



**ABERFELDIE
SPORTS CLUB**

Reg. A0014574B

Affiliations:

Football : Essendon District Football League

Cricket : Victorian Turf Cricket Association / North West Cricket Association

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OFFICIAL PRESS RELEASE

LEAVING THE JUNGLE

For the information of our members, the Senior Football Committee announces the departure of 3 players who have all given the club great service during their careers, including as highly valued members of our Premiers and Champions Premiership Team of 2015:

1. **BROCK McLEAN**, who will play at *East Doncaster* for the next 2 seasons which will provide him with an excellent career opportunity when he completes his University Studies in 2018.

Brock is Abers born and bred having now played a total of 125 games for the club at both junior and senior level. He returned to Abers after a wonderful AFL career at the commencement of Season 2015 and has contributed greatly on and off field to the club. Brock remains our best performed player at the highest level having played a total of 157 games with Melbourne and Carlton after being drafted at number 5 in the National Draft. He is, of course, a member of the McLean

family with his father Mick and other members of the McLean clan having been a major part of the history of Aberfeldie FC including, for example, Brock's uncle Garrie's ("Budgie's") contribution as the ruckman and B.O.G. in our first A-Grade Premiership in 1974, together with his 2016 Sponsorship of the Past Players Day. It was no accident that Brock wore jumper No. 12 on 12th September, 2016.

Brock leaves our playing group with our best wishes and we are confident he will return in the future to his 'home' club in a significant capacity whether as a player, coach or administrator.





2. **WAYNE PATAK**, who makes a return to his old club *Spotswood* in 2017 in the WRFL. “Grub” as he is affectionately known, has played at Abers since Season 2013, notching up an impressive 64 games for the club. He was named in the EDFL’s Team of the Year in 2013 and participated in the EDFL Interleague team in 2014. He was Runner-Up Best and Fairest Player for Aberfeldie in 2013 and 2nd Runner-Up in both 2015 and 2016. Grub brought with him both an elite skillset with ball-in-hand as well as an unrivalled attack on the football which quickly made him a crowd favourite with Abers supporters. He also leaves with our best wishes.

3. **MARK LYNCH**, who arrived at Aberfeldie fresh from winning back-to-back competition Best & Fairest’s with Heidelberg in 2013 and Essendon Doutta Stars in 2012. ‘Lynch’ was a terrific creative player and a silky, skilled, hard-running midfielder with slick skills both in and outside of the contest. He had a very impressive first season, which saw Mark moved between half-back and into the midfield, which was capped by a good finals series and being one of the best players in the 2014 EDFL Grand Final. Subsequently he was twice named in the EDFL Team of the Year in 2014 and 2015, and finished off his 59-game career at Abers by having previously won the Premier Division Best in Competition Player in 2015 (*the R.S. Reynolds Medallion*).

Mark has accepted a new playing role at *Melton South FC* under co-coaches Brendan Fevola and Sean Triplett and we wish him future success in his new endeavours.

We will update our members in the pre-Christmas period. Go Abers!

