



Loganholme F C Inc.

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Dear Member

Football Brisbane has released a revised competition structure for 2013 and beyond which will be the biggest change to local football we have ever witnessed.

The new structure provides a requirement for clubs participating in the Brisbane Premier League to also field a Premier Youth team as well as Premier Juniors in the U13, U14, U15 and U17 age-groups, which will become the top tier of junior football within the Football Brisbane zone.

Essentially, the new Premier Juniors structure will replace the current Brisbane Junior League (BJL) competition and restrict access to this competition to the new 14 Premier League Clubs, which will be determined at the conclusion of the 2012 season.

In 2012, Loganholme FC will have BJL in each junior age group (U13, U14, U15 & U17) as well as Premier Youth. We are the only club in Football Brisbane to achieve this feat and should Loganholme FC be unsuccessful in gaining entry into the Premier League in 2013, this level of competition would be lost to our club.

A significant amount of work has gone into developing our junior program at Loganholme FC over the past 6-8 years; which has given rise to our success as a specialist club in terms of junior development. We are arguably the strongest junior club within the Football Brisbane zone (71 clubs).

This success has necessitated the development of a strong senior program to provide a viable pathway for our juniors to remain at Loganholme FC and progress into the senior ranks. Our long-term vision has always been to field a team in the Brisbane Premier League (BPL); and in 2012 our club will be only one division away from the BPL. However, due to the new structure in 2013, there will be no promotion into the BPL, regardless of our on field performance, with all positions in the new 2013 BPL being granted through an application process.

Our aspiration to gain entry into the new 2013 BPL competition is not one based on elitism; it is driven by the strong desire to be able to provide football for everyone. Our club is founded on strong family beliefs; which have developed an ethos of being able to provide teams for all players, regardless of the level. As a club, we would never consider doing away with our lower division teams and conversely we want to achieve the same position for our players who aspire to play at the highest level.

Loganholme FC is very well positioned to continue its growth and development, however, the challenge of gaining entry into the new 2013 competition will be a very difficult one for our club, given our limited scope for expansion of our facilities and the lack of available land, as well as our relatively limited experience as a 'senior club'.

The application process has numerous criteria with weighting across a range of areas, including junior development, facilities, geographical position, catchment area, future development and club history.

The Management Committee and Senior Sub-Committee (SSC) have been working hard on evaluating a range of options to position our club strategically to give ourselves the best possible chance of gaining entry into the 2013 BPL, and if unsuccessful, placing ourselves in the best possible position to rebuild.

After careful consideration, the Management Committee have agreed to explore a joint venture with Beenleigh Football Club during the 2012 season with a view to merging our clubs in preparation for the 2013 season.

This decision was not taken lightly and many factors have been carefully considered over the past 2-3 months in coming to this decision, which we believe will best position our club to continue to be able to provide a level of football for all of our members.

It is very important to understand this decision is not solely based around securing entry into the BPL for our senior teams, it is about providing the platform for our club to continue to grow and keep abreast of the changes in the football landscape which are being implemented by Football Brisbane; and to protect our strong focus on junior football, which has become the benchmark for all clubs to aspire.

What will this mean for you as a member in 2012?

Senior Teams (Youth, Men's and Women's):

In 2012, LFC and BFC will field combined teams in all senior competitions (Youth, Women's, Metro and Premier Division 1) with all players registering for LFC and playing in LFC colours under the banner of **Logan Lightning FC** to reflect the joint nature of the teams.

All senior teams will train at Chris Green Park (BFC grounds) and play all of their home games from this venue, with the exception of the Premier Men's and Premier Youth teams who will play 50% of their home games at Cornubia Park.

This will allow all senior teams to experience the same level of facilities at Chris Green Park, which are of a high standard and will provide a better training experience.

Junior Teams (Squirts, SSF and Divisional):

For our junior players (which represent about 88%) of our club, it will be business as usual, with no changes for the 2012 season and beyond.

All of our junior players will continue to play from our traditional home base – Cornubia Park. This will allow more training space at Cornubia and should allow the majority of teams who have been forced to use Clarks Road to be brought back home to Cornubia Park, which will provide an enhanced training experience – this will be a significant improvement in 2012.

The reduction of senior teams and senior games at Cornubia Park will reduce the scheduling issues we have faced in the past and will enable our facilities to be maintained at a higher level with less wear and tear on our fields. This will also significantly enhance the experience for our members in 2012 and beyond.

There will be no changes to the required uniform (i.e. shorts and playing socks etc.) so there will be no additional costs associated with this venture.

Why are we doing this?

- To place ourselves in the strongest possible position to continue our growth as a club;
- To enable us to continue to provide all levels of football for our members;
- To retain our junior players who aspire to play at the highest level available;
- To foster development of the game at all levels;
- To acquire better facilities and to enable our club to have a viable dual-venue option to reduce the strain of our outgrown home facility;
- To enhance our player catchment area;
- To position ourselves to be more attractive to major corporate sponsors by being a club which represents Logan City – not just Loganholme;
- To attract more assistance from Logan City Council and State Government Grants;
- To increase the size of our management committee to enable a better utilization of resources; and
- To increase our revenue stream from non-football related projects, including function hire etc.

There is much hard work to be done, however, this project has the full support of the Logan City Council and the respective local councillors. It will provide exciting opportunities for all of our members and our management committee is fully behind this move forward, as is the management committee of Beenleigh. To help facilitate a successful outcome for this venture, Col Tierney (life member of LFC) will become the President of Beenleigh Football Club in 2012.

I ask you, our members to support this decision and join us on the journey to a better, stronger; and more prosperous club ... Logan Lightning FC.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, I would encourage you to attend our Annual General Meeting at 7:00pm on Wednesday, 16 November 2011 in the clubhouse.

Yours faithfully



Ray Vine
President
Loganholme FC