FOOTBALL SOUTH AUSTRALIA

ServiceFM Stadium
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JOINT STATEMENT FROM THE BOARD AND THE CEO TO VALUED STAKEHOLDER

FSA LEADERSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT

9 November 2026

The Board and CEO wish to jointly advise that Michael Carter has decided to conclude his tenure as the Chief Executive Officer of Football South Australia at the end of his current contract term on 31 December 2026.

This was a difficult decision and reached with considerable reflection. Following careful consideration and discussion, Michael has decided that now is the appropriate time for him to end his 19-year tenure as CEO of Football South Australia.

The next chapters for Football South Australia and Michael are founded on the strength of the past, and we recognise and celebrate the many achievements and successes accomplished together over Michael's tenure of 19 years.

Under Michael's leadership FSA has overseen major infrastructure milestones, participation growth and strengthened commercial and strategic partnerships, with strong financial stability.

Michael spearheaded the development of one of the state's largest community football infrastructure roll out across 21 clubs and was instrumental in the realisation of our home of football at ServiceFM Stadium, his most defining legacy. Other significant projects at Mount Barker, Barossa Valley, Tenison Woods (Mount Gambier) and most recently Whyalla.

He steered our competition and organisation through the COVID-19 pandemic, unlocking an investment of $1 million to support club operations.

Michael has also strengthened partnership with government, national partners and commercial sponsors to secure funding to support growth in the game from grassroots to elite participation. This included partnering with the state government to capture financial legacies from the FIFA Women's World Cup of $18 million benefiting many local clubs and regional associations. The funding also saw the development of women in leadership programs, and regional officers in the Limestone Coast and Eyre Peninsula, expanding the presence of the game within the state.

Underpinning these achievements and a key driver of his success has been Michael's ability to build the capability, confidence and capacity of a strong and talented team.

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These successes and achievements have created a solid foundation for ongoing success for not only Football South Australia but for football in this state for which we are very grateful, and Michael should be very proud.

On behalf of the Board, we extend our sincere gratitude to Michael for his commitment, passion, dedicated service, and for the lasting impact and legacy he leaves for football in South Australia through his achievements. We wish him and his family every happiness and success as he begins this exciting new chapter.

Football South Australia, having recently released its strategic plan for stakeholder consultation, enters this transition period from a position of strength, clear strategy and strong foundations.

Our priorities remain unchanged and the Board and Football South Australia's leadership team are focused on maintaining momentum and supporting and collaborating with our stakeholders.

Interim arrangements will be announced shortly whilst the Board undertakes a thorough process to appoint Football South Australia's next CEO. Further information about this will be communicated in due course.

The Board is confident about the future of Football South Australia and the opportunities that lie ahead and we look forward with optimism and enthusiasm to what the future brings for football in South Australia.

Kind Regards

Symoane Mercurio
Football South Australia
President

Michael Carter
Football South Australia
Chief Executive Officer