

UNITED STATES AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Executive Board Annual Report 2017





Table of Contents

Year in Review.....	3
USAFL Clubs.....	5
USAFL Structure	6
Regional Championships.....	7
AFL International Cup	10
National Championships.....	22
Financial Management	34
2018 USAFL Contact List	42



Year in Review



This is the story of season 2017; its ups, its downs, and the continued passion of those who play the game here in the US.

MAKING HER-STORY - From the very beginning of the year, new ground was broken in the sport. AFLW, the first major professional women's football league in Australia, kicked off in Melbourne. The growth of women's footy this year was not limited to just AFLW, however. Three USAFL clubs would add women's programs in 2017: Los Angeles, Dallas, and Houston. Seattle and Philadelphia, both of which made their

women's debut last year, saw extensive growth in their programs, as did established teams in Portland, Columbus, Boston, Arizona, and Baltimore-Washington. And, the North Star Blue Ox became the first independent women's club in the USAFL.

The established clubs all grew as well, strengthening the competition. All told, more than 400 women took to the field in 2017 representing 19 USAFL member clubs and 40% growth, all new records.

FOOTPRINTS IN AUSTRALIA - While AFLW's beginnings and the start of a memorable 2017 AFL campaign were underway, our own Katie Klatt and Tyler Ames were continuing their footy journeys.

After playing out 2016 in the reserves ranks for Melbourne University, Klatt made her senior debut with the VWFL side and made an appearance in over half of the Mugar's games. The Virginia native then made history as part of the first North Melbourne women's side, which played an exhibition match in February at historic Arden Street Oval and assisted on three goals in the Kangaroos win. With North set to join AFLW in 2019, there is hope that scouts will have Klatt on their radar.

Ames, meanwhile, traveled abroad as part of the USAFL's player exchange program, landing first with the Darwin Buffaloes of the NTFL, then with Montrose of the Eastern Football League. The relationship formed through the auspices of Mark Motlop in Darwin, and through Rod Buncle and Tony Fairhead of the USAFL Advisory Board, will continue into 2018. Portland Sockeyes and Freedom midfielder Jessica Blecher will head to Darwin for a stint with the Buffaloes, and she looks to make the same impact that Ames had in the Northern Territory.

THE MAGICAL MYSTERY FOOTBALL TOUR OF MYSTERY - Traversing three time zones over the course of a month, the Regional Tournament Series went to three cities with differing Aussie Rules backgrounds. The carnivals in Little Rock, Raleigh, and Denver foreshadowed a changing of the guard in the men's game.



It started in June, where more than 200 locals embracing the newest sport to invade Arkansas paid witness to the end of the Austin Crows' long winning streak. The Dallas Magpies became the first team to knock off a perennial regional power, and a fortnight later Baltimore-Washington became the next. The Eagles' thumping victory over New York left the door open for Golden Gate to assume the mantle of the country's top team.

With newly minted Revo captain Kyle Johnson and rookie sensation Cody Burman leading the way, the Roos cut through Los Angeles and Orange County before needing a come from behind victory over homestanding archrival Denver to come out with their third straight Western title. That weekend also saw the Lady Bulldogs get some revenge over San Francisco for 2016's defeat at Nationals, and the Seattle Grizzlies men and women emerge as a burgeoning club.

WE COME TO THE LAND DOWN UNDER, OH YEAH YEAH - Three years after the Revos, Freedom, and Liberty invaded Melbourne, it was time for them to do it all over again. The Americans were among a record 26 teams to compete in the sixth iteration of the AFL International Cup, and the Revos and Freedom came to the home of football with the hopes of a nation on their broad, athletic shoulders. The Liberty arrived to test their mettle against a veritable cornucopia of local women's teams from around Melbourne, looking for their first ever win in the process.

Despite both the Revolution and Freedom finishing in fourth place in their respective division, both teams represented the country and the program well. Commentators and local spectators alike remarked at the excellence of the standard displayed by both teams. Said excellence was rewarded tangibly: six Americans were named to the IC17 All-World Team, with Ben Carpenter-Nwanyanwu taking out the Men's D1 MVP.

The Liberty, meanwhile, captured that elusive first win on game number two of the tour, then followed up with two more notches to finish with a winning record. They too impressed those that flocked to local grounds to see them play, among them a number of AFLW players.

OUT HERE HAVING FUN, IN THAT WARM CALIFORNIA SUN - San Diego played host to the largest championships in its 21-year history. 53 teams, seven divisions, and nearly 1,200 players.

The emergence of the western regional teams to the fore bubbled over on that weekend in October. Each of the seven divisions had at least one Western team in their top two. Even the hometown Lions got in on the act, bravely falling to the Seattle Grizzlies in the Men's Division 3 Grand Final.

But the weekend belonged to the Golden Gate AFL. The San Francisco Iron Maidens defied all of the nay-sayers to repeat as women's D1 champions, turning back the sound and fury of the Lady Bulldogs by eight points. Then the Roos men broke their D1 duck with a resounding win over the Los Angeles Dragons in the men's decider. Both teams are early favorites to be tops next season, but they don't play footy on paper.



USAFL Member Clubs

Club	City	State	Region	Founded
Arizona Hawks	Phoenix	AZ	Western	1999
Atlanta Kookaburras	Atlanta	GA	Eastern	1998
Austin Crows	Austin	TX	Central	2002
Baltimore-Washington Eagles	Washington	DC	Eastern	1998
Baton Rouge Tigers	Baton Rouge	LA	Central	2004
Boston Demons	Boston	MA	Eastern	1997
Chicago Swans	Chicago	IL	Central	1998
Cincinnati Dockers	Cincinnati	OH	Central	1996
Cleveland Cannons	Cleveland	OH	Central	2014
Columbus ARFC	Columbus	OH	Central	2008
Dallas Magpies	Dallas	TX	Central	1998
Denver Bulldogs	Denver	CO	Western	1998
Des Moines Roosters	Des Moines	IA	Central	2010
Ft. Lauderdale Fighting Squids	Fort Lauderdale	FL	Eastern	2005
Golden Gate AFL	San Francisco	CA	Western	1998
Houston Lonestars	Houston	TX	Central	2005
Indianapolis Giants	Indianapolis	IN	Central	2013
Kansas City Power	Kansas City	MO	Central	1998
Las Vegas Gamblers	Las Vegas	NV	Western	2005
Los Angeles Dragons	Los Angeles	CA	Western	2010
Louisville Kings	Louisville	KY	Central	1996
Little Rock Coyotes	Little Rock	AR	Central	2016
Milwaukee Bombers	Milwaukee	WI	Central	1998
Minnesota Freeze	Minneapolis	MN	Central	2005
Nashville Kangaroos	Nashville	TN	Central	1997
New York Magpies	New York	NY	Eastern	1998
North Carolina Tigers	Raleigh	NC	Eastern	1997
North Star Blue Ox	St. Paul	MN	Central	2017
Oklahoma City Flyers	Oklahoma City	OK	Central	2016
Orange County Bombers	Orange County	CA	Western	1998
Philadelphia Hawks	Philadelphia	PA	Eastern	1998
Portland Steelheads	Portland	OR	Western	1998
Sacramento Suns	Sacramento	CA	Western	2009
San Diego Lions	San Diego	CA	Western	1997
Seattle Grizzlies	Seattle	WA	Western	1998
St. Louis Blues	St. Louis	MO	Central	1997
Tulsa Buffaloes	Tulsa	OK	Central	2010



Executive Board Members - 2017

• Denis Ryan, President	• Andrea Casillas, Secretary
• Mike Sheppard, Eastern Vice President	• Karen Muiiter, Treasurer
• Steve Grandfield, Central Vice President	• Lisa Arredondo, Member At Large
• Seb Aguiari, Western Vice President	

USAFL Staff

• Doren James, Operations & Events Manager	• Brian Barrish, Media Manager
• Kathryn Hogg, Webmaster	• Horacio Gutierrez, Accountant

USAFL Umpires Association

• Jonathan Mills, President	• Toby Persson, Umpire Goal Coach
• Steve Arnott, Vice President	• Jeff Persson, Field Umpire Coach
• Sid Caesar, Treasurer	• William Conway, Member at Large
• Seth McElvaney, Secretary	• Rick Buckle, Member at Large
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• Lisa Arredondo, Vice President East	• Emily Smuder, Member At Large
• Kathryn Hogg, Vice President Central	• Valerie Barber Axthelm, USAFL Liaison
• Laure Kwoka, Secretary	

USA Revolution Coaching Staff

• Tom Ellis, Head Coach	• Matt Dainauski, Assistant Coach
• Chris Carroll, Assistant Coach	• Brad Anderson, Team Manager
• Jason Becker, Assistant Coach	• Steve Budrick, Head Traianer
• Dan Sarbacker, Assistant Coach	

USA Freedom Coaching Staff

• Leigh Barnes, Head Coach	• Tara Salmon, Assistant Coach
• Troy Anthony, Assistant Coach	• Jess Whisney, Team Manager
• Dale Williams, Assistant Coach	• Judith Stein, Liberty Head Coach
• John Ironmonger, Assistant Coach	• Steve Budrick, Head Traianer



2017 Regional Championships

Central Regional – Little Rock, AR

When the Dallas Magpies defeated the Austin Crows in September, 2015, there may not have been many people that would foresee a long winning streak being spawned in reply. Two National Championships, a repeat CRT premiership, and 25 matches later, the Crows came to North Little Rock, Arkansas, looking to continue that trend.

Eight other clubs came to NLR with opposite ideas. And it was fitting that it would be the Magpies who would put a halt to the streak, which officially ended at 27.

The Dallas Magpies clinched their first Central Regional Tournament title, having swept Tulsa/Oklahoma City/Little Rock, and Baton Rouge/Des Moines in pool play before taking down Austin in the decider.

Aside from the 'Pies, the other winners this weekend were the folks of Little Rock who came out in relative droves to with wide-eyed curiosity. Indeed, one can't seem to remember a tournament where locals not associated with any of the teams turned out in such numbers to see a USAFL event, and that gives a good deal of optimism to the growth of footy in the Natural State.

GRAND FINAL: DALLAS 5.6.36 DEF AUSTIN 2.3.15

It was an all-Texas matchup for the CRT title, as Austin put their 27-game streak on the line against a Magpies outfit that knew it had the goods to win the day.

Last year, the Crows found themselves down to Denver by five goals at halftime and came back to win. Surely, they could find a way back here; problem was that last year in Indy they had a hot wind for them to ride on. There was no such help from Mother Nature, and so the champs would have to do it on their own. But Jack O'Dell, Clay Roy, and the Dallas backlines had other ideas. Craig Storer was the mercurial transition man for Dallas, keying Dylan Murray through the corridor and springing Will Bowman and Jay Duncan as target forwards.



Bowman kicked a pretty goal with about five minutes left to give Dallas some breathing room, and Duncan's aerial handball to himself to kick the goal brought the crowd to its feet and brought the streak to an end. The Crows got a consolation goal, but the Magpies were regional champs.



East Regional – Raleigh, NC

MEN'S DIVISION 1



The opener pitted Columbus and Boston, and right away, it was clear that the three-digit margin that was result of the game the two teams played Memorial Day weekend was an aberration. The key man for the Jackaroos was Mark McClure, and the angular ruckman was the lightning rod for his club in being a transitional force. Midfielder Dan Hamilton and half-forward Rob Adams made life difficult for PJ Devine, Ty Simmons and the Boston defense, and the pressure would result in a 54-19 victory for the Jackaroos,

Game two pitted Baltimore-Washington and New York. The Magpies have always had skill and good awareness of the field, able to pick players out. On this day, however, they were woefully behind in the height column. And big Ben Crenca, who came right out of the pages of some ancient fairy tale, made life difficult in the middle for the Manhattanites. Though Mike Murphy and the 'Pies would get their share of chances, it was Ian Payne and Sam Rowley, half forward and full forward, respectively, who would win just about anything in the air. The Eagles had done something they haven't done in a long, long time – beat New York, and beat them thoroughly by a final score of 64-22.

By happenstance, it would be the two winners from the morning meeting in the second round of games, with the winner earning the right to take home the trophy. Columbus had defeated BWE in both prior meetings, but from the tap both teams were even. As was the opener, all roads went through Mark McClure for Columbus, and the Steve Raimo/Nathan Thornbury backline held tight for Columbus while their offence put up chances. But it was a tale of two scorelines; at the half, the game was tied at 18, but the Eagles scored the final 43 points of the game, and astoundingly connected on 12 of 13 scoring shots to run out 73-30 victors and claim the title.

WOMEN'S DIVISION

Last season, the New York Lady Magpies found themselves in a long battle with a team of all comers from up and down the East Coast. They would see another tough fight to defend their regional title, playing alongside players from Boston and Philadelphia. Their opponent: the Columbus Jillaroots, combined with the Baltimore-Washington Lady Eagles. The match was hotly contested and the momentum swung back and forth, but in the end New York held on to a 43-30 win.





MEN'S DIVISION 2

Philadelphia and Baltimore-Washington's B side met in the opener of D2. The Hawks shut out their winged foes in the first half, led by the forward play of Greg Glasgow and Jon Ginsberg, and though BWE got back into the game in the second half, the Hawks picked up a winning decision by 26 points.

The Hawks then had to take on the homestanding North Carolina Tigers for a chance to take out the title, but the Tigers had other ideas. Led by Revo Erik Hanson, The Tigers blanked Philly in the opening term, then held them to just two goals in the second half to win 53-12. The margin of victory essentially eliminated Philly from winning the division, while a win over the Eagles would mean victory for themselves.

Any doubt that North Carolina would have any issues with the Eagles' reserves was wiped away in the opening seconds when Scott Bradley kicked a major score. From there, the dominance was palpable, and with Hanson and company leading the charge, they build a big lead that the Eagles ate into towards the end of the game, but ultimately could not topple. 55-21 to Carolina, and the D2 title with it.

West Regional – Denver, CO

MEN'S DIVISION 1



Each championship campaign has one defining game along the way. For the Golden Gate Roos, it was defeating the mighty Bulldogs in Denver in the final game of the day to give them back-to-back Western Regional championships. That they won on the road was impressive enough, but the way that they won put their stamp on the competition as the best team in the country.

After a listless first half, and missing star player Jake Ryan, the Roos found themselves down by three goals at halftime. Led by ruck Ben Dowdell and rookie sensation Cody Burman, the Roos stormed back in the second half and held on to win by a straight kick at the siren. Though the win was not enough to convince the USAFL Top 20 pollsters

as to their prowess, the win in Colorado was a harbinger for Nationals weekend, as Golden Gate brought home their first ever men's Division 1 National Title.

MEN'S DIVISION 2

This game had it all. The Suns/Sockeyes combo needed a win to clinch their third straight Western Division 2 championship. Kendall Hutchings took the mark of the year in the first half, and the Suns kicking struggles kept the Freeze in the lead through the nail-biting final few minutes.

With the game tied at 20 and the conglomerate within just one score of the title, it was the Freeze that stood up to the challenge to keep it deadlocked. With their final push, Ryan McLuen took a Minnesota mark, earning a kick after the siren. "Hanga"'s point gave the Freeze the win, and the Seattle Grizzlies their first regional championship.



2017 International Cup



INTERNATIONAL CUP 2017
MELBOURNE * AUGUST 5-19

Wisconsin.

The sixth edition of the AFL International Cup took place from August 5-19, 2017 in Melbourne, Australia. Over twenty countries took part in the largest Australian Football tournament between nations.

The USAFL was proud to once again send the **USA Revolution** Men’s National team, and the **USA Freedom** Women’s National team to take part in IC17. In addition, the **USA Liberty** Women’s Development squad also took on local teams in country Victoria during the tournament.

Revolution Coach Tom Ellis and Freedom Coach Leigh Barnes each had the task of narrowing over a hundred talented footballers down to those that would wear the red, white, and blue in Melbourne. The Revos held regional camps in Austin, Chicago, Philadelphia, and Tampa, while the Freedom held mini camps at each of the regional tournaments before holding their main camp in Racine,

USA REVOLUTION



MEN’S DIVISION ONE:

Canada, Fiji, France, Great Britain, Ireland, Nauru, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, South Africa, United States

OVERVIEW: For the first time since the expansion of the competition in 2008, the International Cup men’s draw was divided into two divisions.

Round 1: USA Revolution v Canada Northwind



	Q1	Q2	Q3	FINAL
Canada	1.0.6	2.2.14	2.2.14	3.7.25
USA	1.5.11	1.6.12	6.8.44	6.9.45



CANADA

Goal Kickers: A. Nash 2, J. Oertel

Best Players: E. Klein, R. Macdonald, R. Tersigni, J. Oertel, A. Nash, T. Loosemore

USA

Goal Kickers: D. Restrepo 3, B. Dragus, D. Grzeiak, H. May

Best Players: D. Grzeiak, B. Spohn, M. DePina, B. Carpenter-Nwanyanwu, D. Restrepo, R. Gartright

Round 2: USA Revolution v South Africa Lions



	Q1	Q2	Q3	FINAL
South Africa	0.1.1	1.3.9	1.5.11	2.5.17
USA	3.1.19	4.3.27	8.6.54	9.10.64

SOUTH AFRICA

Goal Kickers: T. Bartman, V. Sokoyi

Best Players: T. Moagi, G. Molohlanyi, A. Funda, M. Lungile, V. Sokoyi, L. Mlonyeni

USA

Goal Kickers: B. Dragus 2, M. Murphy 2, B. Carpenter-Nwanyanwu 2, S. Tyebjee, D. Restrepo, B. Spohn

Best Players: S. Tyebjee, R. McGettigan, B. Spohn, B. Dragus, D. Livy, C. Simpson



Round 3: USA Revolution v Papua New Guinea Mosquitoes



	Q1	Q2	Q3	FINAL
USA	2.1.13	4.2.10	5.5.35	8.7.55
Papua New Guinea	3.0.18	5.1.31	11.1.67	15.2.92

USA

Goal Kickers: B. Dragus 2, J. Freeman 2, K. Johnson, D. Restrepo, J. Levesque, C. Simpson
Best Players: J. Freeman, T. Lindfelt, S. Tyebjee, R. Gartright, B. Sears, J. Wilhelm

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Goal Kickers: A. Piprika 6, A. Jambarufo 2, K. Paulias Siwee 2, H. Paul Oea 2, L. Savere, S. Johnson, E. Wartovo
Best Players: E. Tupia, G. Paul Aki, H. Paul Oea, A. Piprika, G. Simon, L.
Logo

Round 4: USA Revolution v Les Coqs de France



	Q1	Q2	Q3	FINAL
USA	3.4.22	9.10.64	12.13.85	19.18.132
France	1.0.6	1.1.7	3.1.19	3.1.19

USA

Goal Kickers: D. Restrepo 4, B. Dragus 3, J. Wilhelm 3, J. Freeman 2, D. Livy 2, J. Levesque, B. Sears, D. Lee, D. Jones, B. Carpenter-Nwanyanwu
Best Players: J. Wilhelm, D. Restrepo, B. Fischer, D. Lee, C. Simpson, B. Judge



FRANCE

Goal Kickers: L. Barrat 2, P. Boscart

Best Players: N. Boché, L. Barrat, S. Rat, P. Lechasles, A. Bernad, P. Boscart

Round 5 (Finals): USA Revolution v Ireland



	Q1	Q2	Q3	FINAL
USA	0.2.2	2.3.15	2.4.16	2.4.16
Ireland	1.1.7	3.2.20	6.3.39	7.6.48

USA

Goal Kickers: B. Carpenter-Nwanyanwu 2

Best Players: J. Kraemer, D. Lee, R. Gartright, J. Freeman, K. Johnson, B. Fischer

IRELAND

Goal Kickers: D. Nannery 3, W. Gleeson 2, G. Murray 2

Best Players: D. Nannery, M. Finn, P. O'Halloran, G. Walls, D. Ryan, C. Devaney





USA Revolution					
0	Michael Murphy	New York Magpies	16	Jeff Kraemer	Chicago Swans
1	Max DePina	Seattle Grizzlies	17	Jay Levesque	Baltimore Eagles
2	Ryan McGettigan	Philadelphia Hawks	18	Bryan Dragus	Golden Gate Roos
4	Benjamin Carpenter-Nwanyanwu	Austin Crows	22	Michael Linehan	Austin Crows
5	Daniel Livy	Golden Gate Roos	23	Clyde Simpson	Columbus Jackaroos
6	Benjamin Judge	Des Moines Roosters	24	Jason Wilhelm	Arizona Hawks
7	Dustin Jones	Tampa Bay Swans	27	Ryan Garthright	Denver Bulldogs
10	John Freeman	Nashville Kangaroos	33	Tim Lindfelt	Golden Gate Roos
12	David Franco	Golden Gate Roos	34	Warren May Jr	Des Moines Roosters
13	Saleh Tyebjee	Sacramento Suns	54	David Grzesiak	Dallas Magpies
14	David Restrepo	Houston Lonestars	55	Donald Lee	LA Dragons
15	Kyle Johnson	Golden Gate Roos	70	Buddy Spohn	

Head Coach – Tom Ellis

Assistant Coach – Chris Carroll

Assistant Coach – Jason Becker

Assistant Coach – Dan Sarbacker



USA FREEDOM



WOMEN'S DIVISION: Two pools of four teams each. Pool A: [Canada, Great Britain, Fiji, Pakistan], Pool B: [Ireland, United States, Papua New Guinea, European Crusaders].

OVERVIEW: The eight team field is the largest women's competition since it was inaugurated at IC11, an addition of three non-reserve sides from three years ago. With the increasing popularity and participation rates in women's footy in Australia and around the world, and the appearance of AFLW, this year's women's division garnered a great deal of intrigue and attention.



Round 1: USA Freedom v Ireland Banshees

	Q1	Q2	Q3	FINAL
Ireland	3.1.19	3.2.20	6.4.28	7.4.46
USA	0.0.0	1.2.8	1.2.8	1.2.8

IRELAND

Goal Kickers: L. Connolly 3, C. McCutcheon 2, M. Cullen, G. Behan

Best Players: C. Breen, C. Fitzpatrick, L. Connolly, C. Quinn, M. Moriarty, G. Behan

USA

Goal Kickers: J. Estrada

Best Players: S. Magallon, E. Riehl, B. English, H. Kastanek, L. Kastanek, K. Klatt



Round 2: USA Freedom v Papua New Guinea Flames



	Q1	Q2	Q3	FINAL
USA	1.3.9	2.8.20	4.12.36	5.12.42
Papua New Guinea	0.1.1	1.1.7	1.1.7	2.3.15

USA

Goal Kickers: E. Riehl 2, K. Scherer, B. Brower, K. Klatt

Best Players: C. Smolak, H. Kastanek, B. English, R. Kloh, K. Klatt, M. Armstrong

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Goal Kickers: F. Sovara, B. Maureen

Best Players: T. Lavai, F. Sovara, B. Maureen, I. Loreen, B. Gaur, A. Bai

Round 3: USA Freedom v European Crusaders



	Q1	Q2	Q3	FINAL
USA	8.4.52	12.7.79	14.11.95	19.13.127
European Crusaders	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0	0.0.0

USA

Goal Kickers: J. Estrada 5, K. Hemenway 4, C. Smolak 3, L. Kastanek 2, O. Nguyen, M. Leone,

K. Klatt, C. Hoha, M. Armstrong

Best Players: M. Leone, B. Brower, B. English, J. Estrada, C. Hoha, L. Kastanek

EUROPEAN CRUSADERS

Best Players: A. Barisic, C. Duquet, L. Gauss, B. Portal, A. Finn, I. Rositano



Round 4 (Semi-Finals): USA Freedom v Canada



	Q1	Q2	Q3	FINAL
Canada	2.2.14	5.5.35	5.8.38	6.8.44
USA	1.1.7	1.2.8	1.2.8	1.2.8

CANADA

Goal Kickers: N. Kirwan 3, H. Perry, C. Ireland, A. Legault

Best Players: N. Kirwan, N. Robertson, L. Hilmi, V. Moreau, H. Perry, S. Ennor

USA

Goal Kickers: L. Kastanek

Best Players: A. Bremner, B. English, B. Brower, K. Klatt, E. Riehl, K. Scherer

Round 5 (Finals): USA Freedom v Great Britain

	Q1	Q2	Q3	FINAL
USA	1.0.6	2.0.12	4.1.25	4.1.25
Great Britain	1.0.6	1.1.7	3.1.19	5.2.32

USA

Goal Kickers: K. Hemenway 3, K. Klatt

Best Players: M. Leone, B. English, L. Kastanek, K. Hemenway, C. Smolak, R. Leslie

GREAT BRITAIN

Goal Kickers: C. Sellar, F. Hocking, D. Saulter, R. Ramadan, L. Wilson

Best Players: C. Eales, A. Blount, A. Saulter, F. Hocking, R. Ramadan, L. Darby



USA Freedom					
1	Alison Brenmenr	Denver Bulldogs	15	Margaret Leone	San Francisco Iron Maidens
2	Jessica Estrada	San Francisco Iron Maidens	16	Lauren Shelton	Minnesota Freeze
3	Brette Brower	San Francisco Iron Maidens	18	Natalie Wolff	New York Magpies
5	Bevin English	San Francisco Iron Maidens	20	Paige Kiecker	Minnesota Freeze
6	Jessica Gray	Denver Bulldogs	21	Hallie Lee	Denver Bulldogs
7	Carly Smolak	San Francisco Iron Maidens	22	Rosemary Kloh	Sacramento Suns
8	Jessica Blecher	Portland Sockeyes	23	Sara Magallon	San Francisco Iron Maidens
9	Catherine Hoha	Minnesota Freeze	23	Melissa Armstrong	Arizona Hawks
10	Katie Klatt	Sacramento Suns	25	Siobhan McHale	New York Magpies
11	Andrea Casillas	New York Magpies	26	Emily Riehl	Baltimore Eagles
12	Katrina Scherer	Columbus Jillaroos	27	Lindsey Kastanek	Denver Bulldogs
13	Kim Hemenway	New York Magpies			

Head Coach - Leigh Barnes

Assistant Coach – Dale Williams

Assistant Coach – Troy Anthony

Assistant Coach – Tara Salmon

Assistant Coach – John Ironmonger

Team Manager – Jess Whisney



USA Liberty



Debuting in 2012, the USA Liberty development program has been a pathway to the senior national team side, the USA Freedom. While being successful in that respect, they had yet to win a game. They came to Australia alongside the National teams competing in IC17 on a five game tour of local Melbourne based VAFA clubs, looking to break their duck. After dropping a competitive opener to

a combined Essendon Districts/Western Regional All-Star team, the Liberty travelled to Bulleen to face the talented Bullants.

After nearly three whole quarters of arm wrestling, Robyn Leslie and Leilani Silvio broke the game open with majors within minutes of each other, then held on in the final term to taste the sweet nectar of scoring more points than their opponent for the first time. There would be two more victories during the fortnight, and the Liberty would finish the tour with a winning record at 3-2, taking promise and memories home from the trip.

Round 1 Recap (August 5th)

The Liberty lost their opening match of the tour to an all-star Australian side composed of players from the Western Region Football League (WRFL) and the Essendon District Football League (EDFL). Erica Sacci and Amy Arundale -- both midfielders from the USAFL's Philadelphia Hawks -- were both able to win some contested possessions and put some pressure on their Aussie opponents. Laure Kwoka was also a key presence defensively, while both Leilani Silvio and Karen Stablein were the Liberty's goalkickers. While their defense held its ground during a number of passages of play, the Liberty weren't able to overcome a slow start, falling by 32 points.

Final score: EDFL/WRFL All-Stars 6.11 (47), USA Liberty 2.3 (15)

Round 2 Recap (August 8th)

The Liberty held their ground in a defensive struggle on the night of August 8th, securing their first-ever international win over the Bulleen-Templestowe Bullants by 14 points.

It was a mild, clear night for footy down at Bulleen Park, and the two teams were a study in contrast. The Liberty boasted lots of experience, while the Bullants featured five players from their under-18 side.

Kwoka, Arundale, and Silvio were very influential around the contest again, with precise handballs and quality tackling. Silvio and Kwoka's on-ground chemistry was apparent; both women played for the Sacramento Suns in the USAFL before Silvio switched over to the Los Angeles Dragons last year.



The Liberty backline held strong against the young talent on the Bullants' side throughout the match. Rae Hale, Cailin Deal, and Valerie Barber-Axthelm were able to stave off the Bullants' goalkickers.

Both teams weren't as precise with their kicking as they should have been in the opening half, with several scoring opportunities falling by the wayside. But the Liberty refocused in the second half and were able to slot one set shot to Silvio and one to fellow midfielder Robyn Leslie.

The Liberty ultimately finished with a massive win, holding the Bullants goalless and prevailing 2.7 (19) to 0.5 (5). It's the first-ever international win for the Liberty and they will carry significant momentum heading into an important clash on August 11th.





USA Liberty					
1	Amy Bryniarski	Columbus Jillaroos	15	Lauren Skonieczny	New York Mapiges
2	Amelia Arundale	Philadelphia Hawks	16	Leilani Silvio	LA Dragons
3	Brianna Ostoff	Minnesota Freeze	17	Karen Stablein	Baltimore Eagles
4	Cailin Deal	Boston Demons	18	Lizzy Even	Minnesota Freeze
6	Clare Algozin	New York Magpies	19	Oanh Nguyen	Sacramento Suns
7	Rosemary Kloh	Sacramento Suns	20	Stephanie Shipley Snyder	Columbus Jillaroos
8	Jessica Nelson	Minnesota Freeze	21	Valerie Barber-Axthelm	Seattle Grizzlies
9	Kaitlyn Peterson	Minnesota Freeze	23	Makenzie Seckora	Sacramento Suns
11	Siobhan McHale	New York Magpies	24	Rae Hale	Minnesota Freeze
13	Katrina Scherer	Columbus Jillaroos	25	Erica Sacci	Philadelphia Hawks
14	Lauren Balsley	Columbus Jillaroos	28	Robyn Leslie	San Francisco Iron Maidens

Head Coach – Judith Stein



2017 National Championships



The 2017 USAFL Nationals were the largest in history; nearly 1200 players, 53 teams representing over 40 clubs competed on October 21-22 at the San Diego Surf Cup Park in Del Mar, CA.

In the first Nationals held in California since 2000, it wasn't much of a surprise that the West Coast teams dominated. Six of the seven divisions had at least one California team in their top two finishers, and the Men's Division One final was an all-Golden State affair. Up and down the ranks, there was a plethora of great

footy played on the weekend.

Overall the weekend was a huge success and will go down in the record books as the biggest tournament yet. None of it would have been possible without the leadership of Doren James, National Tournament Director, the Executive Board and the dedicated support of countless volunteers. The USAFL would also like to thank Coopers Brewery and Michael Shearer for their continued, long time support and sponsorship of the USAFL Nationals. Special recognition to AFL guests Grant Williams, Head of Game Development, Hayden Kennedy, AFL Umpire, Ryan O'Keefe, Adelaide Crows Assistant Coach and Ron Watt, AFL Coaches Association who were instrumental in delivering coaching and umpiring accreditation courses on the weekend. Thank you to the Australian Advisory Board represented by Tony Fairhead and Rod Buncle for their continued and reliable support across the weekend.

USAFL Honors

Life Membership of the USAFL is a recognition of an individuals excellent service to football in the USA. It is given for a combination of service beyond normal expectations, tenure and specific skills that has a National component. This year, two long time and well respected members of the USAFL community were recognized as Life Members for their significant contributions to the league.

Tony Fairhead

Tony has lead the USAFL Australian Advisory Committee for 10 years. He was the founder of the committee. He has been instrumental in developing the player exchange programs we have between USA and Australia (and vica versa). He has attended Nationals the last 10 years and is a true advocate of the league.





Andy Vanica

Andy has been a player since 2006 and has a decorated career including 2011 D1 championship B&F in Grand Final, 29 Revolution games, International Cup 2008, 2011, 2014 and 6 Parallel Cups. Andy also served in numerous administrative roles throughout the league spending 2 years as President at Milwaukee, 3 years as an Executive Board member, 2 years as president. As President, Andy created policy handbook for league incorporating best practices for non-profits, created and managed first Legends/Masters game, managed LMS system creation.

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 **Toby Persson, Nationals Umpire Coordinator** who was awarded for his leadership, to bring together and manage umpires from across the USAFL, Australia, Europe and Canada and ensure that a record number of matches, over 90, ran on schedule. It was truly an impressive effort!

Congratulations also go to **Rod Buncle, Australian Advisory Board** who was awarded and recognized for his leadership and tireless efforts in the continued growth and development of the USAFL Player Exchange program. Rod’s many years of football administration experience has been invaluable to the program, players as well as the USAFL and Australian clubs that have participated over the years.





Division I Results

Golden Gate Roos



	Goals	Behinds	Totals
Final	6	4	40

Paul Roos Medal for Best & Fairest

Pat Nicholls, Golden Gate Roos

Coopers Medal for Most Consistent (2 way tie)

Jacob Williams, Dallas Magpies

Benjamin Dowdell, Golden Gate

Los Angeles Dragons



	Goals	Behinds	Totals
Final	2	1	13

Geoff Cann Medal for MVP in Final

Jack Lucas, Golden Gate Roos

Hayden Kennedy Medal for Grand Final

Umpiring

Brandon Dye, Jackson Burnie & Ross McLaren

Though the two teams have met many times in regional play over the past eight USAFL seasons, the Roos and Dragons had not met in a game bigger than this. Their track to the Grand Final varied, but both had certainly earned the right to play off for what would be the first D1 title for either.

The Dragons had survived an early dogfight against New York in their opener on Saturday morning, but managed to hang on by a single point. They then humbled the two-time defending premiers Austin, who couldn't seem to find an answer for target forward Pat Nicholls, and who couldn't pierce Andrei Jensen and the defense. A game but outmatched Baltimore-Washington side was accounted for by 44 points, and LA were onto the final, their fourth in club history and their first above the D2 level.

Much fancied to return for their second D1 decider in as many years, Golden Gate Turned aside Calgary and a strong Dallas in their first two games, then had to deal with nemesis Denver on Sunday for the honor of getting back to the Granny. It was their stiffest test of the weekend to that point, and led by ruck Ben Dowdell, quickman Jack Lucas, and forward tower Bryan Dragus, the Roos topped the Bulldogs 45-30 to advance to their fourth D1 championship match.

Both teams looked to be balanced up and down the track, and the most intriguing matchup was in the ruck. Golden Gate's Ben Dowdell, a former Adelaide Crow listed player, and LA's Donald Lee, the basketball player turned Revo, metaphorical weight room all game long. Lee punched through a Steven Belstead set-shot to concede the opening score of the game after two minutes. From the kick out, a free kick followed by a fifty meter penalty saw Matt Hitch pick out Nicholls on a string, and the LA forward made no mistake to register the first major of the game.





What three teams couldn't seem to do, the Roos then attempt to: they double teamed Nicholls for the rest of the game, and led by Justin Mann and David Franco, the Roos defense figured that suffocating the Dragon's lightning rod would force the others to take on Golden Gate in man-on-man football. Any momentum from the opening goal would be neutralized by Jack Lucas and the Roo midfield, and Dragus would put his team back on top with a pretty, straight kick from the run of play.

Hitch tied the game at seven a minute later, and the thirst for the football ratcheted up another notch. Chris Bagot and Gary Green took nice marks for LA, and Lee buried Lucas in front of the Cooper's beer tent, which got a rise out of the thousand-strong crowd. The double-team against Nicholls wasn't foolproof, however, and Paul Ioakim ran free and found the Dragon's personal Jesus (so called by Grilla because of his long hair), albeit at an acute angle. Guffawing at a 65-degree outlook, Nicholls' banana again gave the boys in teal a zeal, and a six point lead.

Jake Ryan literally came within a fingertip of tying the game thirty seconds later, but a desperate Robbie Descant put his body on the line to make a five-point save in conceding the rushed behind. Halftime came with the Dragons 13-8, but with the flow of the game ebbing and flowing like the ocean just miles to the west of the Surf Cup ground.

Both teams began the second stanza in search of the first major score of the second half, and the Roos came out a bit quicker and a bit more disciplined, especially after Lucas was decked by Lee after earning a free kick. Lucas would miss chance, and David Abernathy had a shot tipped at the line, but the boys from the Bay Area had the notion. David Jennings would finally break through, converting off a free kick to put his team's snouts in front.

Harry Dixon would take the best mark of the day not long after the goal...until Dragus bettered it with a screamer on the ensuing clearance. Dowdell extended the lead from another set shots, and LA tried to counter through Nicholls, but he was bottled up like a case of Cooper's. Switching out to a zone helped the Roos pinch the Dragons and put the kibosh on any sort of comeback. Kyle Johnson, arguably the heart and soul of the team for club and country, found got away a handball to Joshua Warren, who applied the sword into the Dragon heart.

Los Angeles had worked hard all season, and they didn't let up. Guys like Bagot and Ioakim and Green and Justin Kenna and Justin "Jabba" Hall had willed the team to this point. But the efforts of Clark, Lucas, Johnson, and Dragus were too much. Mel Chen had an understated performance, the former Sacramento Sun and Revo alumni worked with the efficiency of a Silicon Valley microchip to win the ball. Lucas's speed was too much, and the midfielder took home the Cann Medal for Finals MVP in the process.

In the end, the Roos were too good, rattling off 33 unanswered points to stomp home by 27 points. The Dragons had been were the Roos were in 2016; coming off lukewarm results at Nationals in previous years to challenge for their first D1 title. They claimed the scalps of the Eastern and Central regional champions on the way, and they should absolutely hold their heads high going into 2018 and beyond, because they will be back. Nicholls took home the Roos Medal for Best and Fairest, and though that's no consolation for losing out, it signified a sparkling weekend for he and the team.



But the day and the season belonged to Golden Gate Roos who, after four tries and nearly two decades after being founded by John Ironmonger et al, claimed the glory of the Division I national championship and the Papa John Harrell Cup. Many punters around the league still saw them as second best to Austin, even after storming back to upend Denver at the Western Regionals. But Manly Johnson’s team never relented the entire season. The fact that they had six Revos on their side was a testament to the homegrown talent that complimented their Australian base of players like Ryan, Lucas, and Dowdell. Dowdell would take home some personal hardware of his own, sharing Most Consistent honors with Dallas’s Jacob Willams.

Women’s Division Results

Denver Bulldogs



	Goals	Behinds	Totals
Final	1	0	6

Paul Roos Medal for Best & Fairest

Carly Smolak, San Francisco Iron Maidens

Coopers Medal for Most Consistent (2 way tie)

Twania Clark, Denver Bulldogs & Natalie Wolff, New York Magpies

San Francisco Iron Maidens



	Goals	Behinds	Totals
Final	2	2	14

Geoff Cann Medal for MVP in Final

Ellise Gallagher, San Francisco Iron Maidens

Hayden Kennedy Medal for Grand Final Umpiring

Steve Arnott & Ryan Wilmore

The Denver Football Club will tell you that they are, geographically at least, on an island when it comes to the rest of the teams in the USAFL. They are also on a metaphorical one too, at least when it comes to the number of cups they have won in total. Once again, it wasn’t a matter of if Denver would get to the Grand Final, but who they would get through to win their 21st straight game and add a ring to their collective thumbs.



The San Francisco Iron Maidens knew this well. They were swept clean off the ground by the Bulldogs in Austin last year. This year, they had to battle through a tough group, one that included a very talented Minnesota Freeze side, to get back to the final. This year, however, they outscored their opponents 67-1, and they had the agencies of three Arizona Lady Hawks and two members of the newly formed Bridgetown Banshees from Portland.

The ‘Doggies would jump in front early, thanks to Anna Thexton’s set shot goal. But the Maidens would buckle down on defense and keep the Bulldogs to just three more minor scores the rest of the half. Before the siren would sound for halftime, however, they would do something that hadn’t happened in three years; score against the Denver Lady Bulldogs in a USAFL Grand



Final. It would be just one point, but it was an inroad and a glimmer of hope. 9-1 was not a bad place to be with 20 minutes left.

The West Coasters would inch back into the game, and had added another couple of behinds to bring Denver into their front windcreens. A hint of an upset swirled through the ground.

But Denver had been here before, and they had some of the best players in the country at their disposal. Twannia Clark, who would be named Best and Fairest, would be her normal speedy self, knifing through the West Coast defense. Lindsay Kastanek, a veteran who played one of her best tournaments this year in Ohio, nailed home the dagger from a close in shot with nine minutes left.

Number Five was just as sweet as the others, if not a little more so. And captain Hallie Adrian, who has been there for them all, was gracious in yet another victory.

“That grand final game represented everything I wanted to see in women's AFL in the United States and even North America,” Adrian said. “The game was tough, fast and featured the growth of the game in many new talented athletes. San Francisco has grown a phenomenal club in a short period of time that I know has inspired other growing clubs to go home and step their game up. Besides our fluke of a first Championship in 2010 versus Calgary, this was the toughest final I have experienced.

“I am so proud of my team for fighting through the end after some seriously respectable contests prior to the Grand Final.”

The Iron Maidens’ effort was again superb and defeat, with Jessica Estrada and her club again winning respect of a good deal of observers. While the 5th title was secured eventually by Denver, the efforts of the Maidens and the Montreal Angels showed that number 6 will be even more of a challenge next season.





Division II Results

Quebec Saints



Orange County Bombers



	Goals	Behinds	Totals		Goals	Behinds	Totals
Final	5	6	36	Final	1	1	7

Paul Roos Medal for Best & Fairest

Patrick Eefting, Quebec Saints

Coopers Medal for Most Consistent (2 way tie)

Brent Mergen, Minnesota Freeze & Ed Manning, Sacramento Suns

Patrick Eefting, Quebec Saints

Hayden Kennedy Medal for

Grand Final Umpiring

Peter Pearce, Milo Lombardi & Laurie Rupe

Geoff Cann Medal for MVP in Final

Showing that their 2015 blanking of Sacramento was no fluke, the Quebec Saints picked up their second Division 2 premiership in three years over a resurgent Orange County Bombers by 29 points. It marked the third straight year that a Canadian Club had taken out D2, with Calgary's victory last year sandwiched between the flags from the boys from le Belle Province.



Quebec's road to the final saw them through with double digit wins over Portland (20 points), Chicago (39), and Houston (18). Orange County, playing in Division 2 for the first time in almost a decade after dropping down from D1, advanced in a similar manner, accounting for Sacramento (20 points), Boston (39), and Minnesota (19). Both sides were the only ones in the D2 field to top 100 points in their group matches, and the game would look to be a battle of who could control the other team's offense.

A tough opening stanza began with Quebec getting the front foot against the wind and using their skill to pace themselves in the opening minutes. Patrick Eefting's flying scissor kick with the first major score of the match, then Chris Shee converted from a nice mark to put the Saints up 13-0. The Bombers had issues cutting through le Quebecois' zone defense, and when they finally did, they were unable to take it to the bank and cash in. O.C. was

winning the ball off of the stoppages and looking for find vets Adrian Heffernan and Brad Weatherall, but the Saints would press them down.



Quebec’s third goal came through Evan Riddle on transition, and nearly got a fourth at the end of the half but was beaten by the hooter. The pace of the game picked up as the Bombers finally got on the board, albeit in minor fashion, but Quebec were still 21-1 to the good at recess.

Second verse, same as the first, and Arthur Marchal opened the scoring with another Saints major, and Quebec continued pressuring the OC backs into near suffocation. The Bombers would finally get a goal, their only one of the game, but it was a pretty set shot from Heffernan, who played the Pacific fed cross wind perfectly to draw his team back to within 22 points. But from there, the Saints held the ball and forced OC to come at them, and despite the best efforts of the California side, the northern invaders were too good, and were, in fact, the goods, by 29.

Efting’s efforts netting him the Roos-Cann Medal double, having played a sparkling tournament. The Saints class continues to be evident, but also as such was the effort from the ever improving Orange County Bombers, who have served notice that their appearance in Division 2 may well and truly be a cameo in the hopes of playing well enough to gain promotion back to D1 in 2018.

Women’s Division II Results

Portland/Philadelphia Sockeyes



	Goals	Behinds	Totals
Final	3	9	27

Paul Roos Medal for Best & Fairest
Katrina Scherer, Columbus Jillaroots
Coopers Medal for Most Consistent
Aubrey Bagley, Houston Lonestars

Baltimore Washington/Boston



	Goals	Behinds	Totals
Final	0	0	0

Geoff Cann Medal for MVP in Final
Simone Shepherd, Portland Sockeyes
Hayden Kennedy Medal for Grand Final Umpiring
Anthony Hendrie & Matt Bridges

Having continued the momentum gained by their rapid expansion in 2016, the Portland Sockeyes provided the core for the favored side of Women’s Division 2. Led by returning Roos medalist Simone Shepherd, they would do so alongside the Philadelphia Hawks, who brought five women to San Diego; among them, USA Liberty players Amy Arundale and Erica Sacchi. Despite the challenges from four competitive sides marking the ongoing growth of women’s footy, the “Hawkeyes” combo ran the table at 4-0 to clinch the premiership.



The victory was fairly straightforward; as Shepherd, Lucy Parrington, Jess Blecher and the rest helped engineer 203 points, the defense managed to allow just one goal in 160 minutes of football, that against the Jillaroos in game three. The road to the premiership was not just paved by the stars of the team, however, but by newcomers such as Holly Petrie and Jessica Detweiler, who put the pressure on up and down the field, and whose athleticism gave their team an extra edge. Philly newcomers Barb Dempsey, Lauryn Kelly and Michelle Megill all played well over the weekend as that club looks to build its women program in the same vein as Portland.

But there was another story behind the “Hawkeyes” success, and that was of the performance turned in by the new and developing sides of the women’s game. The LA Dragons’ Nationals debut on the women’s side was successful, as they teamed with Arizona, Des Moines, and reserves from San Francisco to finish second at 3-1. The future of the Dragons looks bright behind Aussie Shayla Chalker and Americans Larin Sullivan and Leilani Silvio. Veteran Melissa Armstrong from Arizona and Des Moines’ Emily Rice kept up their consistent turnouts in support.

The surprise of the tournament may very well have been the Texas Heat, who went 2-2 on debut and came in third place. Made up of players from Houston, Dallas, and one from Wisconsin, the Heat began the tournament with a very hard fought 4-3 win against Columbus, and got up over Baltimore-Washington for their second W. Considering that most of the team have only been playing footy for about three months, one couldn’t ask for a better start to women’s footy in Texas. Aubrey Bagley took out Most Consistent honors and came darn close to taking out the Roos Medal on debut, and fellow rookies Sarah Pulliam, Jaclyn Sparling, and Taylor Ballinger all impressed as the Heat look to build.

Baltimore-Washington’s ladies brought their biggest ever contingent to Nationals, and teamed up with Boston to finish fourth. Karen Stablein’s defense shone for the combo as did Cailin Deal. Molly Halberstadt continues to impress at the club level, and put in a memorable effort.

Despite finishing 0-4 for the weekend, there were many positives to take out of the Columbus/North Star/Chicago outfit. The Blue Ox debuted their new jumpers, and their quintet, led by Marie LaVictoire, played hard all weekend. Chicago’s Amy McGuinness was most consistent for her side, and Jillaroo Bronwyn Smith kicked the only goal that Portland let up all weekend. Most impressive, however, was Katrina Scherer taking out the Roos medal in her second full season, capping off a memorable campaign for her.



Division III Results

Seattle Grizzlies



San Diego Lions



	Goals	Behinds	Totals		Goals	Behinds	Totals
Final	4	3	27	Final	3	2	20

Paul Roos Medal for Best & Fairest
Erik Hanson, North Carolina Tigers
Coopers Medal for Most Consistent
Michael Cussen, Baton Rouge Tigers

Geoff Cann Medal for MVP in Final
Alex Jessup, Seattle Grizzlies
Hayden Kennedy Medal for Grand Final Umpiring
Dean Schwab & Chris Adams

It took nine seasons for the Seattle Grizzlies to hoist a trophy, but they did it in magnificent fashion, hanging onto a thrilling seven point victory over the San Diego Lions. Though it spoiled a possible fairytale ending for the Lions to win in their first tryst as Nationals host, their performance on the weekend signaled a return to their halcyon days of the 2000's.

The Grizzlies came a-roaring into Sunday afternoon's final with a head of steam in pool play. Featuring a vaunted defense led by Revo players Max Depina and Kiel Rasp, Seattle kept all three of their group foes from kicking goals, turning back Columbus, Nashville, and Philadelphia by a 165-5 margin. The Lions' had a tougher road to hoe – after beating Baton Rouge by 60 points, they outlasted Arizona by 13 and North Carolina by two straight kicks to finish their Pool B sweep.



Frenetic paced footy with the wind blowing the ball and the players around punctured the opening few minutes. Seattle's defense continued to stand tall with Jessup and company parrying away early chances from the home side, but they weren't able to stop Brian Nickel from kicking the first goal of the game, and the first major kicked against Seattle. James Conrick would get the Cascadians on the board in reply after James Conrick banged home a free kick moved closer on a 25-yard penalty, to make it 7-6 Lions.

Max Depina has emerged as a star for club and country, and after back and forth play muddled the first half, he broke out from a pack and placed a picture perfect kick towards the goal square where Tex Edmonds reached up and plucked it, then went back and converted to give Seattle the lead for the first time right at the siren. Halftime, and it was Seattle up by that goal, 13-7.



San Diego came out trying to roar their way back, and at the start of half number two, Jessup, Justin Yee, Kiel Rasp and the Seattle defense calmed the sound to a mew. Gab Denton’s shot went wide to cut it to within a goal, and after Jessup took the mark of the game to save a goal on the line, but the hard work paid off with a Carpenter goal to give the Lions a 14-13 year. The goal energized the Grizzlies, and the hitting and intensity picked up, and Seattle’s pressure would put them on top when the Lions got sucked into a chase for the ball, leaving Depina wide open in the goal square for an apple pie goal. More pressure applied won Jason Clifford a free kick, which he converted to extend to lead even more.

Seattle tried to put the game away, but San Diego wasn’t done, as Rob Liwanag found a teammate who split the sticks and cut the lead down to 27-20. But time was not on their side in Rolling Stones fashion, and the Grizz had their first title since the won Divvy 2 in 2008. San Diego fought hard, and their performance in 2017 should be a springboard to sustained results, but for game MVP Alex Jessup and the black-and-green, it was a complete victory deserved of a team on the rise.

Division IV Results

Tulsa Buffaloes



New York Magpies



	Goals	Behinds	Totals		Goals	Behinds	Totals
Final	6	11	47	Final	0	1	1

Paul Roos Medal for Best & Fairest
Alastair Evans, New York Magpies
Coopers Medal for Most Consistent
Josh Judge, Des Moines Roosters

Geoff Cann Medal for MVP in Final
Jacob Goodrick, Tulsa Buffaloes
Hayden Kennedy Medal for Grand Final Umpiring
Ian Kafka, Nils Lode & John Enright



Footy in Oklahoma began with the Tulsa Buffaloes 2010 and expanded with the Oklahoma City Flyers in 2016. Just weeks after the two sides announced their coming together to form Oklahoma Footy Club, the boys from the Sooner State combined with the Little Rock Coyotes and ripped through the Divvy 4 field and took out the New York/Portland combined reserves side by 46 points.

Knocking back Golden Gate, Des Moines, and the defending D4 champions from Cincinnati, the Oklahomans won their games by a combined 246-19. They did so on the backs of Aussies Lachlan O’Callaghan and Jake Goodrick, and American veteran Dustin Brasel. They would face Roos Medal winner



Allistar Evans and the Magpies-Sockeyes combine in the final, and though the NY-PDX side was tough, OFC was much the best on the day. Staking themselves out to a big lead early, Oklahoma used the strength of Brasel, Shane Hood, Jeremy Ingram and Chris Cox to muscle off the Steel-Pies, and saw through the win. Oklahoma won its first USAFL title, and the new club will be primed and ready to do some damage in 2018.

Reserves Division Results



	Goals	Behinds	Totals		Goals	Behinds	Totals
Final	7	6	48	Final	3	0	18

Paul Roos Medal for Best & Fairest
Noor Jehangir, Austin Crows
Coopers Medal for Most Consistent
Matt Morgan, Los Angeles Dragons

Geoff Cann Medal for MVP in Final
Cody Alder, Austin Crows
Hayden Kennedy Medal for Grand Final Umpiring
Anthony Hendrie & Jake Bingham

The 2017 Nationals saw the launch of the Reserves Division, exclusively for teams who brought standalone B-sides with them. It was a mixture of old names and new, and the depth in which teams travelled was in abundance. So it was no surprised that the two biggest teams of the last decade, the Austin Crows and Golden Gate Roos, met in the final. Austin has a straightforward route to the final, while the Roos had three hard fought games, including a 9-7 opener against San Diego on Saturday morning.



The Crows got up on top, however, as 2008 DIII Roos Medalist Noor Jehangir led the Texans to a five goal victory. For the Roos, however, the final showing in “D5” made history, as Golden Gate AFL became the first club to play in three Grand Final matches during one Nationals.



Financial Management

The USAFL is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization that maintains its books on a cash basis. The primary sources of revenue are from the annual grant provided by the AFL, dues from member clubs, individual player memberships, and several sponsorships in relation to the National Championships. The primary expenses each year are a mix of training, supporting, and educating functions, all in accordance with the League's core programs and mission. Each year at the USAFL Annual General Meeting the Treasurer outlines the financial report of the prior year, and the status of the year at hand at the time.

The organization is the financial record keeper of all the events organized by the League, including the National Championships and training courses. The financial philosophy of the League is for events to be self-funding where possible. Consistent with past years, the League continues to maintain a part-time accountant for enhanced internal controls, compliance, and bookkeeping purposes.

The financial results, as presented, demonstrate the League is in sound financial condition, subject to the continuation of funding by the AFL. To comply with US tax requirements, each year the League submits reviewed financials to an external accounting firm, which provides the USAFL with annual audit and accounting services and assists with federal tax compliance and reporting to the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS"). The following pages present the USAFL's balance sheet as of Dec. 31, 2017 and income statement for the calendar year 2017. At the time of printing, the 2017 tax return is not yet complete, and the figures presented below have not yet been submitted to the IRS.

Karen Muiter
Treasurer
treasurer@usafl.com



2017 USAFL Balance Sheet

	Total
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
Australian	0.00
BofA, California	0.00
BofA, Missouri	100,556.63
Petty Cash	80.00
USAFL - 2005 National Championships	0.00
USBank - 1813	39.95
Total Bank Accounts	\$ 100,676.58
Accounts Receivable	
Accounts Receivable	0.00
Total Accounts Receivable	\$ 0.00
Other Current Assets	
Other Receivables	0.00
Prepaid Insurance	0.00
Store Merchandise	0.00
Undeposited Funds	0.00
Total Other Current Assets	\$ 0.00
Total Current Assets	\$ 100,676.58
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 100,676.58
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	



Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
Accounts Payable	0.00
Total Accounts Payable	\$ 0.00
Credit Cards	
Credit Card	4,506.74
Total Credit Cards	\$ 4,506.74
Other Current Liabilities	
Direct Deposit Payable	0.00
Other Accruals	0.00
Payroll Liabilities	
Federal Taxes (941/944)	5,726.80
TN Quarterly Taxes	900.00
Total Payroll Liabilities	\$ 6,626.80
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$ 6,626.80
Total Current Liabilities	\$ 11,133.54
Total Liabilities	\$ 11,133.54
Equity	
Opening Balance Equity	13,166.47
Retained Earnings	100,115.81
Net Income	-23,739.24
Total Equity	\$ 89,543.04
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$ 100,676.58



	<u>Total</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
Australian	0.00
BofA, California	0.00
BofA, Missouri	158,937.83
Petty Cash	80.00
USAFL - 2005 National Championships	0.00
USBank - 1813	0.00
Total Bank Accounts	<u>\$159,017.83</u>
Accounts Receivable	
Accounts Receivable	0.00
Total Accounts Receivable	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
Other current assets	
Other Receivables	0.00
Prepaid Insurance	0.00
Store Merchandise	0.00
Undeposited Funds	0.00
Total Other current assets	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>\$159,017.83</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	\$159,017.83
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
Accounts Payable	0.00
Total Accounts Payable	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
Credit Cards	
Credit Card	2,204.84
Total Credit Cards	<u>\$ 2,204.84</u>
Other Current Liabilities	
Other Accruals	0.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>\$ 2,204.84</u>
Total Liabilities	\$ 2,204.84
Equity	
Opening Balance Equity	13,166.47
Retained Earnings	169,891.96
Net Income	-26,245.44
Total Equity	<u>\$156,812.99</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$159,017.83



2017 USAFL Profit and Loss Statement

Income

1050 Capital Donations	92,187.23
1250 Donations	22.96
1375 Membership Dues - Clubs	10,550.00
1380 Membership Dues - Players	
1380-01 Unknown - Club	425.00
1380-02 Arizona Hawks Football Club	2,500.00
1380-03 Atlanta Kookaburras Inc	1,200.00
1380-04 Austin Crows	6,100.00
1380-05 Baltimore/Washington Eagles FC	6,950.00
1380-06 Baton Rouge FC	1,500.00
1380-07 Boston Australian Rules FC	3,725.00
1380-08 Chicago United	3,150.00
1380-09 Cincinnati Australian Football Club	1,450.00
1380-10 Columbus Jackaroos	3,950.00
1380-11 Dallas Magpies AFC	4,250.00
1380-12 Denver Bulldogs AFC	8,400.00
1380-14 Golden Gate Roos	10,100.00
1380-15 Kansas City Power FC	100.00
1380-16 Las Vegas Gamblers	450.00
1380-17 Louisville FC	50.00
1380-19 Minnesota Freeze	6,450.00
1380-20 Nashville Kangaroos	2,500.00
1380-21 New York Magpies	10,025.00
1380-22 North Carolina Tigers FC	3,350.00
1380-23 OC Bombers	3,000.00
1380-24 Philly Hawks ARFC	2,225.00
1380-26 Portland Power AFC	5,400.00
1380-27 San Diego Lions FC	5,750.00
1380-28 Seattle Grizzlies	5,900.00
1380-31 Calgary Kangaroos	5,450.00
1380-33 Sacramento	5,500.00
1380-34 Des Moines Roosters	2,325.00
1380-35 Calgary Kookaburras	850.00
1380-37 Fort Lauderdale Fighting Squids	1,950.00
1380-38 Houston Lonestars	5,750.00
1380-39 Quebec Saints	2,800.00
1380-40 Los Angeles Dragons	5,850.00



1380-42 Tulsa Buffaloes		2,300.00
1380-44 Indianapolis Giants		350.00
1380-45 Cleveland Cannons		250.00
1380-46 Montreal Angels		1,500.00
1380-48 Edmonton		200.00
1380-49 Oklahoma City Flyers		850.00
1380-50 Tampa Bay ARFC		350.00
1380-51 Wisconsin Wombats		350.00
1380-52 North Star Blue Ox		100.00
Total 1380 Membership Dues - Players	\$	135,625.00
1400 Sales of Merchandise Clothing		10,081.73
1600 Sales of Merchandise - Other		1,778.97
1700 Sales of Merchandise - Footballs		7,689.59
1800 Sponsorships		53,375.00
1800-01 Sales Beer		16,621.42
1800-03 Seattle Grizzlies		2,500.00
1800-07 Western Regional Tournament		1,300.00
1800-08 Central Region Tournament		1,860.00
1800-09 North Start Blue OX		350.00
Total 1800 Sponsorships	\$	76,006.42
2000 US Revolution Donations		4,304.40
2100 USA Freedom Donations		2,570.67
Total Income	\$	340,816.97
Cost of Goods Sold		
3750 Costs of Merchandise - Clothing		
3750-01 Costs of Merchandise - Clothing Nationals		8,248.37
Total 3750 Costs of Merchandise - Clothing	\$	8,248.37
3800 Costs of Merchandise - Footballs		5,303.04
3800-01 Costs of Merchandise - Footballs Nationals		2,459.46
Total 3800 Costs of Merchandise - Footballs	\$	7,762.50
Total Cost of Goods Sold	\$	16,010.87
Gross Profit	\$	324,806.10
Expenses		
3150 Bank Charges - Fees		3,899.13
3151 Bank Charges - Australian		91.99
3250 Board Retreat		5,340.21
3950 Dues & Subscriptions		1,035.55
4350 Travel		1,446.87
4400 Insurance		9,196.42
4450 Legal & Professional Fees		1,661.25



4650 Office Expenses & Supplies		682.38
4660 Web Hosting		1,200.00
4700 Postage & Shipping		995.14
4750 Promotion & Advertising		312.62
5000 Storage		550.00
5050 Telephone / Fax		14.97
5150 Sponsorship Paid Out		
5150-03 Seattle Grizzlies		2,500.00
5150-05 North Star Blue OX		350.00
Total 5150 Sponsorship Paid Out	\$	2,850.00
5225 Western Regional Tournament		
5225-01 Umpires Hrs		1,690.00
5225-02 Rent or Lease		2,992.62
5225-03 Awards		460.89
5225-04 Hotel / Meals		2,751.78
5225-05 Supplies		2,059.53
5225-06 Airfare		617.61
Total 5225 Western Regional Tournament	\$	10,572.43
5226 Central Regional Tournament		
5226-01 Umpires Hrs		1,100.00
5226-02 Rent or Lease		2,696.48
5226-03 Awards		265.70
5226-04 Hotel / Meals		1,157.78
5226-05 Supplies		1,673.20
5226-07 Coaching Stipends		600.00
Total 5226 Central Regional Tournament	\$	7,493.16
5227 Eastern Regional Tournament		
5227-01 Umpires Hrs. Eastern		995.00
5227-02 Rent or Lease		2,365.75
5227-03 Awards		473.32
5227-04 Hotel / Meals		1,397.72
5227-05 Supplies		1,110.69
5227-06 Airfare		278.40
Total 5227 Eastern Regional Tournament	\$	6,620.88
5228 Western, Central & Eastern Metro		1,253.72
5250 Visa Transaction Costs		428.23
5300 Wages & Commissions		23,215.49
5400 Nationals		
5400-01 Airfare		3,731.22
5400-02 Hotel/Meals		24,084.81
5400-03 Rent or Lease		70,484.14



5400-04 Trophies		3,989.74
5400-05 Supplies & Materials		3,732.28
5400-07 Tournament Contractors		6,618.75
5400-08 Office Supplies & Shipping		3,086.44
5400-09 VIP		1,163.00
5400-10 Fees & Expenses		360.00
5400-11 Tournament Labor		1,300.00
5400-12 Storage		2,152.43
5400-13 Umpires		21,632.34
5400-14 Streaming / Video Production		5,000.00
5400-15 Promotion & Advertising		28.00
Total 5400 Nationals	\$	147,363.15
5450 Combine		
5450-01 Airfare		10,006.60
5450-02 Hotel / Meals		1,240.26
5450-03 Rent or Lease		1,442.25
5450-04 Supplies		293.48
Total 5450 Combine	\$	12,982.59
5480 Coaches Association Grant		1,866.69
5483 Revolution Expenses		19,304.40
5484 USA Freedom Expense		13,555.83
5486 Umpires Grant		8,286.91
5489 Women's Assoc		7,467.21
5492 Juniors - Expenses		363.15
Equipment - Media		19.67
Payroll Expenses		
Taxes		4,284.00
Wages		55,999.92
Total Payroll Expenses	\$	60,283.92
Unapplied Cash Bill Payment Expense		0.00
Total Expenses	\$	350,353.96
Net Operating Income	-\$	25,547.86
Other Income		
Other Income		1,808.62
Total Other Income	\$	1,808.62
Net Other Income	\$	1,808.62
Net Income	-\$	23,739.24



2018 USAFL Contact List

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