

Speech by Mayor Logan K Howlett JP
Inaugural AFLW Fremantle Dockers V Port Adelaide At Victor
George Kailis Oval, Cockburn Central West

Sunday 16 August 2026

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen.

I am delighted to be here this afternoon on this auspicious occasion.

The strength of any partnership is the ability of the partners to move forward in a positive manner that reflects trust, commitment and the passion to 'get things done in a timely and responsible manner.

Such is the partnership developed between the City of Cockburn and the Fremantle Football Club where we have created this amazing community facility attracting over 1.4M visitors a year and of course the home of the Freo Dockers.

The recent expansion of facilities, and particularly, those for the Dockers AFLW team is a milestone in itself, reflecting today's historic occasion – the first Fremantle Dockers Women's Team match played for competition points here today against Port Adelaide.

Milestone occasions are always an opportunity to celebrate and as Freo run out onto the oval today stand by for the huge roar from the fans.

The men's team have been the competition front runner this season and given the wave of energy within the Club and its supporters the flow-on effect to the women's team will be demonstrated today.

Such occasion create an era of excitement and lay the foundation stones for aspiring girls to follow their dreams.

Historically, the early pioneers leaving Europe and later from the four corners of the Earth sought a stable life, an education for their children, the opportunity for them to play sport and to build and grow the communities where they came to live.

This 'giving back' to community continues to this day and is deeply embedded, in our multicultural community.

Pat and I have always been strong advocates for girls and boys in sport through our sponsorship, coaching, committee work, coaching, and support on the sidelines.

To the women playing in today's game they are creating history – they stand tall knowing their season is centred on resilience, growth, passion, and achieving as a team. Their time has come.

In closing, the city looks forward to seeing continued success for the Freo Dockers, both on and off the field and that trophy cabinet being put to good use.

Go Freo!