



# THE ACORN

SEASON 2022 ISSUE 3

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi all,

What a busy day we had at Scammell Reserve last Sunday!

The first U9s games started at 8am side by side with the modified rules in place and then the last U13s kicked off at 4:30pm. 8 games in a row at home!

The lights were turned on early and the U13s finished in the dark. We are extremely lucky to have good quality lights at our home ground.

A big thanks to everyone for making the day successful.

Once the football finished, the Grub at the Club rolled in and we had a very big crowd which was great to see.

I heard the U9 parents were a little bit worried / nervous, but they catered for the big crowd really well! A big thanks to the U9 for preparing the dinner but also clean up at the end.

Our next Grub at the Club is on 22nd of May hosted by the U10s and U11s.

On behalf of the Oakleigh Dragons Junior Football club, we wish all mums a Happy Mother's Day for next Sunday! Kids, please do the right thing and spoil your Mums for the day!

The Oakleigh Dragons Trivia night is filling up fast and we look forward to seeing a table from each team. It's on Friday the 13th of May 2022 in the clubrooms and is always guaranteed to be a fun night. Talk to your Team Manager regarding a table.

Go Dragons

Pat Heverin  
President

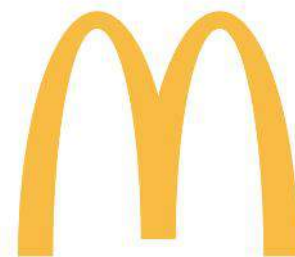
# GO DRAGONS

### 2022 COMMITTEE / OFFICIALS

President: Pat Heverin  
Vice President: Vacant  
Secretary (Acting): Melita Keywood  
Treasurer: Tony Trent  
Registrar: Kane Leopold  
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Boys Coaching (Junior): Tim Moreland  
Girls Coaching: Jeff Fortune  
Team Manager Co-ord: Jude Foster  
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## 2022 MAJOR SPONSORS



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

**FACEBOOK** Oakleigh Dragons Junior Football Club **INSTAGRAM** @oakleigh\_dragonsjfc



## COACHES' REPORTS

### U9 MIXED GREEN GARY GARCIA

We hosted East Sandringham at home on Sunday, and fair to say "it was a tough day at the office!" We conceded plenty of first quarter goals however, it was great to see our defence fight back to stem the flow. Although at the end, we were well beaten by an impressive team, Marco kicking 2 goals with limited opportunities was great to see. I'm very proud of our boys for sticking it through and playing their best until the final siren despite all being lost. It speaks volume, well done!

### U9 MIXED YELLOW RICK DAVIES

On Sunday we played in perfect conditions at Scammell Reserve against Ajax. We put together a really solid four quarter effort this week which was positive after showing signs in our last game.

Blake was instrumental in the midfield driving the ball forward with his long kicking. Darwell and Bronx captained and both put in great games from the midfield taking many marks and finding space. Hugh put in a really solid midfield game with a number of tackles setting up possession for teammates.

Our forward line functioned really well with quick ball movement allowing a number of shots on goal. It was great to kick four goals but we will be working on kicking accuracy at training with a number of misses!

In the end we had a 31 point victory. Overall it was fantastic to win our first game and see the team sing the song post-match with smiles all around!

Dragons Yellow 4.10.34          Ajax 0.3.3

Captains: Darwell, Bronx

Goals: Cameron, Charlie, Blake, Luke

Thank you to all the parents involved with the Sunday night dinner and a special mention to Ana Meyborg whose energy and passion for our team is truly wonderful.

### U10 MIXED FERGAL HOURIHANE

This week the U10 Mixed played a home game against East Malvern - our bogey team from last year – unfortunately the trend continued with the Dragons losing by just over two goals.

The first half was tight and low scoring. We failed to get reward from our many entries into the forward zone. The opposition defence was tall, organised and well-structured but we kept trying and it was a two point game at half time.

East Malvern scored a couple of goals in the third quarter and we were unable to respond. As the game played out the impacts of having five U9 players playing a second game began to tell. We changed things up but were unable to bridge the gap.

Masaki played his best game for the club with a great midfield performance and I was really pleased for Zach who had his breakout game after a lot of hard work at training.

A good effort with lots to work on at training. Go Dragons!





## U11 MIXED DAVID CASH

Well I hope these fantastic weather days continue through the winter, but I am not holding my breath, so we must enjoy them while we get them. This week the U11 mixed team played East Malvern at our home ground, Scammell along with another 7 Dragon's teams, and what a fantastic day of football it was.

We all had our fingers crossed it looked like for the first time this season all our players would be available for the game and with some U10's and an U9 playing with us we would have a full team. Until I received a text from Jacob's Dad on the way to the ground at 7am saying the Jacob was unwell overnight – I have heard since then and he is starting to recover and looking forward to the Round 4 game.

The game started well and was close all day with momentum swinging backwards and forwards between both teams, at the end of the first quarter we were 1 straight goal 6 to 2 goals 2 points 20, but felt we were always in the game.

The second quarter was about 2 goals each, but the third quarter was our quarter, kicking 4 goals to one to take a lead into the last break and setting up what we were hoping would be our first win of the season, however we only managed a couple of points, although we had a lot of the opportunity, we couldn't quite get it through the big sticks.

We ended up finishing just 4 points shy, but for the last minute of the game, the ball was in our forward half, and the entire crowd could feel the tension around the ground – every spectator was on the edge of their seat, (well the one that still remained seating) but most were standing and cheering their respective side on.

Straight after the game there were several players that had put so much into trying to get that last goal, they broke down a little and felt disappointed with the result. We helped them quickly put this into perspective, both the East Malvern Coach and I gave both teams the positive feedback that they so thoroughly deserved. Some of the spectators said they enjoyed that U11's game more than the AFL games. All the players played their hearts out and never stopped trying until the very last second (Just like the Dragons Song). We were all extremely proud of every single player.

**I cannot single out any one player from the game, as without a complete team effort it wouldn't be possible to have SUCH A CRACKING GAME OF FOOTBALL!!!!**

**WELL DONE TO EVERY PLAYER THAT PLAYED in our U11's game this week.**

## U12 GIRLS TONY WARD / DARREN TAYLOR

U12 Girls Div 2 (NonMod) – R3

Oakleigh Dragons v Murrumbeena JFC (Scammell Reserve)

We hosted Murrumbeena JFC at Scammell Reserve on a pretty good day for football.

This week we had 24 available players, with only Sienna not available due to injury. Murrumbeena had 17 girls, so both teams agreed to play with 15 girls on the field and the remainder on the interchange bench. As we had nine girls on the interchange bench, ensuring that all our girls got sufficient game time was challenging, but I am pleased with the number of girls we have, and the coaching group will continue to work hard to improve the rotations and matchups.

Before the game, we emphasised some critical aspects: kick to space, run and carry, tackling and pressure, playing in front, consistency of effort and support for your teammates. And very importantly – have fun.

During the week, we decided that we would name a captain that would lead the team for the game against Murrumbeena and the remainder of the season. Maddi was named captain for the rest of the season. Maddi is a perfect role model for all the girls in the team – congratulations, Maddi.



Maddi's first official action as captain was to toss the coin – well, we lost the toss and commenced the game kicking with a breeze which was worth a couple of goals.

We were confident of doing well, but we came up against a good Murrumbeena side, and for the first three quarters, we really couldn't get ourselves into the game. We had patches where we moved the ball well, and our tackling, pressure and effort were there but were a little outclassed.

At three-quarter time we were 71 points down, kicking against the breeze, so I was concerned that the game could blow out even further. To the girl's credit, they played an outstanding last quarter and started to play the type of football that we have been practising at training. The run and carry, kicking to space, pressure and linking with teammates were evident for all to see. As a team, we outplayed Murrumbeena in the last quarter, so I was very proud of how we finished off the game. To be only outscored by one point kicking against the breeze was a fantastic effort. As a team, if we could play the way we played in the last quarter more consistently, we would undoubtedly give the opposition a much tougher time from a scoreboard perspective.

Overall, once again, the effort was there, and there are several areas that we will focus on at training to assist the girls with their understanding of how we want to play going forward.

Some key callouts:

Tash and Elaine worked hard all day; Zoe was a rock both in the backline and the ruck and kicked our only goal; Miette and Maddi ran and pressured hard all day; Greta tackled with purpose and vigour, and all the other girls in the team tried hard all day.

I look forward to seeing all the girls at training on Friday - once again, don't forget your mouthguards and helmets (if you wear one)

Final Scores:

Murrumbeena JFC: 10.18.78

Oakleigh Dragons: 1.0.6

Best Players (in no particular order): Zoe, Miette, Maddi, Greta, Tash, Elaine

Goals: Zoe 1

## U12 MIXED GREEN PAUL VAN OOSTEN

After recording two good wins to start the season, our team was moved from Division 6 to Division 5, which was a fantastic reward for the boys and recognition for all the hard work they put in during the off season and to this point. Playing our first late game of the season (3pm), we spoke before the game about the importance of being switched on right from the start and continuing to work hard both with and without the ball. After winning the toss we were lucky enough to have a strong wind behind us in the first quarter and, credit to the boys, they did not waste it shooting out to a 7 goal lead by quarter time. At training during the week we spent a bit of time working on our centre clearances so it was pleasing to see Mony dominating in the ruck and giving his teammates first use of the ball.

As the game progressed our pressure and tackling in our forward line was excellent causing many turnovers that resulted in goals. Whilst our backline did not have a heap of work to do throughout the game, when the ball did make it down there they won it at the contest and moved it out really effectively. That is perhaps one of the most impressive parts of our game at the moment, the selfless and team oriented way we are moving the ball, using speed and fantastic vision to find a teammate further down the field and in a better position. Whilst we had great players all over the field - I must make mention of Will and Mony who continue to run hard, attack the ball and dominate all over the ground while Tom, Aiden and Liam provided great targets in our forward line. James, Charlie and Riley held firm in the backline all day and Johnny, Tyler and Jack tackled hard and did not stop running which allowed us to move the ball smoothly between the arcs. Special mention must go to Sasha who usually plays in the backline but was moved forward in the second



quarter and managed to kick his first goal of the season sending the crowd absolutely crazy in the process - awesome work mate!

After a great game of footy which we won 17-8-110 to 0-3-3, we feel as though we are starting to play a style of footy that will hold us in good stead moving forward. In the coming weeks we will no doubt get the opportunity to play against some really good teams which, importantly, will test and challenge our boys in ways we are yet to experience and help us to better understand what is and is not working and where we are at. We have plenty of work to do, however we are definitely moving in the right direction which is pleasing to see.

## U12 MIXED YELLOW TIM MORELAND

Today we were back at home taking on East Brighton Vampires. We welcomed Mihalis A in for his first game and it was great to see him bolting down in defence. Thanks also goes to the U/11's who supplied Jim, Christiano and Liam to fill in for the day. Thanks lads and families.

We stayed in the game for the most part of the day however we didn't find what was needed to go with the Vampires in the last quarter resulting in a comfortable 24 point loss. There's some things we can work on at training so we look forward to cracking into training this Wednesday.

Darcy R played a defensive "on ball" role today and did it too a tee in the first half, impacting many stoppages. Jethro played a good game deep back with support from Max, Robbie and Archie. Eamon and Troy tried hard on the wings whilst Cam provided some run across the ground. Ollie, Ethan and Paul tried to feed the ball out from in close, and on occasions to good forward effect. Fionn switched to a few positions today which is handy to have in his armoury.

Andrew was needed forward, back and mid and his forward running helps clear the lines. Chest infections and illness didn't stop Darcy M and Harland heavily impacting our style of play. They were both not 100%, however both their aerial marking and depth kicking really stood out across the ground with Darcy M kicking 2 goals and Harland 1. I love the way Cooper keeps learning the game. He was really good today and whilst his offensive on ball skills and ball getting are sound, his work on his defence and when to tackle is great to watch. Cooper was an important player today.

Look - we dropped off today which was disappointing however we know and have seen the type of play we can capture - so we now go back to the drawing board, train hard to improve and look forward to next week's game.

Go Dragons 

## U13 MIXED ANDREW GREEN

This week the Under 13's played at home against East Malvern in a twilight entertainer before the grub at the club at Scammell Reserve. With the game starting at 4.30pm and sky a shade of grey the lights were turned on to provide some extra lighting to start the match

We asked the boys to start with a defensive structure as we sorted out where our opposition was positioned. Well, the boys not only maintained a good defence but were able to kick 5 goals and go into the opening break with a handy lead.

For the following two quarters the boys continued to work on some solid defence but were also able to create linking hands balls on the run and some impressive kicking into the forward line. There were also some great examples of tackling, shepherding, and protecting the ball winner to enable the team to move the ball down the ground. It was a great team effort with every team member continuing to improve their skill and contribution to the team.





With the sun setting and streaming rays of sunlight shining across the ground the boys lost some structure around the ball. While we were well ahead and had the game wrapped up it is certainly an area the team needs to work on moving forward to make sure we play a solid 4 quarters.

All up we played a good solid game and came away convincing winners 81 to 8 in the third grading game and look forward to the playing Murrumbena this Sunday.

It was also great to see the many parents and kids enjoy the grub at the club this week.

## U14 MIXED GLENN THOMSON

St. Bedes Mentone 9.9.63  
Oakleigh 0.8.8      Away

Firstly, I'd like to thank Andrew and Phil for allowing their players Campbell, Troy Morton, Nathan, Hamish and Elliott to play with the Under 14's. Without them we would have had to forfeit the game.

We were promoted to division two this week and were totally outclassed with fastball movement, effort at the contest, pressure on the ball and willingness to run and tackle. The lads looked really down on themselves. At three quarter time I asked the boys for effort to try and win the last quarter which they did! Well done, great effort. Remember, no losing only learning. See you at training with lots to keep working on.

## U15 BOYS ZAC BARRETT & MASON ANSELL

Quarter one was a tight contest with both teams getting a feel for each other. Brighton Beach were marking well and controlling the air, whilst Oakleigh were controlling the contested ball. There was a lot of contested play throughout the quarter and by running hard and tackling Oakleigh were able to squeeze a narrow lead at the first break.

Quarter two began with Brighton kicking ahead with a four goal to one quarter. Making the most of their opportunities with the wind behind them Brighton began creating marking chains up the ground that we were unable to match for the quarter. Whilst Oakleigh did see plenty of the ball, the quarter belonged to Brighton.

Oakleigh came out of after the main break with a fire in their bellies. With strong play and quick movement, the Dragons were able to chip away at the Brighton lead and eventually gain supremacy. With hard running from the midfield and an attacking mindset from the whole team Oakleigh were able to end the third term with a four-point lead.

The last quarter saw an incredibly tight contest with both teams giving everything they had. Hard running and frantic defence coupled with the determination to get it done saw Oakleigh maintain their lead throughout the term. Some tense final moments saw Brighton having repeated entry into the Oakleigh defence but the safe hands of the Oakleigh backs saw the final siren sound with Oakleigh in front by four points.

Oakleigh 6.7 43 def Brighton Beach 5.9 39.

Goal Scorers:

S. Ung 2  
R. Taranto  
T. Interrigi  
C. Watts  
S. Amedeo



## U16 GIRLS JOHN BERNARDO

Driving into the game I had my daughter Sienna look up the result of Cheltenham's last game and to our horror we found out that they had won by nearly 100 points. So from that moment the pressure was on for us to perform in order to get anywhere close to this opposition today.

As I arrived at the game I saw that more than half my team was already there which showed me that the enthusiasm was there from the start. During my address before the game I explained that with 6 on the bench we had plenty of fresh legs. Therefore everyone was to go at 150% and leave nothing in the tank.

Once the game started everything clicked. We were playing like a well-oiled machine. All that hard work at training had finally come to fruition.

- Sienna was kicking banana goals from the boundary
- Ella's determination was huge with a 40 meter chase down of an opponent
- Julia laid the tackle of the year
- Harriet snapped truly for her second goal of the year
- Gracie was marking everything and also scored a goal
- Jessica, Eva, Lauren and Olivia absolutely dominated the backline
- Chelsea was everywhere and booted 2 goals
- Taylor played her best game ever
- Chooty, Gecko, Sophie, Clem, Daisy and Bonnie ran rampant throughout the game
- Britney was like a terrier and also chipped in with a goal
- Hillary in only her first game, laid the best bump I've ever seen
- Mia pleaded with me to play at full forward, and she rewarded me with a great goal
- Which leaves our best on ground player Freya, her game was the full package - pressure, marks, tackles and even a goal!

Final score 8-12- 60 to 1-1-7

Very, very proud

## U16 BOYS JOHN MCLAUGHLIN

**Opponent:** East Malvern    **Away Game:**

**Result:** Oakleigh Dragons lost by 13 points

We arrived at East Malvern knowing we were in for a competitive game. Our boys have been playing well and with great spirit over the first two weeks and now was a test against one of the more fancied teams. Our goal is to improve over the year and enjoy playing footy and being part of the Dragons u16 team.

Our start was ok with a high pressure footy from both teams. We struggled a little bit to get the ball out cleanly from the centre which was due to their pressure. They had some good ball movement and run from half back which was a concern. They held a slight lead at quarter time. The wind was pushing the ball to the pavilion side of the ground, and we found it difficult to cross the ground like we wanted to, the boys stuck to their guns, and it was 3 goals to 4 at half time. One very good thing came out of the day was that we now know that we can match it with anyone in this division, we were in with a shot at half time. The third quarter was entertaining with the Dragons producing their best footy to hit the lead by 7 points. In the last we had sustained injuries to two of our onballers Elliot and Josh, so we had no bench,



which was a telling factor in the end as they had fresh legs. Both teams worked hard, and East Malvern kick 3 goals, with the wind, to our 1 in the last to run out winners.

In the rooms after the games the boys were disappointed but must be proud in the effort they put in; we will get another crack at them soon enough and I know we can reverse the result.

Special mentions from the game:

- Billy was outstanding all day; his marking is certainly something to see. They had no match for him, and he was a clear best in ground. His banana goal was a beauty.
- Oscar was all over the ground and played well, he was very clean and ran hard. Elliot was lively and had kicked 3 before he was injured.
- Another terrific game by the back line who are making it very hard to score against. Aden and Tommy W both good again.
- There were a few more who continued their good form – Borgy, Joey and Jimmy.

See all the boys at training his week. Bad luck on the result but well done on the efforts by everyone involved.



## 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.

## SOCIAL MEDIA



Don't forget to follow us on social media for all the latest news

Facebook: Oakleigh Dragons Junior Football Club

Instagram: @oakleigh\_dragonsjfc





# OAKLEIGH DRAGONS TRIVIA NIGHT

**THEME: FRIDAY THE 13TH**

**GATHER THE GANG AND GET  
COMPETITIVE!**

FRIDAY THE 13TH OF MAY

7:00PM

TICKETS \$15

PAY AT THE CANTEEN, BAR DURING  
GRUB AT THE CLUB,  
OR VIA BANK DEPOSIT:

BSB 633000, ACC 156380958

DESCRIPTION: "TRIVIA - NAME AND  
EMAIL ADDRESS"





## RAFFLE WINNER



Congratulations to the Engel family (U12) who walked away with both the meat tray raffle and Medallion club seats and parking package kindly donated by the Watts (U15).

## 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. In accordance with the league policy that has been in place for some years, there are no exemptions for VIT or Police. If you would like to understand the league's position on this, please email Kathy at [complianceOYCFC@gmail.com](mailto:complianceOYCFC@gmail.com)



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/guardian that holds a valid WWCC.

If you do not hold a current WWCC card, please apply for one asap at <https://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au> and quote Occupation Codes #42 and #70





## 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
10-Apr	Round 1	Round 1	Round 1	Round 1	School Holidays	U15 Boys
17-Apr	NO GAMES				Easter Sunday	
24-Apr	Round 2	Round 2	Round 2	Round 2	School Holidays	U12 Mixed
1-May	Round 3	Round 3	Round 3	Round 3		Under 9 Mixed
8-May	Round 4	Round 4	Round 4	Round 4	Mother's Day	
15-May	Round 5	Round 5	Round 5	Round 5		
22-May	Round 6	Round 6	Round 6	Round 6		U10 Mixed & U11 Mixed
29-May	Round 7	Round 7	Round 7	Round 7		
5-Jun	Round 8	Round 8	Round 8	Round 8		U12 & U14 Girls
12-Jun	NO GAMES				Queen's Birthday	
19-Jun	Round 9	Round 9	Round 9	Round 9		U16 & U18 Girls
26-Jun	NO GAMES				School Holidays	
3-Jul	NO GAMES				School Holidays	
10-Jul	Round 10	Round 10	Round 10	Round 10	School Holidays	U13 Mixed
17-Jul	Round 11	Round 11	Round 11	Round 11		
24-Jul	Round 12	Round 12	Round 12	Round 12		U14 Mixed
31-Jul	Round 13	Round 13	Round 13	Round 13		
7-Aug	Lightning Carnival	Round 14	Round 14	Round 14		
14-Aug		Lightning Carnival	Round 15	Round 15		U16 Boys
21-Aug			Semi Finals	Semi Finals		
28-Aug			Grand Finals	Preliminary Finals		
4-Sep				Grand Finals	Father's Day	



It was another busy evening at Grub at the Club on Sunday.

Thanks again to the U9 teams for catering.