

Peninsula football enters new era

by DARREN LINES

WITH the final's series of the MPFL and NFL almost over, the new board of the Mornington Peninsula Nepean Football League is already looking towards next season.

1987 will be an historic year for football on the Mornington Peninsula. An amalgamation between the MPFL (Mornington Peninsula Football League) and NFL (Nepean Football League) will bring football on the Peninsula under one administrative umbrella. From all reports, especially among the members of the new board, the amalgamation will provide for an even stronger competition.

Board director Lindsay Jacgung has had a long association with the NFL and the Somerville club.

The father of NFL secretary Russell Jacgung, he has been a past president and vice-president of the league and was chairman of the Mornington Peninsula Board, the district board for football under the VCFL, for three years.

"The formation of the new league is just a natural progression from the promotion-relegation system between the two leagues that we've had over the last four years," said Mr Jacgung.

"There's been a few hiccups about the two leagues forming, but I think it's been fairly well accepted. We haven't really started to make any decisions and things won't get under way until the finals finish up."

The new board consists of seven men - Ian Benson, Arnold Clarke, Ken Lyons, Peter Lamshed, Brian Collins, Lindsay Jacgung and Ken Knight.

The youngest director on the board is Brian Collins, who has had a 12-year involvement with MPFL club Mornington including a four-year stint as secretary.

Collins was a member of the work party which originally investigated the proposed amalgamation of the two leagues.

"The new format will be extremely successful," said Mr Collins. "It's a commonsense approach where you've got talented people from both leagues combining to form one strong league."

Members of the new board have indirectly been given a specific task to do when the new league goes into action.

"My job will be one of club liaison and public relations," Mr Collins said.

"I'll be there to help clubs with any administrative problems and also to promote the new league."

"The amalgamation is sure to give football on the Peninsula a greater identification and bringing the leagues under the one banner can only produce a stronger body."

Ken Knight is one director who knows what football on the Peninsula is all about. He has been vice-president of the MPFL the past two years and president of Mount Eliza the two previous years.

However, Mr Knight's football roots go back to Chelsea Football Club where he played 226 games from 1959-1970 and won five club best and fairest awards.

He was also league best and fairest in 1964 and is a life member at the club.

"This would have to be the best thing that has ever happened to football on the Peninsula — it'll be a roaring success," said Knight.

"Lindsay Jacgung and I have been given the job of co-ordinating the representative games for the league. It will be successful and I've also heard the Bellarine Peninsula are talking along the same lines."

Nepean League treasurer Pete Lamshed, also a director on the

