



Curriculum vitae – Greg Griffin

Professional Experience

- Greg is a practising lawyer having been admitted to legal practice in January 1981 and has since 1996 run his own legal firm, Griffins Lawyers, specialising in Sports Law, Corporate Law and Commercial Litigation and also conducts a stand-alone Sports Advisory Company, Griffin Sports.
- Greg is currently leading the Griffins Lawyers legal teams:
 - (i) pursuing the class action seeking damages in the Australian Courts for former AFL players now suffering the effects of concussion injuries, which case is analogous to the claims brought by former NFL and NHL players in the United States;
 - (ii) the claim brought by former AFL player, Ty Zantuck, against Richmond Football Club and the various Club Doctors engaged by it during his player career at Richmond alleging breaches of duty that have led to the probable onset of CTE;
 - (iii) representing the Widow of the late Shane Tuck in the Victorian Coroners Court Coronial Investigation into the death of Shane who at the time of his death at 38 years of age in 2020 had entered into the final stages of CTE due to head injuries not properly treated by his former Club, Richmond Football Club, during his AFL career from 2004 to 2013.

Positions Held

- Greg was the Chairman of Adelaide United FC from 20 November 2010 when a syndicate of which he was the major shareholder purchased the Club. With the sale of Adelaide United FC to overseas interests in March 2018 Greg was appointed as Legal Counsel to the Australian Professional Football Clubs Association (**APFCA**) he previously having held the position of its inaugural Chairman and has been part of the FIFA/Asian Football Confederation mandated body, the Congress Review Working Group in 2018 and the FFA Congress mandated body, the New Leagues Working Group in 2019 to work on the framework and legal issues for an independent A-League to be separated from the FFA and owned and run by the 12 Australian A-League Clubs which occurred in 2021.
- Under the Chairmanship of Greg Adelaide United in 2015 won the inaugural FFA Cup, in 2016 the Premiers Plate and were crowned Champions of Australia. In 2017 Adelaide United were runners up in the FFA Cup. Adelaide United during this period qualified for the Asian Champions League (**ACL**) on three occasions losing to Bunyodkor FC in Tashkent in the quarter finals in added extra time. Adelaide United remains overall the most successful Australian Club ever results wise in the ACL.
- Greg was appointed the Chair of the FFA Compliance Committee in 2019 which oversees Corporate Governance of Australian Professional Football. Greg resigned from that role in December 2020 as he was representing Wellington Football Club in New South Wales Supreme Court proceedings where injunctions were sought to prevent the FFA from expelling Wellington from the A-League competition. Greg both advises upon and practices himself in the field of integrity in governance in sport.
- Greg has been the Public Officer of the Australian Cricketer's Association since 2001 having advised on the formation of the Player's Association the equivalent of the PFA.
- Greg was awarded in 2001 Life Membership of the North Adelaide Football Club (an AFL Club located in Adelaide) for his services to the Club as its legal advisor and Board member.

- Greg is a former Secretary General of Taekwondo Australia who oversaw the joining together of Taekwondo Australia and Sports Taekwondo to have one AOC World Taekwondo Federation Organisation recognised in Australia. Greg resigned from that role upon achieving the joint recognition of the joined body.
- Greg was the Joint Promoter with Tennis Australia of an ATP sanctioned Challenge Event in 1998, the Adelaide Grasscourt Challenge at the Memorial Drive, featuring Australian Davis Cup players Pat Cash, Mark Philippoussis and Darren Cahill.
- Greg was appointed the inaugural Chairman of the Australian Professional Football Clubs Association (APFCA) from 2016 to 2018 which represents all professional football clubs in Australia and New Zealand and is now General Counsel of APFCA.
- Greg has been on the Executive of the Law Society of South Australia and has sat on the Boards of select industry bodies (Waste Management and Hospitality).
- Greg has spoken at a number of Football Conferences in 2015, 2016 and 2017 in Beijing, Shanghai and Malaysia mainly on issues of the need for Australian football to better engage with Asian football having most recently been a panellist at the WFS in Kuala Lumpur in May 2019 together with Ebru Koksal, Pere Guardiola and Jose Ramon Capdevila on International player transfers.
- Greg is one of 23 sports lawyers in the world that has been awarded the FIFA Diploma of Football Law (2021)

Publications

Law Society of South Australia entitled *Developments in Sports Law* in 2005 and *Sports Law - Salary Caps* in 2007.

Key Note Speaker at a conference of GE Property South Pacific Asia convened in November 2005 on the topic of *Agreements to Agree*.

Law Society of South Australia (Law Society) paper entitled *Drugs in Sport* in 2003.

Law Society Bulletin article entitled *Days of Swine & Roses* published in 1990. That was an article of the contractual pitfalls that faced young players going into the Australian Football League system under an American style draft system. It has been widely referred to in subsequent papers by sports law commentators and worldwide experts on the law of contract.

Speaker at the inaugural Australian New Zealand Sports Law Association International Conference in 1992. Greg spoke on the attempted entry of Port Adelaide into the Australian Football League which was prevented by the granting of an injunction to competing Clubs for that position obtained by Greg in 1991 in the Supreme Court of South Australia.

Guest lecturer at Flinders University, South Australia, on sports law issues.

Personal Details

Greg is married to Sandra and has three children.

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