

EX - SOUTHPORT RULES STAR CLEARANCE BAN

The Queensland Australian Football League, governing body for Australian Rules Football in this State, has refused to grant a clearance to former Southport star player Ken Best for him to play with Victorian Football League Club, Collingwood.

The QAFL has given no reason for their refusal to clear Best, who was one of the most talented footballers ever to play on the Gold Coast.

He is now living and working in Melbourne and was recommended to the Collingwood Club by Gold Coast Australian Football League president Ron Todd, former Collingwood star himself.

Ken had shown outstanding form in practice games with Collingwood, and he made the headlines of one of the local newspapers in Melbourne with: "Best for Collingwood — and he was"

Frustrated

Here is a talented young footballer, with his heart set on breaking into the big time.

He was granted a clearance by his former club, Southport, with the full support of all committee members as soon as his clearance form was received from Collingwood, and then the clearance was passed on by the GCAFL to the QAFL who, for reasons unknown, knocked it back and refused a clearance.

The GCAFL is now waiting for an answer from the State body setting out the reasons for the non-clearance.

Meanwhile, the match of the day in the third round of the Gold Coast Australian Football League fixtures should be the Labrador - Palm Beach - Currumbin clash at the Labrador Oval.

The Labrador "Tigers", third on the premiership ladder, and the Palm Beach - Currumbin "Lions", fifth, will both be out to win, and a crowd-pleasing game is certain.

Loss

Labrador's loss of Brian Gibbins will seriously curb their ruck strength. Palm Beach - Currumbin will have to be on their toes on their backline because Labrador's forwards are in top form, having scored 36 goals and only 15 behinds in the two games played.

The Lions are yet to win a game and a win here would put them back in the running.

Surfers Paradise goes to Lismore and unless the Demons forget to take half their team they should have no trouble in adding another four match points to their score.

Lismore are improving slowly but will be no match for the Demons.

Surfers Paradise Club will be running a bus to Lismore, leaving St. Vincent's Church, Surfers, at 9.30 a.m. on Sunday.

Supporters should phone 9-3449 or 2-3959 for reservations. The return trip will cost \$1.50 and the bus will leave Lismore at 7 p.m. for the return trip.

Coolangatta goes to Southport's Owen Park for the clash with Southport and the local Magpies should hold the upper hand.

Coach out

Coolangatta's coach, Dermot Power, is out of action with a dislocated shoulder for four weeks and the Blues have lost Peter Murphy and Wayne Flaherty to the National Service and the Air Force respectively.

Southport have improved in the last few weeks and new players, Green,

Taylor, Collins and Copeland on form will be hard to keep down.

Games with likely winners (games to be played on grounds of first named teams): A grade (2.30 p.m.), Labrador v. Palm Beach-Currumbin; Lismore v. Surfers Paradise; Southport v. Coolangatta; under 17 (12.30 p.m.), Labrador v. Palm Beach-Currumbin; Lismore v. Surfers Paradise; Southport v. Coolangatta; under 14 (11.15 a.m.), Labrador v. Palm Beach-Currumbin; Lismore v. Surfers Paradise; Southport v. Coolangatta.

Grounds for games:

Labrador — Labrador Oval, Labrador; Southport — Owen Park, Queen-St., Southport; Lismore — Albert Park, Keen-St., Lismore.

The Palm Beach-Currumbin committee and senior players will hold a smoke night after training tonight at 7 p.m. at the clubrooms at Salk Oval.

The appeal for more field umpires recently was very successful and a full complement of umpires is now operating at all games.

"PUNT HIGH"

Gold Coast Bulletin: May 2 1968, p24

www.southportsharkhistory.com.au



Celebrating 50 years!

