



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2011

I'm pleased to report that the year to 30 September 2011 has been successful in allowing the organisation to settle into its new facility, the ILT Southland Football Centre.

The Board of Management this year has been:

President:	Jeff Walker
Financial Controller:	Joanne Wilson
Senior Men's Committee Rep:	Lindsay Thomas
Women's Committee Rep:	Wendy Boniface
Junior Committee Rep:	Lance Kiddey
Eastern Junior Rep:	Ross Hurrell
Referees Rep:	Dean Seager
Football Manager:	Ken Cresswell

Following the end of our financial year Joanne Wilson, our Financial Controller, told me of her desire to stand down as our financial controller. Fortunately for Southland Football, Joanne offered to assist us with the appointment of her replacement and to mentor her replacement in the preparation of the annual financial statements. I am pleased to report that we were able to attract a number of quality applications for the position and following the interviewing of a short list we appointed Tracey McGibbon as Financial Controller. On behalf of the organisation I would like to formally extend our thanks to Joanne for all the years that she has contributed to Southland Football. I would also like to welcome on your behalf Tracey McGibbon our new Financial Controller.

### Financial

Last year I indicated that this year would be more challenging as we came to grips with the additional costs associated with the all weather pitch and maintaining our new facilities. I am pleased to report that the organisation has made a reasonable cash surplus for the year, however, the depreciation on the ILT Southland Football Centre has resulted in a deficit.

Overall our total income was up significantly, however, the proportion of our total income coming from player subscriptions is only 16%. Whilst the board will continue to strive to source additional revenue from sources other than player subscriptions players need to be aware that there are additional costs associated with the standard of the facilities we now have.

### Staff

I am pleased to report that during the year we were able to negotiate with Barry Gardiner a renewal of his contract. Barry's contract now expires on the 30<sup>th</sup> April 2014. The Board is extremely pleased with Barry's work and was of the view that the extension of his contract was important to the long term development of football in Southland.

## **Strategic Development**

New Zealand Football has put in place its new strategic plan. Already some aspects of the New Zealand Football plan have been introduced in Southland. The "First Kicks" programme for four to six year old was introduced this season. Unfortunately, we didn't have the stadium available and the numbers were down. This is likely to be the case in 2012, however, we are hopeful, that we can return to the stadium in 2013.

We also participated in a new "Football in Schools" programme as one of the areas chosen by New Zealand Football to pilot this programme. We ran the programme at James Hargest Junior Campus and are very encouraged by the results and the potential of this programme.

We also worked with Sports Southland to deliver a Football in Schools programme funded by Kiwi Sport. I would like to express a special thanks to Sports Southland for the work they did with this programme.

With the finalisation of the New Zealand Football plan and the completion of the ILT Southland Football Centre the Board has again started work on a new strategic plan. The first meeting with clubs was held at the end of the 2011 season and we will use the next year to consult with clubs and stakeholders in the development of the final plan.

## **Sponsors**

As part of the New Zealand Football strategic plan we were required to engage with a new sponsor ASB Bank. We look forward to that being a long and mutually beneficial sponsorship. The Board was sorry that this nationally lead initiative meant that we were unable to continue our relationship with SBS Bank. On behalf of the organisation I would to formally thank the SBS Bank and particularly Iain Walker for their support of junior football in Southland.

The ILT and the ILT Foundation have continued their support as our major sponsors. We also receive financial support from the Community Trust of Southland and the Matakura Licencing Trust. On your behalf I extend a thank you to these organisations for their continued support.

I am extremely optimistic about the future of football in Southland and I am sure the 2012 year will see continued growth and development of our sport.

Finally, on your behalf, I would like to extend your thanks to the members of the Board, the members of our Sub-Committees and their families for their work over the last year.

I wish you a happy Christmas and look forward to seeing you all again for what I am sure will be another successful season in 2012.

**J B WALKER**

**President**