



THE ACORN

SEASON 2024 ISSUE 14

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi Dragons,

Photos have been rescheduled to this coming Sunday. Please see communications from your Team Managers around the revised schedule. Our Club Secretary has worked extremely hard to get these rescheduled, taking into consideration game time, venue, travel time and the all-important Coaches requested warm up time. Great job Caz in getting up a solution so quickly. Time to re-clean those boots and check the haircut.

Well done on a great season for our U8's and U9's who have completed their Home and Away season and now head in to their Lightning Carnival this Sunday. Good Luck Teams, from all of us here at Dragonland.

Congrats to this rounds 50 game players. Thomas Ernikiolis, U12 Mixed, who had his banner run through last Sunday. Tayla Halvy, Lauren Kenny and Olivia Charleston (U18 Girls) will have to wait for their banner run through and photo op until this coming weekend. Well done to you all on a great milestone.

Well done to our four U12 Players who have been selected for the STK Academy / SMJFL Intraleague 2024 Program. Sophia Francis and Jess Tesoriero from our fantastic U12 Girls team and Alexander Reading and Finn Thomson from our powerful U12 Mixed team. Good luck to you all.

I was honoured to recently receive a nomination for the 2024 Toyota AFL National Volunteer of the Year Award, which made me reflect, for a moment that this nomination was not just for me. I acknowledge the hard work that all our volunteers do every week. Before, during and after the season. You should all be extremely proud of the effort that you have given for Season 2024.

Let's bring home our season strong, celebrate our season's successes and reflect on the positives.

See you 'round the grounds on Sunday. 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

Thomas Ernikiolis, U12 Mixed



CONGRATULATIONS

50 GAMES

Camryn Davidson, U14 Girls



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





REMINDERS

SOCIAL MEDIA

The Club uses social media regularly to connect as a Community so we need to ensure our social media channels remain safe and welcoming spaces for all our members. The Club will not tolerate members posting content in any space using derogatory or offensive language that has potential to harm others (intentional or otherwise), or bring the Club into disrepute.

If members become aware of offensive posts, we ask that you notify the Club immediately. Members and parents can always reach out to our Child Safety Officer, Janine Bird should they be the target of offensive content: childsafetyOYCFC@gmail.com.



UPDATED TEAM PHOTO DAY SCHEDULE

Please note, all team photos are now being taken on Sunday, 11 August.

- All photos are taken at Scammell Reserve
- You **MUST** be there 10 minutes before your scheduled photo time or risk missing out
- Full game day gear including GREEN SHORTS and clean footy boots
- Bring white shorts with you if you're playing away and need to change
- No visible undergarments under your jumper (skins under shorts OK, but not full length)
- **DON'T BE LATE!**

U10 Mixed	7:15 am
U12 Girls	8:00 am
U11 Mixed	8:30 am
U14 Girls	8:45 am
U9 Mixed	9:30 am
U12 Mixed	9:45 am
U18 Girls	10:45 am
U15 Boys	11:30 am
U8 Mixed	12:30 pm



Team Photos

Scammell Reserve

SUNDAY 11TH AUGUST



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



THE 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



9353546543397

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?

Justine Leopold

What volunteer role do you do at the Dragons?

U14 Girls Coach

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

U14 Girls

How long have you been at the Club?

11 years

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

The sense of community, the lifelong friendships I've made and the awesome U14 girls I get to spend time with every week.

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

Team Manager & Social Coordinator.

What do you do outside of the Dragons Football Club?

Primary School PE Teacher.

What sport did you play as a kid?

Netball

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

The ability to fly (without getting on a plane).



COACHES' REPORTS

U8 MIXED JAMES CHAPPEL

Oakleigh Dragons U8's faced Dingley Dingoes, the game started off well for us hitting the score board and for the first time we were on top. The second term we played so well with all children playing their roles, as I said, the first half went really well and very competitive holding tackles and linking up really good passages of play the second half we started off well but Dingley started to hit back on the score board where we found ourselves to be chasing the opposition and not creating our own play.

Luca playing fantastic as well as Zephen in the midfield and they linked up really well together creating some really good inside 50s for us and Elijah again with his tackling pressure was really good. Special mentions to Cooper still with his best game of the year. We have improved so much from round one, this has shown in the quality of the games in the last half of season. We have our lightning premiership this weekend to finish off of the year and we can show everyone how much we have improved and have some fun. Go Dragons!

U9 MIXED DANIEL AITKEN

To close out the regular season we took on Mordi-Brae at Scammell Reserve. The first encounter against the Mustangs was an extremely close and competitive game so this was always going to be a similar contest.

From the first bounce, the game as expected was fiercely contested. Our young kids displayed great teamwork and effort, with standout performances from several players. They tackled hard, chased relentlessly, and showed true grit on the field.

Unfortunately, the game took a toll on our squad as we lost multiple players to illness both before and during the match leaving us with no rotations for the second half. Despite these setbacks, the remaining players stepped up and gave their all. The resilience of the team was commendable, and their positive attitude was evident throughout the game.

Some inaccurate kicking was the difference early on and while the scoreboard did not reflect our efforts, the true victory for us was our unwavering commitment and sportsmanship. Each player contributed to the best of their ability, and their courage in the face of adversity was inspiring.

Some special mentions of the strong efforts:

- Aiden - for his relentless attack on the ball and scoreboard impact
- Sam K & Reyan - for their strong defensive efforts and teamwork
- Luke - who constantly provided an option when forward
- Jack - who applied strong pressure playing through the midfield

Well done to all for their heart and perseverance. This year has been a steep learning experience for our 12 new Dragons who have all shown improvement throughout the season. We are looking forward to seeing you all back on the field, stronger and more determined than ever for our lightning carnival to finish the fantastic season off. Go Dragons!



U10 MIXED ADRIAN SANZARO

In the final home game of the season, our team faced one of the toughest opponents in the competition under bright sunshine. We got off to a challenging start, with Mordi-Brae hitting the scoreboard early and often. Despite this, the Dragons fought hard late in the first quarter, managing to get the ball into the forward line and capitalise on the limited opportunities they had.

After a pep talk at quarter time, the second quarter saw a much tighter contest. The Dragons worked diligently to even things out and were unlucky not to take the honors for the quarter.

The second half brought a transformation; it was like a completely different team took the field. The tackles, pressure, and overall desire to win the ball were some of the best we've seen all year. Mordi-Brae continued to apply pressure, but the Dragons matched it with tenacity. We had our chances in the fourth quarter to close the gap, but we just couldn't get the final kick right.

Some of the field kicking in the forward line was exceptional, with players consistently looking to find a free teammate. Despite the final result, the effort and skill displayed were commendable and something we will aim to carry into the last game of the year.

U11 MIXED JAI ROBERTSON

The u11s took on Waverley in a top of the table clash today. The team got off to a quick start with some great running forward from Darwell who marked and kicked a goal. We went into quarter time with a slight lead and the game stayed within one goal for the whole game.

The opposition midfield were very strong and did not stop running all day but we never gave up and kept matching our opposition for the whole game, massive well done to Luke, Deon, Darwell, Ethan and Hamish. Every time the ball went into our backline Bronx, Kai, Hugh, Eli and others were a brick wall with relentless tackling and pressure on the ball. It went right down to the last second of the game and we managed to win by 1 point, a great example of never giving up no matter what. Great effort by everyone.



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.



U12 MIXED ALLEN COOK



It was great to play in the sunshine at midday on our home ground at Scammell today. It was a perfect day for Thomas Ernikiolis (pictured) to celebrate his 50th game. Thomas was ducking and weaving and keeping the opposition guessing and managed to get a goal in his milestone game.

We played Beaumaris who've had a very tough season so we took the opportunity to test some players in different positions to help with their growth.

Our Co-Captains were Teddy and Harrison and both boys spent time in the middle as a Ruck / Rover combination and they worked well together dishing the ball out to team mates by hand and foot. We also gave Gregory a role on the ball to take on the oppositions leading ball getter and he did a great job applying pressure so was rewarded for his effort with our team 1 Percenter award.

Jonah played deep forward and led well taking strong marks and kicking truly to end up with 4 goals. Finn ran well all day and kicked 3 while Harrison booted 2 and Alex and Jimmy also chimed in for a goal each.

We rolled some different players through defence and they all did their job on the few occasions the ball got down there. The opposition got out the back at one stage and looked set to kick their first goal but Karlos had other ideas and made a desperate chase down tackle to stop them in their tracks and send the ball forward again.

Great game Dragons but still plenty to work on as we build towards finals.

U12 GIRLS MARCO PERSI

On a glorious Sunday morning we welcomed Hampton Rovers to Scammell and for the first time we had more players than our opposition....and a bench! Our focused girls started with a great attitude but our dominance wasn't rewarded on the scoreboard. The ball was in our forward half for most of the quarter with Anais playing well, marking and getting lots of the footy and Pippa popping up and creating havoc in our forward line.

Our midfield took control with Ruby A's ferocious pressure and tackling without the ball and clever play with the ball. Sophia with her clearances and second efforts, even chasing down her own kick and having another crack kicking a goal. Anastasia showed her ability to get the ball while Emily's silky skills were on display with her movement and clean kicking. Even with plenty of the ball and our backline being a wall, Lois got in the way of many attacks and Giaan got herself into good positions and stopping the Hampton girls from getting anywhere near our goals.

A slight lead at half time our girls went up a gear, challenged early by Hampton, Ruby T but a stop to any thought of a comeback with her chasing and tackles. Alexis took control of the ruck and with her run and willingness to put her body on the line and with Mabel running through the middle of the ground terrorising her opponents with her tackling the floodgates were about to open. Kiana swept around the packs with her booming kicks to make sure the ball lived in our forward line.

At ¾ time I challenged the girls to finish strong and in true Dragon spirit they relished and accepted the challenge and doubled our score in the last quarter. Victoria on the wing getting to every contest and with Mia again being our target up front and kicking truly we were unstoppable. Jess bursting through packs and leaving the Rovers in her wake and our goal scoring machine Skye adding some magic from the boundary.

Exciting things are happening in Dragonland!



U14 GIRLS JUSTINE LEOPOLD



We played Hampton at home this week quietly confident and that was justified as we came away with a 60-0 win.

The sun was out for Cam to finally run through the banner for her 50th in her 52nd game. Congrats again on another 50 gamer in our team.

There had been whispers around town that our u14 girls have gained a reputation for being rough but I think they've mistaken that for being tough. We are tough to play against and that's only because these girls dial in from warm ups to pre-game to the first bounce.

Today was a great team win with an even spread of winners across the board, we kicked 8.12 with 2 goals kicked in each quarter and had 8 individual goal kickers.

After gaining a healthy lead, it again let us have the chance to play girls out of position, making some nervous but great to see some grabbing it by the horns. Unfortunately for those rotated through the back line, it was another quiet day for them but a fantastic problem to have!

Sienna L again set the tone with a strong start and a nice Eddie Betts special from the boundary line, Soph and Lavinia stayed involved due to countless forward plays, Layla putting in a great game in the ruck and up forward, the midfield brigade as always ploughed on all day but again it was the impenetrable defence that just refuses to give up a score and it was Bonnie who led the way with a superb game.

Our running, link up handball plays and hitting targets by foot are improving each week and it is such a pleasure to see the training drills come to fruition on game day. The girls are still learning, the coaches are definitely still learning but importantly we are improving week after week coming to the pointy end of the year.

Let's all get down there Thursday, train hard and have fun because boy do we have a big game this week against St Peters, the only team we've lost to this year so we owe them one.

Goals - Maddy, Lavinia, Christina, Zoe, Sienna, Milly, Tash, Anushka, all 1 each



U15 BOYS CALEB QUMIVUTIA

The U15s hosted top side Prahran for the second time this year with the boys' competitiveness improving since the bye with the help of increased playing numbers.

The first quarter Prahran looked dangerous and damaged us on the scoreboard. With some changes to the midfield structure, the Dragons came out in the second quarter and stemmed the opposition's scoring.

The second half was a different story for the Dragons with a focus on evening the stoppages and deep inside 50s. Oakleigh was rewarded by their efforts by registering on the scoreboard. In the final quarter, Oakleigh rattled the opposition and dominated most of the play kicking the first 2 goals of the quarter.



A much improved team effort since the last match up against Prahran with the boys showing their development in implementing the game plan against top opposition.

U18 GIRLS JOHN BERNARDO / GAVIN KENNY



This week we were up against the East Brighton Vampires in an early 09:30 timeslot. Luckily there was a game before ours to kick the dew off the ground. It was another milestone game with three Dragons celebrating 50 games - Tayla Halvy, Lauren Kenny and Olivia Charleston (L-R pictured bottom centre). Well done girls!

Like the man with the wheelbarrow, we had the job in front of us, and it was going to be difficult to be competitive against a well organised team that boasts a number of Sandringham Dragons players. For the first 3 quarters we were competitive in patches but were too easy to score against when the Vampires got running. The last quarter was much better and we moved the ball well and kept it in our forward half. We had a number of chances to score a goal but the ball just wouldn't go through the big sticks. Due to our effort, we were able to prevent the opposition from scoring a goal which was terrific. Unfortunately we didn't get the win but, as always, the Dragons girls fought hard all day and had smiles on their faces after the game which is the main thing.

Bridget played a great game and was smothering, marking and tackling at both ends of the ground. Lily defended well and repelled the ball a lot. Sienna was in and under getting lots of touches. Livvy and Regan rucked well at centre bounces and around the ground. Nat played well in the centre and in defence. The tackling was good again this week – Giselle, Matisse and Lily laying some beauties.

Let's stick together girls for the last couple of games of the year. For some players, there is only 2 games left of junior footy – make sure you enjoy it!

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



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	Team photos	
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		
22-Sep	PRESENTATION DAY, SCAMMELL RESERVE					

