



# THE ACORN

SEASON 2024 ISSUE 9

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi Team,

A big thanks to the U10's team for hosting Grub last weekend. It was good to be back after missing the last two and we got the microphone working too.

Congratulations to Ethan O'Brien (U11's) on a milestone of 50 games last weekend and Matisse Sullivan (U18 girls) for 50 games this weekend.

Last Sunday was a Bye for the U15 Boys team, so Mitch and I headed down to Castlefield Reserve to watch the undefeated U14 Girls take on Hampton Rovers. What a fantastic brand of football these girls played right from the opening minute to the final siren. Well done Justine and team.

For those of you who want a little light TV viewing over the long weekend, check out Restoration Australia on ABC TV and iView, Series 6, Episode 5 to see our very own sponsor Ross McCulloch and his team take on a South Melbourne gem in need of a little reno. Well done Ross, the finished product looked amazing.

Last week I advised that we are hosting two SMJFL Interleague matches on Saturday 8 June. This is now three matches with a further U15 match being played at 2pm. If you are around, get on down to Scammell to check them out.

The Club is still working on securing Friday night matches however the responses from the opposing Clubs who have said no are based on either Friday night basketball or Saturday morning APS School football. Caz will continue to seek these opportunities after the school holidays and hopefully we can get a few of the teams under lights on a Friday night. Fingers crossed.

For any persons interested in seeing how the committee works and might be interested in helping out for Season '25 head on down to our next meeting on June 26 (TBC State of Origin Game 2 at MCG Caz to confirm if it's being moved to week previous, 19th) at Scammell from 7pm, to see what happens and ask any questions about any of the roles. Remember the Club runs on parent volunteers and without the volunteers there would be no Club.

Next Grub is after the School Holidays on 16 June hosted by the U11 team and it would be great to see all Coaches there to give their speeches and hand out Awesome Effort awards and maybe a KitKat or 6.

Have a safe long weekend and I'll see you round the grounds on 16 June. Go Dragons!

Brodie Phillips  
President

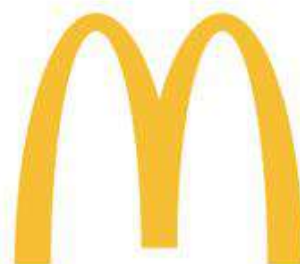
### 2024 COMMITTEE / OFFICIALS

President: Brodie Phillips  
Vice President: Vacant  
Secretary: Caz Hayes  
Treasurer: Volker Heinze  
Registrar: Kane Leopold  
Compliance Officer: Vacant  
Property Officer: Vacant  
Canteen Manager: Vacant  
Sponsorship Coordinator: Phil Sturrock  
Social Media: Gavin Kenny

Football Operations Manager: Vacant  
Team Manager Coordinator: Ross Black  
First Aid Coordinator: Emily Heverin  
Child Safety Officer: Janine Bird  
Boys Coaching Coordinator (Youth): Vacant  
Boys Coaching Coordinator (Junior): Vacant  
Girls Coaching Coordinator: John Bernardo  
Incident Coordinator: Jackie Wise  
Bar Manager: Gab Dunn  
Social Committee: Vacant

General Committee:  
Annelise Scott  
Justin Scott

## 2024 MAJOR SPONSORS



**CLAYTON &  
CHADSTONE**



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



## MILESTONE GAMES!

### CONGRATULATIONS

# 50 GAMES

Ethan O'Brien, U11 Mixed



#### DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SHARE?

If you have any photos you'd like included in the next Acorn, please email them with a description to Anne at [a.sturrock76@gmail.com](mailto:a.sturrock76@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





## INTERLEAGUE JUMPER PRESENTATION

Congratulations to all of our Interleague players pictured below - Sienna Leopold, Lucia Shaw, Zoe De'Souza-Le and Henry Spencer - who were presented with their footy jumpers last week. Let's not forget Oskar McCulloch our U15 Interleague player, as well as Miette Windsor and Millie Thomson in the U13 Next Generation Academy. We wish you all the best with your Interleague matches!





## REMINDERS

### WATER CARRIER ROLE

Water carriers must be at least 12 years of age. Only plastic water bottles/carriers may be carried onto the footy oval during play.

A water carrier may enter the field of play, behind the play to deliver water when either team is having a set shot for goal, or after a goal has been scored and the football is being returned to the field umpire in the centre of the ground.

If a player misses the goal, all water carriers must leave the footy oval immediately.

Water carriers may enter the field of play from any position on the ground, however they are not allowed to pass messages to any player. Water carriers may not be within 15m of the Team Bench during play and cannot communicate with the Team Bench unless it is during breaks between quarters.



# MEN'S TALK + BBQ

## RAISING MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS

### OUR PROFESSIONAL PRESENTERS:



**MARK FOLEY**



**MICHAEL  
DILLON**

The SESPNS will provide an interactive presentation on raising awareness of men's mental health and well-being.

The important topic of suicide will be tackled in response to increasing male suicide rates, particularly in senior aged men.

**FREE EVENT!**

Join us at South Oakleigh Bowling Club  
1216 North Road, Oakleigh South  
on Wednesday 12th of June from 6:00pm

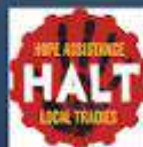
## EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

### REGISTER THROUGH THIS LINK:

[www.eventbrite.com.au/e/mens-talk-and-bbq-raising-mental-health-awareness-tickets-878551480127?aff=ebdssbdestsearch](http://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/mens-talk-and-bbq-raising-mental-health-awareness-tickets-878551480127?aff=ebdssbdestsearch)



**Support  
information will  
be available**







SUPPORT OAKLEIGH JFC  
& YOU COULD WIN THE

## TOYOTA GOOD FOR FOOTY RAFFLE

3 TOYOTAS UP  
FOR GRABS!

PRIZE  
POOL

**\$ 293,762**

TICKETS

**\$5**

ALL PROCEEDS  
GO TO  
OAKLEIGH JFC



BUY TICKETS AT

[toyotagoodforfooty.raffletix.com.au/oakleighdragons](http://toyotagoodforfooty.raffletix.com.au/oakleighdragons)





TRYBE



## WIN CASH FOR YOUR CLUB

Simply make any footwear purchase at your nearest Trybe store during the 2024 football season and the winning club with the most purchases will win \$2,000 to go towards club equipment and supplies.

Shop in-store and show either your club bar code below or your PlayHQ registration to our store team. We'll then add this to your club's total and track the total purchases for your club throughout the season.

OAKLEIGH JFC



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Alternatively, make a purchase online and enter the following promo code for your club and we can track.

**OAKLEIGHFC**

VISIT US AT YOUR NEAREST TRYBE STORE :

TRYBE SOUTHLAND, WESTFIELD SOUTHLAND  
TRYBE FOUNTAIN GATE, WESTFIELD FOUNTAIN GATE  
TRYBE EASTLAND, EASTLAND SHOPPING CENTRE

Winning club will be determined by the highest percentage of their total 2024 membership shopping at The Trybe. This would be calculated based on total footwear units to % of players.  
1 footwear unit = 1 entry. Competition runs from 25th March to 30th September



## IN THE SPOTLIGHT



**What is your name?**

Gavin Kenny

**What volunteer role do you do at the Dragons?**

U18 Girls Coach and Social Media and Website coordinator

**Which age group/s do your kids play for at the Dragons?**

U18 Girls

**How long have you been at the Club?**

3 years

**What's your favourite thing about being a part of the Dragon's Football Club?**

The inclusivity, friendly people and the community focus.

**What other roles have you done during your time at the Dragons?**

Team Manager

**What do you do outside of the Dragons Football Club?**

I work at a packaging company, spend time with my family and try and keep fit.

**What sport did you play as a kid?**

AFL mainly but also did some swimming and touch football as I got older

**If you could have a Super Power, what would it be?**

Paint a weatherboard house by just looking at it!





## COACHES' REPORTS

### U8 MIXED JAMES CHAPPEL

Under 8's hosted the Waverley Hawks at 8am Sunday morning, we started off a bit slow and we found ourselves not concentrating on the game as the ball didn't enter the some of the zones regularly, so we had a chat at quarter time and moved some players around to see if we could get a jump on them in the 2nd quarter. It was a bit of the same in the 2nd quarter but were able to slow their scoring down.

At half time I sat all the children down and explained that we will need to come out with a bit more enthusiasm and just to have fun. And we started really well with Ethan scoring a brilliant goal, we got onto this quarter with some really good linking up and tackling, we continued into the last with Luca showing his marking dominance. We had some very good contributors in James and Oscar as we finished off the game with a great performance, the second half was some of the best this year and with a much needed break next week we will continue to improve. Yet again a big thanks to the parent helpers. Go Dragons.

### U9 MIXED DANIEL AITKEN

It was nice to be back home for the under 9s this week as we took on AJAX for the second time this season, and confidence was high in the group following a good result earlier in the year.

The first quarter was some of the best footy this team has played together. It was all out attack from both teams and an entertaining game to watch by both sides. Pleasingly, we were able to get the better of the opposition and convert the good play into multiple goals. This lead proved to be vital for the game.

The remaining three quarters were a tight tussle with both teams exchanging goal for goal. I thought our team defence was a real highlight to hold on when the opposition were applying lots of pressure and the game was on the line.

Some stand out performances for the game were Luke who was electric in front of goal for the team, Oli again leading from the front as determined as ever and Lex who played his best game for the team taking some important marks late in the game.

Well done team on a fantastic team performance that resulted in us being able to sing the song loud and proud.

### U10 MIXED ADRIAN SANZARO

It's been an interesting season; the team is playing well away from home but struggling at Scammell.

They have played extremely well against the Dingos in the early part of the season, and the team was hopeful of singing the song at the end of the game. The first quarter showed us that the Dingos had come to play. Thanks to the effort of our backline led by Thien, we were able to hold off the opposition's attacks and take a slight advantage into quarter time.

The second quarter saw our team match the opposition's intensity, with both teams creating opportunities out of the centre. The game became congested as both teams were tackling well and putting pressure on the kickers. The game was evenly poised heading into the second half. The remaining half of the game was again hard-fought, tight, and tough, with both teams showing moments of brilliance and resilience. A couple of late goals swayed the game into the Dingos' favour.



Though we have improved, it just wasn't our day. Though I was disappointed for the team who have played so well over the last month, their positive attitudes at the end of the game were amazing.

We will work on our defensive pressure and kicking accuracy at training over the next few weeks.  
Thanks to Kate our umpire who did an amazing job.

## U11 MIXED JAI ROBERTSON



The U11s hosted Waverley at Scammell this week. Both teams undefeated coming into this game. We got off to a good start with our contested game on display which resulted in a 2 goal lead at quarter time. Unfortunately we let Waverley back into the game as they lifted in the midfield and their forwards finished off. We responded in the 3rd quarter with a significant uplift in our effort, pressure and repeat contest work. The game was locked up at 3 quarter time and whilst we finished the game strongly we fell short by a goal.

As I said to the playing group after the game, our focus for the remainder of this year will be to play 4 quarters of football, giving ourselves the best opportunity to win. Blake and Hamish (pictured) as captains led from the front all game. Darwell was a massive physical presence for us. James Tes did some brilliant work up forward and tackling efforts from Hugh and Eli were commendable. Kai was fantastic all game done back and congratulations to Ethan who ran through the banner for his 50th game, well done.

## U12 MIXED ALLEN COOK

The boys notched up another strong win today playing away against Beaumaris. Finn and Stevie were our Co-Captains and both played great footy.

We were a bit disorganised and lost our shape in the 1st quarter but still managed to scramble a few goals and build an early lead.

It was clear we had the oppositions' measure so we used the opportunity to test boys in different positions around the ground. Jimmy and Greg came forward and had a go on ball. Big Stevie had a go down back and Leo & Olly had a run on the wing. It was good to see the boys act on our instructions and get back to holding their shape and kicking to space.

We continued to rotate the boys across the ground all game and they were still able to focus on their roles and play the way we want them to which was very impressive. Even more impressive was the ability of the boys to keep their cool when the game got a bit heated.

There were plenty of highlights with our running brigade doing their thing, and some skills on display with creative handballs and short passes. Finn had a day out kicking 3, Thomas jagged a couple and Jonah, Teddy and David also chipped in for a goal each.

Plenty of boys were doing the 1 percenters for the Team which made it tough for Gary to select a winner. Leo was toiling away hard, as were William, Karlos and Masaki who kept putting the opposition under enormous pressure. In the





end, Gary decided to give the award to Alex and Harrison who worked really hard for their team mates all day. Both boys tackled their hearts out and Alex kept driving through packs while Harrison marked everything that came his way.

Special mention goes to Paulie who took mark of the day today by leaping up for a high grab, then juggling it before bringing it in with one hand.

Also thanks to Daniel & George for stepping up to take the Assistant Coaches role and Runners role at the last minute. Appreciate you both and all the parents for helping out every week.

Well played Dragons!

## U12 GIRLS MARCO PERSI

The Under 12 Girls ventured to a strengthened Port Colts team with a few Oakleigh players missing due to school camp. We played 14 vs 15 with no bench on the girls request, against Port who had a few to rotate on and off the bench.

We started with a 3 goal wind and capitalised early with two first quarter goals to Jess in the ruck and Skye bursting through with strong impact. Jess did a power of work in the ruck against a taller and stronger opponent, supported well by Kiana, Ruby A, and Anastasia. The midfields running and tackling was impressive. Emily, Pippa, Tyra and Skye were dangerous up forward providing impact and good options to kick to. Tyra, taking a mark early and getting her hands on the ball. Well done Tyra.

The girls fought hard into the wind in the 2nd quarter with some great running on the wing from Anais and Ruby T. This created options and support for Mia, Lois, Pippa, Mabel and Alexis down back who all worked hard in defence to repel many Port forward attacks and save goals.

Port cleverly flooded our forward line in the third quarter and despite us being in control of the game, we found it difficult to create space and shots at goal and had a goalless quarter. Port scored 1 into the wind and were back within a few points of us at the last change, with Port kicking with a handy wind in the last quarter.

Under pressure with Port storming home with the wind in the last quarter, the girls were instrumental and instructed to run and carry and support each other. We gave every player the licence to play like a midfielder to help out their teammates.

This worked a treat with plenty of hard running from our players asked to cover plenty of ground, and it was an even contribution from all players. We are proud of the way you all kept persevering under the pressure after a few knocks and some heavy tackles. The game was a very high pressure game, and you all stood up to that pressure with plenty of resilience, courage and persistence. It was very commendable and noticeable.

To cap all the great teamwork off, there was a fantastic chain of play halfway through the last quarter where every player was involved through a possession, a tackle, a shepherd, a handball or kick. This sent the ball from defensive goal square to the forward line, and was finished off by a great goal to Skye to give us an 8 point breather. The girls defended and worked together to the last second to run the game out strongly into the wind and run out winners.

Port Colts 2.2.14

Oakleigh Dragons 3.4.22

A special mention to the newest players in Pippa, Mia and Anais who are really adding great value to the team and improving every week.

Go Dragons.



## U14 GIRLS JUSTINE LEOPOLD

After a very rough game last weekend, our U14 girls were primed and ready for a less aggressive but still ferocious game. We headed out to Hampton on a chilly morning, with 3 of our girls unable to play, but with the exciting return of Bonnie after a fractured wrist at umpire training. It was a low scoring first quarter, with the Dragons girls able to prevent Hampton from scoring, but we were also only able to score 4 points. I asked the girls to attack the ball more fiercely, and kick 3 goals in the 2nd quarter, which they did! The 2nd quarter also saw the last of our point scoring, as we only kicked goals in the second half - a much more effective game from our girls.

Elaine was a clear standout in this game, attacking the ball consistently, and running hard all over the ground. Camryn had one of her best games, providing great options and kicking to target again and again. Sienna L epitomised the main message of the game, which was to lay clean, strong tackles. Anushka found her spotlight in the forward line today, working brilliantly with Sienna C, Sophie, Lavinia and the every goal-hungry Yana! Tash kicked a 'Richmond' goal, getting super lucky with the bounce and then went on to kick another! Quan & I keep lifting our expectations of this wonderful group, and they just keep improving every game.

Goal scorers were: Yana 2, Tash 2, Sophie 1, Sienna 1, Lucia 1, Milly 1

## U15 BOYS CALEB QUMIVUTIA

The U15 boys team had a Bye this week.

## U18 GIRLS GAVIN KENNY/JOHN BERNARDO

It was a late away game in Albert Park for our Round 8 clash with South Melbourne. This week's game was number 50 for Matisse – a great milestone that we will celebrate with a banner next time we are at Scammell.

With the merged U18 teams, we had plenty of players this week, so some late withdrawals with illness and injury didn't cause us any headaches. Our large interchange meant most players got a rest for 1-2 quarters, which meant we had plenty of legs in the second half of the game.



It was a really even contest with large parts of the game being played in our forward half. Trailing by 3 points at the last change, the Oakleigh girls kept peppering away at the goals but just couldn't quite score a major. We drew level with 5 minutes to go but were unable to get another score to get our noses in front. In the end the game finished in a draw.



# THE ACORN

SEASON 2024

ISSUE 9

ROUND 8 / SUNDAY 2 JUNE

Our defence held up well all day with Lily intercepting and repelling the ball all day. Ayla was strong in the contests and Nat took marks and had important possessions across half back.

Reagan was good in the ruck and around the ground while Matisse, Freya and Giselle gave us run through the midfield. Bridget worked hard all day up forward and snagged a nice goal. Bonnie had a number of shots that just couldn't quite get through the big sticks.

The girls played really well together as a large merged team. The only downside to an otherwise great day was serious injuries to Chooty and Ruby. Wishing you both a speedy recovery.



## SMOKE-FREE

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

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





## GRUB AT THE CLUB SCHEDULE

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

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

Date	U8 & U9	U10	U11-U13	U14+	Holidays	Grub at the Club
14-Apr	Round 1	Round 1	Round 1	Round 1		U18 Girls Teams
21-Apr	Round 2	Round 2	Round 2	Round 2		
28-Apr	Round 3	Round 3	Round 3	Round 3	ANZAC Medal presentation	U8/9 Mixed
5-May	Round 4	Round 4	Round 4	Round 4		
12-May	Round 5	Round 5	Round 5	Round 5	Mother's Day	
19-May	Round 6	Round 6	Round 6	Round 6		U15 Boys
26-May	Round 7	Round 7	Round 7	Round 7	National Volunteer Week, 20-26 May	
2-Jun	Round 8	Round 8	Round 8	Round 8		U10 Mixed
8-10-Jun	No Games / Interleague Carnival				King's Birthday	
16-Jun	Round 9	Round 9	Round 9	Round 9		U11 Mixed
23-Jun	No Games				School Holidays	
30-Jun	No Games				School Holidays	
7-Jul	No Games				School Holidays	
14-Jul	Round 10	Round 10	Round 10	Round 10		U12 & U14 Girls
21-Jul	Round 11	Round 11	Round 11	Round 11		
28-Jul	Round 12	Round 12	Round 12	Round 12		U12 Mixed
4-Aug	Round 13	Round 13	Round 13	Round 13		
11-Aug	Lightning Carnival	Round 14	Round 14	Round 14		
18-Aug		Lightning Carnival	Round 15	Round 15		Committee
w/c 19-Aug			Semi Finals	Semi Finals		
w/c 26 Aug			Grand Finals	Prelim Finals	Father's Day	
w/c 2-Sep				Grand Finals		
TBC PRESENTATION DAY, SCAMMELL RESERVE						

