FOOTBALL

Great maiden season for club

Jorja Orreal

CABOOLTURE had a stellar maiden Brisbane season, with the Capital League 4 side and Capital League 4 Reserves winning their grand finals at AJ Kelly Park at the weekend.

The top side beat Samford Rangers 2-1 in slippery conditions and the Reserves beat the Rangers 4-0.

The club entered the Brisbane competition this year after 20 years in the Sunshine Coast league.

President Dwayne Sayers said a lot of hard work behind the scenes meant it had been "a great year", with the senior men, over-35s and four junior teams – the under-13, under-14 and under-15 boys and under-13 girls – claiming premierships.

"We definitely over achieved this season," Sayers said. "All of the hard work paid off."

The Capital 4 side entered their grand final confident after beating minor premiers St George Willawong 3-0 in their semi-final.

Coach Nathan Walker said the Rangers "looked threatening on occasions during the first half, but veteran goalkeeper Jason Shields kept Caboolture in the game".

The 0-0 deadlock re-

mained until the 60th minute when Benjamin Muzyka converted from the penalty spot for his 34th goal of the season, and Steven Cleary headed a ball in eight minutes later. The Rangers scored their goal in injury time.

The Reserves beat the Rangers, who were minor premiers, in a penalty shootout in the first week of finals; but demolished the side 4-0 in their grand final on Sunday.

Sayers said "our club was founded 48 years ago, but it's safe to say that Sunday will go down in the club's history as one of its defining moments".

Eight Caboolture teams – Capital League 4 and Reserves, under-13, under-14, under-15 and under-16 boys, and under-13 and under-14 girls – have been promoted for 2017. Sayers said the aim was to the have the senior men playing Capital League 1 by 2019.

Caboolture technical director Paul Shorter, who coaches the Capital 4 Reserves, said he was pleased to have seen players develop to new levels this season.

Trials for 2017 will be in November; to register interest, visit <u>cabooltur-</u> efc.com.au.



Caboolture Capital League 4 side and Capital 4 League Reserves both beat Samford Rai



ngers in finals. Pictures: MMM Photography