

## **Manor Lakes welcomes Shaggy Bol as their Wellbeing Officer.**

Manor Lakes Football Club will have its inaugural season in 2013. The club will field a number of junior sides in the WRFL competition and will have seniors and reserves in division 2 of the WRFL.

The club has recognised they are in a newly developed area with many different cultural backgrounds, so in conjunction with club codes of conduct and policies (based primarily on those already established in the WRFL and AFL) has appointed Majok BOL Ngong (known as Shaggy) as player "wellbeing officer". Shaggy is an established leader within the Sudanese Community and the club believes his appointment is a demonstration of an "all inclusive" club which welcomes everyone from the local community.

Shaggy was born in Southern Sudan and moved to Australia in 2005 with his family. He said the journey has been great and is happy with the changes his family and him have adapted to.

When Shaggy talks about what it means to be a leader within the community he talks about responsibility, awareness, good understanding, challenging, rewarding and to gain trust.

He believes that some of the challenges the community are facing are being labelled, treated differently and not given a chance or opportunity to speak out.

Shaggy said people in the community tend to make quick judgement about young people and some people need to understand that not everyone is a trouble maker, not everyone is the same and do not make a judgement based on what you hear or read in the media.

The reason Shaggy chose Manor Lakes Football Club is because "they want to be involved with me and my community and are willing to embrace other cultures within our community. They have shown a willingness to understand and support other cultures and I am proud to show them our culture and help them understand it even more".

Shaggy said so far Manor Lakes Football Club "has been really great to me and I am looking forward to the season and my duties as a "wellbeing officer"".

The club is very excited with the appointment and will give Shaggy all the support required to make sure everyone that chooses Manor Lakes as their club of choice will fit in and be part of a club that wants to be part of the local Community.



Juniors have commenced training at our Howqua Reserve ground and we welcome anyone wanting to come and meet our coaches and Shaggy and join in during this exciting time at our new club.

The club will hold its registration day on the 17<sup>th</sup> Feb at 10.00am to 2.00pm at the ground.