



THE ACORN

SEASON 2021 ISSUE 2

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi all,

Another fantastic day of football this week with the U18 girls finishing off playing under lights at Scammell. The girls had a good crowd to play in front of and won the game with ease. The Committee are trying very hard to lock in one game for every age group to play under lights this year. Once the fixture is locked in we will start to arrange night or late afternoon games for each team.

The fixturing by the SMJFL should be completed in a couple of weeks with some teams being regraded into other divisions. Thanks to Dave Cash, Jeff Fortune, Simon Greely and the coaches for their work and patience during this process.

A big thanks to Jude and the U11 parents for putting on Grub at the Club this week! Everyone enjoyed it and there were no leftovers - always a good sign!

A reminder about the Responsible Service of Alcohol course which is being held at the club on Tuesday the 4th of May starting at 6.30pm sharp. If you would like to help out behind the bar and do the RSA course please contact myself or Melita (secretaryOYCFC@gmail.com) to secure your place.

We are still looking for a Bar Manager so if you are interested in this role please contact the club ASAP.

The next Grub at the Club has been changed to Sunday the 16th of May to avoid Mother's Day. Make sure you spoil your Mums on Mother's Day!!

Good luck to all teams and keep playing good honest Oakleigh Dragon Football.

Pat Heverin

GO DRAGONS

2021 COMMITTEE / OFFICIALS

President: Pat Heverin
Vice President: Vacant
Secretary: Melita Keywood
Treasurer: Tony Trent
Registrar: Kane Leopold
Child Safety Officer: Eloise Nidorfer
Incident Co-ordinator: Sonya Moreland
Compliance: Kathy McGeoch

Football Manager: David Cash
Boys Coaching (Snr): Jeff Fortune
Boys Coaching (Jnr): Gary Ryan
Girls Coaching (Jnr): Simon Greely
Canteen Manager: Clancy Phillips
Bar Manager: Vacant
Property Officer: Michelle Englund

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BRAESIDE



CAN YOU HELP?

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED

You may have heard at recent Grub nights that the Club is looking for new committee members to assist with the tasks required to operate the Club and get our kids on the field. This is an ongoing request and you may well be sick of us by the end of the season. In saying that, there is great reward in volunteering. Studies show, volunteering connects you to your community, is good for your mind and body, can advance your career and brings fun and fulfillment to your life.

We are actively seeking someone to fill the Bar Manager position:

POSITION	CURRENTLY PERFORMED BY
BAR MANAGER The Bar Manager is responsible for the sale of snacks and drinks from the bar. You will need to hold a Responsible Service of Alcohol accreditation (which the Club can assist to organise and will reimburse for). You will need to attend social functions at Scammell Reserve (including Grub at the Club), and will be helped out behind the bar by our growing number of members who also hold Responsible Service of Alcohol accreditation. You will not have to order stock as this function is undertaken by the Scammell Reserve Committee. Some liaising with the Scammell Reserve Committee required. This is a great role for someone who is organised, can lead others and enjoys socialising!	VACANT

If you can fill this role
or would like more information about how you can help, please contact
Melita at secretaryOYCFC@gmail.com or Pat on 0402 905 198.



Thanks to our amazing U11s
for a fantastic Grub at the Club!

DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SHARE?

If you have any photos you'd like in the next Acorn, please email them with a description to Kathy at complianceOYCFC@gmail.com

ANZAC MEDAL WINNERS

Congratulations to all our Anzac Medal Winners!



U09 Mixed - Cuan Hourihane
 U10 Mixed – Liam Allan
 U11 Mixed (G) – Jack Jacobson
 U11 Mixed (Y) – Fionn Hourihane
 U12 Mixed – Campbell Green
 U12 Girls – Sienna Leopold
 U13 Mixed – Mitch Morton

U14 Mixed – Bailey Moreland
 U14 Girls – Chelsea Whittle
 U15 Boys – Billy Robinson
 U16 Girls – Gisselle Jones-Wilson
 U17 Boys – Bye
 U18 Girls – Annina Box

CONGRATULATIONS

50 GAMES

Sebastian Trent U13

Having a milestone game?

Send details and photo to Kathy at complianceOYCFC@gmail.com



COACHES' REPORTS

U12 MIXED ANDREW GREEN

Oakleigh Dragon Under 12's played at Scammell Reserve on Sunday in glorious midday sun. We played Ajax who had just come off a large loss and were keen to have a win.

Unfortunately for Ajax, Oakleigh was too strong and was able to provide a winning score of 51 to 2.

The boys provided great tacking pressure, which created turn over opportunities for Oakleigh to drive forward and score some great goals. There were some great passages of play with linking handballs and penetrating kicks but there is still plenty of room for improvement.

The bigger grounds are creating some challenges and making for some tired legs but with each passing week our fitness is definitely improving.

Sam is doing a fantastic job in the ruck contest while Adrian played a great first game with many skilled pickups and precision kicking. Campbell was awarded the Anzac Day medal for courage and determination with fine tackling and some courageous marks.

Next week we expect to be challenged as we play more seasoned teams.

U9 MIXED FERGAL HOURIHANE

It was an early start for the U9s on Sunday with an 8am home game at Scammell against Waverly Hawks. Conditions once again were good with the boys having their first opportunity to use the change rooms and break out areas.

Unfortunately, the game was one sided with the Dragons too strong for the Hawks. Our midfield was dominant and provided plenty of ball to our forwards throughout the game. Our forwards took the majority of their opportunities which resulted in a good spread of goal scorers on the day. Special mentions to Oliver and Ethan (two of our younger players) who both played very strong games – Cuan for his relentless pursuit of the football and Harrison Cooke for that great contested mark up front. Greater challenges lie ahead but well done boys!

Thanks to Allen, Brendan and Alex who helped prepare the ground for the modified rules.



U11 MIXED YELLOW MARK D'ROZARIO

The Under 11 yellow team had an early morning start at Elwood this week and on a beautiful morning we started well with 2 early goals. This was due to Andrew and Paul kicking truly and saw the ball sailing through the goals. A terrific sight for the team. Our next goal didn't come until the last quarter that was finished well by Cameron and we went down in a tough game. Cameron and Paul played their best games for the club to date. I thought the skills were very similar during the game but whoever got the ball in their half kept the ball there until a goal was kicked.

There were a lot of red faces all day and it showed me how hard the boys were trying. Courage was shown when Ethan was crunched in a big pack. Fionn ran hard and never gave up. Harland and Paul were terrific in defence. Archie and Ali extracted the ball and tackled hard all game. We were also short and had the other team help with numbers. One was so good that he was giving great coaching tips to us to help in the last quarter. Troy provided a real target with hard leads and Darcy R was back to the tackling machine of old. Darcy M was a great link man, getting plenty of the ball and Robbie never backed down from a guy twice his size running at him into goals.

Great job to the boys and a big thanks to Jean, and Lev for their hard work this weekend and all the parent helpers.

Go Dragons!

U10 MIXED DAVID CASH

V Ashwood at Essex Heights Reserve

A great game by every single player that took the field this weekend. Yesterday we held our Anzac round match with the Anzac medal presented to the Player that showed great spirit and played the game how we want it to be played – this was one of the toughest decisions I have had to make while coaching – in previous teams I have coached, one player has always stood out way above the rest and it was a very easy decision, this certainly was not the case with our game yesterday, there was no less than 12 players that deserved that award yesterday, but I had to narrow it down to just one – that player was Liam, for his full game performance and consistency all game across all zones of the ground.

As I already mentioned there were many players that had great games, some played brilliantly in one or two zones, or for half the game they were best on ground, and others had good games in general.

The effort that was put in was fantastic, we started a little slow, but kept building – very close in scores at half time, and outscoring them 1 point to 0 in the 3rd Quarter, before really turning the game on its head and running away with it in the last quarter.

Well done to all, and a special mention to Owen and Lucas who played their 1st game of Football – well done boys.

See you Sunday – train hard with Leigh on Tuesday night and have lots of fun.



U13 MIXED DARREN GRENFELL

Opponent: Home game vs St Bedes / Mentone

Result: Oakleigh Dragons lost 12 - 55

Match Day Captain: Seb

The Match in a paragraph: A huge contrast from week one witnessed a high-class first half with the Dragons standing strong against a very strong St Bedes team. Whilst goalless for the first half, the boys defended hard and restricted their opponent to only two goals. The second half saw St Bedes take a little more control of the scoreboard, with their superior running and positioning proving the Dragons downfall. The effort was great from the home team, but sometimes you are just beaten by the better team on the day.

Special mentions from the game:

- Huge congratulations to Sebastian Trent on reaching his 50th game.
- The tackle count was higher this week – special call outs to Ethan, Jack, Ben, Elliott and Zeke for their willingness to tackle hard.
- Dominant ruck work by Ben and Austin helped the team with clearances.
- Run and carry shown by Seb, Patrick, Tom and Mitch.
- A big “hanger” taken by Tyson on the pavilion wing, as well as numerous strong marks taken by Rayaana.
- A big thanks to Jack and Elliot from the Under 12's for filling in and allowing us to play with a full team.
- Finally, congratulations to Mitch Morton on winning the team's ANZAC Day Medal. Picked up numerous possessions all over the ground, tackled hard and even managed to pull in a couple of contested marks.

Round 2 Goal Scorer: Jack

U14 GIRLS JOHN BERNARDO

The Anzac Day football weekend is a very significant and special part of the Oakleigh Dragons Football Club, so on Sunday in my pre-game address I asked the girls to reflect on the true meaning of the Anzacs - the bravery, the commitment, the camaraderie and to take this into the game.

In the first quarter the backline were tremendous led by Eva they repelled a huge amount of entries, only allowing 1 goal to slip through. With their heads held high and in true Anzac spirit the girls really dug deep, stuck up for each other and came out fighting for the rest of the game. With an injured ankle Chanel was moved into the forward line where she still managed to kick 3 goals. Our centre line of Sienna, Gracie, Julia ran, and linked all day which enabled to move the ball forward. And of course Chelsea ran her legs off chipping in with 3 goals and taking out the honorary Anzac Day Medal. But inevitably it was the effort of the WHOLE TEAM which led to our first win of the season. Well done girls!!!



U15 BOYS JOHN MCLAUGHLIN

Opponent: Beaumaris FC **Away Game**

Result: Oakleigh Dragons won by 92 points

Another great day for footy and the Jack Barker Oval looked in good condition for the 3pm Anzac Day clash.

Firstly, we welcomed a new player into the fold, with Lachlan Morrison lining up with the Dragons for the first time. A big welcome to Lachy and his family. Thanks to Jack Allen from the 14s who helped out with numbers and did a great job.

Once again, we went into the game without too much knowledge of the opposition in these grading games. We got off to a good start and kicked 6 goals to 0 in the first quarter and that set the tone for the rest of the afternoon. The half back line was superb early and repelled many attacks and ran hard to create opportunities. With 2 massive wins we are likely to be tried in a higher division, if this happens the boys should welcome the challenge.

The onballers ran both forward and back when required which was good to see. Some of these boys have only started playing together so the teamwork should improve even more in the coming weeks and months. The forward line worked quite well, the guys must be disciplined to always try and leave space for each other.

Overall, it was a pleasing effort from the team, on reflection we had to work hard for the goals and think our way through situations to be able to score as much as we did.

Special mentions from the game:

- Hady, with his second game at the club, kicked 6 goals and plenty of forward pressure applied.
- Alex Hastings and Tommy White at half back were brilliant early and really helped set up the relentless attitude we displayed.
- The Anzac Day Medallist, Billy Robinson, marked everything again and kicked a couple of goals. His marking when he backs into the pack is something to see.
- The wingers (The Jackson 2) both had good games again and are becoming a real option for us every time we come out of defence.
- The usual suspects Tommy H, Oscar M, Specky B and Bailey F all had plenty of the ball
- The spirit within the group is really developing.

See all the boys at training this week. We look forward to the challenges ahead.

U11 MIXED GREEN NICK SOURRIS

Round 2 has come and gone. On this traditional ANZAC Day the under 11's Mixed Lime were away against Beaumaris. We only had 15 boys available today, so they all had to work a little harder.

Our boys were up against it but to their credit they all dug deep together, as a team. The tackling pressure was a huge improvement from round 1 as was the running power.

At the final siren the boys had gone down by almost 6 goals but I don't believe the scoreboard reflected a true representation of the game.

A special mention to Jack, who played the game on the wing and was our ANZAC day medallist. A special thank you to our 2 captains, Aiden and Liam, who also played with vigour and determination.



U14 MIXED TIM MORELAND

Today we took on St Peter's at Scammell Reserve in the Anzac Day game and the boys bounced back fantastically with a 22 point win. We addressed 3 things after our defeat last week and focussed on Effort, Intensity and being clean with the ball.

Wednesday's night training was amazing and our next step was to take that into the game today. Right from the outset our game style and attack on the ball was noticeably better and our ball movement slick.

Our on ballers were clean out of the middle lead by Isaac and Jake's ruck work and ground clearances through Theo, Yanni and Giorgios. Really pleasing to see the centre clearances improve markedly.

Our forwards were presenting all day and Mason, Stevie, Nicho and the 2 Matt's (R&F) looked good both on the ground and in the air contributing to our good start. Aidan and Ryan T's ability to play in multiple positions is a handy thing to have in our team both forward and back.

Christian showed us what he's capable of when attacking the ball and his defensive pressure was awesome today.

Our backs provided plenty of composure which enabled consistent drive back into our half of the ground. The ever reliable Antonios...Ethan, Zed and Daniel's run and carry, Raffa's calmness and Jack W's speed fed our on ballers in space on multiple occasions.

Great to see Jimmy & Asher attacking the contest all day and with Lachie putting his head over the footy and Robbie providing some slick handballs it was good to see.

Bailey provided options all day bringing his team mates into the game and with his leadership, voice, clean marking, ground ball skills and second efforts - he was as tough as nails winner of our Anzac Day medal today.

Really proud of all the boys today and great to see them thump out the team song at the end of the game. Look forward to next week. Go Dragons

U16 GIRLS SIMON GREELY

Round 2 – 25th April - Under 16 Girls vs St. Kilda City

We went out to the 'Peanut Farm' on a beautiful Sunday morning and, unfortunately, came up against a very strong team who were physical, used the football extremely well and ran all game.

Our first quarter did not go well as St. Kilda poured on 6 quick goals before we could blink. In the second quarter we worked harder defensively and put on a lot more pressure and kept them to 2 goals, which was a much better effort. The second half saw the opposition run away to win with a very big margin.

There was lots of learning in the game and lots of small, positive signs for our team too as we continue to develop and improve.

We have now had 6 new players make their football debuts and 2 others who have joined us after playing in other teams, so 8 new players at our club, which is awesome!

At training we will be focussing on being more physical at every contest for 4 quarters and looking at using the ball better under pressure.

Our ANZAC Medal winner was Gisselle, who showed a heap of determination and toughness in the game and other good contributors were Ashlee, Gecko, Ruby and Christina.

Final Score: Oakleigh 0.0.0 St. Kilda City 15.13.103



U12 GIRLS TONY WARD

Oakleigh Dragons v Caulfield Bears

We played at home against Caulfield Bears and coming off a good win in round one, and we were pretty confident of putting in a good effort.

As in round one, before the game, we emphasised some critical aspects: effort, talking, tackling, and pressure.

We only had nine players available to play, and as Caulfield had 17 or 18 players, they provided three players to line up for the Dragons – so thank you to Caulfield for that.

We named Tahlia as captain for the day, and the day started on the right note. Tahlia won the toss we decided to kick with a slight breeze in the first quarter. From there, things did not quite go according to the plan.

We came up against an excellent football side in the Caulfield Bears who looked as though their girls had played a great deal more football together than what we had. Their ability to get loose and kick to space, getting their running game going, was just a little bit too much for our girls.

The girls worked hard, putting a great deal of pressure on the opposition, ran and tackled hard, and while we didn't get many rewards for the efforts we put in, I was proud of how well the girls competed. Other teams would have given up in the same position, but the girls kept persisting and trying their best.

While we didn't play at our best, in reality, we were beaten by a team that had a little more polish than us, but with some hard work, I know there is much room for improvement. We need to remain positive and get down to training on Friday, ready to concentrate and work hard.

A couple of call-outs: Elaine did a fantastic job at fullback under immense pressure, and Sienna worked hard all day and was a worthy recipient of the ANZAC medal.



SMOKE-FREE

By law, smoking is banned within 10 metres (about two car lengths) of any public outdoor sporting venue during an organised under-18s event.

The ban includes training or practice sessions to prepare for an organised under-age sporting event, and breaks or intervals during the course of the event, training or practice session.



GRUB AT THE CLUB SCHEDULE

Subject to change during the season depending on game times, your Team Manager will keep you posted.

Don't forget – Grub's Gone Green! BYO plates and cutlery.

Date	U8 & U9	U10	U11-U13	U14+	Holidays	Grub at the Club
18-Apr	Round 1	Round 1	Round 1	Round 1		U14 Mixed
25-Apr	Round 2	Round 2	Round 2	Round 2	Anzac Day	U11 Mixed
2-May	Round 3	Round 3	Round 3	Round 3		
9-May	Round 4	Round 4	Round 4	Round 4	Mother's Day	
16-May	Round 5	Round 5	Round 5	Round 5		U16 Girls & U18 Girls
23-May	Round 6	Round 6	Round 6	Round 6		U15 Boys
30-May	Round 7	Round 7	Round 7	Round 7		
6-Jun	Round 8	Round 8	Round 8	Round 8		U17 Boys
13-Jun	NO GAMES				Queen's Birthday	
20-Jun	Round 9	Round 9	Round 9	Round 9		U12 Mixed & U13 Mixed
27-Jun	NO GAMES				School Holidays	
4-Jul	NO GAMES				School Holidays	
11-Jul	Round 10	Round 10	Round 10	Round 10		U12 Girls & U14 Girls
18-Jul	Round 11	Round 11	Round 11	Round 11		
25-Jul	Round 12	Round 12	Round 12	Round 12		U10 Mixed
1-Aug	Round 13	Round 13	Round 13	Round 13		
8-Aug	Round 14 / LC	Round 14	Round 14	Round 14		U9 Mixed
15-Aug		Round 15 / LC	Round 15	Round 15		
22-Aug			Semi Finals	Semi Finals		
29-Aug			Grand Finals	Preliminary Finals		
5-Sep				Grand Finals	Father's Day	

