



THE ACORN

SEASON 2021 ISSUE 4

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi all,

I hope all the mums had a wonderful Mother's Day and the kids did something special for you.

We had a full list of home games this week with both Scammell and Princes Highway Reserves loaded with Oakleigh Dragons teams. A big thanks to everyone who made this happen!

With the fixtures coming out soon we plan to play a few Friday night games under lights at Scammell which has been tested by the U18s girls with great success.

We are planning a trivia night on Friday the 4th of June so please lock this date in your calendar. We are asking for a table from each age group to attend and a flyer will be sent out shortly. These are cheap nights but lots of fun for the parents so please embrace and get a table together. The theme will be Op Shop Formal!

Thanks for everyone who attended the RSA course last week and if you are willing to help behind the bar, let myself or Melita know please.

Grub at the Club is back on this Sunday night so feel free to come along and enjoy the night!

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: Simon Greely

Canteen Manager: Clancy Phillips

Bar Manager: Vacant

Property Officer: Michelle England

2021 MAJOR SPONSORS



**CLAYTON &
CHADSTONE**



woodards 



BRAESIDE

CONTACT DETAILS Pat Heverin Ph: 0402 905 198 secretaryOYCFC@gmail.com www.oakleighdragons.org.au

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK  Oakleigh Dragons Junior Football Club



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

Happy Mother's Day to all our wonderful mums and significant women around the Club. A great day enjoyed below by the U13s team, with all the boys giving their mums a hug before going out to play



MILESTONE GAMES!

CONGRATULATIONS

50 GAMES

LACHLAN FLYNN - U14 MIXED

Having a milestone game?

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



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





SOCIAL MEDIA



Don't forget to follow us on Facebook for all the latest news
– search for 'Oakleigh Dragons Junior Football Club'
And now back on Instagram! @oakleigh_dragonsjfc



WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECKS

In response to the findings of the Royal Commission into Child Safety in 2017, the SMJFL introduced minimum requirements to assist in ensuring the safety of our members. The Oakleigh Dragons fully support these measures, which require volunteers assisting in game day roles to hold a valid Working with Children Check.



Our teams rely solely on the assistance of volunteers from the team member group. Given every player's family is expected to help the team function, every player is expected to have at least one parent/carer that holds a valid WWCC.

All WWCC details must be entered into the Everproof database. To confirm your compliance, please talk to you Team Manager, or contact Kathy at complianceOYCFC@gmail.com

BAR MANAGERS APPOINTED!



An enormous thanks to Chris Ward and Gab Dunn who've stepped up to share the Bar Manager role! Make sure you say thanks at Grub next Sunday!



TRIVIA NIGHT

Save the Date! Friday 4 June, Scammell Reserve – OP SHOP FORMAL!
Start gathering your team – details to follow shortly



COACHES' REPORTS

U9 MIXED FERGAL HOURIHANE

We played East Malvern at Princes Highway Reserve on another beautiful Autumn morning. It was good to see all registered players available and an interchange bench for the first time.

The game was similar to the previous week with both teams having opportunities but neither able to build and maintain a lead. East Malvern held on for a 2 point victory.

Our defence was once again very solid with some good clearances from Masaki and Finn. Harrison N played his best game in midfield and along with Cuan they kept the ball going forward. Upfront Thomas Morel snagged his first goal for the club on debut and our other Thomas did very well to get his goal.

Considering we are a combined U8/U9s team it's likely that we are going to come up against bigger sized teams most weeks. Our challenge is get our attack on the football correct and improve on our tackle technique. Its exciting to know we are more than capable of playing at this level with so much opportunity to improve. Congratulations boys on another great effort.

U10 MIXED DAVID CASH

v Brighton Beach in our 1st home game

Happy Mother's Day to all the mums, I hope you all had a great day and your Dragons players spoiled you.

Happy Birthday to Alex and Cris for Sunday, the Team did a great rendition of Happy Birthday for them after the game.

Another real tough game for our boys this week, they played some very good football at times but couldn't match the football the opposition played for the entire game.

There were a lot of niggles from their players, but our boys kept their calm throughout the game very well considering.

The game Jaron put in was fantastic, he has been threatening to play a full game at the top of his skill level and he did just that well-done Jaron. Luca, Heath, Cris, Rhys and Liam all played great games breaking away from the pack to driving the ball forward to our teams' advantage. Josh, Alex and Cooper all worked hard getting to the ball first and getting handballs out to teammates and tacking strong when we didn't have the ball. There were a few times where the attack on the ball by Jimmy, Ryder and Jacob saved certain goals and sent the ball clear of our back zone.

Ewan is becoming a strong marking target for us; he seems to always be able to get to the ball and usually when he does, he takes that mark. Owen and Lucas are both improving every week they both used their pace to get to the ball first during the game, and a some very nice quick handballs out to teammates was very impressive.

And a special thanks to the U9 players that helped us out in the game, each had $\frac{3}{4}$ of a game with $\frac{1}{4}$ played for the opposition, which is never an easy thing to do – so thank you so much. There were some very impressive skills shown by the U9 boys and I look forward to watching all 4 of you continue to develop.



Re-grading will be completed early this week, and once the new roster comes out, we will start fresh and see what team we come up against.

The big take away from the 1st 4 weeks having 2 wins and 2 losses for me is – even up against the best teams we have played against, there have been times when we have been very competitive, and our best football has been able to match up well – so with more of our best football we will continue to improve each week I am sure of that.

Go Dragons

U11 MIXED YELLOW MARK D'ROZARIO

The Under 11 Yellow played a tough physical game at Walter Galt Reserve in Parkdale. The second and third quarters were our best on the scoreboard but the boys played a good all round game. They tackled hard and never gave up but fell short by 40 points. I don't think the scoreboard reflected the contest because they fought hard every quarter. The overhead marking was a highlight. Josh, Cameron, Harland, Fionn and Darcy M showing they all have sticky fingers.

A big thank you to the U10 boys, Ewan, Liam and Josh who played for us and played their hearts out in their second game of the day. They will be welcomed back any time.

Paul was terrific in defence. He attacked the ball at the right times and stayed on the line when needed. Kavya, Robbie and Ethan took some crunching tackles and started to get a lot more of the ball. Max showed promise in the last quarter running the ball out of defence with confidence.

Fionn played all over but took some great marks in defence and laid some crunching tackles. He is very good at playing on and catching the opposition off guard and gaining territory for our team. He can turn defence into attack with his positive moves.

Andrew and Darcy Ryan were terrific in the contests. They tackled hard and got the contested ball. Troy did a terrific shepherd. The first time we had seen the boys do that this year. Darcy M was everywhere! He was terrific again and copped a lot of physical attention from the opposition, he got on with it by kicking 3 goals and taking heaps of marks. A true star! Ollie was terrific on the wing. He didn't stop running and worked hard at every contest.

Most importantly, a big thanks to Lev, Jean and the team of parent helpers that make it easy for the kids to play and my job a lot easier.

Go Dragons!

U11 MIXED GREEN NICK SOURRIS

On this momentous day, being Mother's Day, our U11 Mixed Lime boys were at Princes Hwy, against Bentlyigh.

After having won the toss, our two captains, Alec and Ajay decided to kick with a slight breeze. After a tight tussle the boys could only manage a single goal. The second and third quarters were evenly matched, being down by two goals at 3 quarter time.



The coaches once again asked the boys to deliver that Dragon spirit in the last quarter. The boys were slow to respond as the opposition got out to a 5 goal lead, deep into the final quarter. Then something just clicked and the boys kicked 3 goals in about 2 minutes, going down by 11 points, at the final siren.

A special mention to William, Ajay, Mony and Tom who best on ground. Also a thank you to Heath, Jarryn and Rhys who played up from the U10s.

U12 MIXED ANDREW GREEN

Round 4 and the season is really starting to move along for the Under 12's who this week travelled to the neighbouring suburb of Murrumbeena for a top of the ladder dual. The only trouble was, the early morning game caused the boys to not see the big posts clearly and snuck home with a 1 point win with a total of 0 goals and 11 points while Murrumbeena scored 1 goal and 4 points.

The winning point was scored with great teamwork and Ayden and James staying in position and running into an open goal with seconds to spare, unfortunately it was touched as it rolled through.

The boys again played a great game with plenty of tackling and pressure to stop any break aways from occurring.

Kicking and hitting targets are improving along with some crafty hand balling to get us out of trouble.

Our 4 grading games have been played well with plenty of opportunities for improvements identified by the coaches and the boys who are keen to further there playing skills and game knowledge. Each training session I ask the boys about the weekends game and it is great to listen to their reflections of the game. Great effort to all the boys.

U12 GIRLS TONY WARD

Oakleigh Dragons v East Brighton Vampires JFC

A special shout out to all the Oakleigh Dragon's Mums – I hope you all had a fantastic Mother's Day.

We played at home against East Brighton Vampires JFC (Princes Hwy Reserve). While we were coming off a good win the previous round, The Vampires were coming off a huge win, so I was very interested in seeing how the game played out.

We had 11 girls available for the game, which was fantastic—a tremendous welcome to Miette, who joined the team and played her first game for the Dragons.

We were two wins and one loss coming into this game, so I expected a good performance.

We named Skye captain for the day, and unfortunately, we lost the toss and commenced the game kicking against a slight breeze. In my view, we went into the game with a pretty good structure, probably the best team structure that we could put on the field.



The Vampires were a much bigger side than us, and we were pretty much playing catch-up for the entire match. As with the previous games, the girls worked hard, put the effort in, pressured the opposition, and tackled hard, but we could not truly put scoreboard pressure on the opposition as we would have liked. While the scoreboard indicated that we lost convincingly, it did not truly reflect the actual state of the game. In speaking with the opposition coach, he noted that the scoreboard was not truly reflective of the actual contest, and the game was closer than the scoreboard outlined. So there was something to take out of that.

The girls worked hard all day, with everyone giving their all during the contest.

- As mentioned, we had another first game player for the club – Miette - you all should be very proud of your effort. Great athleticism – skills and game knowledge will come.
- Elaine – fantastic game. You are starting to understand the nuances of playing the fullback role. Great effort.
- Tahlia – tackling machine. No opponent is too big for you to tackle.
- Maddi – worked very hard against much bigger opponents.
- Zoe – continues to work hard and provide options – your teaming up with other players is fantastic.
- Sienna – played 50 / 50 mid and forward – you continue to impress with your attack on the footy. You kicked our only goal when we moved you forward.
- Tess – played mid-zone day and did very well against a taller opposition. While you played well, I think there is more to come from you.
- Camryn – worked hard and applied a great deal of pressure to keep the ball in the forward zone.
- Skye – worked very hard and attacked the footy with gusto.
- Alicia – 2nd game player, and we were happy with your efforts – you will continue to improve.
- Tash – great athlete and worked hard. When put into the mid-zone, you gave us some added drive.

Overall, I thought the attitude was again fantastic this week, and as a team, we are continuing to evolve and understand what both Darren and I are trying to teach. Many aspects of the game are beginning to become more instinctive as opposed to pre-thought. Understanding the game takes time and will become more and more instinctive as we train and play. Overall I thought the team performed well against a good opponent.

Final Scores:

Oakleigh: 1.3.9

East Brighton Vampires JFC: 10.4.64

Best Players (in no particular order): Zoe, Elaine, Tess, Sienna, Miette

Goals: Sienna 1

U13 MIXED DARREN GRENFELL

Opponent: Away game vs Prahran

Result: Oakleigh Dragons won 77 - 18

Match Day Captain: Mitch



The Match in a paragraph: What a production. With the players mothers set up high on the embankment at Como Park with morning tea, the Dragons went about putting on a show. For 3 quarters the boys slugged away on a very large ground, grinding out to a 15 point lead going into the last quarter. With a plea to entertain their mums on this special day in the last quarter, the boys responded with a resounding seven goal final quarter to put Prahran away. The final quarter was champagne football. Numerous chains of handballs, short passing to open teammates, and very clean and skillful football had all mothers cheering.

Special mentions from the game:

- Personal best games from Oscar and Joseph – especially when both were given the chance to have a run through the midfield.
- The continued improvement in many of the boys, with a special shout out to Dean, Jacob and Patrick.
- Mitch's 100-metre sprint to try to stop an opposition goal – only falling centimeters short.
- The run and carry of the ball of by Oliver, Rayaana, Tyson, Mitch, Tom and Oscar.
- 7 goals kicked in the last quarter by 6 different players.
- The masterful final quarter of Rayaana – which included goal of the day with a running snap from the boundary line.
- The complimentary feedback from the team mothers on the table service they received from Warren "The Waiter" Rabel.
- And a big thanks to Tony Trent for organising a special Mother's Day event for the team, as well as to all the dads of the teams who baked / purchased a full table of cakes and morning tea delights.
-

Goal Scorers: Rayaana (2), Mitch, Seb, Oliver, Oscar, Ethan, Tom, Dean, Austin, Tyson

U14 MIXED TIM MORELAND

Happy Mother's Day to all the Oakleigh Dragons Mum's...

In Lachie's 50th game - today we hosted East Malvern (White) at Scammell Reserve. It was a nice early start but great to see the Mums along supporting the lads so early in the morning. We appreciate everything you do so hope you enjoyed the effort of the team. We had a solid win 97-19!

Overall - another very good performance with our free flowing ball movement resulting in several goals across the day. For the second week in a row our running game off half back was great with Ethan, Giorgios, Daniel and Yanni bursting through the middle of the ground on many occasions.

Bailey attacked the footy all day and ended up with 3 goals, whilst Stevie, Theo, Jack A and Isaac provided forward options and defence rebound when needed.

Jimmy played his best game for us both back and forward and kept going all day. Well done Jimmy!

Jake was enormous in the ruck and reads the play very well. Zed's attack on the ball allows us to get some grunt out of stoppages and Christian's polish with ball in hand brings his team mates into the game. We have ever reliable players in the form of Antonios (who we flipped around quite a few spots today), Nick F off half back and a Raffa on the wings. Well done lads!



THE ACORN

SEASON 2021 ISSUE 4 ROUND 4 / SUNDAY 9 MAY

In his 50th game Lachie crashed some packs as did Max, Nicho and Ryan T. Aidan runs and runs all day and whilst not high possession winners, Matt R and Robbie tried hard all game.

Another really good team effort so it's pleasing to see the lads having a real go and putting into place some of our game sense play along the way. Grading all done so we'll see what comes our way moving forward and continue to grow our team and play options.

Thanks everyone - see you at training & looking forward to next week. Go Dragons

U14 GIRLS JOHN BERNARDO

A 10:30 start at Scammell gave our mums plenty of time for a little breakfast in bed.

With the addition of 3 first gamers Bonnie, Indi and Taylor we went into the game with a near full list. And boy did we need it as the Waverley Hawks came out firing, and it showed in the score as we went into half time with a narrow 2 point lead.

With true Oakleigh Dragons U14 Girls determination and endeavour the girls put in a huge performance in the 3rd quarter and kicked away to a 3 goal lead.

4th quarter, and with Sienna on the bench and the Hawks playing with an extra player we again held off a late challenge and got home by 6 points.

Well done girls!!

U15 BOYS JOHN McLAUGHLIN

Opponent: Waverley Park Hawks Away Game

Result: Oakleigh Dragons won by 8 points

The football Gods were smiling on us again and it was another great day for footy. The Hawks are a long-time rival, and it was good to play them again. The boys were ready to go after spoiling their mothers earlier in the day.

We were lucky to have 3 of the U14s put their hand up and play with us to make a full 20 players, big thanks to Zed, Ethan and Yanni. The game was high pressure football all the way through, due to the Hawk's intensity we could not get our running game going until the 3rd quarter where we got a bit of break and this was enough for us to hold on to win after a spirited comeback from the home team in the last quarter. Our boys did extremely well, in the last quarter, to grind out the game and for Billy R to kick a great goal to steady our ship late. A great win by the boys.

Special mentions from the game:

- All the boys again tried extremely hard again which is a credit to themselves.
- Aden was again "ever reliable" down back and does a great job week in and week out
- Jimmy M was good playing in the ruck against some real big opponents, he tried hard all day.



- Tommy W had a fantastic game; he sparked our 3rd quarter with some very attacking runs from half back which ended in multiple goals.
- Jackson L had a super game, and it is great for the boys to take the game on like both the Jacksons do.
- Billy R (4 goals), Oscar M and Tom H had their usual influence and are continuing their good years.

See all the boys at training his week (hopefully all on time!). We look forward to the challenges ahead.

U16 GIRLS SIMON GREELY

Round 4 vs East Malvern – 9th May 2021

It was another great day for footy – we have been very fortunate with the weather so far! Hopefully all the mums and significant women at the club enjoyed the day.

The U16s played 4 good quarters of football against a competitive East Malvern and kicked 6 goals, which was very pleasing. The way many players are starting to attack the footy and initiate fair contact is great to see. Gecko's 3 goals in the 2nd quarter (one, arguably, after the siren!) blew the game open but the ball doesn't get into the forward line without defenders and onballers doing their jobs well.

We are up to 9 Oakleigh debutantes this season in this team, which is fantastic for the club and puts us in a strong position to fill teams in 2022 and beyond.

Now that grading is over and the league has us down for 2 wins (against the same opposition), we might find ourselves graded higher than we had hoped, but we will have to wait and see. Our goal will be to improve as a team and be as competitive as possible.

Oakleigh 6.8.44 East Malvern 0.4.4

Goals – Gecko 3, Giselle 2, Mia 1.

Better players – Ashlee, Daisy, Giselle, Gecko, Britney and Christina.

U17 BOYS FABIAN AMEDEO

Happy Mother's Day to all the mums and thank-you for taking such good care of these boys.

It was a terrific day for football with very little wind and the temperature was just perfect. The boys started off really well with some awesome pressure at the ball. We spent most of the quarter with the ball in our forward 50 but like last week we didn't capitalise and make the most of our opportunities.

The second quarter was fantastic, and the boys lifted the tempo with some brilliant handball link up.

The 3rd and 4th quarters were pretty much the same with the boys running out the game comfortable winners. Some really pleasing individual efforts from Sam Ison, Lachie Wycherley, Jimmy and Sam McKenzie. Well done boys a terrific effort!



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	

