

Queensland Parliament Hansard Green


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SUBJECT: Calamvale Leopards Junior AFL Club

MEMBER: Mr PEGG

Calamvale Leopards Junior AFL Club

 **Mr PEGG** (Stretton—ALP) (2.57 pm): As members would know, commitment to sport and particularly junior sport is an important part of any community. There are significant health benefits of sport and physical activity, particularly for young people. The Calamvale Leopards Junior AFL Club is a very important club in my local area that does a lot of great work in our community promoting sport and physical activity for both young men and women. The Calamvale Leopards Junior AFL Club does wonderful work supporting players, their families, volunteers, coaches and supporters. I have been very privileged to attend games in the past and it has been wonderful to see the community atmosphere cheering on the active juniors in my local area. Recently I went to the Calamvale Leopards Youth Presentation Day. It was fantastic to see the young people in my electorate excelling in sport and getting recognised for their achievements. I particularly commend Garry Dunne and Lisa Mitchell and all the volunteers, parents, coaches and supporters for all the work that they do. The celebration recognised the fantastic achievements of the players, coaches and umpires.

This year some members of the Calamvale Leopards Junior AFL Club have been recognised by Brisbane Juniors. Tyson Elies was nominated into the final six nominees for Junior Club Volunteer of the Year and Joshua Smart was nominated for Junior Club Umpire of the Year. Alex Dunne was awarded the Brisbane Junior First Year Umpires Coaches Award. This was a massive achievement as it is the first time this has been awarded to anyone in the Calamvale Leopards. Another major award was for Female Coach of the Year awarded to Helena McNaught, the under 13s girls coach. Helena is a first-time coach, so this is also a particularly noteworthy achievement. The Calamvale Leopards Junior AFL Club has also seen success in massive growth in the number of teams entered this year. The teams added include two under 6 teams, under 11 girls, under 13 girls and under 17 boys. That is a net growth of seven teams meaning it fielded 19 teams in total this year.

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As well as the great work they do on the field, it is their commitments off the field that they should be commended for. There were a significant number of events that the Calamvale Leopards hosted this year, including the Harcourts family fun day; the inaugural interclub challenge with Narangba footy club; hosting four weekends of grading fixtures at the start of the season; a pie drive; the Good for Footy national raffle; their gala dinner celebrating not only 150 years of AFL in Queensland but 16 years of the Leopards; and last but not least, they also hosted a weekend of finals footy.

Time and time again the Calamvale Leopards Junior AFL Club has been doing so much to support young men and women in my community in being active in sport and I thank them for all their hard work. 2016 was definitely a wonderful year for the Leopards and I am sure that 2017 will be another fantastic one for the mighty Leopards as well.