

CORRECTED TRANSCRIPT

RURAL AND REGIONAL SERVICES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Inquiry into country football

Seymour – 14 April 2004

Members

Mr M. P. Crutchfield
Mr B. P. Hardman
Mr C. Ingram
Mr J. M. McQuilten

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Executive Officer: Ms K. Murray
Research Officer: Dr V. Koops

Witness

Mr C. Kelly, member, executive committee, Seymour District Junior Football League.

The CHAIR — We move to the section we call ‘Comments from the floor’, and I extend a welcome to all members of the public. Thank you very much for your attendance. I wish to advise everybody present at the hearings that all evidence taken by this committee, including submissions, under the provisions of the Constitution Act is granted immunity from judicial review. I also wish to advise witnesses that comments made by witnesses outside the committee’s hearings are not protected by parliamentary privilege. We are hearing evidence into an inquiry into country football. We have a few procedural rules. If you wish to speak, please wait until Kristen or I acknowledge you. When you come to the table you will not take an oath or affirmation, but please clearly state your name and address before making any remarks. Please keep your comments relatively brief, 2 to 3 minutes. The committee members will probably not ask any questions, but we will note down your comments, but we may ask questions for clarification. It is a public hearing and your comments will be recorded and included in the transcript of this hearing which will become a public document in due course. You will receive a copy of the transcript, as has every other witness, in about a fortnight. Any obvious errors of fact or grammar may be corrected, but not matters of substance.

Mr KELLY — I have a couple of a comments to make on some issues that were raised here before. The ugly parent syndrome in senior football and junior football was noted. The Seymour District Junior Football League has actually taken up this issue, and we have had two signs made up per club — one to hang on the gate and one at the canteen — issuing the expected code of conduct of both players and spectators. If we find somebody who comes under that heading of ugly parent syndrome, as we would term it, we also have the right to ask them to leave or tone down their conduct, and if the situation gets worse, the police may be called. We have found having that right to be very successful.

I will move on from that one. We were talking about the salary cap before, and it may not work. With local clubs, we all try to provide as much local content in our teams as we possibly can, but I have always found that you probably need at least four contracted players. Maybe we could put a restriction on the number of players per club who can be contracted from an outside source. It is worth considering. Thank you, gentlemen.

The CHAIR — I think we already have your name and address.

Mr KELLY — Yes.

Witness withdrew.