



THE ACORN

SEASON 2023 ISSUE 16

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi Team,

Congrats to Max Heinze and Ajay Mehta on their 50 game and James Borg on his 100 game milestones. A season well played.

Well done to our teams that made it into the finals. U13 Green mixed, U14 Girls, U14 Boys, U18 Girls and U18 Boys. Every player, in all 14 teams, has shown a commitment to themselves and their team to give it their best, whether it is at training or on game day. You should be proud of what you have achieved in this season.

Our Finals campaign kicked off on Thursday night with the U14 boys taking on Murrumbidgee/St. Peters. The team played a great 4 quarters of football and were very close at the first and second break under lights at Dingley. It was good to see so much support from the Club, with coaches and parents, players and even some injured players come on down to cheer on the team. The same support carried on for the U14 Girls early on Sunday morning at Mentone, the cloud cleared and the sun shone and there was a second quarter goal out of the centre that was just the best.

The U18G played a brave game in their qualifying final and move on to their Prelim Final 11:00am, 3 Sept at Boss James Reserve. The U14G team play their Prelim Final at 10:30am at Elwood Park on Sunday. Get down and support these teams and show your colours.

The U13 Green side play their Grand Final match this Sunday at 12:40pm at Chadwick Reserve, Dingley. This is going to be a great match and will showcase all the future talent this Club has in the pipeline. The U18B team await the results to see who they will play in their Grand Final scheduled for Sunday 10 Sept, enjoy the rest boys and get ready for the big one. A big thanks to everyone that got behind all these teams this weekend.

If you need a night off in the kitchen, who doesn't, head on up to Grill'd at Chadstone and show your support for the Club by dropping your token into our Jar during September. The Club will receive up to \$500 which we will put towards equipment for next season.

Fuel up your tanks, we have a good deal of support to dish out this weekend. See you 'round the grounds.

Go Dragons. Yellow and Green!

Brodie Phillips, President

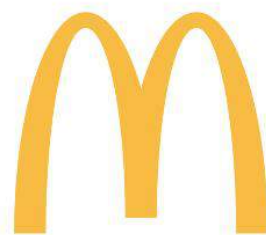
2022 COMMITTEE / OFFICIALS

President: Brodie Phillips
Vice President: David Cash
Secretary: Caz Hayes
Treasurer: Volker Heinze
Registrar: Kane Leopold
Compliance Officer: Kathy McGeoch
Property Officer: Chris Goodman
Canteen Manager: Bella Van Duersen
Sponsorship Coordinator: Phil Sturrock
Social Media: Vacant

Football Operations Manager: David Cash
Team Manager Coordinator: Jude Foster
First Aid Coordinator: Lindsay Armatas
Child Safety Officers: Sonya Moreland / Andrew Allan
Boys Coaching Coordinator (Youth): John McLaughlin
Boys Coaching Coordinator (Junior): Tim Moreland
Girls Coaching Coordinator: John Bernardo
Incident Coordinator: Sonya Moreland
Bar Manager: Gab Dunn
Social Committee: Vacant

General Committee:
Annelise Scott
Justin Scott
Sonya Moreland

2023 MAJOR SPONSORS



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CHADSTONE**



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ROUND 16 / SUNDAY 27 AUG

STONE GAMES!

CONGRATULATIONS

50

GAMES

Max Heinze, U13 Mixed Green



CONGRATULATIONS

50

GAMES

Ajay Mehta, U13 Mixed Green



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CONGRATULATIONS

James Borg, U18 Boys

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



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2023 FINALS!

Well done to all our teams that are still in the finals. We have three finals games coming up this weekend - a Grand Final for our U13 Green Mixed, and Preliminary Finals for our U14 and U18 girls. Our U18 boys are straight through to the Grand Final on 10 September.

Please get behind these teams and come down to their finals matches to cheer them on. Go Dragons!

Good luck!

U14

GIRLS

Preliminary Final

Sunday 3 September, 10.30am
Wattie Watson Oval

Good luck!

U18

GIRLS

Preliminary Final

Sunday 3 September, 11.00am
Boss James Reserve

Good luck!

U13

GREEN

Grand Final

Sunday 3 September, 12.40pm
Chadwick Reserve

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For the month of
SEPTEMBER



**WE NEED YOUR
TOKEN VOTE!**



Buy a Grill'd Burger at Grill'd Chadstone during
September. Put your token in the
Oakleigh Dragons jar to help the club.

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TOYOTA

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*Support Oakleigh JFC and you could win
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Oakleigh JFC



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COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED!

There are just a couple of Rounds left for 2023, but the Committee is already looking ahead to next season. We have a number of Committee vacancies coming up, with kids aging out of junior football, and support is needed from younger age groups. The Committee is a great way to help shape your kids' football experience, and a fantastic way to get involved in your community! Come along to a Committee Meeting or contact a current member to see how you can help in a role, big or small!

SEASON 2024



ALL CONTRIBUTIONS WELCOME!

For more information:

secretaryOYCFC@gmail.com

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COACHES' REPORTS

U13 MIXED GREEN TIM MORELAND

Semi Final today against Bentleigh/Highett and we're so proud of the boys for making the Grand Final next week. We didn't start off the way we would like today, however we got into a groove at times where we put our foot down and took this one out by 54 points. Charlie and Liam settled back into the team as our backs, and were again hard to break and contested all day. James, Aidan, Curtis and Darcy R worked hard and we had Paul, Cam and Cooper running across half back and wing. Andrew has found his niche on the wing as well and controlled his side of the ground.

I reckon there's still room for improvement even though we had a comfortable win. Our good is very good so our theme of Intensity, Consistency & Energy is a real one. Our forwards were well represented by Troy, Archie, Harrison and Johnny who tried hard to lock the ball in and Tommy was balanced through the middle of the ground. We're liking what Heath is doing up forward as he improves each week whilst Kaeleb gives us strength overhead and in contests.

Tyler stepped up his contested game in the second half and got plenty of the ball and Oscar is finding his way as a very good utility being able to play forward, back and mid. Harland is a real bouncing board from half back and Darcy M showed some great leadership today before and during the game getting the boys together.

One to go! Let's all get to training on time and with energy this week so we can take some really good form into the Grand Final next Sunday.

Go Dragons



U14 GIRLS JUSTINE LEOPOLD

Today we played our first final against St Bedes/Mentone at their home ground. Our girls were coming off 3 wins in a row, and a sensational training session, so the vibe was awesome! We had a great warm up, with some epic tunes, and were roaring to go when we got out onto the field.



Unfortunately for us, so was St Bedes/Mentone, and they ran away with 2.2 in the first quarter. The game was exceptionally physical, and our girls copped a couple of injuries which cost us some strength in our back line and mid field. Lucy kicked a cracker of a goal in the 2nd quarter, giving us a lift in our spirits, and helping to motivate our girls even more. The 3rd quarter was by far our best, with Milly B kicking a goal, and us keeping the opposition scoreless. St Bedes/Mentone kicked another couple of goals in the final quarter, giving them a great win and sending them straight through to the Grand Final.

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No special mentions this week - the girls are focused on playing to their strengths, and playing as a team, and each and every one of them did that on Sunday.

We are exceptionally proud of this team of sensational girls, and thankfully they have performed so well throughout the season that we have another chance to make it into the granny. Keep your heads up girls, train hard this week and let's show Cheltenham what we're made of on Sunday!

U14 MIXED MARCUS SPENCER

We played against: Murrumbeena/St Peters At: Chadwick Reserve

With the revised finals system introduced in the U14's comp, we were matched up with the Murrumbeena/St Peters Lions in the first final. A night game was novel for us and the 7.30pm start provided us with a new experience as well.

A spate of injuries in the last weeks of the season meant we were facing our first final without some of our better players. But the boys prepared well and were ready and raring to go when the ball was bounced. Murrumbeena scored two goals in the first 2 minutes! We were a bit shell shocked, but we started to find our feet and began winning our share of the ball. By quarter time we had scored two goals of our own and trailed by 2 points.

In the second quarter we started to get on top. Henry was giving the on ballers first use of the ball from the ruck and also went forward and clunked a pack mark and kicked a goal. Ari was getting on top in the forward line, Jack, Josh, Hunter and Campbell controlled the midfield and Oskar and Takoda were mopping up across half back. We opened up a two goal lead but unfortunately let them get a couple of late goals to even things up. Mitch copped a hit in the head during the quarter and losing him to concussion protocols hurt us.



The third term wasn't our best. Three goals to none meant we were up against it and behind by 17 points going into the last quarter. Once again it was their 6'5" ruckman who was doing the damage. His 5 goals were the difference in the end. We worked really hard in the last quarter. Patrik, Lachie and Adam held the defence together and we managed to get the margin back to 9 points, but couldn't bridge the gap.

The boys worked extremely hard and gave it everything but came up short. Everyone was very proud of the efforts of the players, but losing hurt a lot. It was great to see Joshua, Gus and especially Mason at the game supporting their mates. This is the clear characteristic of this team.....they care about each other.

Another season run and done. Lots of positives to reflect on and be proud of as well. Thanks to all of the parents who helped this year, particularly Andrew, Vlado, Ross, Matt and Katie. It is a long season and I wouldn't have made it through without your help.

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U17 BOYS JOHN MCLAUGHLIN



A massive congratulations to all involved in making the Grand Final for 2023.

The Football Gods were smiling on us for our 11am game, the ground was in good condition there was no rain, and no wind. The Dragons looked switched on and ready to go. During the season we had beaten Sandy Rovers at our ground, and they got the points at their ground. Another thing to add to this special day, it was Borgy's 100th game - we celebrated with him on this fantastic effort.

The first quarter was a real struggle with scoring hard to come by. They had the momentum early and we wrestled it back late. There were lots of contested balls and high pressure footy, we were tackling well and made lots of smothers. The score was 10 points to 5 at quarter time so very close. The second quarter we hit the scoreboard and it felt like we were getting on top, they got a couple of late goals and went into the main break with a 2-goal lead. We encouraged our guys to stick with our game plan and get the quick release handball with run and carry to give our forwards the best chance. We played a good 3rd quarter to be level at $\frac{3}{4}$ time. It felt as though we had the edge, and our run was really hurting them. The last quarter was a real struggle with Sandy/ Rovers / Highett kicking 2 goals one and the Dragons kicking 2 goals 4 to win by 3 points, it was real edge of the seat stuff. There was a sense of relief when the siren went, they played a competitive game, but I think we would have been unlucky to lose it.

Special mentions from the game:

- Xavier and Joey were super along the half back line, they started many attacks.
- Borgy left off from last week with a great performance in his 100th, his pace really hurts other teams.
- Oscar also was excellent; his one touch possession and decision making is elite.
- Stevie and Tommy crashed in all day, in their positions as inside mids they did a lot of the heavy lifting and racked up possessions.
- Billy (3 goals) and Elliot (2 goals) were a real focal point up forward and gave the opposition plenty of headaches.
- Sammy was super exciting with his run and carry, a real highlight was him reaching the ball off the pack at full pace to kick a great goal.
- Stitches was incredibly hard at the ball and tackled like a man possessed.
- Jimmy rucked all game again and took some great marks around the ground.

We are off to the Big Dance! Please get to all training sessions, all we can do is control the controllables and this is one of them. Finals always throw up the unexpected and everyone can have a real influence on the game. For the match in 2 weeks' time there will be a large number on interchange bench, we will use rotations to get players on/ off the ground. Please be ready to go when called upon and have a positive mind-set.

This is a fantastic group of young men and, as a coaching group, we feel really honoured to be part of this team, whatever happens we are super proud of the men you are becoming and what you have achieved this year with your footy.

Congratulations to the U13 boys who have also made the GF, and best of luck to the under 14 and 18 girls in the prelim finals! Go Dragons!





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U18 GIRLS GAVIN KENNY

A sunny day greeted us at Hurlingham Park for our Qualifying Final against top of the ladder Bentleigh-St Peters. The girls had done a great job to finish second on the ladder after winning 6 games in a row.

The day didn't start off very well with Bentleigh kicking 4 goals in the opening term and 6 goals in the first half to our 2 points. The third quarter was better with Ella kicking a great goal for the Dragons. The message at 3 quarter time was to outscore the Demons in the last quarter and that's exactly what we did keeping them scoreless. The final score was 61 points to 10. On a sour note, Sienna Bernardo suffered a broken nose during a contest on the wing. Fingers crossed for a speedy recovery.

Captain Daisy played a great game in the ruck and battled hard all day. Choetso was great in defence, marking, tackling and kicking us forward. Lily Firth played a good game across half back and drove us forward on many occasions. Gisselle ran all day and kicked the ball long (a couple of times in the wrong direction). Gecko and Jess saved the day in the goal square a number of times. Sienna was running hard and playing well until she was injured in the 3rd quarter. Freya went into the midfield in the second half and had an impact. Our forwards got better as the day went on but couldn't get enough clean opportunities to score.

Although we weren't able to sing the Dragons song today, we were all able to sing Happy Birthday to Gisselle! Heads up girls. Bentleigh were just too good for us today. We have a chance to turn it around next week against South Melbourne. Let's get to training and work hard to get better next week.



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.

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SOCIAL MEDIA



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

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Oakleigh Rotary Market

EVERY SUNDAY 8AM - 1PM

HUGE RANGE OF WARES

- Fruit, vegetables & plants
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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
23-Apr	Round 1	Round 1	Round 1	Round 1		U16 Boys
30-Apr	Round 2	Round 2	Round 2	Round 2		
7-May	Round 3	Round 3	Round 3	Round 3		U9 Mixed
14-May	Round 4	Round 4	Round 4	Round 4	Mother's Day	
21-May	Round 5	Round 5	Round 5	Round 5	National Volunteer Week, 15-21 May	Hosted by Special Guest
28-May	Round 6	Round 6	Round 6	Round 6		
4-Jun	Round 7	Round 7	Round 7	Round 7		U10 & U11 Mixed
11-Jun	No Games / Interleague Carnival				King's Birthday	
18-Jun	Round 8	Round 8	Round 8	Round 8		U12 & U14 Girls
25-Jun	Round 9	Round 9	Round 9	Round 9	School Holidays	
2-Jul	No Games				School Holidays	
9-Jul	No Games				School Holidays	
16-Jul	Round 10	Round 10	Round 10	Round 10		U16 & U18 Girls
23-Jul	Round 11	Round 11	Round 11	Round 11		
30-Jul	Round 12	Round 12	Round 12	Round 12		U14 Mixed
6-Aug	Round 13	Round 13	Round 13	Round 13		
13-Aug	Lightning Carnival	Round 14	Round 14	Round 14		U18 Boys
20-Aug		Lightning Carnival	Round 15	Round 15		U13 Mixed
27-Aug			Semi Finals	Semi Finals		
3-Sep			Grand Finals	Prelim Finals	Father's Day	
10-Sep				Grand Finals		
17-Sep	PRESENTATION DAY, SCAMMELL RESERVE					



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