

**Speech by Mayor Logan K Howlett, JP**

**Hammond Park Junior Football Club**

**10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**

**Function Room, Cockburn ARC**

**Saturday 1 September, 2018**

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Good evening ladies and gentlemen

My wife Patricia and I are delighted to be here tonight to join in the Club's 10<sup>th</sup> year celebrations.

I acknowledge the Wadjuk People of the Nyungar Nation and I pay respect to their Elders both past and present and extend that respect to Indigenous Australians who may be with us tonight.

I acknowledge:

- Mr Marcus Coote, President of the Club and other members of the Committee and past Committee members;
- Coaches and their support teams;
- Parents of the players;
- Volunteers;
- Sponsors and supporters of the Club;
- Ladies and gentlemen.

The City of Cockburn is blessed with an amazing number of sporting, community, service and cultural organisations that number over 150. Some of these clubs have a long and sustained presence in our community numbering 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, and more years while others are in the very early stages of getting established.

I often use the term 'Cockburn tradition' that can be traced back to the 1950's whereby the then Council and successive Councils since, have provided strong support that has allowed these community based organisations to thrive.

This is often seen in the context of volunteers getting involved in establishing a new organisation or contributing to the growth of an existing organisation.

I acknowledge the untiring efforts of the Hammond Park Junior Football Club knowing that both past and present members have provided an avenue for both boys and girls to enjoy the sport of Australian Rules Football in a supportive, caring and focused manner.

It is well known that children engaged in sporting activities from a young age not only acquire the knowledge of the rules of the game that they also go on to make lifelong friends as they progress through the age groups.

Importantly, the opportunities of mateship, the development of teamwork, skill levels including how to read the play, decision making, following team plans, seeing and hearing the coaches, support staff and other volunteers around them throughout the season and particularly on game day adds significantly to their personal growth and development.

In closing, I thank each and every person who has been involved with the Hammond Park Junior Football Club from its inception through until today.

Each of you have made a significant contribution to the growth of the Cockburn community – in many cases you won't realise the extent of that contribution until a few more years pass and you come to meet those who you have inspired to do their very best – they'll be the future business and community leaders such as yourselves and they will be returning to the Club to make their contribution to the community.

Well done and congratulations to all on behalf of the City of Cockburn.

May the Hammond Park Junior Football Club continue to grow and shape the health and well-being of youngsters for many years to come?

Thank you.