

\$2m cost for 13th club

From **LIONEL BEALE**

Graham Huggins spoke in his quiet voice about a 13th VFL club to the SFL's first media luncheon for 1981 last week.

Representing the VFL, Huggins was in Sydney to conduct a feasibility study on the prospects of a Sydney-based VFL side — a hot topic.

A place to play, payments to players and operations plus sponsorship and TV rights were his first major priority.

The total cost he estimated, in answer to INSIDE FOOTBALL, was two million dollars plus.

One million dollars is a typical VFL club budget plus the starting-up cost of another million dollars, he thought.

Graham Huggins has spoken with the SFL, of course, and has also talked with the president of the NSW AFL and the NSW junior council. Through surveys the VFL has discovered that one million people in

Sydney are interested in Australian football, VFL style.

Their interest ranges from lukewarm to very hot!

His luncheon address included the VFL constitution, drafting of players, licensing of clubs, talks with the SCG, and another dozen subjects.

If approved, Sydney will have a VFL side playing 12 games at the SCG on Friday nights, under lights, alternating every other week with 12 games at VFL Park on Friday nights — in 1982.

Games will be telecast live to Melbourne with a delayed telecast to Sydney the same night, 24 times each year.

Two million dollars is a lot of money but if the careful figuring of men like Graham Huggins and the foresight of the VFL is correct, it will be no gamble.

Continuing with the new coaches in the SFL in 1981 . . . there's both a new coach and a new name for an old club.

Liverpool is the new club, formerly

known as Southern Districts and Bob Tredrea is the new coach.

Liverpool also has a new president, player Sam Grasso.

Tredrea is in his fourth season with the club and hails from Perth. At 23 years of age he could be the youngest coach ever in the SFL.

A resolute half-back or centre player, Bob made the Sydney side and the NSW squad in 1979 and could be just what Liverpool is looking for.

His parents live in Queens Park and are his top fans, along with his wife.

With an emphasis on team work and some promising local juniors — and hopefully some sponsorship — Liverpool will be back chasing the pennant this season.

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Western Suburbs has a new coach for season 1981 in former "everywhere" man Laurie Queay.

Queay came to Wests last year from ACT side Manuka, but had previously played in Melbourne, South Australia, Tasmania and Queensland.

A tough ruck-rover, Queay has three new recruits of promise.



N.S.W.

host of Magpie juniors to replace the likes of Mike Brown, Brian Richards and West Preston — all lost to Wests this season.

Gino De Corso, a rover from Tea Tree Gully in Adelaide, heads the list of recruits with Bruce Griffin, a centre half-back from Albury, and full forward Rover Ash from Wagga.

New Western Suburbs president Allan Sullivan is confident that the Magpies will be there at finals time.

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And we have a special message for INSIDE FOOTBALL from SFL president Reg Myers and NSW AFL president John Armstrong. . . both wish to heartily congratulate INSIDE FOOTBALL on its 10th birthday — a great