



2024 Essendon Football Club Board Election

Candidate Profiles

There are FIVE (5) candidates for TWO (2) positions. The order of candidates as they appear on this ballot paper has been determined by lot by the independent Deputy Returning Officer.

* Indicates current Board Member standing for election.



Dean SOLOMON

I am a past player who feels forever in debt to this great organisation. I experienced the ultimate success at our great club and am now in a position to give back purely motivated by the goal of winning Premiership number seventeen.

Commercial Experience:

Owner/Director of multiple businesses built from the ground up. I bring skills and experience in the areas of business viability and further revenue streams.

Football Experience:

Twenty-four years of experience in the AFL system

- **Player (Essendon, Fremantle)**
- **Coach (Fremantle, Gold Coast, GWS)**

I pride myself on connection and throughout a twenty-four-year period, I was able to develop strong, lifelong relationships all underpinned by honesty, integrity and trust.

My experiences in the AFL industry have not only allowed me to accumulate great knowledge but have highlighted the value and importance of each department working in unison to create a world-class high-performance environment.

My focus is to ensure we have a clear vision, commitment and consistency towards the strategy and that we are absolutely transparent with our Members, Supporters, Partners and Sponsors.

Only by doing this TOGETHER can we return immediate, ongoing and sustained success to the Essendon Football Club.

Thank you
Dean Solomon



Melissa VERNER GREEN*

I'm honoured to stand for re-election to the Essendon Football Club board. I'm a proud Essendon member who grew up watching the Bombers at Windy Hill celebrating the many successes through the 80's, 90's and 2000.

Like you, I crave on-field success, to win Premiership flags and feel proud of our Club. I'm listening to fans and committed to our Club's on-field success.

Two years ago, I stood for the external review and helped map out the plan to lay the foundations for a new era of success. We appointed Andrew Welsh to our board as Football Governance Director, Craig Vozzo as CEO and Brad Scott as senior coach. We've significantly increased investment in football development and our high-performance training facilities. We're investing in the redevelopment of our spiritual home, Windy Hill.

I'm the proud EFC Past Players & Officials board representative, champion women's football and have helped facilitate sponsorships.

My business background as a senior leader in the advertising and tech industry enables me to bring a collaborative approach to strategic decisions.

I share your expectations to return Essendon to a powerhouse Club we're proud of. I promise to work hard to return us to Premiership glory.



David BARHAM*

It is with great pleasure that I stand for re-election to the Board of the Essendon Football Club.

I am proud of what has been achieved over the past couple of years and believe we are on track to return this club to sustained success on the field.

The key to achieving the success we all desire is stability, unity and persistence. The leaders at this club must be philosophically aligned and working together. I am very proud of the strong working relationship that has been built between CEO Craig Vozzo, Senior AFL Coach Brad Scott and myself.

Together we have plotted a course, stayed on that track and consistently worked together to take all the steps needed to achieve success. Continuity of leadership is going to be crucial in the years ahead and that is why I am standing for re-election to the board. The Football Department, the Administration and the Board must all be working cohesively together.

I believe that unity is critical and believe that it's important that I can stay to help finish this job.

Go Bombers.



Paul WESTON

Older Essendon fans may remember me as part of the club's 1984-85 premiership sides. And that involvement in one of the club's greatest eras has fuelled my passion and determination to join the board and help our return to a feared and respected AFL heavyweight.

Culture is everything in football, and I believe this club needs a more intense focus on driving the habits and values of the players who enter its midst, creating, passing on and maintaining the sort of standards which make continuous on-field success not only possible, but probable.

But this culture needs to be taught, absorbed, and lived at every level of the club. Not only by players, but by administrators, staff, and indeed supporters, whom we need to bring on this journey with us, honestly communicating the work which needs to be done to get there.

It is clubs united in their approach, and relentless in their drive to succeed on and off the field who are the powerhouses of AFL football, and which become destination clubs for potential recruits. I believe my experience and mindset in the most important aspects of AFL football can help Essendon return to that place sooner than later.



Luke MAXFIELD

I'm running to make sure everyone in our club is 100% focused on winning our 17th premiership flag and cementing our place as the greatest footy club this grand old game has ever seen.

To do that, we must ensure our members, the people who know, love and care about this club the most, have a voice.

Too often, members do not have enough of a say over key decisions about the direction of our club - and that must change with this board election.

Members are the lifeblood of this club - and so we need a voice for you - not media executives seeking to extend their directorships into a second decade.

Corporate executives dominate the current Essendon board - and while much of their expertise is welcome and they try their best - it's time the members had a voice.

And to deliver our voice, I need your support.

My experience working in Government, the Private sector and Not-For-Profits has allowed me to give voice to everyday Victorians and Australians - and that's just what I'll do if elected to the Essendon board.

To find out more about me and how I will ensure members are heard, visit facebook.com/lukemaxfield4essendon
