

**Memorandum of Understanding**  
**Between the**  
**Queanbeyan Tigers AFC (Inc.) (QTAFC) &**  
**Queanbeyan Tigers JFC (QTJAFC)**  
**and the**  
**Cooma Cats Australian Football Club (Incorporating**  
**Snowy Supercats Australian Football Club)**

**Affiliation**

**2011**

This document formalizes an agreement between the Queanbeyan Tigers AFC Inc. (QTAFC), Queanbeyan Tigers JFC (QTJAFC) and the Cooma Cats Australian Football Club Inc. (CCAFC) to affiliate and details the objectives, terms and conditions of the affiliation.

**1. Objectives of this Agreement:**

**This Memorandum of Understanding is to support both clubs in their individuality but to provide a clear playing, coaching, administration and umpiring development pathway for participants of AFL coming from the region via the co-operative support of both clubs. This MOU ensures that a player, coach, official or umpire from our region can proceed and develop skills that can lead to elite level participation. It is noted that with the entry of QTAFC into the NEAFL and the GWS Giants into the AFL that such opportunities for participants to our game are encouraged and supported.**

The objective of this affiliation is to provide a basis for the establishment of co-operative arrangements between QTAFC, QTJAFC and CCAFC to

- Promote, develop and administer the game of Australian Football across the Cooma, Monaro and NSW Snowy Mountains and Queanbeyan areas.
- Educate, train and encourage members of their respective clubs in the game of Australian Football.
- Encourage juniors and players returning to Australian Rules football to participate and continue either with the CCAFC, QTJAFC or the QTAFC.

- Provide an opportunity for both clubs at Junior Level to utilize each other if player numbers are low in a certain grade in the one season and form a merged team in the AFL Canberra Junior competition. Terms and conditions of the merged team to be discussed by the current committees at each club at the time of a possible merge.
- Provide an opportunity for players at Senior Level to be eligible for selection (subject to NSW/ACT AFL By-laws) in any of the grades entered between both of the Clubs in the one season and give them an opportunity to play at different levels of football in Canberra under the AFL Canberra competition.
- Enhance the opportunities at both clubs for Player, Coach and Umpire Development
- Develop opportunities for both clubs junior development through Auskick support and co-location and games being transferred to support junior development within the region

### **Suggested Affiliation Mutual Benefits**

In developing such affiliation QTJAFC will agree to consider financial support through sponsorship of CCAFC's Junior development activities. These have been discussed to begin at \$500 for support of Junior development activities in 2011. In 2011 with both clubs working together to support the development of junior grades QTJAFC will support where possible the development of the Snowy Supercats even where they may compete in similar divisions to that of QTJAFC. This is seen as a gesture of good faith in the overall game development within our region. Further to this CCAFC agree to provide and encourage its players of the playing pathway provided by QTJAFC & QTAFC so that can enhance the playing stocks of both clubs. A player pathway map will be prepared by CCAFC for display in Cooma and Jindabyne at the clubs bases with QTAFC contact details so that the affiliation commitment is openly and honestly displayed.

Furthermore QTAFC & QTJAFC will agree to consider on an ongoing basis granting CCAFC a number (to be determined) of QTAFC playing and coaching support scholarships. These scholarships can be awarded in conjunction of both clubs to a player, coach or official considered worthy of further development. Such scholarship may consist of assistance with Registration Fees, Uniforms, Travel Expenses, and Education/Living Expenses or may be given as a form of mentoring by players, coaches or umpires.

An example of such scholarship that is already provided by QTAFC & QTJAFC to juniors from the Far South Coast AFL squads which provide them with \$50 per game and money for fuel in return for playing / training with the QTAFC under 18 squads. Alternatively the QTAFC & QTJAFC in conjunction with their support from the Western Bulldogs AFL team have sent three of their players to the Western Bulldogs AFL Academy and have covered expenses.

It is the suggestion of the inaugural affiliation that if a Cooma Player is awarded the first of such scholarships for 2012 that it be presented at the CCAFC presentation night in 2011.

### **Suggestions for Scholarships**

Queanbeyan Tigers Youth Scholarship (14-16 yo) Suggested Value \$250

Queanbeyan Tigers Senior Scholarship (18 years) Suggested Value \$250

In recognition of support of QTAFC & QTJAFC to the CCAFC junior development these scholarships will so be named in the Queanbeyan Tigers and an official of the club invited to make the presentations. Furthermore representatives of QTAFC & QTJAFC will be invited to the CCAFC's sponsor's recognition evening. In recognition of QTAFC & QTJAFC sponsorship support the CCAFC sponsorship guidelines will afford QTAFC & QTJAFC the same rights as that of a CCAFC sponsor in the same category.

In display of such terms of good faith to the aforementioned QTAFC and CCAFC in 2011 agreed to jointly make representations for development of a new age group of the Snowy Supercats in 2011 in Under 16 Division 2 and these supportive actions are ongoing at the time of writing.

## **2 Maintenance of Autonomy:**

2.1 Both Clubs will maintain their constitutionally dictated structures. Where any conflict regarding Constitutions/Strategic Plans exists, neither Clubs documents will apply to the other and where possible they should consider the other Club and have similar aims.

2.2 The affiliation does not mean either Club will lose their independence as an individual entity or be represented as a single Club. The constitutionally elected Committees of each of the CCAFC and QTAFC are responsible for all aspects of their Clubs and neither can override any decision of the other.

2.3 QTAFC will focus playing activities on NEAFL Competition, ACTAFL Division 2 and Junior Divisions. It is noted that QTAFC has an automatic affiliation none conflicting with Harman AFC in Divisions 3 & 4. CCAFC will focus activities in ACTAFL Division 4 competition and Junior Divisions and will continue its affiliation with the Woden Blues (WBAFC) in ACTAFL Division 3 competition.

2.4 Both Clubs will maintain their name and playing strip as decided by their respective Committees

2.5 Irrespective of the affiliation, both Clubs will maintain independent representation to the AFL Canberra but will work together to mediate any difficulties between each other and endeavour to represent a united approach to AFL Canberra.

## **3 Committee Responsibilities**

3.1 The operations of the affiliation will be overseen by the Committee's of each Club.

3.2 The abovementioned affiliation will be supported by a permanent agenda item to both clubs Committees focusing on mutual benefits to the affiliation.

3.3 The Secretary of each Club shall be provided with and maintain copies of all Committee meeting minutes relevant to such agenda item, and shall be included in correspondence to any updates.

## **5 Player Movement:**

5.1 Decisions on weekly player movements should be made as early as possible to avoid late notice changes. The CCAFC agrees to promote the principle of playing in the higher grade to players of the required standard and the QTAFC agrees to direct players not selected, to make themselves available for selection either by their

existing Division 3 & 4 affiliate club Harman AFC or by CCAFC's Selection Committee if positions are available.

5.2 Players who are recommended by CCAFC's Selection Committee or Coaches to be considered by QTAFC and reverse for selection are to be informed by CCAFC of the affiliation and given such opportunity to consent to such selection. Players in Junior Divisions considered during season for selection from CCAFC to QTAFC will have to have consideration for such selection endorsed by ACTJAFL and subject to appropriate by-laws.

5.3 Players transferring from CCAFC to QTAFC will attract a transfer fee as agreed appropriate by negotiation between two committees commensurate with the CCAFC's commitment to the said players Australian Football development and club association. Such negotiations are to take place in good faith in with support and communication with such player.

5.4 Where players are transferring from QTAFC to CCAFL a similar transfer fee as per above will be negotiated in good faith. Transfer fee arrangements can be waived under agreement by both parties.

## **6 Selection and Autonomy:**

6.1 Both Clubs will maintain selection autonomy over players. Requests may be made from either Club's Selection Committee to play individuals at a certain level. Due consideration must be given to such a request. No request for players can be made that will leave either Club short or uncompetitive. CCAFC will give an indication by Thursday evening if possible of how many players they will require.

6.2 A player has the right to refuse nomination for selection to a higher or lower grade, but may face the situation of not being selected for either Club.

## **7 Training:**

7.1 Wherever possible, throughout the pre-season, and in season training may be conducted jointly to promote unity between the two Clubs and to give the coaches a basis on which to compare players. During the season, Clubs will train independently. On occasions however and where both the Coaches find it appropriate, Clubs may train together on a common night. CCAFC Players residing in Canberra are encouraged to train with WBAFC or QTAFC. It is noted that the CCAFC currently host a pre-season training program in Jindabyne in conjunction with club supporter the Station Resort. It is also noted that officials and coaches from either club have an open invitation to attend training sessions and discuss post training opportunities for selection.

## **8 Assets:**

8.1 Each Club will maintain its own assets but may negotiate any relevant agreement including sharing in their mutual best interests.

## **9 Registration Fees:**

9.1 Each Club shall set registrations fees at their own discretion. Fees will be payable to the players Home Club.

## **10 Financial Arrangements:**

10.1 Each club will maintain their own Club finances. All financial considerations barring payment of Transfer fees are outside the scope of this agreement. However, a joint club function or double headed match may be considered by the Committees to support affiliate clubs fundraising endeavors.

## **11 Player/Supporter Uniforms/Clothing:**

11.1 Each Club may issue dress/supporter clothing to their registered players and to supporters but is under no obligation to do so to players on "short term transfer" from the other Club. With respect to playing uniforms, each Club will maintain a stock of shorts and socks for "short term transfer" players from the other Club. These will be issued on match day on a permanent basis.

## **12 Events/Functions:**

12.1 The QTAFC and CCAFC may decide to hold certain functions together however; neither Club is obliged to merge any functions with the other unless agreed to by each committee respectively.

## **13 Electronic links/referrals:**

13.1 Any electronic medium used by either Club will seek, wherever possible, to include promotion of both Clubs and links to strategic sites.

## **14 End Clause**

14.1 In the event that this affiliation becomes untenable for either party, the affiliation may be dissolved after a meeting of either Clubs Committee, in accordance with their own Constitutions.

## **15 Grievances:**

15.1 All grievances should initially be directed to the respective Club officials in the first instance. If a grievance is unresolved, players and members of either Club can refer any grievances to their Committee.

## **16 Resolution of Conflicts:**

16.1 In the event that a question of interpretation or a dispute arises in respect of this affiliation, the matter will be resolved by conciliation between the Clubs or in the absence of such an agreement by an independent Arbitrator.

## **17 MOU Amendments:**

17.1 Each Club's Committee shall agree on any proposed amendments to this MOU prior to the amendment being officially adopted. Committee signatures on an amended MOU document shall reflect such amendments and authorise the current version of the MOU. The Affiliation arrangements will be reviewed every 12 months by members of either Committee if requested by either Club Committee.

This Memorandum of Understanding has been agreed upon by the respective Club's Committees and brought into force with its signing by the inaugural QTAFC/CCAFC Affiliation Endorsement from representatives from Both Clubs committees consisting of the following members:

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Mr. David Patterson  
President  
CCAFC  
2011

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Mr. Bob Gibbs  
President  
QTAFC Inc

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Mr. Stuart Wood  
NSW/ACT AFL Development Officer  
CCAFC

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Mr. Murray Lembit  
President  
QTJAFC

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Mr. Damian Asanovski  
Senior Coach  
CCAFC

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Mr. Ron Fowlie  
General Manager  
QTAFC Inc

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Mr. Adrian Pavese  
Football Administration Manager  
QTAFC Inc