

LA FIAMMA SPORTING CLUB (Incorporated)  
SALVATORE SCIUTO STADIUM  
Eighth Street Wonthella WA 6530  
P.O. Box 365, Geraldton WA 6531  
SPORTING FUTURES SUBMISSION 2013

In the City of Greater Geraldton we are lucky enough to have many sporting facilities available for use. La Fiamma recognizes the direction of sporting futures to be a positive and refreshing direction for the future of sport within the Community.

La Fiamma Sporting club is a club built on the strength and perseverance of a family who had a vision to bring the team sport to the town of Geraldton. Our history reflects our determination, our proud spirit, our love for a sport which encourages the youth of today to strive for excellence and the value of hard work.

We have used a number of abbreviations during this submission and I would like to explain their meanings:

LFSC	La Fiamma Sporting Club (Inc.)
GSC	Geraldton Sportsman's Club (Inc.)
GDSA	Geraldton and Districts Soccer Association (Former MSA)
MSA	Midwest Soccer Association
FIFA	Federation of International Football Associations
FFA	Football Federation of Australia
DSR	Department of Sport and Recreation
CSRFF	Community, Sport and Recreational Facilities Fund

### La Fiamma today

La Fiamma has many committed members, Numbers to date are;

- 150 Full Members
- 130 Junior Members
- 100 Affiliate Members
- 17 Life Members

### *About our teams*

#### Seniors

- Two Men's Soccer teams playing the Local MSA League
- Two Men's Soccer teams playing Football West Amateur State League
- Two Women's Soccer Teams

#### Juniors

- La Fiamma have had an increase in Junior numbers over the past 2 years from 65 to 130 registered players
- La Fiamma have 17 junior teams spread over 7 different age groups
- La Fiamma have junior players playing senior competition both in Perth and locally and some of these older juniors help out by coaching our younger teams.
- Over the past 3 years La Fiamma have had over 15 junior players selected for state regional trials in Perth and at least 8 of these juniors were selected at these trails to represent W.A in the State Regional Team in various overseas locations over various age groups.
- We currently have 4 La Fiamma members sitting on the Geraldton Junior Soccer Association Committee. Monthly meetings of this committee are held in our clubrooms at no cost to the Association
- 4 La Fiamma junior coaches were selected to coach Geraldton representative teams in the 2012 Country week Soccer tournament held in Perth.
- La Fiamma home grounds are also used for the Training of the Geraldton High Performance Academy this academy is for exceptional young soccer players identified throughout Geraldton to get more specialised training and offer pathways for juniors to pursue a professional career.

*In addition to this we also share our facilities with;*

- Geraldton Heat Soccer Club – 3 senior men's teams and one womens
- Saints Ladies Soccer Club – 2 senior women's teams
- Batavia United Soccer Club – 1 senior men's & 1 senior women's team
- 2013 Rugby Sharks junior development squad (40 players aged 14-16)
- Geraldton Darts Club

Moving forward La Fiamma would like to contribute the following proposals for Council to consider in moving forward with sporting futures recommendations.

- In the current proposal it is written that capacity for three full size senior pitches will be created, however no recommendation for lighting. We would like the existing Floodlight on our Main Pitch to be removed and relocated onto our original Training Pitch
- A Safety fence to be put in place between the sports grounds and the road which has been designed in the plan.
- We would like to see Installation of new Floodlights on the Main Pitch, but on the corners (as per Australian Standards for Floodlight of Football Grounds). These lights being located outside would not restrict and spectator views of the Pitch.
- La Fiamma would be happy to exchange their lighting fixtures located on the Little Athletics Pitch for lights equivalent to be erected on the pitch that La Fiamma will share with Hockey.
- We would also like to see a stand on the eastern side of the main pitch that would incorporate change rooms & toilets and seating for use of users of the Training pitch.
- We would financial help to have the clubrooms deep-sewered to comply with Water Corp's directions to avoid yearly fines.
- La Fiamma would also like to be a part of the proposed multi use complex and have allocated pitches for indoor soccer (Futsal). Many multi use arenas include indoor soccer and we believe introducing this sport will only benefit the community. We are confident that there is interest within the sporting community to participate and that it fits perfectly within the fundamental objectives that sporting futures is aiming to achieve.
- We would also like to see an upgrade of existing structures to incorporate more seating for the spectators. We would also like to see a new Ticket Box and administration Rooms (to be used by La Fiamma and various bodies within the MSA) and Canteen to be located at the entry to the ground, and also a children's playground to encourage Family attendance and participation.
- We would also like to have installed a Synthetic Soccer Pitch on the main pitch. There is a relatively new product on the market called "Tiger Turf" which is approved by FIFA. This turf is used intensively throughout the eastern states, as it has a 30-year life span, and reduced the maintenance and water consumption that is required to upkeep grassed grounds. And in this era of drought and water shortage, would be a blessing in dry area like Gerald ton. We would like these upgrades and improvements on our Main Pitch to keep up with Standards set by

the (FFA), so that we can not only accommodated Teams within our own Division of Football West, but also Teams from the WA Pro State Premier League, and most importantly Teams from the A-League.

- To best utilise the area of the Little Athletics we would like to see a retaining wall built at the base of the existing slope coming down from the north end of the Athletics to a high level with the existing Athletics ground, so this area of slope can be backfilled, thus increasing the area available to Athletics. In this area, they could incorporate new Stands, with change rooms, etc for the Athletes, and also public toilet facilities

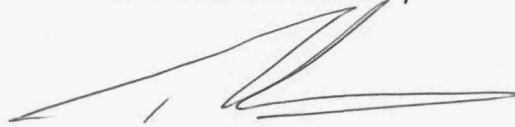
Thank you to the Council and the Ministry of Sport of Western Australia, for this opportunity to present our recommendations for the improvements of sporting facilities within the city. We look forward to building a better sporting future for all sports within our community.

La Fiamma Club President



Lindsay Cannon

La Fiamma Club Secretary



Tony Higginson



A brief chronological history of La Fiamma; to let you better understand some of the hardships and adversities our Club has had to overcome over our 54 year history, and why we are making this submission. We have a motto at our Club, which states: "The Flower that Blooms in Adversity is the most Beautiful and Rare" This submission is one way we can keep this Club growing stronger through to the next century. We are just as much a part of this history of this beautiful City, as any other great Club that is part of Geraldton and the Midwest.

**1959** The Club was founded by Mr. Salvatore Sciuto, in January 1959. Salvatore in naming the Club decided to commemorate the only Italian Newspaper in Australia, based in Sydney, thus he bestowed the name La Fiamma, on the Club. The name means Flame or Beacon, a fitting name, which summed up Salvatore's love and dedication to the World Game, and what he wanted it represent in Gerald ton not just for the fledgling Italian Community but also for Soccer and Sport in general. Salvatore's image was not that of a purely Italian Club but a Multicultural Club (which it very much is), but he did want to preserve its Italian heritage (which is seen in the Logo with the Italian Shield ['Scudetto'] in the centre of our Logo). La Fiamma is a proud Australian Club, but we are also proud of our Italian heritage.

**1967** La Fiamma started the first Junior Competition in Geraldton for youths under 17 years. In the first 2 years there were 3 Teams, (La Fiamma, Hearts and Rangers) all from La Fiamma, and they played in an Intra-Club Competition. It was not age based but all Players had to be Under 12, and referred to as the Nippers

**1969** Two more Clubs joined the Junior Competition, being Skopje and Chapman, and thus the Geraldton junior Soccer Association was born, which now boast 4 Clubs with 6 different age groups and approximately 6 Teams per age group, and approximately 15 Players per Team, bringing a total of over 1500 Children now play Soccer in Geraldton, compared to the 40 Junior players from 1967.

**1972** La Fiamma introduced a reserves Competition, which consisted of La Fiamma, St. Patrick's College, and John Frewer Hostel, by 1974, there were 6 Reserves Teams competing.

**1973** La Fiamma introduced Women's Soccer to Geraldton, with 2 Teams playing in an Intra-Club Competition. By 1975, there were 4 Clubs competing in the Women's League, now there are 6 Clubs with 8 Teams competing.

**1976** La Fiamma were approached by the Geraldton Town Council to join in the newly formed Geraldton Sportsman's Club in Wonthella. To which we agreed, we had to put down a deposit of \$5000 to join the GSC by 1978. When we joined the GSC the Club was shown a plan of the development. Firstly the Clubrooms Building for the Geraldton Sportsman Club and from this everything was developed around. The main oval (Wonthella Oval) was there for the Australian Rules football (Town's Football Club) and also Cricket for the various cricket Teams involved. The two grounds adjacent, behind the oval and heading west, were for us (La Fiamma Sporting Club Inc.). The rest of the grounds from there up to the Public Swimming Pool were for Hockey and the GHA.

**1977** The Club built a "Spec" Home in Karloo, with the majority of work done by Salvatore,

and volunteers on the weekends. The Club sold the House, paid off all the expenses, and thus had the money to join the GSC.

**1978** The Club had to pay an Annual Fee to the GSC of \$1500, as part of the agreement with the Council. Every year, the Club came up with innovative ideas to acquire this money. These included planting a half acre of peas, which were harvested and sold. Pushing a car from Dongara to Geraldton, and getting Sponsored, to running an annual "Jog-a-thon" to Narra Tarra (10kms), to get sponsorship for fundraising. This was the dedication and commitment that La Fiamma had to the GSC.

**1980** La Fiamma played their first "Home Game" at our new grounds at the GSC, (which were referred to as Wonthella Park"). La Fiamma occupied these 2 grounds with great pride and professionalism; we also paid our \$1500/year dividend to the GSC with distinction and promptness. La Fiamma with the help of the GDSA, commenced a Soccer Carnival on the long-weekend in September in 1980, with 8 Teams from around WA. The GDSA took full control of this Carnival till 1990, but during these years, it attracted 24 Teams from around WA. The only condition that La Fiamma stipulated to the GDSA was that the Carnival was to be held at the GSC in Wonthella, to which the GSC benefited immensely financially.

**1986** La Fiamma put in an application to the newly formed Department of Sport and Recreation, along with their new program called the "Community Sports Recreation Facilities Fund Grants. La Fiamma needed \$18,000 in total for the project, the funding criteria for the CSRFF Grants was a third, from the DSR and a third from the Club and a third from volunteer labour /donated materials. LFSC won approval and received \$6000 from DSR, the Club put up \$6,000, from its own cash, and volunteer labour and materials donations. The remaining \$6000 the Club acquired as a 'low interest self-supporting loan' from the Council. La Fiamma erected Floodlights on their main pitch, the first Soccer Club to do so in Geraldton, and only the second organisation in Geraldton to do so after the Geraldton Hockey Association, who erected theirs in 1985. To commemorate this event the Council gave permission that our Main Pitch be re-named and gazetted as the "Salvatore Sciuto Park", this name was moved to the present location of La Fiamma, and the Council allowed the name to be changed slightly to the "Salvatore Sciuto Stadium".

**1987** Towns Football Club pulled out of the GSC. The Geraldton Hockey Association put in a request to the Council about installing Synthetic Turf at Wonthella, but their only stipulation was that the Synthetic Turf had to be located where La Fiamma's home grounds were. Later that year, the Council wrote to the Club that because of the new development of a "Synthetic" pitch for the Geraldton Hockey Association. La Fiamma were then relocated to its present location, behind the Eighth St Sump. The Club was allocated 2 full size Football (Soccer) pitches, from the base of the incline eastwardly, and also an area eastward of the present toilet block (occupied by Tennis now) which aligned directly behind the second pitch to be used by our growing Junior Teams.

The Council also as part of its compensation supplied the Club with the materials to erect a post and rail fence surrounding our main pitch. Also as part of the compensation for La Fiamma being relocated after 10 years loyal service to the GSC, the Council ordered the GHA to relocate our Floodlights to their present position, and to supply the Club with all the

minimum necessary cabling for installation. The GHA relocated our Floodlights to their present location, and La Fiamma Members, performed all the volunteer labour in digging trenches and laying cables to connect our floodlights up again, as we had previously done a few years earlier.

**1988** La Fiamma were re-located to their present position after the Council decided that it would be better if the GHA occupied the areas closer to the GSC Clubrooms. In compensation to La Fiamma, the Council ordered the GHA to relocate our Floodlights to our new ground (their present position). They supplied us with the minimum electrical equipment to finish of the installation, which was carried out by La Fiamma Members. At this stage La Fiamma introduced our 7-a-side Night Series to Geraldton, where we started with 8 Teams competing. The 2013 season has grown to now to accommodate 26 teams. The social competition allows more people to experience this wonderful game, with many businesses and clubs also competing in the challenge.

**1989** La Fiamma put in a claim for a CSRFF Grant from the DSR to build new change rooms for the Club, and won approval. The total cost of the change rooms was approximately \$80,000, the DSR under their conditions granted us one third, and the Club put up one third through, donations, volunteer work and cash and again we borrowed about \$20,000 from the Council, with a 'low interest self-supporting loan' to build its own change rooms at their new location, which they completed towards the middle of 1989. Later in the year after the GHA withdrew from the GSC, La Fiamma were approached by the Geraldton City Council, if we would like to take over the GSC Building and main oval as our Clubrooms, and to pay off the existing loan the Council took out to erect the Building firstly. This came to about \$20,000/year. La Fiamma refused as we had just completed our own Change rooms with the intent of developing this Building in the future as our Clubrooms.

**1990** La Fiamma entered the Semi-Professional State Soccer League based in Perth, and competed in the Third Division. In 1993 we won promotion to the Second Division after 4 years in the Third Division, where we competed until 1995. In 1990, the Club purchased its own Bus with money borrowed from Esanda Financing (ANZ) to transport the 30 Players and Officials every second weekend to Perth and back.

**1994** La Fiamma put in another application for a Grant from the CSRFF, which it won so that they could build the second storey of our Clubrooms to house our Hall, office and Bar facilities to the existing change room facilities. Again the DSR put up on third, La Fiamma put up one third through volunteer labour and donated materials, and again the Council loaned us about \$20,000 towards the project, to which again the Club was very grateful. It was at this time that the Council offered a lease to the Club, which occupied our Clubroom's area, our Main Pitch, and the Training pitch alongside on the east, and the junior pitches. The Council drew up a Lease agreement for our Clubrooms, and two adjoining Soccer Pitches, but not the 2 junior Pitches adjacent to the Public Toilets, which we found quite odd, but no explanation was offered. This lease was for 21 years.

**1995** It was whilst working at his "beloved La Fiamma" that Salvatore fell and passed away at the place he loved so much. He never got to see the final completion of his Clubrooms or the official opening July 1996. He had dedicated 36 years of his life for his beloved 'Fiamma',



he had nurtured his Club from its humble beginnings in the local Leagues, to a Club that was competing in the State League, a great voyage for a man that had a great vision, he was a pioneer in the development of Football /Soccer in the Midwest, and was affectionately known as Mr. Soccer throughout WA; a name he cherished with great pride. Salvatore also insisted that La Fiamma become a 'Smoke Free' Club, and we were the first Club in WA (in any Sport) to do so. Not long after Salvatore's passing away, the Council allocated the junior pitches to the Wonthella Tennis Club to expand their facilities. These are seen on Drawing SC12-33C of the attachments.

**1996** The Sportsman's Cricket Club approached the City for new Cricket Nets on the Training pitch of La Fiamma. After a meeting with the Council; La Fiamma, Sportsman's Cricket Club, Wonthella Tennis Club and the Wonthella Bowling Association, it was decided that the Wonthella Bowling Club would give some land adjacent to their Tennis Courts [the present location of the Bridge Club) to build new Crickets Nets for Sportsman's Cricket Club. Council changed its decision and erected the Cricket net on our Training ground (their present location), which was part of our Lease areas with the Council. The area directly behind our Clubrooms was allocated to Marconi Soccer Club as their home ground, being their Clubrooms were the Italian Club nearby. Another pitch was allocated to Marconi and La Fiamma to share for Training purposes. Our Club went from 2 full senior pitches and 2 junior pitches to only one senior pitch within 7 years.

**1999** The area behind our Clubroom that was occupied by Marconi was then allocated to the Geraldton Little Athletics Association after they disbanded at the end of 1998. La Fiamma were so desperate for more grounds, the Club approached the Geraldton Little Athletics if we could use the area inside their new Running Track, for our Training Pitch, and that we would like to erect lights on them for Training. Little Athletic and the Council both agreed, and so the Club applied for another CSRFF Grant to erect these Floodlights, and also to upgrade the Floodlights on our Main Pitch. Again the Club obtained a Grant under the CSRFF from the DSR. Again the DRS put up one third, the Club put up one third, and one third was again obtained from the Council with another Loan.

Unfortunately as the wiring used on our Main pitch as supplied by the GHA, was not sufficient when we upgraded the Floodlights to twice their capacity. Therefore with the erection of our new Floodlights on the Training pitch; the power consumption exceeded the power output to the Floodlights and Building and had frequent power failures and total black-outs.

**2002** The City Council decided that they were going to upgrade the power supply not only to La Fiamma's building and floodlights; but also to the new constructed Little Athletic Clubrooms. To do this it was going to require \$18,000, to which the City put up \$6000, La Fiamma \$6,000 (again through a Council Loan) and Little Athletics \$6,000. This stopped the overdrawing of power. In November 2002, Salvatore Sciuto was inducted into the Football / Soccer hall of Fame for Australia and FIFA, through his nomination by the Soccer Federation of WA in recognition of his efforts to promote and develop the game of Football/Soccer.

**2006** La Fiamma put in an application to the CSRFF for a Grant to upgrade to wiring and the Floodlights on our Main Pitch but unfortunately was rejected.



**2008** The City commissioned ABV Consultants from Perth about the Future Development of Wonthella Sporting Complex. After their report was released the City called meeting to discuss this report. All the Stakeholders rejected this Report unanimously after the first show of hands. La Fiamma presented their own ideas for the upgrade of Wonthella; which was welcomed by all the Stakeholders and adopted by council.

**2009** The City indicated to La Fiamma, that it was going to remove the Cricket Nets from our original Training Ground, and re-issue the Second pitch back to La Fiamma.

**2010** La Fiamma put in another application for a Grant from the CSRFF and DSR. This was to relocate our existing Floodlights from our Main Pitch to the original training pitch, and to erect new floodlights which would comply with the Australian Standards for Floodlighting of Football (Soccer) Pitches. the total cost of the Project was about \$150,000, however funding was not successful.

**2011** La Fiamma re-entered the State League (Amateur status) for the third time, commencing in the 3'd Division. In 2012 the Club was promoted to the 2nd Division, where it will commence its 2013 State League Season.

During the 15 years that La Fiamma has participated in the Semi-Pro and Amateur State Leagues we have brought over 200 Clubs to Geraldton. With an average of 30 people per Club, a total of 6000 people who have visited Geraldton!

In its 54-year history, La Fiamma has a formidable record:

- League Champions of Geraldton 31 times, of which 13 consecutive years from 1977 to 1989.
- State League 2nd Division Pro-League Runners-up 1993.
- State League 2<sup>nd</sup> Division Amateur League Champions in 1999. State League 3'd Division Amateur League Runners-up in 2011.

La Fiamma Sporting Club (Incorporated) is a Multi-sport Club, and it is in our constitution that we pursue whatever sports the majority of our Members request.

In its heyday La Fiamma Sporting Club boasted:

- 2 Men's Football (Soccer) Teams
- 4 Junior Football (Soccer) Teams
- 1 Women's Football (Soccer) Team
- 1 Men's Cricket Team (Jeff Carr MLA, was our Captain for many years).
- 1 Junior Cricket Team
- 1 Women's Senior Softball Team
- 1 Junior Women's Softball Team
- 1 Senior Men's Softball Team
- 1 Men's Squash rackets Team
- 1 Men's Darts Team
- 1 Men's Pool (8 Ball) Team

- 1 Men's Volleyball Team
- 1 Men's Beach Volleyball Team

Three men played in the original National Soccer League being:

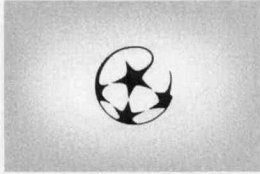
- Trevor Mulvany for Adelaide City (which is now Adelaide United in the A- League),
- Frank Bate for Woolongong Wolves and,
- Ivan Ursich for Perth Glory, then transferred to Juventus in the Series A in Italy.

One Player represent Australia (the Socceroo's), Trevor Mulvany.

Senior Players representing WA State side: Trevor Mulvany, Eric Gray, Danny Mulvany and Frank Bate.

Two Junior Players representing WA State side; Giovanni Sciuto (U17) and Frank Sciuto (U16)

One Senior Player representing WA Women's State side, Tania Gray.



# MIDWEST SOCCER ASSOCIATION

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9<sup>th</sup> January 2013

The President  
La Fiamma Sporting Club  
P.O. Box 365  
GERALDTON W.A. 6531

Dear Lindsay

As President of the Midwest Soccer Association I fully support and endorse the submission made by La Fiamma to the City of Greater Geraldton, Ministry of Sport and Royalties for Regions in your request for funding for the improvement to your facilities in relation to the Sporting Futures Report

This can only be to the benefit of all of Geraldton and in particular the members of all soccer (football) clubs in the region.

I wish you success with your application and thank you for your foresight and dedication to our sport

Yours sincerely

Greg Lumley  
President



BATAVIA UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB  
CHAPMAN ATHLETIC SOCCER CLUB  
GERALDTON MARCONI SOCCER CLUB  
GERALDTON ROVERS SOCCER CLUB  
LA FIAMMA SOCCER CLUB  
OLYMPIC FC





SALVATORE SCIUTO STADIUM (2020 - 2022)

LA FIAMMA SPORTING CLUB (Inc.) 2013 - 2020

**SCIUTO & CO.**  
**DESIGN & DRAFTING**  
 BUILDING ART & DESIGN  
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PROJECT  
 PROPOSED REDEVELOPMENT OF  
 WONTHELLA SPORTING COMPLEX  
 LA FIAMMA SPORTING CLUB (Inc.)  
 SUBMISSION TO THE CITY COUNCIL  
 RE: THE SPORTING FUTURES REPORT

CLIENT LA FIAMMA SC (Inc.)	COPYRIGHT SHEET No. 5 OF 5
DRAWING SITE LAYOUT PLAN	LOCAL AUTHORITY: CITY OF GREATER GERALDTON

DRAWN GMS	CHECKED GMS	DRAWING NUMBER
DATE NOV'12	SCALE 1:1000	SC12-33E