



FOOTBALLERS' TRUST

Five Years of Player Impact

SUPPORTING THE PLAYERS. BUILDING THE GAME.

SUPPORTING THE PLAYERS BUILDING THE GAME



Professional Footballers Australia

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In the spirit of reconciliation, Professional Footballers Australia acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia.

We also acknowledge and pay our respects to the Traditional Owners and Elders past, present, and emerging throughout Australia, and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters, laws, and culture. They hold the memories, traditions, cultures, and hopes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of Australia.



The PFA is a NoCO2 business certified by the Carbon Reduction Institute (CRI).



The PFA is a proud member of the Welcome Here Project, which supports businesses and services throughout Australia to create and promote environments that are visibly welcoming and inclusive of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer (LGBTIQ) communities.



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ABOUT THIS REPORT

In 2019, Professional Footballers Australia launched the Footballers' Trust to provide a mechanism through which players could positively impact their communities.

The Trust was designed for Australian footballers to contribute directly to the causes that inspire them and was built on the work of generations of players who had used their platform to contribute to social and charitable causes.

By formalising charitable giving, the players have been able to deliver significant impact to numerous charities, community initiatives, inclusion and diversity work, anti-racism programs, Indigenous inclusion as well as advocate for the rights of others, over the past five years.

This report highlights the five years of impact Australia's footballers have made to their communities through the *Trust*.



FOREWORD



Beau Busch
PFA Chief Executive

Australia's professional footballers have a rich history of social leadership.

Players who have had the honour to represent their country, or within the national leagues, have always recognised the opportunity and responsibility to give back to the community, use their platform to advocate for positive societal change, contribute to causes to improve the health and wellbeing of others, or respond to domestic and international events.

While the emergence of the socially conscious athlete may appear to be a contemporary phenomenon, there are countless examples within Australian football of players using their platform to make football more inclusive and accessible, or using their voice to create societal change.

In the 1960s, Adelaide Croatia player Charles Perkins advocated for the recognition of the Indigenous population in the 1967 referendum. National Soccer League star Francis Awaritefe was the driving force for the introduction of the Australian Soccer Equal Opportunity Code in the 1990s.

Socceroos have contributed match fees to Indigenous programs, major international disasters, including the 2004 Boxing Day Tsunami and the Black Saturday Bushfires, and advocated for migrant worker conditions in Qatar.

Matildas have been role models for millions on the pitch, while fighting to dismantle institutionalised gender discrimination in football, and being visible allies of the LGBTI+ community, off it. Through Our Greener Pitch, a generation of climate-conscious footballers are taking on the biggest challenge facing our sport – and the earth.

Today, through the Footballers' Trust, players have a way in which they can make a small donation that delivers meaningful impact to organisations and individuals, from Australia's blind football teams, to street soccer players who have experienced homelessness, to initiatives encouraging young kids from disadvantaged backgrounds to access the beautiful game.

We are proud of the generosity of the players, and that this vehicle has helped to impact so many in the community. Our ambition is to make the Footballers' Trust the most impactful charity in Australian sport.

A handwritten signature in green ink, reading "Beau Busch".

Beau Busch

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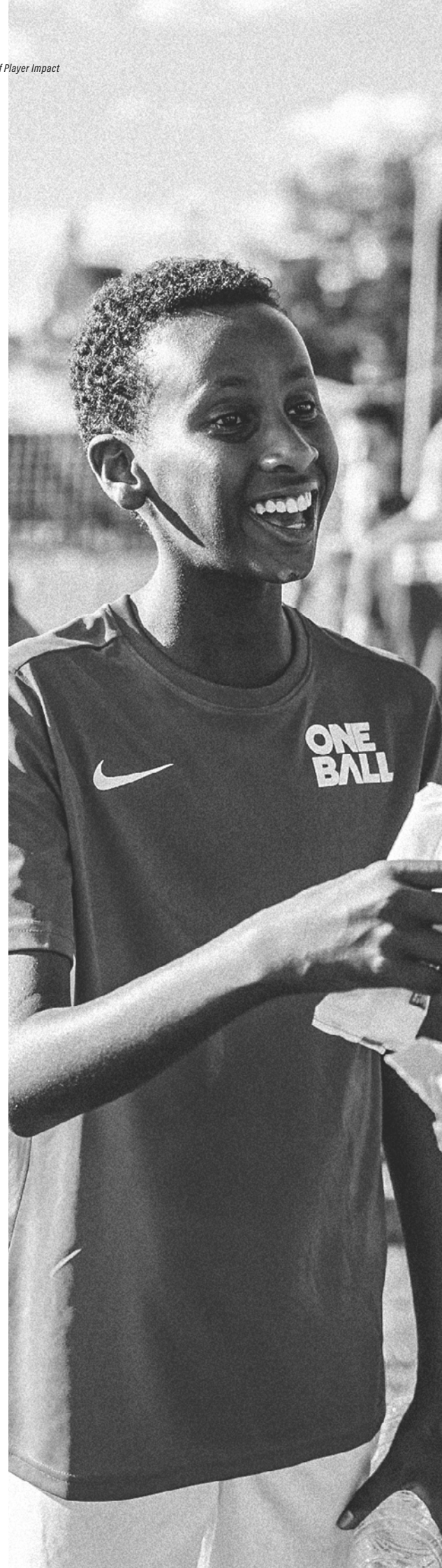
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FOOTBALLERS' TRUST

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Many of us are in a privileged position to play the game we love, and we believe that comes with a responsibility to give back and help others, not only in the community, but those who may not enjoy the same access to or benefits of playing football that we have enjoyed during our careers.

- **Lydia Williams**
Former PFA Vice President and Matildas Goalkeeper

The establishment of Footballers' Trust continues the work of PFA members taking positions of social leadership, creating a tangible opportunity for the players to directly and positively impact their communities.

The Trust was established by the PFA following discussions with national team players who wished to leave a legacy after they retire from international football, ensuring their impact can be felt beyond their performances on the pitch for Australia.

The Trust functions in a similar way to other charity initiatives within sport, such as Common Goal, where players allocate a portion of their salary to the Trust. Players can donate a percentage of their match fees from national team matches, FIFA World Cup prize money, provide one-off donations or select a percentage of their wage to be directed into the Trust.



Every cent pledged is reinvested back into the community and into initiatives selected by the players. The Trust aggregates the donations to charitable areas, providing a platform for today's players to 'play it forward!' Charitable areas include:



The promotion of inclusion and participation in community football by children, minority and disadvantaged groups;



The promotion of reconciliation, mutual respect and tolerance;



Initiatives focussed on wellbeing and mental health;



The promotion or protection of human rights; and



Education and development;



The provision of funding for the benefit of the community, including the creation and maintenance of recreational football facilities and grounds.



“

Footballers' Trust was conceived by our national team players to deliver a long-lasting legacy from the current generation. The players are incredibly proud to be able to contribute to positive outcomes both within our sport and outside it when help is needed.

- Mat Ryan, PFA Executive Committee Member and Socceroos Goalkeeper

The PFA can also make direct donations on behalf of players, which requires the approval of the PFA Executive Committee. The organisation has also encouraged the Australian football community to donate to specific causes, with contributions to the Trust open to the public.

TIMELINE

2019

Footballers' Trust established.



Led by captain Mark Milligan, all of the Socceroos who took part in the 2019 AFC Asian Cup donated \$8,000 towards the expenses for the funeral of Bor Mabil, Awer's teenage sister.

Donated to

- Wires
- Australian Conservation Foundation
- ACTU Bushfire Relief Fund
- Rural Aid
- Red Cross
- World's Greatest Shave
- Kaine Sheppard Foundation

2020

Donated to

- Pararoos



After 12 months of operation, over \$100,000 is donated by players to charities.

Former Socceroos, Matildas and celebrities feature in Oz Football Aid to raise funds for Red Cross Australia, Rural Aid, WIRES and the ACTU's Bushfire Relief Fund.

WATCH THE VIDEO



The PFA establishes the Afghanistan Women's National Team Support Program. The Trust, in collaboration with FIFPRO and the fundraising campaign #TogetherUnbreakable, was able to ensure the funds raised were used to directly support the players through the program.

Player donations ensure the Australian Indigenous Roos and the Australian Indigenous Koalas can participate in a tournament that showcases emerging Indigenous footballers on the national stage.



Socceroos donate a percentage of their match fees to Oxfam's humanitarian aid efforts in Gaza, following Australia's 2026 FIFA World Cup Qualifier against Palestine.

Donated to

- John Moriarty Foundation
- Australian Indigenous Football Championships
- Big Issue
- Australian Sports Brain Bank
- Oxfam
- UNHCR
- Football Empowerment
- Heartbeat of Football
- Pride Cup
- Mark Hughes Foundation
- Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre

Donated to

- Australian Sports Brain Bank
- Asylum Seeker Resource Centre
- Reflect Forward
- One Ball
- Australian Transplant FC

2021

2022

2023

2024

Donated to

- Leukaemia Foundation Australia
- John Moriarty Foundation
- Australian Blind Football

Donated to

- Afghanistan Women's National Team
- John Moriarty Foundation
- Northern NSW Flood Relief
- Australian Conservation Foundation
- Paramatildas
- Pararoos



PFA teams up with Victorian club Preston Lions to fundraise for former National Soccer League player and former Socceroo Warren Spink, who suffered a life-altering head knock on international duty in the 1990s.

FUNDING MODEL

The PFA Footballers Trust primarily relies on the following sources of funding:



PLAYER CONTRIBUTIONS

Members of the PFA can contribute a portion of their income to the Trust, demonstrating their commitment to supporting their fellow players and the community.



FUNDRAISING

Events and campaigns organised by the PFA to raise additional funds for the Trust to deliver ongoing impact to individuals and organisations



Visit the funding website at footballers-trust.raisely.com

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES AND CHARITIES

There are several affiliate charities that players have selected through the Trust since its establishment. Players can apply to have charities or initiatives of their choice added to the Trust.



John Moriarty Football (JMF) is Australia's longest running and most successful Indigenous football initiative for 2–18-year-olds. JMF's transformational skills program uses football for talent development and positive change and has a track record of improving school attendance and achieving resilient, healthier outcomes for some of Australia's most remote Indigenous communities. Current and former A-Leagues players, including David Williams, Jada Whyman and Gema Simon are ambassadors for JMF, while Central Coast Mariners' Shae Evans is a former JMF Scholarship holder.



Pride Cup is an Australian non-for-profit which challenges homophobia and transphobia within sporting clubs – with the objective of making sport and clubs more welcoming for LGBTIQ+ fans, players and officials. The PFA has worked directly with Pride Cup to help deliver education to players prior to A-Leagues initiatives.



Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF) is Australia's national environment organisation. They speak out for a world where forests, rivers, people, and wildlife thrive. They are proudly independent and funded by donations from their community.



The Pararoos are Australia's men's national football team for players with cerebral palsy, acquired brain injury or symptoms of stroke.



The ParaMatildas are Australia's first national team for women and girls with cerebral palsy, acquired brain injury and symptoms of stroke.



Heartbeat of Football promotes healthy hearts in sport via:

- Awareness & Education: player, participant and community programs
- Prevention: minimisation of health risks via simple screening checks
- Action: advocating for "rescue-ready" defibrillators at all sporting fields around the country



Australian Blind Football is an initiative of Blind Sports Australia. ABF is working with Football Australia (FA) to be the recognised national pathway by for people who are blind or vision impaired to play football for Australia.



Established in 2016 in the Western Suburbs of Melbourne, **Football Empowerment** is a not-for-profit organisation which aims to address social issues facing young people from disadvantaged communities through soccer.





The **Australian Sports Brain Bank** is dedicated to advancing research into chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE) and other brain injuries linked to sports and repetitive head impacts. By studying donated brains, the organisation works to better understand, prevent, and treat the long-term consequences of concussion and head trauma.

LEARN MORE



Reflect Forward is an anti-racism initiative in sports. It educates young Australians about the impacts of racism through the power of sport. They work with schools, elite athletes, and national sporting organisations to strive for the eradication of racism. Through the PFA, Reflect Forward has developed educational materials for athletes and school-age children. Kyah Simon is a current ambassador for Reflect Forward.

LEARN MORE



One Ball is an inclusive soccer program based in Melbourne, designed to provide high-quality football experiences for young people. The program emphasises accessibility, community engagement, and personal development through sport, ensuring that participants of all abilities can enjoy and benefit from playing football.

LEARN MORE



The **Australian Indigenous Football Championships (AIFC)** is an annual football tournament that brings together Indigenous teams from across Australia to celebrate Indigenous culture through the sport. It provides a platform for Indigenous footballers to showcase their talent while promoting community engagement, health, and wellbeing.

LEARN MORE



Following the Taliban's takeover of Afghanistan in August 2021, members of the **Afghanistan women's national team** fled to Australia, assisted by the Australian Government, global players' union FIFPRO and former Afghanistan player, Khalida Popal. The PFA, alongside FIFPRO, have been playing a role in supporting the players.

LEARN MORE



The Community Street Soccer Program is a fun and exciting initiative of The Big Issue that uses the power of sport to change lives. Their free weekly sessions give participants an opportunity to get active, make new friends and seek support in a fun and safe environment.

LEARN MORE



The Asylum Seeker Resource Centre (ASRC) is an Australian non-profit organisation that provides support, advocacy, and legal assistance to people seeking asylum. Founded in 2001 by Kon Karapanagiotidis in Melbourne, the ASRC is one of Australia's largest independent organisations dedicated to helping refugees and asylum seekers.

LEARN MORE



Oxfam Australia is part of the global Oxfam confederation, a network of 20 independent organisations working together in over 90 countries to fight poverty, inequality, and injustice. Oxfam Australia was founded in 1953 and focuses on long-term development projects, humanitarian assistance, and advocacy to create sustainable change.

LEARN MORE



The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is a global organisation dedicated to protecting and supporting refugees, forcibly displaced communities, and stateless people. Established in 1950, UNHCR's primary mission is to safeguard the rights and well-being of people who have been displaced due to conflict, persecution, or natural disasters.

LEARN MORE



Since its inception in 2015, the **Transplant Australia Football Club (T AFC)** has been a beacon of hope, resilience, and unity. Comprised entirely of players whose lives have been saved by the selfless act of organ and tissue donation, the club embodies the spirit of triumph over adversity.

LEARN MORE

IMPACT



A NEW CHARITY

FOR PROFESSIONAL PLAYERS, AND THE AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL COMMUNITY, TO DONATE TO CAUSES OF INTEREST



\$500,000+

DONATED THROUGH THE FOOTBALLERS' TRUST TO PLAYER SELECTED CHARITIES SINCE 2019



24

CHARITIES HAVE RECEIVED CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE FOOTBALLERS' TRUST

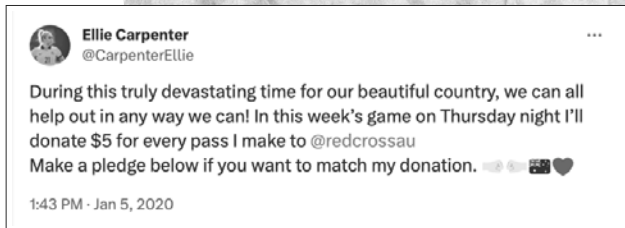
CONTRIBUTIONS TO CRISES

AUSTRALIAN BUSH FIRES

Shortly after the Trust was launched in August 2019, the PFA called on players and the Australian football community to respond to the devastating bushfires that affected thousands of Australians during the Black Summer of 2019-2020.

Fires in New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia claimed 34 lives, while across Australia, over 3,500 homes were lost. The PFA pledged to donate \$1,000 for every goal scored in the W-League and A-League for a round in January 2020 to the Trust.

Players also used their platforms to fundraise. Ellie Carpenter pledged to donate \$5 for every pass she made in a W-League league match for Melbourne City to Red Cross, while Mat Ryan donated \$500 for every Premier League save across a weekend of fixtures, adding to his \$27,000 commitment to bushfire relief efforts.



+
\$500 FOR EVERY SAVE

+
\$5 FOR EVERY PASS

Mat Ryan to donate A\$500 for every Premier League save to bushfire fund

- Every save made by a Premier League keeper will add to fund
- Ryan donated A\$27,000 last week to charities

The PFA also organised an 'Oz Football Aid' charity match in Melbourne, which featured a mixture of former Socceroos, Matildas and celebrities. Donations were directed to Red Cross Australia, Rural Aid, WIRES and the ACTU's Bushfire Relief Fund.

QUEENSLAND FLOODS

Severe weather in Queensland and New South Wales in February and early March 2021 caused widespread flooding, catastrophic damage across both states, destruction of many football facilities and claimed the lives of 12 people. The PFA worked with Football Queensland and Football Northern NSW to ensure that donations through the Trust went directly to assisting clubs across these regions restore damaged football facilities.



DONATIONS TO HUMANITARIAN EFFORTS IN GAZA

Ahead of the Socceroos' 2026 FIFA World Cup qualifier with Palestine in November 2023, the players pledged to donate a percentage of their match fees through the Footballers' Trust to Oxfam's humanitarian efforts in Gaza, following the outbreak of conflict in the region. The funding was directed to two of Oxfam's partner organisations inside Gaza to help local communities: the Palestine Medical Relief Society and the Culture and Free Thought Association, two of the largest health and human rights organisations in Gaza.



CASE STUDY

John Moriarty Football

Indigenous participation

The PFA partnered with John Moriarty Football (JMF) in 2016 to further enhance the foundation's work in engaging Indigenous Australians through football.

To mark the new partnership, the PFA's Socceroos members donated \$90,000, representing a percentage of their collective match fees following an AFC World Cup Qualifier against Jordan.

Former Socceroo Tim Cahill also marked his final match in green and gold in 2018 with a \$50,000 donation to JMF on behalf of the Socceroos and Matildas.

JMF relies on government grants to operate its not-for-profit programs and has had to create crowd-funded campaigns to continue its programs to "address the lack of Indigenous football players at the elite levels of the game and raise funds to tackle the disparity they face".

“

I think JMF have done such a great job. As a current player I want to use my ability to promote that while I'm still playing, while I'm still relevant.

- David Williams
PFA Executive Committee Member
and Perth Glory player



**\$11,000
CONTRIBUTED**

ABOUT JOHN MORIARTY FOOTBALL

Based in remote Northern Territory, the JMF program employs local coaches, provides training sessions and games for young players as well as providing access to education, scholarships, tournaments and overseas football experiences.

JMF's transformational skills program uses football for talent and positive change - with a track record of improving school attendance and achieving resilient, healthier outcomes for some of Australia's most remote communities.

In addition to delivering health and community benefits, JMF also provides a pathway for footballers to reach the elite level, with Young Matilda Shadeene (Shay) Evans an example of JMF's work in Borroloola.



CASE STUDY

Reflect Forward

Players leading anti-racism initiative

In 2021, the PFA formed a partnership with Australian anti-racism initiative, Reflect Forward. Through the partnership, a content series was developed. 'Courageous Conversations For Change' featured Bernie Ibini, Rhys Williams, Emma Ilijoski, Allira Toby, Ben Halloran and Kusini Yengi. The players shared their individual experiences of racism in their personal lives and in professional sport.

Andrew Redmayne, Nikolai Topor-Stanley and Kyah Simon added further important discussions on their experience of racism in sport, which were developed into school lesson plans. An impact report conducted by Reflect Forward revealed that the content had reached over 26,000 Australian students across 121 schools.

In 2022, the PFA facilitated Kyah Simon's appointment as ambassador for Reflect Forward. Kyah helped to create further educational materials for young Australians to learn how to become anti-racism champions in their schools and communities.

Simon has since worked with Reflect Forward and the Australian Sports Commission to develop course materials targeting community coaches, umpires, participants and volunteers, to help them deal with incidents of racism in the moment they occur.

PFA Chief Executive Beau Busch receiving an appreciation award from Reflect Forward's Jamal Elsheikh



“

Through our partnership we've developed invaluable resources and courses for community clubs nationwide. The involvement of footballers in recording lesson plans has significantly impacted hundreds of schools. This partnership, rooted in shared values and priorities, serves as a model for collaboration in the sports sector.

Our collaboration was initially grounded not in financial dependencies but in a shared vision and mutual benefits. This foundation has enabled us to build a strong, enduring partnership that transcends traditional support structures. The Trust's contributions have been pivotal, allowing us to expand our reach and deepen our impact.

- Jamal Elsheikh

Reflect Forward Director of Programs and Partnership

“

As a professional athlete and role model, I recognise the platform that I can use to influence positive change within sport and society and that sport is such an important vehicle for conversation. I'm passionate about creating meaningful change and through sharing my experiences and insights I can hopefully help drive conversations that might make a difference.

- Kyah Simon

Reflect Forward ambassador



**\$2,000
CONTRIBUTED**

CASE STUDY

Australian Sports Brain Bank

Supporting research, awareness and funding for concussion

Global football continues to explore new policy to address the acute and long-term impacts of concussion. This has included temporary concussion substitutes and mandatory medical assessments during games. The PFA was a signatory to a letter to the International Football Association Board (IFAB) advocating for concussion substitutes alongside other global unions in February this year.

Through the Footballers' Trust, the players have donated \$16,224 to the Australian Sports Brain Bank, which is dedicated to research on concussion, chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE), and other brain pathology that is associated with repetitive head injury in sport.

The donations are a combination of direct player contributions, and a percentage donated from the sale of Heading Pro footballs. Heading Pro specialises in the development of light-weight training balls that help players develop proper heading techniques while minimising the risks associated with repetitive heading.

In June 2024, the PFA partnered with Victorian club Preston Lions to hold a Footballers' Trust fundraiser at BT Connor Reserve, where a documentary about the impact of concussion on former Socceroo Warren Spink was aired. Over \$20,000 was raised for Warren's ongoing medical care and support by the club and the Trust.



**\$16,224
CONTRIBUTED**



WATCH THE DOCUMENTARY



CASE STUDY

Australian Blind Football

Supporting Australia's Paralympic footballers

Australian Blind Football (ABF) and the PFA established a new partnership in 2019, centred around raising awareness for the game of blind football within the broader Australian community, and aligning with ABF's ambition to be recognised by the sport's governing body, Football Australia.

An initiative of Blind Sports Australia, ABF provides national camps for blind football and partially sighted futsal teams.

On a voluntary basis ABF prepares national teams for international competition and helps to organise and coordinate international tours and tournaments and develop and support grassroots participation opportunities for people of all ages, genders, abilities, and levels of vision loss to play football.

Current and former Leagues players, including **Sebastian Pasquali**, **Melina Ayres**, **James Brown** and **Josh Brillante** have visited ABF training sessions or connected with players online to discuss their experiences.



WHAT IS BLIND FOOTBALL?



- *Blind Football (B1) is an internationally recognised sport played at the Paralympics. It is played outdoors by athletes who are totally blind (B1) on a 40m x 20m pitch with side kickboards and an audible ball. There are two teams of five; four outfield players and a goalkeeper. The outfield players wear eye-shades to equal their sight and the goalkeeper can be fully or partially sighted.*
- *There are two formats of the game, blind football (B1) and partially sighted/vision impaired futsal (B2/B3).*
- *Internationally the sport is governed by the International Blind Sports Federation (IBSA).*



The Trust has reduced costs and connected our players with professional role models.

- *David Connelly*
Australian Blind Football



**\$15,000
CONTRIBUTED**

IMPACT OF THE FOOTBALLERS' TRUST

By David Connelly, Australian Blind Football

The Footballers' Trust has been instrumental in reducing the costs for our athletes who are spread across the country to be able to attend our national training camps in Melbourne. Being a small sport our athletes don't have much chance to train together and play games of blind football, so these camps are crucial in the development of our athletes and our national squad.

Athletes currently pay out of their own pockets to attend camps as the sport currently doesn't receive any national funding, therefore support from the Footballers Trust has been a key component for a sustainable and affordable national program. ABF is also a 100% volunteer run national organisation, therefore partnerships like this are key.

We have been able to utilise funds to reduce the cost for athletes to attend national training camps over the last couple of years. Funds provided by the Trust in 2022 also reduced the cost for athletes to attend the 2022 IBSA Asia/Oceania Blind Football Championships in Kochi, India. This was a momentous occasion as it was the first time an Australian blind football team had competed at an international blind football tournament. We continued to utilise funds to support national training camps in 2024, including an international opportunity, which was the first for the squad since India 2022.

While the Trust has provided funds for our sport, the partnership has been built through a shared vision that everyone should have the opportunity to play football and represent their country. Blind football is currently the only football on the Paralympic calendar, and while being a blind sport and a Paralympic sport, it is football modified for people who are totally blind.

Some examples of other support provided by the Trust has been connections to PFA partners, promoting the sport and creating awareness, as well as engaging PFA athletes to attend blind football events and online team meetings.

One particular example I would like to highlight was the support provided to our national squad members during Covid lockdowns of 2020 and 2021. We held regular online meetings to keep our squad connected and motivated, and the PFA supported this initiative by organising athletes to join the calls and meet our athletes and discuss a range of topics.

Our athletes commented afterwards about how these discussions assisted them in being positive during those tough times. We hope to continue work in this space through connecting with PFA partners and potentially appointing Male and Female Ambassadors for blind football.

And lastly, on behalf of Australian Blind Football I would like to thank the PFA athletes and staff, particularly Beau, Julius and Rita for their support of Australian Blind Football. We look forward to continuing to grow this relationship in the future.



CASE STUDY

Pride Cup

Celebrating LGBTI+ rights in the A-Leagues

For the past three years, the PFA has developed a strong partnership with Pride Cup to help Australian football become more inclusive for members, the Australian football community and football fans.

Prior to the partnership, there was very little formal engagement with players on the topic of LGBTI+ rights or inclusion, despite there being several high-profile allies and ambassadors for LGBTI+ rights within the PFA's membership, and the sport being largely a safe space for players.

Through Pride Cup's education, initiatives and successful league-wide programs, Australia's domestic leagues - the A-Leagues - are now a more welcoming environment for members of the LGBTI+ community. Collaboration with Pride Cup has been instrumental in achieving this goal.

The PFA worked with Pride Cup in the lead into the inaugural Pride Match between Adelaide United and Melbourne Victory, and has since delivered annual education to players to help break down barriers and foster better understanding of the LGBTI+ community within each A-Leagues team.

These sessions have been extended to staff, the PFA's Player Development Managers, and club personnel within the A-Leagues, reinforcing the commitment to creating an inclusive and supportive culture within professional football.

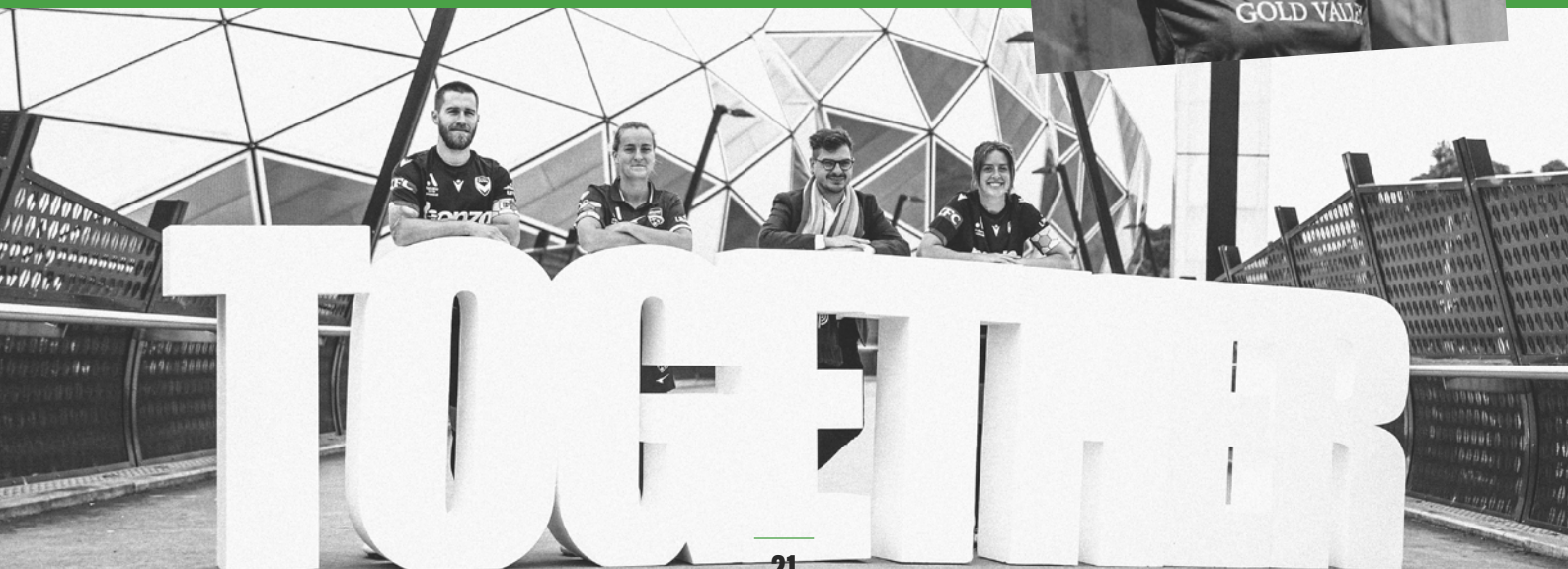
“

The Pride movement is close to many fans and players' hearts. We want to reduce discrimination, increase education, and improve everyone's experience when playing our sport so they feel safe, included, and welcome.

- Kate Gill
Former PFA Co-CEO



**\$10,700
CONTRIBUTED**



CASE STUDY

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and Oxfam

Socceroos' support for humanitarian causes

Several PFA members from within the Socceroos have supported humanitarian causes during recent FIFA World Cup qualifiers. Selected players have donated a percentage of their match fees to causes in both Palestine and Bangladesh.

Their financial support assisted aid responses to Oxfam's humanitarian efforts in Palestine, and a portion of the players' match payments have gone to United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) aid efforts at Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh, the world's largest refugee camp.

“

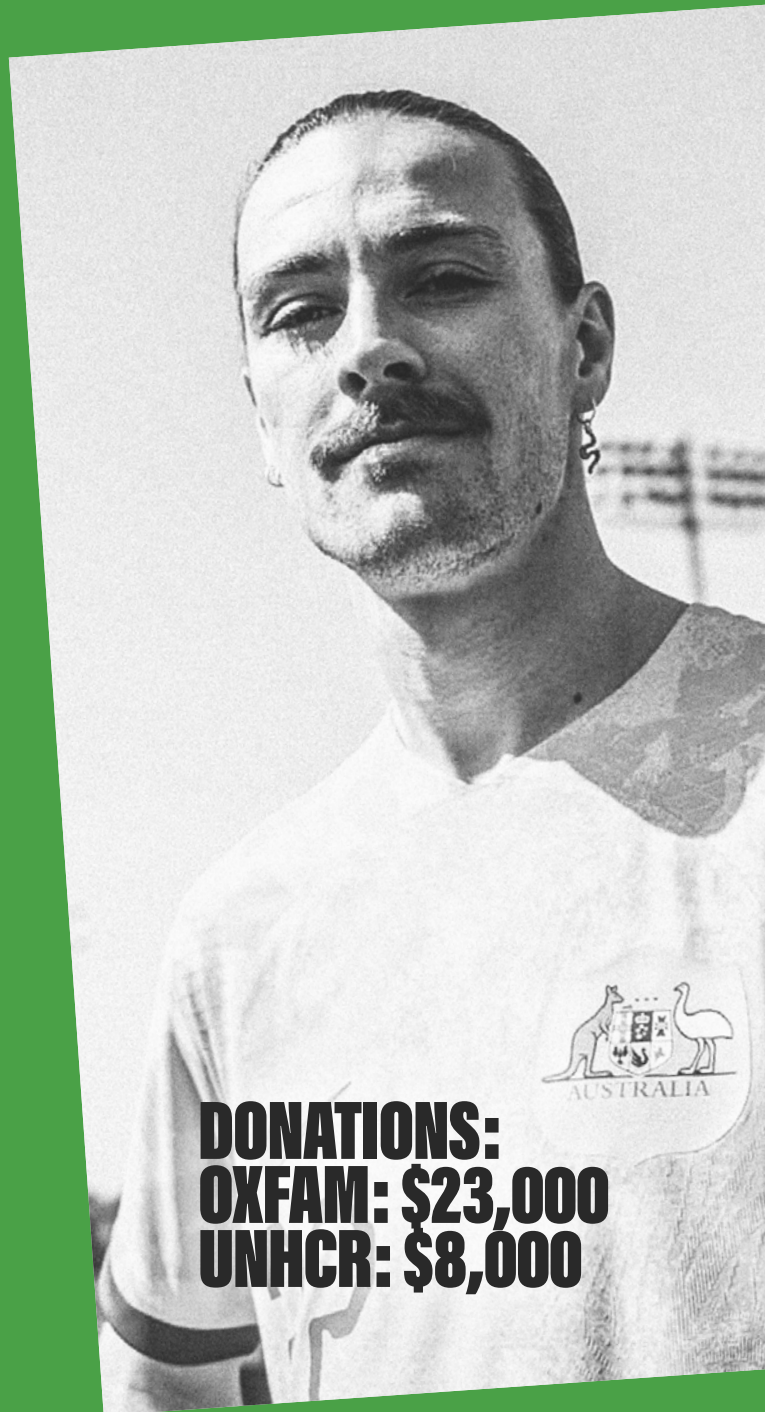
Through football, we have the privilege of seeing the world, and in doing so, we have an opportunity to attempt to have a positive impact both at home and abroad.

The events in the Middle East have been horrific. Right now, there are people that need immediate resources, immediate, potentially life changing support, and so that's where we need to direct our impact.

While in Thailand and Bangladesh, we learned about the Rohingya and their situation in Cox's Bazar, which is the largest refugee camp in the world. The conditions there are really shocking — it's overcrowded, and they live in small shelters.

Anything we can do to help is vital.

- Jackson Irvine
PFA President and Socceroo



DONATIONS:
OXFAM: \$23,000
UNHCR: \$8,000

Afghanistan Women's National Team

Support Program

Following their evacuation from the Middle East in 2021, the Afghanistan Women's National Team relocated to Australia. As refugees, they required support not only as footballers, but as people.

The PFA's early objectives centred on providing wellbeing and financial support to the players through the Trust, to help them settle into Australia, pursue their playing careers and opportunities in their new home.

Through the program, the PFA has been able to provide essential wellbeing support through the PFA's mental health network as well as provide a dedicated social worker to help support them with concerns related to family still in Afghanistan.

In addition, the PFA assisted all members of the team to upskill in areas such as communication, leadership and job readiness.

“

The PFA workshop that we had on leadership was really helpful to me. The activities that we did during the workshop were really beneficial to the team. I think these workshops are great for the team so they all can gather from a busy life and learn new skills.

- Fatima Mursal Sadat, Afghanistan Women's National Team player



**\$50,000
CONTRIBUTED**



Transplant Australia FC

PFA Trust supports Transplant Football's World Cup journey

In September 2024, the Transplant Australia Football Club's national squad represented Australia at the inaugural Transplant Football World Cup in Cervia, Italy.

Held from 8–14 September, the event brought together transplant recipients from 11 nations to honour organ donors and showcase the incredible talent and resilience of transplant athletes.

The Trust played a vital role in supporting the team's journey with the PFA's contribution assisting with travel, equipment, and team preparation costs, ensuring that Australia's representatives could compete on the world stage.

Transplant Australia FC finished the tournament in 7th place and was awarded the Fair Play Award for sportsmanship.



**\$10,000
CONTRIBUTED**



Australian Indigenous Football Championships

Supporting cultural connection through football

Donations from the Trust have helped to support the Australian Indigenous Football Championships, including a special tournament held in 2023 between Australian Indigenous representative teams and visiting New Zealand National Māori teams.

Coinciding with NAIDOC week, the Māori men's and women's teams challenged the Indigenousroos (men) and Indigenous Koalas (women) on the pitch, while the competing players celebrated the rich cultural heritage, talent, and community spirit of Indigenous footballers off it.

The Footballers' Trust provided funding for travel, accommodation, and training support for the Australian teams.



**\$11,000
CONTRIBUTED**



RESOURCES



FOOTBALLERS TRUST DONATION WEBSITE



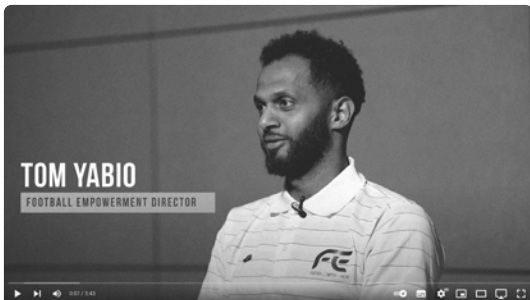
My life changed...not for the better: Warren Spink details life altering brain injury

WARREN SPINK



Australian Blind Football

BLIND FOOTBALL



Footballers' Trust: Football Empowerment breaking down barriers

FOOTBALL EMPOWERMENT



Kamal Ibrahim on establishing One Ball to support players and develop young people

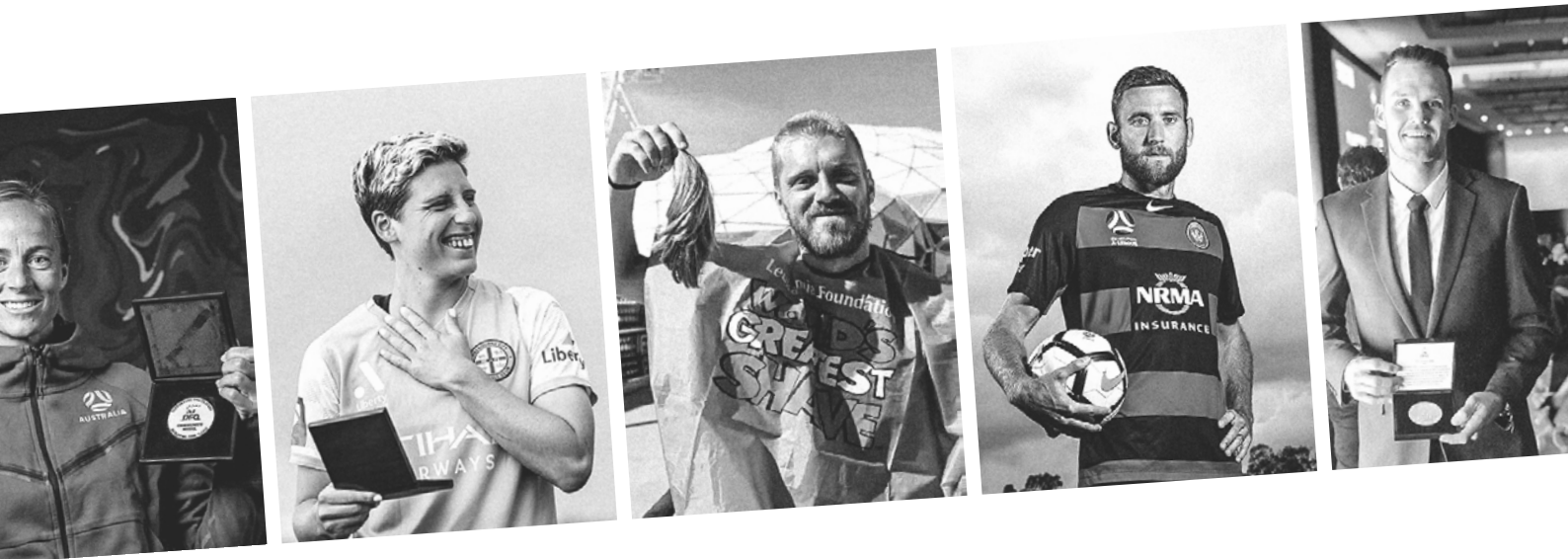
ONE BALL



SUPPORTING THE TRUST

Beyond Bank PFA Community Medal

Each year, the PFA presents the Beyond Bank Community Medal, which recognises the contribution of a PFA Member to the community through their commitment to a charitable cause. First introduced in 2017, the Beyond Bank PFA Community Medal has previously been presented to Nigel Boogaard, Robbie Cornthwaite, Luke Brattan, Rebekah Stott and Aivi Luik.



The Trust is supported by the
PFA's Community Partner:

Beyond Bank
AUSTRALIA

Community is at the heart of everything we do.

We believe the best way to help strengthen communities is to support the people and organisations in our community who are focused on helping others.

That's why we are proud to support Professional Footballers Australia and the PFA Community Medal.



For more information
scan our QR Code here.



Beyond Bank
AUSTRALIA

COURAGE
WORLD CLASS
INTELLIGENCE
TRUST
RESPECT



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