



2023 John Crennan Volunteer of the Year

Volunteer whose service is over and above the contributions of other volunteers. John Crennan was named Werribee's Best Club Person of the Year in 2022, and long serving Secretary. John played a leadership role in the founding of the inaugural Werribee Masters Women's Team in 2018. As Team Manager, JC was a supportive and knowledgeable part of the team and will be remembered for his commitment to the team, the club and the Masters community.



John Crennan @ Werribee, 2022

Amanda Butcher, Parkside Spurs is the lifeblood of our team. She is a solid and reliable Masters committee member, and she takes on so many of those social things like banners and T-shirts and cause fundraising that make the club a fun and supportive place to be. In addition to being behind every bit of colour, movement and celebration, she's stepped up to the trainer role, which is a vital one with a lot of responsibility. She is able to delegate when needed- a very important volunteer skill, and while she has one hand on the wheel at all times, she supports others in their contribution. Amanda is open with her personal challenges off the field and has defined what it means to be strong with our vulnerability. Amanda has played and promoted the non-contact game and inspired others to have the confidence to give Masters a go. Amanda is open with her personal challenges off the field and has defined what it means to be strong with our vulnerability. As a role model her impact on our team has been enormous, and she has contributed to destigmatised the struggles that can be associated with simply being human. Amanda's valued and valuable contribution to our team is prized by every single one of us.

Jaci Ramires - Port Colts

Jaci is possibly more committed to the team than the players and is always thinking of others. She chases up for scorers, runners and goal umpires each round. She even went to the effort of completing a trainer course so she can help hold our aging bodies together. Jazzi has shadowed Loz as Team Manager, and has excelled in this role her caring and organising nature. Jazzi then to enrolled to become a qualified trainer to assist our women's team further! We are so very grateful to have Jazzi taking care of us.

Emma Kirkham from Williamstown has been tireless in her promotion of women's participation in sport in particular building confidence for women new to football. Her focus has included themed rounds with inclusion and awareness raising always at the forefront. Emma has been fund raising for women to participate in carnival and helping with logistics of accommodation and transport to support accessibility. Emma has worked absolutely tirelessly for her club and her team this season. Emma ensures everyone is including and accepted and is always putting the club, the league, her team mates and even the opposition before herself.

I passionately nominate **Fiona Munn and Brig Ryan** – 2 people relatively new to the game, but who have shown the biggest of volunteer efforts this year. I ask that the panel consider both Brig and Fi together because I cannot split the efforts of them both. From the very beginning before anyone was thinking about the season, they had identified and consulted about a governance framework that optimised the collaboration between all teams and had it agreed to by the League. Lots of people have contributed to the running of this year's Over 35's competition – this is the genius of their design. They have not pushed themselves forward, rather have been steady and consistent behind the scenes in helping those who have assumed leadership roles to put their best foot forward.

Brigid Ryan from Darebin Falcons has gone above and beyond to make sure our women's competition is well organised. Always positive and proactive, her contribution is not just at club level but at a league level. Along with Fiona Munn, she sets up and co chairs the women's sub committee, which was vitally important in 2022 with the changing of the board. She has worked tirelessly in the background. I am in awe of Brig and how everything looks seamless even though I know it is not.

JOIN US!

If you are interested in joining a women's team, come down to a game or a training session. Our website has local club contacts aflvm.com.au or reach out by email: womensfootball@aflvm.com.au