



April 7, 2016

Eagles big hearted on and off the field

When he's not kicking goals on the footy field, West Coast Eagle's forward Josh Kennedy loves giving back to the community.

Together with his Eagles teammates, Josh handed over a \$5,000 cheque to the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Western Australia (MSWA) as part of the new AFL Players' Association initiative, 'AFL Players Care'.

Under the initiative, AFL teams are allocated \$10,000 to donate to one or two charity organisations of their choice. The Eagles have donated the other half of the funds to the Lord Mayor's Distress Relief Fund to help Yarloop and Waroona residents affected by January's devastating bushfire.

Josh said that Luke Shuey was the driving force behind the MS Society being chosen as one of their charity organisations.

"Luke knew that I was an MSWA Ambassador and he's heard me talking about the great work they do. He was the one who suggested that we donate to them and then he went about getting the support of all the other boys," said Josh.

The Eagles forward said he chose to become an Ambassador after a chance meeting with MSWA CEO, Marcus Stafford. After learning more about the condition and how the Society helps its Members, he quickly realised it was a cause he wanted to be a part of. Over the past four years Josh has met and become friends with a number of Members and uses his profile to broaden awareness about the condition.

"I have been fortunate enough to be involved in a variety of fundraising events as part of my role at MSWA and have met a lot of wonderful people along the way. I have seen the great work that the Society does to help support the people in WA living with this condition," said Josh.

Josh presented the \$5,000 donation to Mr Stafford on behalf of the West Coast Eagles and the AFL Players' Association at an official handover ceremony in Perth yesterday.

"We would like to thank the AFL Players' Association and of course Josh and Luke and the West Coast Eagles for this generous donation. It is this kind of support that allows us to continue to provide support and services for Western Australians living with multiple sclerosis (MS) and other neurological conditions," said Mr Stafford.

The AFL Players Care donation to MSWA will be used to continue funding the wide-range of support and services provided by MSWA, as well as fund vital research into finding the cause and cure for MS.

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MSWA Stats

- MSWA contributed \$1.5 million to research this year with \$500,000 dedicated to research projects based in Western Australia. MSWA is the largest funder of MS research nationally.
- This year MSWA provided over 560,000 care service hours to people living with MS and other neurological conditions.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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