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HELD ON TUESDAY 17 DECEMBER 2024

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19) MILLTHORPE JUNIOR SOCCER CLUB AWARD

Author: Mayor Bruce Reynolds

File No: RC.LI.2

Recommendation:

That Council acknowledge the significant achievement of the Millthorpe Junior Soccer Club being awarded the Regional Club of the Year Australia award and to acknowledge the hard work of President David Butler and committee members for achieving this outcome.

Item:

In 2023, Millthorpe Junior Soccer Club registered with a Football Australia initiative called "Club Changer". This year, after the tireless efforts of the club President David Bulter and the committee, they completed various modules and implemented several initiatives, including the Girls Love Football Program (GLF), this earned them a 2-star rating. Building on this progress, Dave Butler submitted a nomination for Millthorpe Junior Soccer Club to be considered for Football Australia's Regional Club of the Year award.

In mid-November, they were informed that we had made it to the top 10 clubs. Tomorrow morning it will be officially announced, and just last week, that the club has been named **Regional Club of the Year Australia!** The committee excited about this achievement.

Club Changer is Football Australia's Club Development Program which aims to protect and enhance our clubs, make them stronger and more resilient, lead them in building welcoming and inclusive cultures, and educate them on positive environments for players, coaches, volunteers, and officials while planning for long term viability and success.

Several of the club members and players went to Melbourne recently to accept this recognition during halftime at the Matildas game.

The goal of the Club is to keep the excitement going with the hope of inspiring more kids to give it a go! Weather that be Soccer or any sport.

20) END OF YEAR EVENTS**Author:** Mayor Bruce Reynolds**File No:** CR.AR.1

Recommendation:

That Council acknowledge the significant achievement of a number of individuals, organisations and groups throughout the Blayney Shire for conducting several events to bring the community together and support local businesses.

Item:

There have been a large number of community events taking place across Blayney Shire during December. To mentions a few:

The twilight markets took place along Blayney's main street. This event was a partnership between the Council and the business community. There were around twenty-five stalls together with many of the main street local businesses who opened for the event. It was a fantastic evening with people attending from as far away as Cobar that I encountered. I hope many of the businesses achieved positive outcomes during the evening and as a Council we received fantastic feedback as part of our community engagement. Congratulations to all those involved from a staff point of view and a community point of view.

Another event I would like to highlight is the Carols in Carrington Park last Friday night. This event was coordinated by the Blayney Baptist Church and Blayney Shire Council with support from the Village Church band. The children's performances were superb, and the adults were also fantastic. There was a massive turnout by our community as well, so a big congratulations to all involved.

The Millthorpe Carols at Club Millthorpe on Saturday night was also a fantastic event. I would like to single out Alyson Lavers for coordinating this event. It is in its sixth year and has just kept growing. There was a very large community turnout and there were visitors from Orange and further afield.

I have also attended several school presentations across the Shire, with the assistance of Cr Iris Dorsett who filled in for me in Carcoar. Each school community has done themselves proud. What stood out at all the schools was the level of volunteering by community members to help our students. A big shout out to all those community members who help out at each of our schools and provided support. The smaller schools catering has also been amazing. The standout was Neville with the students dazzling us with a performances and then the P and C put on a three-course meal afterwards.