



# THE ACORN

SEASON 2022 ISSUE 4

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi all,

I hope all the Mums had a lovely day on Sunday and the kids spoiled them! I heard some teams put in that extra effort to spoil their Mum's. The Under 9s yellow team presented their Mum's with a flower and the Under 14s laid on a brunch for their Mum's. Well done, that was really thoughtful.

All games went well at Scammell and were played in good Oakleigh Dragons spirit. Remember to listen and respect the umpires at all times. Most umpires are current or past junior players, they just want you to enjoy your match while following the rules.

The Trivia night is this Friday night, and a lot of work has been done behind the scenes to make this an amazing evening, so we ask that you make an effort and attend! These nights are great fun and a good way to meet other parents, not only in your team, but also at our club.

Contact your Team Manager for your table numbers but we ask that you come along to make the night successful!

See you Friday night.

Go Dragons!

Pat Heverin  
President

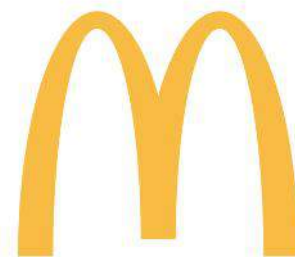
# GO DRAGONS

### 2022 COMMITTEE / OFFICIALS

President: Pat Heverin  
Vice President: Vacant  
Secretary (Acting): Melita Keywood  
Treasurer: Tony Trent  
Registrar: Kane Leopold  
Child Safety Officer: Marnie Morton  
Incident Co-ordinator: Sonya Moreland  
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Sponsorship: Phil Sturrock  
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Football Manager: David Cash  
Boys Coaching (Youth): John McLaughlin  
Boys Coaching (Junior): Tim Moreland  
Girls Coaching: Jeff Fortune  
Team Manager Co-ord: Jude Foster  
Canteen Manager: Yijing Lu  
Bar Manager: Gab Dunn  
Property Officer: Chris Goodman  
Social Media: Jason Craig

### 2022 MAJOR SPONSORS



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



# THE ACORN

SEASON 2022

ISSUE 4

ROUND 4 / SUNDAY 8 MAY

## MILESTONE GAMES!

# CONGRATULATIONS

Christian Bernardo U16

# 100 GAMES



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](mailto:complianceOYCFC@gmail.com)



## 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

**CONTACT DETAILS** Pat Heverin Ph: 0402 905 198 secretaryOYCFC@gmail.com [www.oakleighdragons.com.au](http://www.oakleighdragons.com.au)

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



## COACHES' REPORTS

### U9 MIXED GREEN **GARY GARCIA**

On Sunday, the last of the grading games, we were up against another tough opponent in the Brighton Vampires.

Unfortunately, a few late withdrawals meant we couldn't field a full team. The pressure was on from the opening bounce and Brighton quickly kicked away.

However, it was so exciting to see unlikely hero's applying a tonne of pressure. Evan's run and carry "awesome", Jack's attack on the footy "courageous", Sushant's dash & pressure "outstanding", Kai's hard work "excellent". One particular player, listened well to instructions and took the game on and was inspirational...well done Francesco!

Overall, despite the loss, there were so many positives that came out of the game. Well done boys! Training is definitely paying off and I can't wait to see you all on Wednesday! Go the Dragons!!

### U9 MIXED YELLOW **RICK DAVIES**

The Under 9 yellow team played at home against the Caulfield Bears on Sunday at 8am.

We had a wonderful start to Mother's Day with the team presenting their Mum's a flower and being part of the pre-match talk.

The team continue to progress and we continued where we left off last week with a great four quarter effort to win comfortably.

Will W. put in a best on ground display with great defensive pressure and long kicks forward. He was also rewarded for his "tackle of the year" in the final quarter. Zoe rucked all day with great second and third efforts to push the ball forward. Lucas and Luke did some magical weaving through packs to get the ball deep into the forward line. Dante and Seth captained really well and continued to find space and attack the ball.

Overall a really good team performance and it was great to see the boys and girls sing the Dragons song arm in arm with their Mum's after the game. (Pictured below)

Captains: Dante and Seth

Goals: Bronx 2, Raj, James, Charlie, Darwell, Cameron and Dion.

Go Dragons!





## U10 MIXED FERGAL HOURIHANE

The U10's Mixed had an away game against Murrumbeena this week. We scrambled together a team of 16 and borrowed two from the opposition on the day. The game followed a similar pattern to the previous week with Oakleigh having a lot of possession in the forward zone but not able to reflect this on the scoreboard. At the other end our defence was "leaky" with Murrumbeena scoring easily and quickly without a whole lot of effort.

In the last quarter we peppered the opposition's goal with attempt after attempt but were unable to get all the goals we needed which resulted in Murrumbeena winning by just over four goals.

We will continue to work on our defence in training and also some practical advice and drills to help our attack. While the boys may be disappointed they did many things very well on the day and some of our younger players continue to improve. Theodore and Oliver both played really solid games in the midfield which was pleasing. Overall the effort was there; we now need to work on 'game smarts' and execution.

Go Dragons!

## U11 MIXED DAVID CASH

I hope all the Mum's had a great Mother's Day this weekend and enjoyed watching their son or daughter's game this week.

This week the U11 Mixed team played Ormond JFC (again after playing them in a practice match).

We bounded out of the blocks well in the first quarter and went into the first break in front after kicking 1 goal 1, but then Ormond JFC turned their game up and competed hard for the rest of the game. Although the game was close on the field the scoreboard didn't reflect it like we all wanted it to, but the score line isn't the only way to measure a game. We finished 30 points behind Ormond in this game, but in the practice match the difference was at least double this, so some great improvement was seen, but probably not realised on the day or throughout the game.

We had our opportunities and we did have some great passages of play, but couldn't take it through the goals, but there were a lot of positives to take out of the game. The repeat efforts that many players put in was fantastic, pressure is one of the three key things we are focusing on this season and there were many occasions that the pressure we put on created turn overs. There were some great marks during the game, including intercept marks as well as marks from our own teammates with good kicking.

This week was the first time we had all 15 of our U11 players available, and with Gregory filling in from the U9's team providing us 16 players, and 2 Ormond players making up our 18 v the Ormond JFC 18 on the field.

There is a lot to like, and a lot of opportunity to build on what we are all learning.

Look forward to training this week where Leigh and I (along with helpful parents) will keep working on skills, tactics, fitness and overall footy skills so we can continue to grow throughout the remainder of the Season.

Keep talking to your friends and others that might be able to join our team so we can grow our numbers, so we don't rely on opposition players to fill in.





## U12 GIRLS TONY WARD & DARREN TAYLOR

U12 Girls Div 2 (NonMod)

Oakleigh Dragons v St Kilda City JFC (Scammell Reserve)

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

We hosted St Kilda City JFC at Scammell Reserve on a pretty good day for football.

This week, we had 21 available players, with only Sienna, Sophia, Vicki and Stella unavailable. St Kilda City had 15 players, so we played the match with 15 players on the ground and 6 on the interchange bench. With 6 girls on the bench, we continue to try and get all the girls as much game time as possible, but it is still a little challenging.

Many key objectives were emphasised before the game: effort, pressure and tackling, be first to the ball, play in front, kick to space to the advantage of our teammates, help and support, encourage and talk.

The previous week we had named Maddi captain for the season. Before the game against St Kilda City, we decided to give Maddi some help. We named two Vice Captains also for the remainder of the season – congratulations to Tash and Zoe for accepting those positions. I do not doubt that Maddi, Tash and Zoe will provide excellent leadership for the team.

We were confident of doing well, and based on St Kilda City's results in the first 3 rounds, I thought it would be a pretty even contest. It turned out to be that way in the first half, as both sides were locked on 1.2.8 at halftime.

We lost our way in the third quarter but were only 7 points down at  $\frac{3}{4}$  time, so I was confident we would run the game out based on our previous last quarter efforts. Unfortunately, St Kilda City gained momentum during the last quarter, and while the girls tried extremely hard, we were a little outpointed and finished up being beaten by 21 points.

While we didn't play the way we would have liked to have played, the effort was there, and all the girls worked hard, but a better side beat us on the day. As a team, we need to be mindful that we have a wide range of football experience in this side, from those playing their first season to others who have played for a few seasons. I am sure everyone will improve as the season progresses.

Some key callouts:

- Skye and Thalia played well, and I thought it was probably their best performance for the year.
- Mim's last quarter was fantastic, and her ability to continue to chase, harass and tackle was great to watch.
- Tessy did some nice things and put in a solid effort for the day.
- Nadia, Izzy, Bonnie, Ita, Jessica, and Edie – are relatively new to the game and still learning, but I was happy with your efforts – you will continue to improve.
- Camryn, Zoe, Maddi, Miette, and Misaki – all ran and worked hard all day, applying tremendous pressure to the opposition.
- Elaine, Semira, and Tash – all worked hard, and as usual, all gave us some incredible drive.
- Alicia, Kiana, and Greta – worked very hard and attacked the footy with gusto.

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:

Oakleigh: 1.3.9

StKilda City JFC: 4.6.30

Best Players (in no particular order): Camryn, Skye, Zoe, Elaine, Miette, Maddi

Goals: Misaki 1



## U12 MIXED GREEN PAUL VAN OOSTEN

Playing our third home game in a row at the beautiful Scammell Reserve, we were up against an undefeated St Peters team in what were fantastic conditions for football. Unfortunately we had a couple of players pull out during the week for different reasons, however we were lucky to have Rhyce and Jaron from the U11's put their hand up to come and play for us despite having just finished playing a full game of footy! Huge effort lads and massively appreciated!

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Oakleigh	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-3-3	2-3-15
St Peters	0-2-2	3-3-21	5-5-35	7-7-49

Whilst St Peters proved too good for us in the end, I am not convinced that the final scores accurately reflect the closeness of the game. It was very much a story of two halves, albeit not in the conventional sense, with both the 1st and 4th quarters proving to be very even contests with both sides winning their fair share of the footy and having several chances to kick goals. Across this period of the game St Peters were ahead by only 4 points. The 2nd and 3rd quarters, however, were a very different story with St Peters dominating all over the ground and making it count on the scoreboard. What quickly became obvious during this middle period of the game was the extent to which our work rate and skills really dropped off, both with and without the ball, which meant we weren't pressuring and tackling the way we normally would nor were we creating space, providing options and hitting targets when we had the ball. Across this period of the game St Peters were ahead by 30 points.

Whilst it was not the result we were after, there were still some real positives that we can take away from the game and build upon. Our backline, led by Oscar, Aiden, James and Riley, held firm under enormous pressure, while Caleb, Tom and Rhyce took several strong marks and won plenty of the ball across half forward. Special mention must go to Jaron who played brilliantly in the midfield, winning plenty of the ball and working hard from one end of the ground to the other in order to help out his teammates. At 3/4 time we challenged the boys to go out there, finish the game strongly and win the last quarter and, led by Will, Tom and Jaron in the midfield, the whole team lifted and played superbly and, as coaches, we could not have been prouder of them. I have no doubt that this game taught the boys some valuable lessons (which we will discuss at training), in particular the importance of staying switched on and working hard for the full four quarters, however, I also believe that our efforts across the 1st and 4th quarters demonstrate that, when we play our best football, we can compete with any of the teams in our division.

## U12 MIXED YELLOW TIM MORELAND

Happy Mother's day to all the Mum's!!! It was great to have some available Mum's in the centre of our circle to sing the song with the boys today. After a clunky start across the first half, we found our style of play and put the accelerator down in the second half to win 78 - 11. We had to loan Beaumaris a couple of players as they had been struck by illness so many thanks to the lads who played over. Thanks to Liam and Josh for scrabbling over after their own game to support the team. Thanks lads.

Whilst we were scrappy in the first half there were some strong efforts across the ground with Max reading the play well and marking, Ethan moving across forward and back and Robbie's attack on the ball deep forward. Eamon continues to find confidence and read the play well, while Mihalis's effort in defending a one on one set up a confident forward attack. We held our breath as Jethro almost slid through a clever snap shot. Next week Jethro! Darcy R continued his good form of last week around the middle and Paul worked hard in close to get his hands on the ball. In the second half we started to play our way with free flowing possession, hitting targets and working for each other was clear. Our second half was pretty impressive and we did not allow them to get their hands on the ball much.



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ROUND 4 / SUNDAY 8 MAY

We changed Fionn around to gain some experience in different positions however his reading of the play from half back is very good. Both Cameron (hand stood on) and Cooper (blood nose) smashed it all day and even with some soreness continued playing well for the team. Cooper is hitting more and more targets which is great to see. Well done boys! We really enjoy it when Troy and Ollie attack the ball both in the air and on the ground. Today was no exception and they're both improving every week. We welcomed Ajay into the team today and he played very well 'on ball' getting his hands on plenty of the ball. We also threw Archie onto the ball in the second half and he collected plenty of it, shepherding for teammates and using his voice to coordinate the team. Well done Arch.

Harland continues to show us his presence on the ground, and every week - displaying his continued understanding of the game. His leadership is really important to the group and his marking around the ground impressive. For the second week in a row we gave some specific on ball instructions to a player and this week Andrew executed perfectly. It's really good to see the lads develop their own play with some simple starting points which ultimately benefit the team position. Our best player on the day was Darcy M. He had his own footy and kicked 9 goals, including a left foot snap on the run, marked it everywhere when he wasn't breaking out of packs, and hit moving targets regularly. Well done Darcy.

A pleasing win on Mother's Day. We hope all the Mum's had a great day and got to spend some quality time with the family after the game.



Go Dragons!

## U13 MIXED ANDREW GREEN

This week we travelled to neighbouring Murrumbeena and played against a team we have met several times in previous years in our Division 3 grading game. This was always going to be a challenge, but a challenge that the boys were keen to rise to against solid competition.

The game was a real battle between both teams with every ball requiring solid determination to win. However the boys rose to the occasion and were able to gain a handy lead in the first quarter break. Beena were then able to score some handy goals and it was game on at half time. The game seesawed over the back half of the game and Oakleigh went down in their first loss of the season by 5 points with a score line of Oakleigh 44 to Murrumbeena 49.

With only one boy on the bench and a few outs due to COVID the boys put in a solid effort and should be proud of a game well played against a strong opposition. While it was great to see effort with the ball it was the additional effort that was impressive when we didn't have the ball through shepherds, tackles and great game pressure. We expect to meet Murrumbeena again and it will surely be a solid contest.

## U14 MIXED GLENN THOMSON

South Melbourne 14.17.101  
Oakleigh JFC 3.5.23

We were blessed with some sunshine for the Mum's to enjoy their Mother's day brunch in the traditional Oakleigh Dragons corporate box! Unfortunately, the boys weren't able to put up much of a fight against the skillful opposition who moved the ball well. Positives from the match are that we were only 4 goals down at half time and were really fighting hard to get numbers around the contest to win the ball and get it moving forward. Areas for improvement is our pressure, pressure, pressure. When we don't bring it, teams can move the ball easily and score at will.





Finally the U14 would like to express their gratitude to the U13s for playing up again this week and making it possible for us to play. Thanks to James, Jack, Josh, Elliott and Mitch.  
Chins up. See you at training.

## U15 BOYS ZAC BARRETT & MASON ANSELL

Round 4 saw Oakleigh travelling to the Beena Arena to play Murrumbeena in a hotly contested affair. The first quarter saw an end to end run of play with both teams having plenty of opportunity but struggling to capitalise. The first quarter ended Oakleigh 2.2- 14 trailing Murrumbeena 3.4- 22.

The second quarter began with a barrage of forward 50 entries for Murrumbeena with the Oakleigh defence under pressure. Murrumbeena began to kick away slightly in the second term with their midfield combining for two goals out of the centre. Oakleigh were restricted to 2 scoring shots in the second, Oakleigh ended the second term trailing Murrumbeena by 10 points.

Halftime saw a reinvigorated Dragons outfit claw away at the Murrumbeena lead with both teams registering several chances. First class service from Oakleigh's ruckman saw the Dragons end the third quarter with a 20 to 13 quarter trailing by only 3 points.

The final term was a close contest with both teams fighting desperately to get over the line. Oakleigh fought hard and managed to gain the lead with 1:20 left on the clock. Unfortunately, due to a free kick in the middle of the ground before the ball was thrown up, Murrumbeena were able to quickly score through the corridor and gain the lead back. Oakleigh managed to register one final attempt with the set shot being on line but falling just short. A close affair ended with Murrumbeena getting the win on the day by just 4 points.

Murrumbeena 9. 11 – 65 def Oakleigh 9. 7 – 61

### Goals:

T Interrigi 2

R Granig 2

D Macrae 2

S Amedeo

B Moreland

G Antonopoulos

## U16 GIRLS JOHN BERNARDO

Oakleigh 1-1-7 Vampires 7-11-53

A big thanks to the Mum's for giving up those beautiful lunches and coming out to watch the footy.

Today didn't quite go as planned. We were hoping to turn the tables on the Vampires and come away with a win but they again showed us that they were a better team.

There were a few standouts today:

- Eva again had a blistering start to the game and helped keep the first quarter scoring to a minimal.
- Chelsea had a first half influence with a heap of pressure and running.
- Freya came into the game in the second half with her tackling and hustle.
- Hilary booted her first goal and all in front of a very proud goal umpire Peter (Hilary's Dad).
- But the best on ground performance definitely goes to Fiona. Her game was at an extreme level today. She was absolutely involved in everything. It was Fiona's best ever game for the Oakleigh Dragons.





## U16 BOYS JOHN MCLAUGHLIN

Opponent: St Peters/ Murrumbeena Home Game:

Result: Oakleigh Dragons lost by 10 goals

On a beautiful Mother's Day, Scammell Reserve was looking a picture and we were facing St Peter's/Murrumbeena for the first time. This is a game where many of the boys know each other so bragging rights were up for grabs. Our Skipper was playing his 100th game so there was extra incentive to do well. Injuries continue to disrupt this team, our key forward Billy hurt himself at school and will be out for a number of weeks. Our boys went into the game with some confidence after seeing that St Peters had suffered an unexpected loss the previous week. This was a mistake as they jumped us at the start of the game and were 5 goals to zero in the first quarter with lots of work to do.

To the boy's credit we controlled more of the football in the next 2 quarters and moved the ball well in patches. We did let ourselves down at some critical times and let them score against the momentum on several occasions, saying this St Peter's did run the ball and teamed up extremely well. Unfortunately, we did get another couple of injuries, so we had no interchange by the end of the game, we hope Hady and Borgy recover quickly. The last quarter was where the opposition scored heavily and ran away easy winners. I think our preparation could have been better for this game and we will learn from this. It is a matter of 2 steps forward and one step back. I know the boys will stick together and we will be back on the winners list very soon. We will not panic and stick to our game plan.

Special mentions from the game:

- Firstly, a big congratulation to our co-Captain Christian Bernardo on playing his 100th game - he has been a key player for this team since under 9's. He is committed to the team, very talented, a fantastic young man and a pleasure to coach.
- Oscar was all over the ground and played well again, his work at stoppages is fantastic.
- Another terrific game by Joey off half back – he was willing to back himself and run forward.
- Josh played well in a number of positions.
- Jake has been playing some good football up forward with clean possessions and playing on when he is able.
- Well done to the back line, led by Aden, Tom and Lachie.

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



## 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.



## KEEP GRUB AT THE CLUB GREEN

As many of you would be aware, our Club has made an effort over the years to improve our environmental footprint. One of our recent initiatives is 'Grub's Gone Green' with all families bringing their own plates and cutlery to Grub, and the uptake on that has been fantastic. We've dramatically reduced the amount of single use plastic generated at the Club.

However, we have noted that the rubbish disposal on Grub nights is problematic. Please remember when clearing up after your meal at Grub that the red bin is for rubbish and food scraps, and the yellow bin is for recyclable waste including bottles and cans. This will ensure that recyclable goods can be recycled as intended.

The Yellow Bin	The Red Bin
 Hard plastic containers	 Food scraps
 Glass bottles and jars	 Soft plastics
 Paper and cardboard	 General waste
 Aluminium foil	
 Cartons	





# 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"



## 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	

