

News beach

MARCH 2021



WELCOME TO 2021 AT SHARK PARK

According to the dictionary, as an 'Apex Predator', the shark is continually looking to dominate all and is immune to the threat of those lower in the food chain. This is an apt description of how Bonbeach Football Netball Club is approaching the challenge of season 2021.

Second year President Paul Smith admitted his first year at the helm was, to say the least, unusual and more than most, is looking forward to the resumption of competition in 2021.

"While there was no on-field action, we took the opportunity to make some internal changes over 2020 and have created a 'one club philosophy' that everyone has bought into. We are the Bonbeach Football Netball Club and all members are under the one banner and one administration. There's a lot of excitement across the whole club for the coming season," he said.

On field, the Sharks have one of, if not the best coaching panel ever assembled on the Peninsula, led by Adrian Connolly with support from reserves mentor Brett Dunne, under 19s coach Justin Peckett and overseen by new Football Operations Manager, and club legend, Steve Capp.

There is also a new netball coaching panel and structure led by Netball Operations Manager Naomi O'Donnell and head coach Shelley Ramirez.

"Numbers have been incredible for both football and netball and that's a reflection of the commitment and mostly unseen work put in over the last 12 months," Paul said.

"We are financially strong thanks to the loyalty and work of members and supporters who continued to support the club through fundraising efforts and new financial systems. We're in a strong position to attack 2021."

"It's where we wanted to be and there's a great feel around Bonbeach but we know too well that there's a long way between now and September, so our aim at the moment is a good start to the season."

The club is awaiting final instructions in relation to any post-COVID crowd restrictions that may be requested, however Paul indicated that no rules had been brought in as yet and anticipated that there would be little or no impact on club members and supporters.

The club welcomes our loyal members, sponsors and supporters to an exciting new season - our journey towards greatness starts now.

Go Sharks!

CALL OUT TO PAST BFC PAST PLAYERS

Season 2021 is set to be a big at Bonbeach and we want all who have pulled on the boots and taken the field for our great club to be a part of it.

We are aiming to honour all our past players and are inviting them to become more involved at Shark Park. We are committed to recognising the past and use that to help build a stronger culture for our future.

The committee has created a special Past Players membership package for \$90, with benefits including:

- Entry to all 9 home games at Cannes Avenue
- Entry to the 2021 Past Players day, including drinks and light lunch
- Set VIP area to watch selected home games
- Invitations to other exclusive events

Past Players coordinator, Ant Hardie, and the Past Players Committee are working on more ideas to make the Bonbeach Past Players membership the best value on the Peninsula.

BRIAN
LOCKETT

BONBEACH

NICKNAME
Lockey

JUMPER NUMBER
27

DATE OF BIRTH
17/11/1966

HEIGHT / WEIGHT
172cm / Playing: 65kg

POSITION
Bench/Back Pocket in Seniors /
Rover in Reserves

GAMES PLAYED
Seniors: 67 Reserves: 139

FACT
Still playing Over 50's at Carrum
Cowboys

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY **buxton**

To access 2021 Bonbeach memberships, go to bonbeachsharks.com.au/memberships/ or contact president Paul Smith 0477 088 058.

CLUB RECORD FOR "CAPTAIN CASEY"



The name Jackson Casey officially goes down in the club annals as the Bonbeach Football Club captaincy record holder as season 2021 kicks off.

'Jacko' was appointed joint captain with great mate Gary Carpenter in 2015 and 2016, then took on the sole role in 2017.

This season he enters his seventh consecutive season as senior captain, breaking the mark set by another close friend, Daniel Smith.

NEW SHARKS COACH AIMING FOR A BIT MORE BITE

Bonbeach Football Club has snared 2020 Sandringham VFL senior coach, Adrian Connolly, to lead the talented young Sharks towards the ultimate success in 2021.

Adrian, who replaced 2020 mentor Peter Williamson, is straight to the point when asked what his aims are for the season.

"Ultimately we're in it to win it," he said.

"Every team wants to be competitive of course, but I asked the playing group to decide what they want to be known for in 2021 and they have come back with 'ruthless and connected'. We're making no secret of those values or our end goal."

"I haven't come here to rebuild – the foundations are there. I just want to tinker on all the good work done by Steve Hughes and Peter (Williamson) last year. The club has done a great job recruiting and that's because they have promoted themselves as a good, strong, united club."

The Sharks have built a strong team around Adrian this year, led by new Football Operations Manager Steve Capp. Ron Verma has taken on the senior assistant's role while David Armitage, Mitch Gent and Trent Dennis-Lane will fill the on-field assistant coach roles. Adrian will also be supported by Brett Dunne (Development coach) and former St Kilda star Justin Peckett (Under 19s coach).

Adrian is a teacher and Director of Sport at Mazenod College and has a long and impressive coaching record extending over more than 20 years.

Now 29, Jacko debuted with the Sharks as a 17 year-old and has played 212 senior games to date, with hopefully, many more ahead.

Asked his thoughts on the achievement, Jacko typically deflected to his mates and the excitement around the club this year.

"It's a great privilege and honour but it's not something I set out to do, I'm just the custodian of the captaincy and it will move on after me as things always do," he said. "I'm so lucky to have been taken in and mentored by people like Shane McDonald and Daniel Smith when I was starting out. I idolised those guys and they taught me the fundamentals of leadership and dedication to the team and the club."

"I'm super excited this year especially. There's nothing better than coming to training with the good bunch of young players we've got right now. It gives you a new lease of life and has really freshened up us older blokes. Now it's my turn to help them come through and take over."

JACKO'S HIGH FIVE

Best player you've played with: Probably don't need to ask do you? Macca

Best opposition player: Hmm, that's hard. I'd say Chris Irving (Seaford) when he was at his best

Most influence on your career: My parents have always supported me and again, Macca. He took me under his wing on and off field as a 17 year-old and was my inspiration. Steve Hughes also played a massive role in developing me into my current role.

Football superstitions: Too many to mention - I'm very superstitious.

AFL team: The Doggies. After 2016 I haven't bothered to watch AFL too much!

All Bonbeach Football Netball Club players, members, supporters and sponsors are hoping that our champion leader gets to lift the 2021 Premiership Cup this year.

His experience includes stints with Ormond, De La Salle and St Bede's Mentone in the VAFA, together with two years as midfield coach at Frankston Dolphins, before joining Sandringham as a senior assistant in 2017. He was appointed the Zebras senior coach for the Covid-affected 2020 season.



His connection with Bonbeach started during his days working as a teacher with former Sharks coach Damien Carroll and more recently, when a number of Sandringham-listed players joined the club.

"The opportunity opened up after six years in the VFL, to come back and coach my own team and put all the things I've learned into practice. I had a bit of an eye-opener to the club after coming down and watching a handful of games in the last few years. It's very well run and I've been impressed with the inclusive Bonbeach culture and commitment to the local community," he said.

The recent launch of the 'One Club' philosophy has been embraced by on field group and Adrian said he is a big fan.

"The players and coaches are absolutely invested in this concept," he said. "This year we will have the Bonbeach team that plays at 10 o'clock, the Bonbeach team that plays at 12 o'clock and the Bonbeach team that plays at 2 o'clock. We're one playing group – we all represent Bonbeach and each team just represents Bonbeach at a different time."