
11 August 2026

FIFTHQTR Foundation and Combined Past Players Association set to raise \$100,000 for past player welfare

The FIFTHQTR Foundation and Combined Past Players Association will host the inaugural *Beyond the Game: Honoring Legends* event at the Aviary Rooftop Crown Melbourne on Friday 21 August – a sell out event set to raise more than \$100,000 for past player wellbeing services.

Hosted by Essendon legend Tim Watson, some 380 guests are set to pack the room, making it one of the largest AFL focused gatherings outside the Brownlow Medal and AFL Hall of Fame. Notable attendees include Kevin Bartlett, Peter Hudson, Simon Madden and Stephen Kernahan.

The afternoon will pay tribute to two of football's greatest icons, David Parkin and Kevin Sheedy, recognizing their extraordinary contributions while celebrating the legacy of past players whose impact extends far beyond the final siren.

Ken Hunter, FIFTHQTR Foundation Chair said the *Beyond the Game* event is more than reflecting on great careers, it's about standing behind those who helped build the game.

“This event will help FIFTHQTR continue delivering vital wellbeing services, concussion education, mental health support and practical assistance for past players and their families.

“It's an opportunity for the football community to come together and ensure those who gave so much to the game continue to receive the support they deserve. And the support we have received has been incredible.

“From football legends and premiership heroes to coaches, officials, industry leaders, corporate partners and passionate

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supporters, the room will be filled with the people whose stories have helped define the game.”

While every seat has been snapped up, people can still support this great cause. Every donation, big or small, helps FIFTHQTR get closer to the \$100,000 goal and will make a real difference in the lives of past players and their families.

To make a donation: <https://fifthqtr.org.au/get-involved/donation-information>

Founded in 2021 by AFL greats **Ken Hunter** and **Ken Sheldon**, FIFTHQTR is an independent voice for VFL/AFL past players established to support players and families beyond playing careers, with long-term wellbeing support, better insights, stronger connections and practical pathways into life after sport.

The AFL and AFLPA were both invited and they respectfully declined.

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