUWFC to major NPL competitors both in the ACT and interstate.



Amalia was supported by player/assistant coach Chaz, who took on the role informally while injured during pre-season, and is now pursuing a C-licence, and by assistant coach Sam. The team also thanks Bauldy and Tim who provided managerial support, and Sophie who coordinated the program from the committee end.

Our playing group this season included one of the club's youngest-ever members, Annabelle, and celebrated its top goal scorers in Reserve Grade – Janat, and First Grade – Shayma.

Despite a series of tough results, captains Saskia, Matilda, Chaz, Shayma, and Marguerite kept the squad on track. The squad's resilience and support for each other were unmatched, and the ANUWFC culture shone through this group, who had each other's backs through some unprecedented events, and whose friendships have lasted beyond the early end of the season.

We have no doubt everyone involved in this group will continue to make a lasting mark on football in the ACT.

Sophie | NPLW Reporter





2025 COACHES

CAPITAL LEAGUE ONE

Carrots: Alex Clarke

Rabbits: Jack Lang

CAPITAL LEAGUE TWO

Chameleons: Amelia Sounantha

Orange Crushers: Sid Miller

CAPITAL LEAGUE THREE

Noodles: Caitlin Kaufmann

Strollers: Kat Ribbons

CAPITAL LEAGUE FOUR

Runaways: Simon Whiting

Scooters: Connor and Tash

CAPITAL LEAGUE FIVE

Bluebells: Mischa and Tom

Cikartas: Karta Anand

Sharkies: Charlotte Wen

CAPITAL LEAGUE SIX

Eclairs: Claire Joseph

AWARD WINNERS

Division 1 Carrots

Carrots' Carrot: Hannah Coppell

Coach's Carrot: Julia Manning

Cultivating Carrot: Tahlia Daly

Division 1 Rabbits

Players' Player: Rosalia Hughes

Coach's Player: Jane Maher

Energiser Bunny: Niamh Armstrong

Division 2 Chameleons

Players' Player: Annabelle Curran

Coach's Player: Otilie Allen

MVP: Emma Stannard

Division 2 Orange Crushers

Players' Player: Zoe Ragless

Coach's Award: Monica Canning

Most Improved: Caitlin O'Brien

Division 3 Strollers

Players' Player: Brittany Lum

Unsung Hero: Meaghan Gidley

Team Spirit: Clare Butterfield

Division 3 Noodles

Players' Player: Megan Kaiser

Coach's Player: Stella Serraro-Smith

Captains' Player: Lucinda Thompson

Division 4 Runaways

Players' Player: Jenny Brew

Team Player: Roisin Lafferty

Rising Star: Bridget Schmutter

Division 4 Scooters

Players' Player: Raya Atreya

Coach's Player: Penny Hall

Captains' Player: Nevinka Perera

Division 5 Sharkies

Players' Player: Mia Hughes

Coach's Player: Alannah Amet

Most Improved: Mia Smith

Division 5 CiKartas

Players' Player: Kiara Miller

Coach's Player: Tara Cameron

Most Improved: Melissa Campbell

Division 5 Bluebells

Players' Player: Frieda Prillwitz

Coach's Player: Lillian Burless

Most Improved: Rhiannon Walker

Division 6 Eclaires

Players' Player: Tahlia Netwon-Norris

Coach's Player: Jessica Biggs

Most Improved: Soraya Minchin

Royal Heart Awards

Royal Heart - Player: Caitlin Kaufmann

Royal Heart - Coach: Amelia Sounantha

Royal Heart - Committee: Charlotte Blundell

Club Awards

Vegemite Award: The Runaways

Reinforcement Award: Josie Chantrell



Squad Lists

Carrots

Abigail Morrison
Amber Lennox
Ashleigh Thomson
Catharina Schranz
Eloise Morrison
Hannah Coppell
Julia Manning
Kate Hargreaves
Katie Hopper
Lauren Hyde
Leila Craemer-Banks
Madison Cox
Maika Van Der Eng
Maya Hopman
Mei-Lian Wyithe
Mia Garland
Polly Langdon
Tahlia Daly
Taili Beausang

Rabbits

Aoibhinn Crimmins
Ariella Gould
Bella Logan
Charlotte Symington
Charlotte Taylor
Charlotte Wen
Christina Currey
Eloise Taylor
Ewy De Guzman
Haleema Saadia
Indiana Grace
Isabella Phillips
Jane Mahar
Niamh Armstrong
Nieves Bauld
Peta Macintosh
Rani Mamootil
Rosalia Hughes
Sasha Saulwick
Sukreeti Vasal Anand
Vienna Barker

Chameleons

Anna Curran
Cate Laurie
Charlotte Blundell
Danni Raftesath
Emma Stannard
Emmika Mummery
Evie English
Isha Singhal
Isobel Sambridge
Jesse Noad
Jessie Cole
Laura Janssen
Lily Hogan
Mack Koppers
Matilda Roszkowski
Molly Lilley
Otilie Allen
Romola Nolan
Sahara Behla
Tallis Everard



Orange Crushers

Caity O'Brien
Clare Lucre
Dorothee Steinbach
Emilie Garside
Emily Farrah
Emma Fitzgerald
Frida Smithers
Genevieve Sheumack
Isabelle Simonet
Jasmine Halford Molinaro
Lilith Silva
Lou Waterson
Maya Haggstrom
Mina Holmes
Molly Bird
Monica Canning
Olivia Hedley
Rebecca Molnar
Summer Williams
Thuc Le Tat
Viyan Khalaf
Zoe Ragless

Strollers

Brittany Lum
Carrie Westphal
Cecilia Tran
Clare Butterfield
Dhigna Rubiano
Jacqueline Pham
Lara Martin
Lauren Davy
Lauren Spring
Leah Dwyer
Meaghan Gidley
Merissa Van Setten
Sarah Everett
Stephanie Lawley
Stephanie Lum
Suzanne Bridgman
Tracey McGill



Noodles

Anna Binns
Bree McFadyen
Catherine Connors
Eloise Kopras
Esther Duve
Eva Loxley
Hanlu Zhang
Lara Keegan
Lucinda Thompson
Megan Kaiser
Natasha Malan
Penelope Dimadis
Rosey Elliott
Rosie Sewell
Scarlett Dawson
Sienna Bates
Stella Serrao-Smith
Zara Horley
Zoe Hughes

Runaways

Alexandra Pilgrim
Amber Sequeira
Bethany Miles
Bethany Wrenn
Bridget Schmutter
Isobel Bender
Jennifer Brew
Jessica Lovatt
Josie Chantrell
Kristin Mckinnon
Laura Trobbiani
Lyn Ha
Rebecca Phillips
Remi Fernandez
Rin Rin Ly
Roisin Lafferty
Rosie Hosking
Sarah Creighton
Sophia Tsang

Scooters

Caitlin Kaufmann
Caitlyn Cutler
Claire Oner
Claire Stephens
Elise Proux
Elle Vogel
Induni De Silva
Jenny Lusted
Jesika Cane
Kirsten Little
Lea Hartley
Natasha Malan
Nevinka Perera
Penelope Hall
Raya Atreya
Rose Thompson
Saffron Lowe
Sophie Taylor
Zoe Behrendt



Bluebells

Alyce Dean
Amelia Macmillan
Calliope Mitchell
Diana Pusch
Elinor Harris
Emily Roberts
Friederike Prillwitz
Georgia Murphy
Isabelle Corless
Julia Rainbird
Lillian Burless
Mariah Wilkinson
Reyhana Malekloo
Rhiannon Walker
Rosie Welsh
Shibanni Dave
Yenju Wang

Cikartas

Anna Jordan
Annabelle Nshuti
Caitlin Dwyer
Claudia Avila
Claudia Hunt
Emma Mason
Georgia Barnes
Georgie Baker
Isobel Crnkovic
Josephine Crnkovic
Kathryn Crnkovic
Kiara Miller
Madison Lyster
Manuela Salazar
Melissa Campbell
Rebecca Smith
Samantha Mein
Tara Cameron
Zoe Hannam



Sharkies

Aisha Wood-Amin
Alannah Amet
Claudia Brennan
Emma Byrne
Emma Stephens
Grace Harvey
Iris Cavalerie Johnson
Jahnavi Samprathi
Maddie Vaughan
Madeleine Forner
Mia Hughes
Mia Smith
Nic Mezrani
Phoebe Budd
Rowan McGinness
Roxana Sadeghpour
Seh Meh
Soumya Sharma
Zoe Clarke

Eclaires

Abigail Tian
Alexandra Mcneil
Alison Riley
Amelia Duggan
Amelie Heard
Brittany Shepheard
Ebannie Sidoti
Georgia Bartlett
Isabelle Browne
Jessica Biggs
Olivia Nakhle
Oriane Goose
Rachel Barker
Renate Millett
Shuyaqi Wang
Soraya Minchin
Tahlia Newton-Norris
Tully Maurer
Urvi Modak

Getting statistical

Club members

238

Average age

25.2

Students

54%

Total games played

192

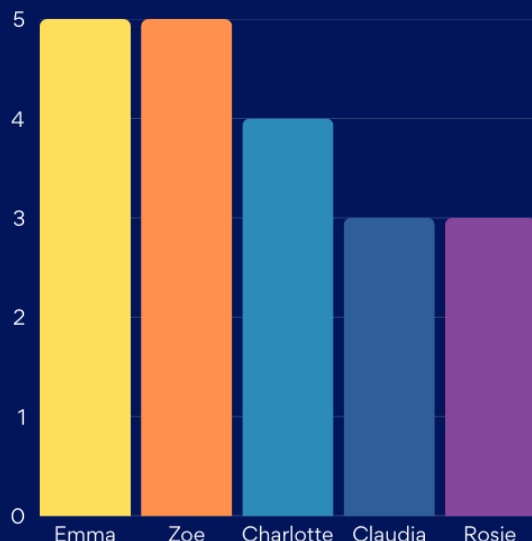
Total goals scored

312

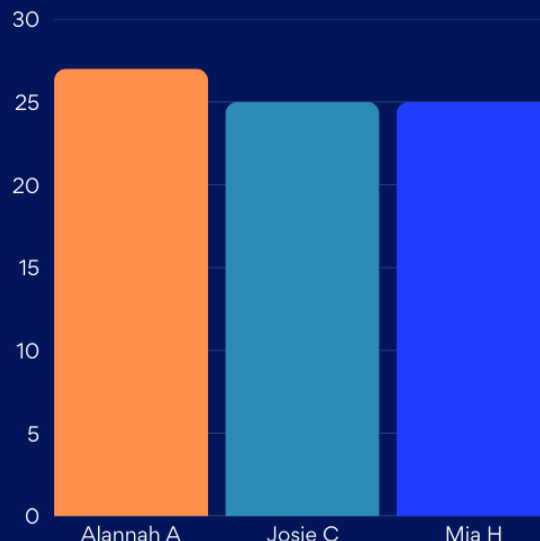
Biggest win*

11-1

Most common names



Most games played



Filled in

40%

Didn't fill in

60%

Fill ins and borrows

- 94 players filled in for another team.
- The Runaways played for other teams 42 times, making them the most generous team.
- 11 individual Sharkies played for other teams.
- Josie (Runaways) played for other teams 12 times.

*Round 10: Sharkies vs South Canberra



2026 COMMITTEE

President: Caitlyn Cutler

Vice President: Alannah Amet

Secretary: Kristin McKinnon

Treasurer: Lauren Spring

Communications + Sponsorships: Clare Butterfield

Player Welfare Officer: Charlotte Blundell

Events Coordinator: Catharina Schranz

Merchandise Coordinator: Polly Langdon

Registrar: Cate Laurie + Charlotte Blundell

General representatives: Zoe Clarke, Josie Chantrell, Cecilia Tran, Georgia Bartlett



Thanks to our 2025 sponsors!

Sponsorship from the business community ensures the equal supply of equipment and resources, including fields, coaches, and referees.

It also allows the ANUWFC to invest in the leadership, growth, health, and representation of our players.

Thanks to our 2025 sponsors – we couldn't be the club we are without you!



THE CANBERRA
DOG GROOMER



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