

UNITED STATES AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Executive Board Annual Report 2023





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Year in Review



Another year, another cosmic journey around the sun, another season of Aussie Rules football in the USA.

The theme of the time around New Years is the same... out with the old, in with the new. Some things have become traditional, some old hat, but some new things always seem to work their way in. Some with staying power, some without.

That was the thought as we crossed into USAFL season 2023; would there be new champions and new things a part of this season. And in some ways, that did happen. We crossed some new frontiers; a new regionals format in new locations. An American born-and-raised player would lift the AFL premiership cup for the first time. New faces on a national team program that had not fully stretched its legs in seven years.

Twenty-seven years after it was founded, the USAFL and its clubs rolled through challenges and triumphs as it always did. When the season ended, long championship streaks were kept intact,



a new era began at the top of the league, and a new direction for our National team programs took shape.

Anyone who has been in the league long enough will tell you that each season tends to feel different from year to year. Though it didn't come with the pomp and circumstance last year's silver season, this campaign had its bright spots and memorable moments, ones that we will hang on to as we hitherto continue the march of time.

This is the season that was, 2023.

It's not just regionals... it's Super Regionals!

There's always been talk of reformatting the long-held Regional Championship Series. From its official establishment in 2015 through 2019, then continuing last year, there had always been a packed Saturday of footy in each of the three regions.

Starting in 2023, however, the East and Central teams would be combined into one large Super Regionals. The result was the largest USAFL carnival that wasn't Nationals. Eighteen teams representing two dozen clubs from Boston to Denver and from Minnesota to Texas gathered in Olathe, Kansas.

The first thing to know about Kansas in June is that it is hot. Each team not only had to deal with their opponents on the day, but also with a triple-digit heat index. And playing three games in one day did take its toll on all and sundry.

But we did see some of the best footy of the season nonetheless. It was topped off by the Denver Bulldogs' Lachlan Fleet winning the game - and the men's D1 championship - for his team with a goal after the siren to knock off the National Champion Crows. The Bulldogs would also take out D3, combining with the Wisconsin Wombats to do so. DC and Nashville teamed up to win D2.

On the women's side, Minnesota squashed any talk of their Grand Final appearance at the 2022 Nationals being a fluke with a comprehensive sweep of New York, Texas, and Denver. It was enough to convince most observers that the Freeze were, at worst, the second best women's team in the country.

Three weeks later, the team that beat the Freeze in Ontario nine months earlier held up their end of the bargain. At the Western Regionals in Lake Stevens, Washington, the newly re-christened Golden Gate Iron Maidens managed the honorable challenges of hometown Seattle and Sacramento to lock up their third straight Regional title. It would be a weekend of doubles in a three-division format; the Golden Gate Roos joined the Maidens as winners of Men's D1, while the Portland Steelheads, whose Sockeyes sisters helped the Gaters to victory in the women's, championed men's D2.



Premiership Winner Mason Cox. Yeah, I like that.

When a gangly, almost-seven-foot American lined up at the MCG for the first time in an AFL match on ANZAC Day of 2016, those words seemed downright humorous. How on earth would he make it through his first game, even?

Yet when the siren sounded at that very same ground 2,704 days later, Mason Cox was indeed an AFL Premiership Winner. Those many days were filled with many ups and downs. Injuries, setbacks, and critics from so-called experts and keyboard warriors alike.

It's hard not to get behind his story. From knowing nothing about the game to being at its peak, Cox has taken a very difficult trail up the mountain. And it's won him fans not just amongst the Collingwood faithful, but from football fans around the country too.

His tale in season 2023 was one of many for a Magpies team that was full of intrigue. Cox specifically told of how coach Craig McRae had had an impact on his development since coming on board, and that seemed to spread throughout the entire side.

In talking to him, his success has been one of community. From Collingwood and the sport beyond, to his own family. And Jay, Phil, Austin and Nolan (the last two being pretty good footballers in their own right), were there to celebrate with him.

And so, in spirit, were the many of us American footy fans who have been behind him since day one.

Export Report: Endings... and Beginning

The end of AFLW Season 8 saw the curtain come down on the two women who played both top grade footy in Australia and the USAFL.

Dani Marshall, the first American woman to play in AFLW, called time on her pro career after four seasons and 23 games. Though she shifted to a more defensive role with the Essendon Bombers the last two campaigns, she will go down as having roosted a brilliant 45 meter goal in their first ever league match against Hawthorn last year. Her athletic career is not over yet, and she still has lots to give to the growth of the sport.

Marshall's teammate, Jessica Wuetschner, also announced her retirement in November. Woosha played with Boston in 2015, then went on to be one of AFLW's inaugural draft picks. 55 games in total in six seasons with Brisbane then two with the Dons, and a premiership with the Lions marked a courageous career from one of the all time best humans to play the sport.



While Marshall and Wuetschner’s careers wound down in Australia, another American woman began her quest on the other side of the Pacific. Seattle’s Amelia Kahr, who had been over in Melbourne in 2019 as part of a talent search, headed to Darwin this time as part of the NTFL’s St Mary’s FC. At the holiday break, she had kicked six goals in ten games, helping the Saints to joint-first at the top of the table. She also earned selection to the NTFL rep team, which will play Essendon’s VFLW side.

Kahr is the fourth USAFL woman to play in the NTFL, after Jess Blecher, Rosie Kwoka, and Grizzlies teammate April Munn, and so far things are coming up Milhouse.

April Munn, President of the USAFL

One other big event came to pass during Nationals weekend, before the games were even played. At the league’s AGM on Friday, April Munn was elected to the role of USAFL President, succeeding the retiring Sebastian Agueri.

Seb was president for six whole seasons, and presided over a time of great challenge and progress in the league. He was there to guide the USAFL through a pandemic, and, with the help of the board and staff members serving beside him during that time, was able to help return the league to stability within two years. The league will always be indebted to Seb for his dedicated passion and unwavering leadership.

In April, the league has a leader who has experience at both the club and national level. Having served on the board of the Seattle Grizzlies and BCAFL, and two seasons as the head of the USAFL Women’s Association, April has been at the forefront of growing footy not just in the Pacific Northwest, but across the country and beyond.





USAFL Member Clubs

Club	Founded	Club	Founded
Arizona Outlaws	2018	Louisville Kings	1996
Atlanta Kookaburras	1998	Little Rock Coyotes	2016
Austin Crows	2002	Maine Cats	2018
Baltimore Dockers	2017	Milwaukee Bombers	1998
Baton Rouge Tigers	2004	Minnesota Freeze	2005
Birmingham Bushrangers	2020	Nashville Kangaroos	1997
Boston Demons	1997	New York Magpies	1998
Chicago Swans	1998	North Carolina Tigers	1997
Cincinnati Dockers	1996	North Star Blue Ox	2017
Cleveland Cannons	2014	North Texas Devils	2020
Columbus ARFC	2008	Oklahoma FC	2017
Dallas Magpies	1998	Orange County Giants	1998
DC Eagles	2017	Philadelphia Hawks	1998
Denver Bulldogs	1998	Portland Steelheads	1998
Des Moines Roosters	2010	Rome Redbacks	2018
Ft. Lauderdale Fighting Squids	2005	RVA Lions	2019
Golden Gate AFL	1998	Sacramento Suns	2009
Hawaii Eagles	2019	San Diego Lions	1997
Houston Lonestars	2005	Savannah Hurricane	2019
Indianapolis Giants	2013	Seattle Grizzlies	1998
Jacksonville Saints	2018	St. Louis Blues	1997
Kansas City Power	1999	Tampa Bay Tiger Sharks	2019
Las Vegas Gamblers	2005	Wasatch War Gulls	2019
Los Angeles Dragons	2010	Wisconsin Wombats	2017



Executive Board Members - 2023

• Seb Aguiari, President	• Jim Martin, Secretary
• Christina Sobral, Eastern Vice President	• Heath Moore, Treasurer
• Emma Bangs, Central Vice President	• Brendan Walsh, Member At Large
• Makenzie Adamo, Western Vice President	

USAFL Staff

• Doren James, Executive Director	• Brian Barrish, Media Manager
• Kathryn Hogg, IT Director	• Horacio Gutierrez, Accountant

USAFL Umpires Association

• Jon Mills, President	• Adam Alvarez, Member at Large #1
• Steve Arnott, Vice President	• Ryan Minmier, Member at Large #2
• Sid Caesar, Treasurer	• Bevan Main, Member at Large #3
• Tara Miller, Secretary	• Seth McElvaney, Member at Large #4
• Richard Ogilvie, Member At Large AFL Canada	

USAFL Women's Association

• April Munn, President	• Shereen Parsakalleh, Vice President
• Emma Castellari, Secretary	• Rae Hale, Treasurer
• Claire Conley, East Representative	• Aileen Yoon, West Representative
• Christine Flok, Social/Content Manager	• Drea Casillas, Member At Large

USA Revolution Coaching Staff

• Tom Ellis, Head Coach	• Kyle Strenski, Assistant Coach
• Jason Becker, Assistant Coach	• Steve Budrick, Head Trainer
• Dan Sarbacker, Assistant Coach	

USA Freedom Coaching Staff

• Christina Licata, Head Coach
• Martin Coventry, Assistant Coach
• Cari Greving, Team Manager



2023 Regionals

For the first time since it was codified by the league in 2015, Regionals went from three carnivals to two. Though the merging of the East and Central into one big Super Regionals reduced the number of tournament stops, it created the biggest event outside of Nationals in league history. 18 teams in four divisions - three men's and a women's – would battle in the hot, hot heat of Olathe, Kansas.

Super Regionals - Olathe, KS

It was an almost perfect day for the Denver Bulldogs. The Men's Division 1 team went toe to toe with their arch rival Austin Crows in the de facto Grand Final, with the lead changing hands several times. Lachlan Fleet, who began the day spraying kicks left and right, found his targets when he needed to. Fleet took a screamer over a Crow defender in the waning seconds, then slotted home the game winner after the siren. The Doggies notched their third win over the four-time defending National Champs in as many years, and handed the Crows their first tournament loss in six seasons.

Teaming up with the Wisconsin Wombats in Division 3, the Denver reserves ran the table with wins over Oklahoma, St. Louis, and Kansas City by a 139-13 margin. The defending D3 National Men's Champs are hot favorites in this year's reserves division, while the 'Bats took home their first ever trophy.

Hoping for a clean sweep, the Bulldogs women faced off against last year's D1 Nationals runners-up, the Minnesota Freeze. After an early first half arm-wrestle, the Freeze, boasting of 10 USA Freedom selections, threw things into another gear, and stomped home 35-2 winners to bring back their fourth regional title to the Land of 10,000 Lakes.

The DC Eagles and Nashville Kangaroos, featuring Derrick Shotwell of Cincinnati, were tops of the talented six-team field in Men's D2. The EagleRoos saw off North Texas and Minnesota in pool play before thrashing the Houston Lonestars by 51 points in the Grand Final.

Men's Division I

Division I										
TEAM	PLAYED	WON	LOST	TIED	GOALS	PF	PA	%	POINTS	H2H
Denver Bulldogs	3	3	0	0	25	168	42	400	12	0
Austin Crows	3	2	1	0	22	162	60	270	8	0
Boston Demons	2	0	2	0	5	32	123	26	0	0
New York Magpies Men	2	0	2	0	0	4	141	2	0	0



Austin Crows
4.6.30

VS



Denver Bulldogs
5.6.36

Team	Final
Austin Crows	4.6.30
Denver Bulldogs	5.6.36

WOMEN'S DIVISION

Women's											
TEAM	PLAYED	WON	LOST	TIED	GOALS	PF	PA	%	POINTS	H2H	
Minnesota Freeze Women	3	3	0	0	17	120	4	3000	12	0	
Denver Bulldogs Women	3	2	1	0	11	86	41	209	8	0	
Austin Crows Women	3	1	2	0	3	26	88	29	4	0	
New York Magpies Women	3	0	3	0	0	2	101	1	0	0	



Denver Bulldogs Women
0.2.2

VS



Minnesota Freeze Women
Saint Louis
5.5.35

Team	Final
Denver Bulldogs Women	0.2.2
Minnesota Freeze Women	5.5.35



MEN'S DIVISION II

Division II											
TEAM	PLAYED	WON	LOST	TIED	GOALS	PF	PA	%	POINTS	H2H	
POOL A											
DC Eagles	3	3	0	0	20	132	28	471	12	0	
Minnesota Freeze	3	1	2	0	12	78	82	95	4	0	
North Texas Devils	3	0	3	0	2	14	161	8	0	0	
POOL B											
Baltimore Dockers	3	2	1	0	16	106	49	216	8	0	
Houston Lonestars	3	2	1	0	8	63	90	70	8	4	
Des Moines Roosters	3	1	2	0	16	108	91	118	4	0	



Houston Lonestars
Minnesota
0.3.3

VS



DC Eagles
Nashville, Ohio Valley
8.6.54

Team	Final
Houston Lonestars	0.3.3
DC Eagles	8.6.54

MEN'S DIVISION III

Division III											
TEAM	PLAYED	WON	LOST	TIED	GOALS	PF	PA	%	POINTS	H2H	
Denver Bulldogs Reserves	3	3	0	0	21	139	13	1069	12	0	
Oklahoma Football Club	3	2	1	0	9	74	57	129	8	0	
Saint Louis Blues	3	1	2	0	9	69	79	87	4	0	
Kansas City Power	3	0	3	0	1	10	143	6	0	0	



Oklahoma Football Club

1.1.7

VS



Denver Bulldogs Reserves

Wisconsin

5.3.33

Team	Final
Oklahoma Football Club	1.1.7
Denver Bulldogs Reserves	5.3.33



© Olathe Chamber of Commerce



Western Regionals – Seattle, WA

Three weeks after leaving steamy Kansas, it was on to the more temperate climes of Lake Stevens, Washington, in beautiful Snohomish County. The clear blue July sky complimented the lush green of the pitch and enveloping pines that surrounded the ground, and provided the perfect backdrop for the series’ finale of 2023.

Golden Gate has gotten good at winning these regional events, and both the Roos and Iron Maidens successful in delivering taking home the bikkies. Portland also took two trophies with them down I-5, spoiling the effort of the local Seattle Grizzlies and the other clubs from the left coast.

In Men’s Division 1, the Roos held their opponents to a three-game scoreline of 1.9 (15), while picking opponents apart in the process. The Gaters would go 3-0 on the weekend to claim their fifth regional title. Seattle, in their home debut, put on a solid 2-1 record.

The Iron Maidens, meanwhile, were placed in a three-way tangle with the Grizzlies women and Sacramento Suns W, with players from the eight other Western teams in support across the three sides. Aided by players from the Portland Sockeyes, the Maidens had to earn every ball and every goal to triumph at regionals for the fourth time, while the Sockeyes claimed their third Western Cup.

Division 2, another three way encounter, ended with the Portland Steelheads on top. PDX’s 100 points in their first match is a regional record, albeit in a 60-minute match. Still, it was an impressive effort to see them victorious, and it gave the Wasatch WarGulls, of which three members donned the double-blue and salmon, their first trophy in club history.

Men’s Division 1

Division I											
TEAM	PLAYED	WON	LOST	TIED	GOALS	PF	PA	%	POINTS	H2H	
Golden Gate Roos	3	3	0	0	14	98	15	653	12	0	
Seattle Grizzlies	3	2	1	0	6	55	55	100	8	0	
Los Angeles Dragons	3	1	2	0	5	40	77	51	4	0	
Sacramento Suns	3	0	3	0	7	50	96	52	0	0	



Golden Gate Roos
4.5.29

VS



Seattle Grizzlies
0.5.5

Team	Final
Golden Gate Roos	4.5.29
Seattle Grizzlies	0.5.5

WOMEN'S DIVISION

Women's											
TEAM	PLAYED	WON	LOST	TIED	GOALS	PF	PA	%	POINTS	H2H	
Golden Gate Iron Maidens	2	2	0	0	8	54	30	180	8	0	
Seattle Grizzlies Women	2	1	1	0	5	34	35	97	4	0	
Sacramento Suns Women	2	0	2	0	4	30	53	56	0	0	



Golden Gate Iron Maidens
Portland, Austin
3.4.22

VS



Seattle Grizzlies Women
AZ Hawks, Wasatch, Orange County
2.1.13

Team	Final
Golden Gate Iron Maidens	3.4.22
Seattle Grizzlies Women	2.1.13



MEN'S DIVISION II

Division II											
TEAM	PLAYED	WON	LOST	TIED	GOALS	PF	PA	%	POINTS	H2H	
Portland Steelheads	2	2	0	0	22	157	35	448	8	0	
Arizona Hawks	2	1	1	0	4	37	124	29	4	0	
Orange County Giants	2	0	2	0	7	55	90	61	0	0	



VS



Portland Steelheads

Wasatch

15.10.100

Arizona Hawks

Seattle, Los Angeles, San Diego

0.4.4

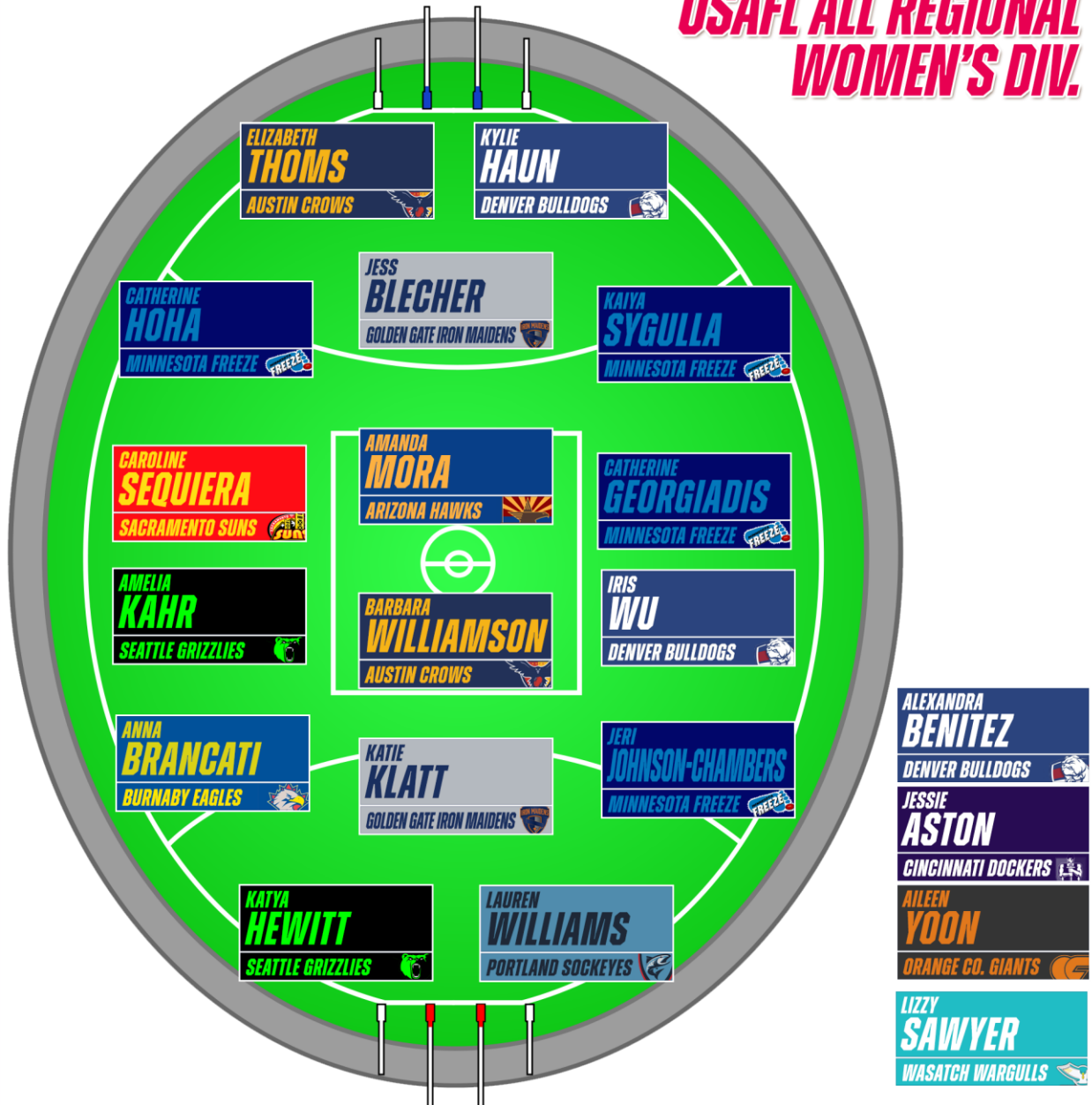
Team	Final
Portland Steelheads	15.10.100
Arizona Hawks	0.4.4





2023 Women's All Regionals Team

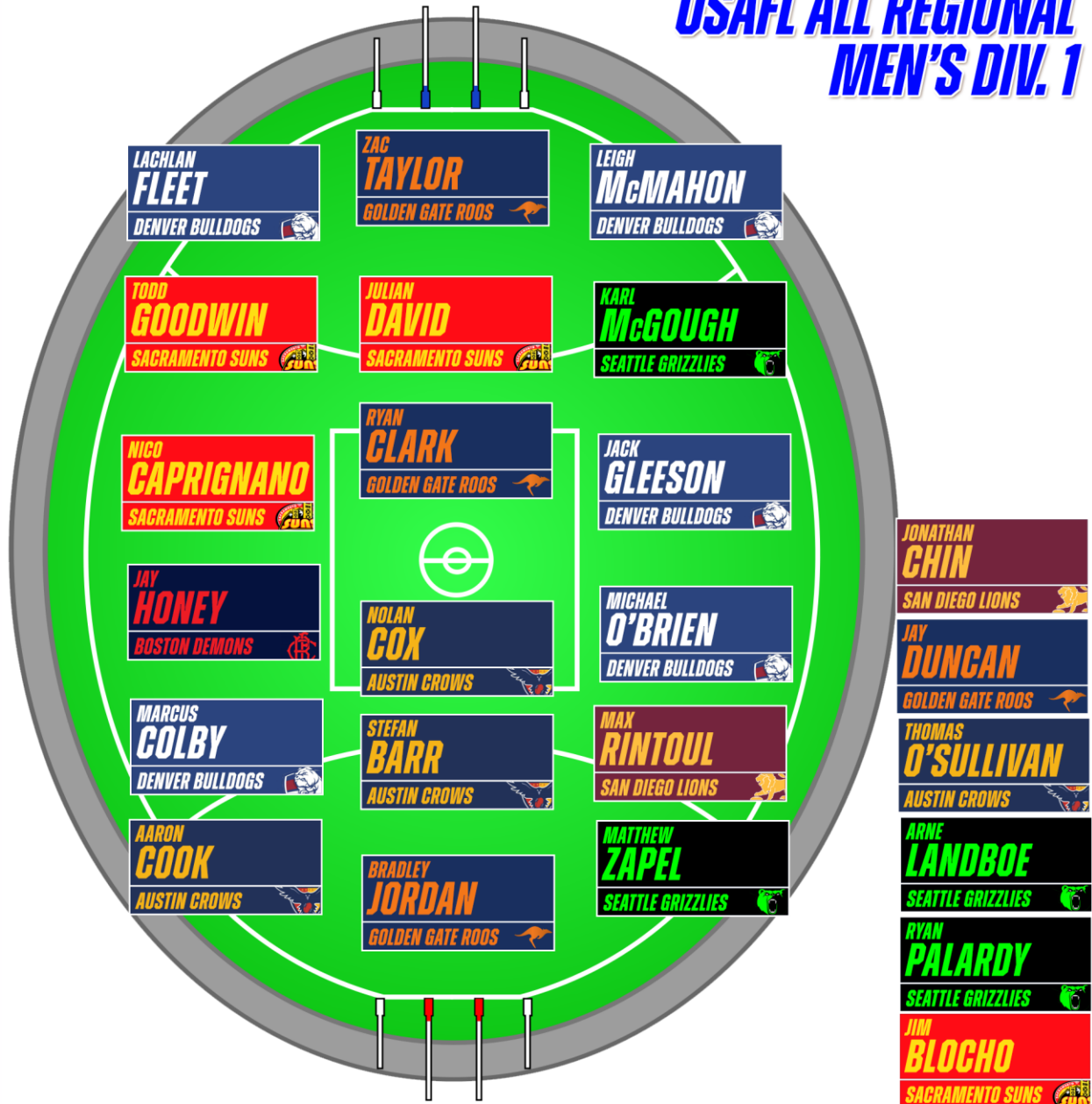
USAFL ALL REGIONAL WOMEN'S DIV.





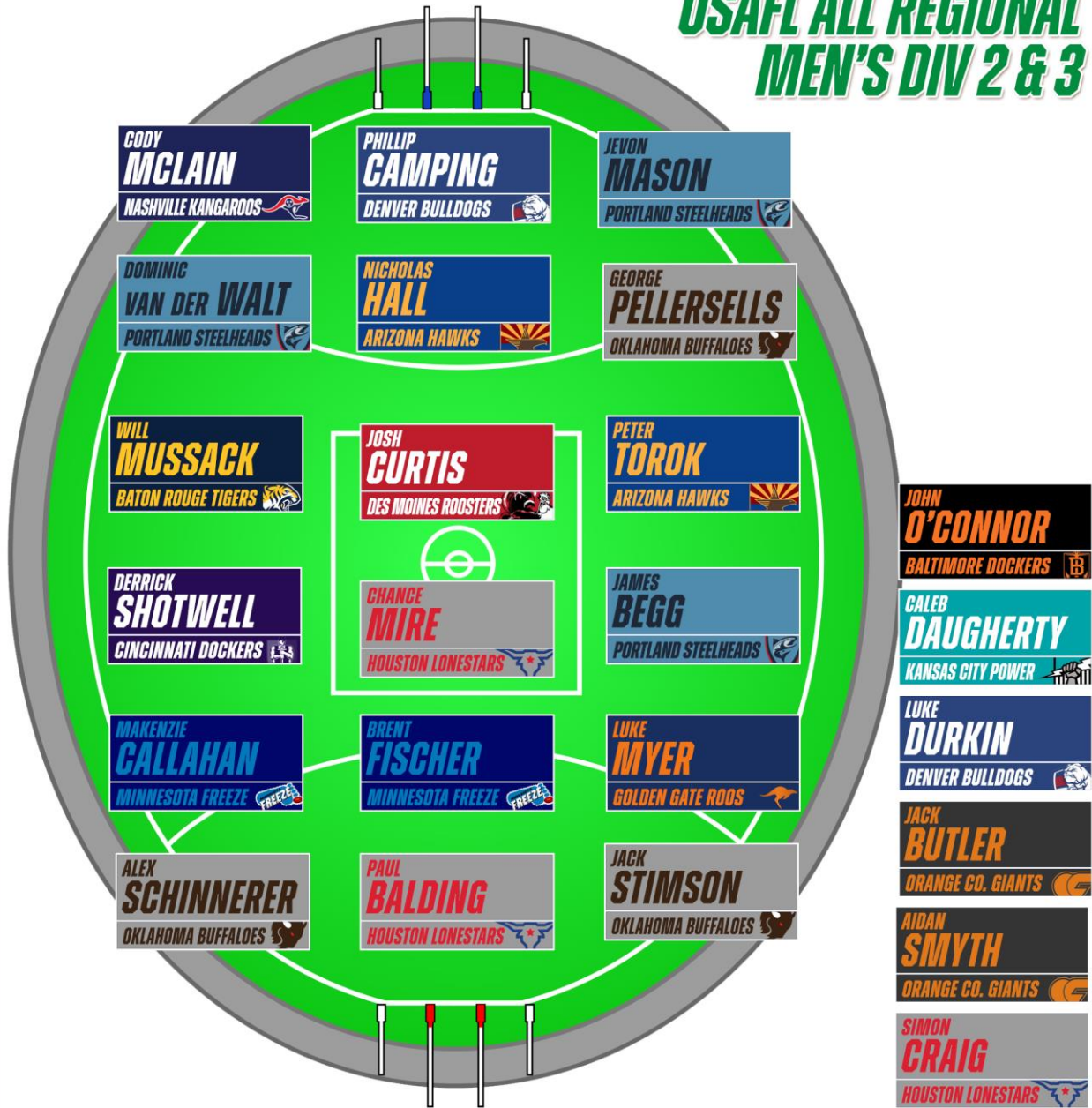
2023 Men's All Regionals Teams

USAFL ALL REGIONAL MEN'S DIV. 1





USAFL ALL REGIONAL MEN'S DIV 2 & 3





2023 National Championships



By the time October rolled around and the more than a thousand athletes did the same into Lakewood Ranch, Florida, teams had prepared themselves for one last push towards that National Championship. They also readied for the biggest bash of the year, with 43 teams across seven divisions making the trip to a blustery ground several clicks from the gulf.

For as far as anyone can remember, many of those clubs were chasing the Austin men and Golden Gate women. And they would have to do it again at the Premier Sports Campus.

The Iron Maidens and Freeze, who had emerged as the two best women's team in the nation, did meet not once, but twice during Nationals. In round-robin play on Saturday, Minnesota did what no one could do since 2015 – beat Golden Gate at Nationals. But 24 hours later, when they met again in the Grand Final, the turntables turned. Trailing 8-7 with a minute to go, Golden Gate tied it, then won it on a Jessica Estrada-Finley goal at the end. For the Maidens, it was their seventh National title in a row; tops of the women's ranks, and the most cups on the trot of any team - men or women - in Nationals history.

Austin, meanwhile, would eventually come face to face with Denver again for the men's D1 title for the third time in four seasons. This time, the Crows would avenge the heartbreak of Olethe with a convincing win, albeit with the Bulldogs playing better than average against the wind in defeat. Their eighth triumph now ties Denver with the most in men's D1 history, and their fifth on the trot - something the Doggies had never done during their long run of the '00s.

The Crows also did another thing that was even more unprecedented. Coupled with their wins in women's Division 2 and the Men's Reserves, Austin became the first club to rack up a treble – three championships at a single Nationals. Not only is that a testament to the depth on their men's side, but also the rapid growth of the women's team. The last time they were in Florida in 2019, they had just two players. Now they had 15, topped up with a half dozen from the North Texas Devils. And, with Nationals in their backyard in 2024, it's an odds on bet that the Crows will have enough for a D1 side next season. One can hope.

The undercards were just as exciting. Sacramento finally won men's D2 in their third attempt, after nearly blowing a 24-1 halftime lead to Seattle to hang on by three points. Philadelphia hoisted their third D3 championship in four seasons, linking up with the emerging Virginia Lions to defeat Oklahoma in the Granny. And, a win for the home state as the Jacksonville Saints and Wisconsin Wombats came together to go 4-0 and win Division 4, giving both clubs their first ever National titles.



MEN'S DIVISION I LADDER

Division I											
TEAM	PLAYED	WON	LOST	TIED	GOALS	PF	PA	%	POINTS	H2H	
POOL A											
Austin Crows	3	3	0	0	21	153	30	509	12	0	
New York Magpies Men	3	1	2	0	9	65	82	79	4	4	
Boston Demons	3	1	2	0	8	61	96	63	4	4	
Los Angeles Dragons	3	1	2	0	11	70	141	49	4	4	
POOL B											
Denver Bulldogs	3	3	0	0	18	122	15	813	12	0	
Golden Gate Roos	3	2	1	0	19	124	63	196	8	0	
Quebec Saints	3	1	2	0	5	37	125	29	4	0	
San Diego Lions	3	0	3	0	4	31	111	27	0	0	

GRAND FINAL



Austin Crows
5.3.33

VS



Denver Bulldogs
2.4.16

Team	Final
Austin Crows	5.3.33
Denver Bulldogs	2.4.16

- Paul Roos Medal (Best & Fairest):** Derek Knutty, Austin & Bradley Jordan, Golden Gate
- Coopers Medal (Most Consistent):** Steven McEvilly, Denver & Sam Murphy, Los Angeles
- Geoff Cann Medal (Grand Final MVP):** Thomas O'Sullivan, Austin
- Hayden Kennedy Medal (GF Umpires):** Callum McKern, Bevin Main, Richard Ogilve



UNITED STATES AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE
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WOMEN'S DIVISION I LADDER

Women's											
TEAM	PLAYED	WON	LOST	TIED	GOALS	PF	PA	%	POINTS	H2H	
POOL A											
Minnesota Freeze Women	3	3	0	0	15	108	26	415	12	0	
Golden Gate Iron Maidens	3	2	1	0	7	51	31	164	8	0	
Denver Bulldogs Women	3	1	2	0	3	24	66	36	4	0	
Seattle Grizzlies Women	3	0	3	0	3	24	84	28	0	0	

GRAND FINAL



VS



Golden Gate Iron Maidens
2.2.14

Minnesota Freeze Women
1.2.8

Team	Final
Golden Gate Iron Maidens	2.2.14
Minnesota Freeze Women	1.2.8

Paul Roos Medal (Best & Fairest): Lindsay Eliassen, Minnesota

Coopers Medal (Most Consistent): Kaiya Sygulla, Minnesota

Geoff Cann Medal (Grand Final MVP): Katie Klatt, Golden Gate

Hayden Kennedy Medal (GF Umpires): Laurie Rupe, Bevin Main

WOMEN'S DIVISION II LADDER

Women's D-II											
TEAM	PLAYED	WON	LOST	TIED	GOALS	PF	PA	%	POINTS	H2H	
POOL A											
Austin Crows Women	4	4	0	0	10	76	30	253	16	0	
Quebec Saints Women	4	3	1	0	17	111	47	236	12	0	
New York Magpies Women	4	2	2	0	11	85	66	128	8	0	
Houston Lonestars Women	4	1	3	0	5	40	91	43	4	0	
DC Eagles Women	4	0	4	0	3	29	107	27	0	0	



GRAND FINAL



VS



Quebec Saints Women

Blue Ox
1.3.9

Austin Crows Women

North Texas
2.2.14

Team	Final
Quebec Saints Women	1.3.9
Austin Crows Women	2.2.14

- Paul Roos Medal (Best & Fairest):** Janie Green, New York
- Coopers Medal (Most Consistent):** Haley Jones, Quebec
- Geoff Cann Medal (Grand Final MVP):** Heather Serpico, Austin
- Hayden Kennedy Medal (GF Umpires):** Rob Linewag & Rob Montenaro





MEN'S DIVISION II LADDER

Division II											
TEAM	PLAYED	WON	LOST	TIED	GOALS	PF	PA	%	POINTS	H2H	
POOL A											
Sacramento Suns	3	3	0	0	26	175	19	921	12	0	
DC Eagles	3	2	1	0	10	73	84	86	8	0	
Minnesota Freeze	3	1	2	0	9	62	95	65	4	0	
Columbus Cats	3	0	3	0	3	30	142	21	0	0	
POOL B											
Seattle Grizzlies	3	3	0	0	18	122	39	312	12	0	
Baltimore Dockers	3	2	1	0	11	78	53	147	8	0	
Houston Lonestars	3	1	2	0	3	29	47	61	4	0	
Calgary Kangaroos	3	0	3	0	4	28	118	23	0	0	

GRAND FINAL



Seattle Grizzlies
4.3.27

VS



Sacramento Suns
4.6.30

Team	Final
Seattle Grizzlies	4.3.27
Sacramento Suns	4.6.30

Paul Roos Medal (Best & Fairest): Nico Carpignano, Sacramento

Coopers Medal (Most Consistent): Colby Campbell, Sacramento

Geoff Cann Medal (Grand Final MVP): Colby Campbell, Sacramento

Hayden Kennedy Medal (GF Umpires): Paul Lesheir, Seve Arnott, Steve Noble





MEN'S DIVISION III LADDER

Division III											
TEAM	PLAYED	WON	LOST	TIED	GOALS	PF	PA	%	POINTS	H2H	
POOL A											
Oklahoma Football Club	3	3	0	0	17	115	29	396	12	0	
North Texas Devils	3	2	1	0	13	88	50	176	8	0	
Nashville Kangaroos	3	1	2	0	11	69	104	66	4	0	
Des Moines Roosters	3	0	3	0	8	50	139	35	0	0	
POOL B											
Philadelphia Hawks	3	3	0	0	26	178	29	613	12	0	
Arizona Hawks	3	2	1	0	13	91	93	97	8	0	
Chicago Swans	3	1	2	0	8	58	132	43	4	0	
Saint Louis Blues	3	0	3	0	7	53	126	42	0	0	

GRAND FINAL



VS



Oklahoma Football Club

Kansas City

2.2.14

Philadelphia Hawks

Virginia

7.8.50

Team	Final
Oklahoma Football Club	2.2.14
Philadelphia Hawks	7.8.50

Paul Roos Medal (Best & Fairest): John Hinchin, Philadelphia & Jack Stimson, Oklahoma

Coopers Medal (Most Consistent): Joel Friesen, St Louis

Geoff Cann Medal (Grand Final MVP): Chris Gough, Philadelphia

Hayden Kennedy Medal (GF Umpires): Ross McLaren, Michael Coysh, Glenn McLeod



MEN'S DIVISION IV

Division IV											
TEAM	PLAYED	WON	LOST	TIED	GOALS	PF	PA	%	POINTS	H2H	
POOL A											
Jacksonville Saints	4	4	0	0	18	124	50	248	16	0	
Fort Lauderdale Fighting Squids	4	2	2	0	17	119	77	154	8	0	
North Carolina Tigers	4	2	2	0	16	109	74	147	8	4	
Rome Redbacks	4	1	3	0	8	59	153	38	4	4	
Tampa Bay Tiger Sharks	4	1	3	0	11	74	131	56	4	0	

GRAND FINAL



VS



Jacksonville Saints

Wisconsin, Milwaukee

4.3.27

Fort Lauderdale Fighting Squids

Baton Rouge, Houston

3.5.23

Team	Final
Jacksonville Saints	4.3.27
Fort Lauderdale Fighting Squids	3.5.23

Paul Roos Medal (Best & Fairest): Aaron Bloom, Ft Lauderdale

Coopers Medal (Most Consistent): Keith Phillips, North Carolina

Geoff Cann Medal (Grand Final MVP): Jamie Clarke, Jacksonville

Hayden Kennedy Medal (GF Umpires): Jeff Persson, Ross McLaren





MEN'S RESERVES DIVISION LADDER

Division V											
TEAM	PLAYED	WON	LOST	TIED	GOALS	PF	PA	%	POINTS	H2H	
POOL A											
Austin Crows Reserves	4	4	0	0	37	252	12	2100	16	0	
Golden Gate Reserves	4	3	1	0	24	164	53	309	12	0	
Denver Bulldogs	4	2	2	0	11	80	101	79	8	0	
Sacramento Suns	4	1	3	0	6	44	143	30	4	0	
Boston Demons	4	0	4	0	3	20	251	7	0	0	

GRAND FINAL



VS



Golden Gate Reserves
1.1.7

Austin Crows Reserves
6.5.41

Team	Final
Golden Gate Reserves	1.1.7
Austin Crows Reserves	6.5.41

Paul Roos Medal (Best & Fairest): Harrison Kerr, Austin

Coopers Medal (Most Consistent): Jose Lopez, Austin

Geoff Cann Medal (Grand Final MVP): Ned Lindsay, Austin

Hayden Kennedy Medal (GF Umpires): Darren Henderson & Jack O'Dell



USAFL Life Membership

The USAFL Life Membership recognizes and honors those members of Australian Rules Football who, by virtue of their contributions, are of such significant stature that they are considered to be among the most highly regarded contributors to the promotion and development of Australian Rules Football in the USA, while residing in the USA. The contributions of those inducted may come from player, coach, umpire, administrator, or media backgrounds and must be of lasting value.

Seb Aguiari served on the USAFL Executive Board for 8 years. The first 3 as VP West and the past 5 as President. Seb always led with professionalism, passion and dedication for the USAFL. He truly loves the USAFL community and would do anything for the league.

We often say around here that Footy is the winner and that couldn't be truer as we look back over Seb's time as President. He led us through many challenges and even a pandemic. The entire league is indebted to Seb for his steadfast leadership.





49th Parallel Cup



2015 was the last time a full-fledged 49th Parallel Cup was held. 2022 saw the North American championship return, but only with men’s matches. This year, not even schedule conflicts could prevent the rise of the 49PC to its former glory; both the men and women from the USA and Canada would battle in Racine, Wisconsin over two different weekends.

August 5th saw the Canadian Northwind men blow in to try and beat the Revolution for just the second time in their history in this, their eighteenth meeting. And my good word they came awfully close.

After being tied twice in the second half, the Revos found ways to manufacture goals against a stifling Canadian defense. Coach Tom Ellis relied on old hands to eventually get the job done – Steve Fashant, Donald Lee, and Andrew “Tiger” Werner were among the key cogs in a squeaky 36-33 triumph. It was the closest margin in 49th Parallel Cup history since the Americans won by two all the way back in 2003.

Despite the veteran presence, there were also signs of the future in the reserves match, a rout by the Americans. Joel Freisen, who has been one of St. Louis’s leading talents in their resurgence, was named best on ground. All in all, a positive weekend, one that would end up being Ellis’s swan song after seven years at the helm.

MEN’S SENIORS



USA Revolution
5.9.39

VS



Canada North Wind
5.6.36

Team	Final
USA Revolution	5.9.39
Canada North Wind	5.6.36



MEN'S RESERVES



VS



USA Revolution Development
13.4.82

Canada North Wind Development
1.7.13

Team	Final
USA Revolution Development	13.4.82
Canada North Wind Development	1.7.13





WOMEN'S CUP

A fortnight later, it was the Freedom's turn. And for Christina Licata, named head coach in 2018 and building a culture and program against the backdrop of cancellations and postponements, a tangible measuring stick. After a rousing training camp in Philadelphia in May, the women's National team would play their first competitive games since the 2017 AFL International Cup.

Tricia Rolfe's Northern Lights and Midnight Suns (reserves) hadn't lost a step in the six years since they went to the IC final in Melbourne. Well coached, talented, and tough. The Freedom and reserves were, themselves, a conglomerate of seasoned veterans and newcomers, some with less than a year's experience.

The reserves clawed tooth and nail but fell to the Suns by three points; the highlight being Sacramento Sun's Jenna Taipletti's spectacular mark and goal. The seniors, seeking just their third win over Canada, kept pace behind the their Minnesotan core of Connor Lewis and Lindsay Eliason. Good Lights defense and wayward kicking, alas, would doom the USA as they would fall 24-15.



USA Freedom
1.9.15

VS



Canada Northern Lights
3.6.24

Team	Final
USA Freedom	1.9.15
Canada Northern Lights	3.6.24





WOMEN'S RESERVES



USA Liberty
1.4.10

VS



Canada Midnight Suns
1.7.13

Team	Final
USA Liberty	1.4.10
Canada Midnight Suns	1.7.13





Administration Excellence Awards

Each year selected USAFL leaders are recognized for their contributions to the overall development of the league. The awards are named in honor of USAFL Founder and Hall of Fame member, Paul “Plugger” O’Keeffe.

Congratulations to **Morgan Whyte, President AFL Quebec** who was awarded for his leadership of AFL Quebec over the years. Morgan has always demonstrated professionalism both on and off the field in guiding the league to further development, recruitment and retention.

Congratulations also go to **Nic Papa, Seattle Grizzlies** who was awarded and recognized for his excellence as a club administrator over the years. He is always on top of everything LMS. He was an incredible asset to the Seattle Regionals this year. Every club needs a Nick Papa!



Financial Management

With my tenure as Treasurer beginning in October 2023, I was pleased to find that the league had fully restored its finances to what would be considered a pre-Covid position. Likewise, in January 2023 the league made its final payment toward the Small Business Administration (SBA) loan which was taken out in 2020 to aid cashflows through the Covid-19 crisis. Full credit to the previous Executive Boards and Executive Director for successfully navigating this crisis.

Upon beginning this role, I undertook a thorough due diligence review of 2023 financials which included accounting practices, processes, and procedures. I have also had multiple conversations with current and past stakeholders to understand the full financial context of the League. From this, my immediate goal has been to improve upon the reporting of these financials so that they are easier to understand and provide greater transparency.

While the reports below contain fewer line items than previous years, the information is more meaningful from a big picture perspective, and as is standard practice for any financial reporting, they are accompanied with footnotes which detail definitions and nuances along with any anomalies and outlying numbers. While I have attempted to make these reports as clear as possible while conveying as much information as possible, I also understand there are often questions around financial reports. For that reason, I would encourage anyone with additional questions or feedback to contact me directly via treasurer@usafl.com.

When looking at the league financials we see a 2023 cash operating surplus of \$99.8k. The cash surplus, however, includes \$94k of the 2022 AFL Grant which was realized on a cash basis in 2023. This means that the league was closer to a breakeven position which was in line with budgeted expectations.

The league's main income sources continue to be the AFL Grant, Player Registrations, and Sponsorships. While losing any one of these three incomes sources would have a considerable impact on the league's future financial position, the single source of the League's AFL grant means that poses the greatest risk to income. Despite this, having three reasonably even sources of income puts the league in a strong position that is manageable should conditions suddenly change.

On the expenses side, the league invested over \$25k into development with the largest allocation being the International Program. While there were more funds allocated to development, both the 2023 Tournament and Woman's Association grants were not fully utilized (only 70% and 30% respectively) and consequently the balance of these funds were returned to the Foundation's



account to be invested into future development. The League's largest variable cost is Nationals, which, once you consider standalone Nationals player registrations, season passes, and sponsorships, continues to be a self-sustaining event.

While the league continues to remain in good standing with its Federal 501(c)(3) non-for-profit status, moving into the current year I have been working on improving processes from both a regulatory and process perspective to ensure this good standing remains well into the future.

Overall, the League is in a solid financial position, and I expect this to continue into 2024 and beyond.

Stuart Prendergast
Treasurer
treasurer@usafl.com



2023 USAFL Profit and Loss Statement

Income	
¹ AFL Grant	187,846.45
Donations	37.82
Foundation Dividends	11,964.42
Player Registrations	
Season Passes	30,132.19
Registration Fees	32,525.00
Regionals	20,880.00
Nationals	79,150.00
Club Dues	11,220.00
Merch Sales	27,345.99
Sponsorships	106,307.90
Total Income	507,409.77
Cost of Good Sold	42,195.75
Gross Surplus / Deficit	465,214.02
Expenses	
² Professional Expenses	3,316.55
³ Administrative Expenses	34,448.40
Employee Expenses	98,538.80
⁴ Promotion & Advertising	16,980.15
Super Regionals	18,237.83
Western Regionals	24,357.98
Nationals Expenses	124,879.37
49th Parallel Cup	19,288.32
Development Expenses	
⁵ Tournament Grants	2,808.00
⁶ WA Grants	1,500.00
International Program	18,401.23
Juniors Development	2,611.74
Total Expenses	365,368.37
Cash Operating Surplus / Deficit	99,845.65



Other Income and Adjustments

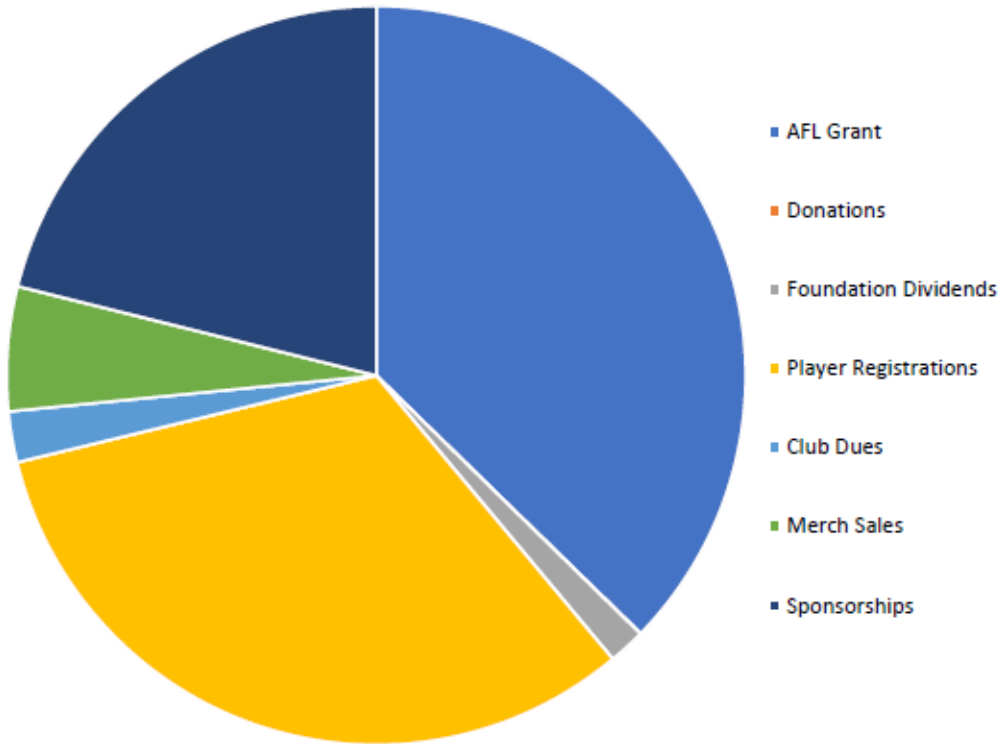
⁷ Unrealized Gains	13,729.51
⁷ Prior Year Adjustments	15,321.15
Total Other Income and Adjustments	29,050.66
<hr/>	
Operating Surplus after Adjustments	128,896.31

Notes:

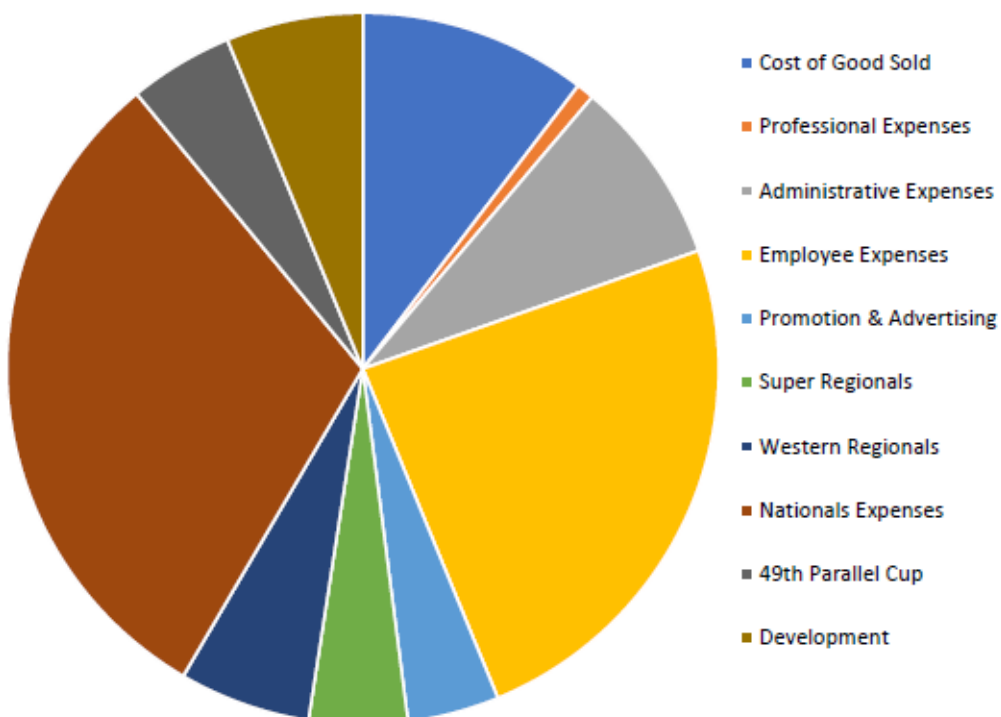
- ¹ \$94k relates to 2022 grant paid through in 2023. Additional \$16.3k paid from AFL during 2023 to cover unfavorable exchange rate.
- ² Accounting and filing fees.
- ³ Includes insurances, non-tournament related travel, bank fees, subscriptions, storage, and miscellaneous office and administrative expenses.
- ⁴ Includes Buffalo Group marketing plan development and web hosting.
- ⁵ \$4k of grants available. Full amount not awarded.
- ⁶ \$4k of grants available. Full amount not awarded.
- ⁷ Unrealized gains from Foundation investment account both in 2023 and previous fiscal years.



USAFL - 2023 Operating Income



USAFL - 2023 Expenses





2023 USAFL Balance Sheet

Assets

Operating Accounts

Cash or Cash Equivalents \$ 70,300.02

Other Accounts

USAFL Foundation \$ 97,070.10

¹ OFX \$ 127,782.03

Total Assets \$ 295,152.15

Liabilities and Equity

Liabilities

Credit Card 2,983.41

² Direct Deposit Payable -2,898.64

Federal Taxes 5,537.91

Total Liabilities \$ 5,622.68

Equity

Opening Balance Equity 13,166.47

Retained Earnings 147,466.69

Net Income 128,896.31

Total Equity \$ 289,529.47

Total Liabilities and Equity \$ 295,152.15

Notes:

¹ Equivalent of AUD \$195k.

² Payment cleared 1/1/24.



2024 USAFL Contact List

Executive Board – 2023-24

April Munn	President	april.munn@usafl.com
Jim Martin	Secretary	jim.martin@usafl.com
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Keith Phillips	VP East	keith.phillips@usafl.com
Emma Bangs	VP Central	emma.bangs@usafl.com
Julian Hatfield	VP West	julian.hatfield@usafl.com
Darren Green	Member At Large	darren.green@usafl.com

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David Bryant	Coaches Association	dave.bryant@usafl.com
Lauren Skonieczny	Women’s Association	lauren.skonieczny@usafl.com

International Program

Paul O’Keeffe	Director	paul@usafl.com
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Kyle Strenski	Revolution Head Coach	revolutioncoach@usafl.com
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Staff

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