



# THE ACORN

SEASON 2024 ISSUE 15

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi Dragons,

What a big weekend of football, photos and sunshine.

Congratulations to Elaine Zheng on playing her 50th match. Elaine will get the banner run through this coming Sunday.

Well done to the U8's and U9's for finishing their season out with the Lightning Carnival matches, we hope you all had a great season. Next up is the U10's who have their Carnival this coming weekend. Good Luck Team. This coming weekend, Round 15, also marks the end of the Home and Away season for the remaining teams. Good luck to those teams who head in to the Finals.

There is only 4 weeks left in the Toyota Good For Footy Raffle, so grab your tickets now if you haven't already.

As we approach Presentation Day, I start to think of the Perpetual Club Awards, read on below for the categories. Do you have any nominations?

I am proud of how all our players have played their 2024 season, some their first Season at Dragonland. For all of us, we've stuck together, supported our mates both on and off the field. We've conducted ourselves extremely well. We've called out bad behaviour and we've come together at Grub for a good chat about our games. We've been at grounds early in the morning and late in the afternoon. We've wrangled our players, carpooled and cooked a feed for the Club family at Grub. We've put on a bandaid, run the Boundary or waved the flags for a Goal. We've delegated Game Day roles and swept out a changeroom (or two). Thank you to everyone for a fantastic 2024 Home and Away Season.

"Through Football Better Citizens"

See you 'round the grounds this week. And don't forget the last Grub at the Club this Sunday, hosted by the Committee!

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**



**CONTACT DETAILS** Brodie Phillips Ph: 0499 999 863 secretaryOYCFC@gmail.com www.oakleighdragons.com.au

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



## REMINDERS

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### COMMUNICATIONS CHANNELS

Please remember that if you have any concerns about game day issues, your first point of contact is your Team Manager, or depending on the nature of your concern, the Committee.

Members are reminded that communication with the SMJFL and opposing Clubs must be via the Club. Members are not to contact the SMJFL or opposing Clubs directly.

Contact details for the Committee can be found on the Dragons website at [www.oakleighdragons.com.au](http://www.oakleighdragons.com.au) or at the bottom of Page 1 of the Acorn.



## PERPETUAL CLUB AWARDS - CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

All nominations can be emailed to Caz at [secretaryoycfc@gmail.com](mailto:secretaryoycfc@gmail.com)

### PERPETUAL CLUB AWARDS 2024 - NOMINATIONS



**Jock Hepburn** For loyalty to the club that would not normally be expected

*Nomination:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Reason:* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Irene Bourke** Presented to a person(s) who is/are involved, committed volunteers for the Club (other than committee members)

*Nomination:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Reason:* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Life Members** Presented to a person with 5 years significant service to OYFC

*Nomination:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Reason:* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Family Award** In recognition of outstanding participation, commitment and contribution made to the Club by an entire family, both on and off the field.

*Nomination:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Reason:* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Coach of the Year** In recognition of outstanding leadership, commitment and contribution made by a coach

*Nomination:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Reason:* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Nominated By (Name):* \_\_\_\_\_

*Signed:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Secoded by (Name):* \_\_\_\_\_

*Signed:* \_\_\_\_\_

Submit to Secretary at [secretaryOYFC@gmail.com](mailto:secretaryOYFC@gmail.com)



# THE ACORN

SEASON 2024

ISSUE 15

ROUND 14 / SUNDAY 12 AUG





SUPPORT OAKLEIGH JFC  
& YOU COULD WIN THE

**TOYOTA  
GOOD FOR FOOTY  
RAFFLE**

**4 WEEKS  
TO GO!**

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)



SAVE THE DATE

Presentation  
Day

11.00AM

SUNDAY, 22 SEPTEMBER  
SCAMMELL RESERVE

★ CLUB AWARDS ★ TEAM AWARDS  
★ CANTEEN ★ UNIFORM DONATIONS





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?

Tom Nolan

What volunteer role do you do at the Dragons?

U15 Boys Coach

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

n/a

How long have you been at the Club?

9 years

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

Developing football skills

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

Player

What do you do outside of the Dragons Football Club?

Play sports and work in Injury Management.

What sport did you play as a kid?

Footy & tennis

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

Not get injured





## COACHES' REPORTS

### U8 MIXED JAMES CHAPPEL

Oakleigh Dragons under 8's headed to St Paul's to take part in the Lightning Carnival, games started at 2pm and it was a great day for football with the sun out such a nice finals feeling. We played two games, the first one we faced Ormond and it started on our terms with all players doing their role and from the start putting score board pressure on with repeated entries. This game of football was by far the best of the year with many players performing very well led by Elijah very dominant in the forward line, as well as Cooper C with his best game of the year hitting the contest hard resulting in multiple turnover. The games finished in our favour with all the children and parents cheering.

Second game we faced Highett, this game started off very scrappy and a closer contest for the players with Ethan and Zephen both trying their hardest, with Oliver sticking tight to his player and doing a great job. The half finished off well with Hamish very good in front of goal, the second half we got the game back on our terms with good entries into the forward line, but when it went back we had Zack playing his best game for the year being rock solid down back for us the day finished off very well for the under 8's with all over the moon with our day. It was a long year but I enjoyed every minute with some ups and down but we all worked together and I'm looking forward to seeing what this group can do next year. I would like to thank Ram and Madhavi the ultimate team managers as well as my right hand man Matt, and parents helpers throughout the year that made it a fantastic year. Well done team!

### U9 MIXED DANIEL AITKEN

We brought our season to a close with the Lightning Carnival held at McKinnon Reserve on what was a spectacular day for football. Our opponents for the day were Black Rock, Beaumaris and Mordi-Brae, all teams that we had faced throughout the regular season. We were looking forward to the challenge as these were three of the strongest sides that we had faced throughout the year.

Our first game we came up against Mordi-Brae and started the game strongly playing some great team footy ending with Francis and Max making an impact on the scoreboard. Our defence was holding up well in the first half with both Oli and Sam H leading the way. Mordi- Brae just got the better of us in the second half but it was a tightly fought battle between two evenly match teams.

We next took on Black Rock who had been the benchmark team this season with a few particularly strong players. A huge game from Jayden where he took on their best player head-to-head making life hard for them as he generates so much of their play. I was so impressed with our team pressure and tackling, something the opposition coach praised us after the game complementing how well we tackled cleanly and fairly, and defended which was exactly the challenge that was set for our kids.

To finish off we took on Beaumaris and the heat and two earlier games had taken their toll with our fantastic trainers being put to work. Unfortunately, we lost a couple of kids with Patrick falling ill and Guy hurting his hamstring meaning we were going into the last game with only 17 fit players. Fortunately, as the under 8s were playing at the same venue after us we were able to have Luca join us to ensure we had 18 players. The game was extremely even and contested with both teams struggling to score. We had Sam H move forwards and convert with a great left foot snap. It was a game of almost for us as a few bounces went against us and Beaumaris came up triumphant. Again, some defence efforts that need to be mentioned were Lex and Angus stopping some fast breaks with strong tackles and Luke playing out of his height division and beating his opponent in one-on-one making contest.

Overall, the three games were extremely well fought battles by our kids which I am so proud of the efforts showing by all. Not only did we play tough and hard which all three opposition coaches commended us for but as we have shown all



year our kids play football the right way and represent our club so proudly upholding our club motto, “through football better citizens”.

I am so proud of the development of all the kids have shown this year it has been an absolute pleasure coaching this group and I look forward to watching them grow and develop over hopefully many years together in the Green and Yellow.

Finally, thank you to all the fantastic group of parents who have helped all year. Special mentions to Shaun our team manager and his wife Mel for their tireless efforts, my assistant Dan for helping me out with the coaching, to Joel for stepping in as runner, Matt, Chris, Nick and Hilly for umpiring all games throughout the year and our awesome trainers in Claire, Bonnie, Kate, and Linda.

Good luck to the remaining teams for the rest of the season and I look forward to celebrating the year at the presentation day. Go Dragons!!

## U10 MIXED ADRIAN SANZARO

We played against one of the best teams of the year. The team was pumped and in good spirits, ready to give it one last effort before the Lightning Carnival. We had a much better start this week, however we couldn't keep the opposition out for too long and struggled to clear our defensive end. Early injuries didn't help, reducing us to 16 players for most of the day.

We held our own in the second quarter, with the ball spending a lot of time in our forward half. However, we weren't able to capitalise on our opportunities after keeping the ball locked in the forward line for a good period of time. In the second half, the team was asked to finish off the year strong and give it one last big effort. The third quarter was tight, and heading into the fourth, we were holding our own, with Francesco dominating the midfield and willing himself to get the ball forward. The whole team stepped up, and I could not have been prouder of their effort and attitudes toward playing this game. The season hasn't panned out the way the team wanted though they have approached the difficult weeks with a smile.

The Lightning Carnival this week is a chance to have some fun.

## U11 MIXED JAI ROBERTSON

We took on Beaumaris today on a beautiful Sunday morning.

We got off to an even start with the opposition proving to be very physical and winning the contested game early. Our team were up for the fight and the game was very close in effort and scoreboard. Our two captains today, Charlie and James S both played brilliant games, our backline held really strong with a lot of the game played there with Kai, Bronx, Tyler and Lucas all stepping up to do their bit for the team. We ended up getting the win but it was hard fought and well deserved.

Other mentions go to Hugh, Eli, Max and Tommy Morel who also played really well today.



## U12 MIXED ALLEN COOK

Another cracking day for footy at Scammell today and the boys came to play! We were up against Cheltenham who pushed us all the way last time we met, so we were looking forward to the contest. Unfortunately they were a couple short so we also played with 1 less on the ground.

Co-Captains were Thomas and Jonah and both played really well notching up a goal each in a game we controlled from the first bounce. We're encouraging the boys to lower their eyes, change angles and move the ball to advantage and we saw plenty of that today.

There were several highlights with Gregory and Mahad playing a cracking game down back to push the ball forward and Masaki intercepting everything that came his way. Karlos is really getting his running game going of late and made another inspiring chase down tackle after the opponent had a 20m start on him.

Finn starred again today kicking a big bag of 6 and taking off on dashing runs down the wing. Teddy also took off on multiple 2 bounce bursts to send the ball forward and was given our 1 Percenter award for his gut running and the discipline he showed in keeping his shape when others kept getting sucked into the contest.

In the last quarter we challenged some boys in new positions and they all held their own and the team were all pumped to see Pauline and Jimmy notch up a goal each as well.  
Well done Dragons!

## U12 GIRLS MARCO PERSI

It was a perfect day for footy, all smiles before the game with our team photos and the smiles lasted throughout the day.

Playing at Scammell we welcomed the Vampires and it was an arm wrestle early with both teams fielding full squads. We had control of the ball but not making the most of our possession. Our on ballers worked hard giving us first use of the ball with Kiana and Victoria getting it out to our wingers. Emily proving again how skilful she is with ball in hand. Our team was led today by the work rate, tenacity, willingness to want to tackle, second and third efforts of Ruby A. Ruby made 4 tackles early in the first quarter and if she wasn't clearing the packs she made sure to wrap up her opponent and stop any hope they had of getting the ball.

After a very tight 1st quarter Jess went into the middle creating heaps of run and allowing Sophia to play forward with almost immediate effect. Our engine started to fire up and we were in full control. Lois and Giaan showed their continued improvement and growing confidence by playing on the wings and making sure the ball stayed in our forward half. Alexa was clever down forward creating opportunities with a brilliant turn, pick up and handball out to a teammate. Anastasia started to get into the match and sweep up anything that came down back.

The second half showed why we are such a powerful team, our backline players were thrown onto the ball and allowed to run free. Mabel with her chasing, Alexis with her tacking piled on the pressure. Tyra continues to work hard with her forward pressure, keeping the ball locked in allowing our goal scoring machine Skye to get clear and keep the goal umpire busy.

Our captain on the day Anais showed enormous courage, fearlessly getting herself between the ball and a bigger opponent, its brave acts like that which inspire the rest of the team. Mia is always dangerous near goal and is our key down forward, marking strongly, leading out and with slick hands is involved in many score assists.

Special things are happening at Dragonland..... the story continues!



## U14 GIRLS JUSTINE LEOPOLD

We headed over to Centenary to take on St Peters and unfortunately suffered our 2nd loss for the year and to the same team, going down in a low scoring but extremely tense tussle 19-16.

The sun was again out and this time for Elaine's 50th, well done to another 50<sup>th</sup> game Dragon. It was a hot start by our girls, plenty of run and link up play, sticky hands especially from Tash and Milly and 2 goals in the first quarter.

From then on it was just an all out arm wrestle. Low scoring with plenty of misses however the opponent did hit the post 3 times and had better shots at goal than us. The warmer than usual weather certainly took its toll also and the girls were feeling it at the breaks.

As bitter as this loss was, it definitely burned and we will be better for it, we will learn from this and train harder and improve where we need. Their tactic of sitting a goal keeper on the line probably won them the game and we will need to combat this if we meet again. That one is on us and we will be prepared next time.

Our captain Milly led the way from the start, some strong marks, covered ground and broke tackles. Tash too took some strong grabs, Gia and Miette ran all day on the wings, Bonnie brilliant in defence again, Zoe led well up forward, Sienna with some clever vision, Lucy and the back line battled all day against the flurry of entries.

This was a tough contest against a pacy team with some tall girls, played with intensity which will have us ready for what is ahead. A tough loss to cop but it's all about improving together as a team and getting around your team mates. One more game and its finals girls. Let's do this.

Goals - Layla, Zoe 1 each



## U15 BOYS CALEB QUMIVUTIA

The Oakleigh Dragons U15s boys travelled out to play South Melbourne on a perfect day for footy. The game started well with Henry Spencer tapping the ball to Nathan Rekas winning the clearance and bursting out of the midfield to hit Ari McLeod to kickstart the game with a 6-point lead, which set the standard for the game. South Melbourne responded and ended up with a lead at the first break.

Oakleigh remained competitive throughout the game with high quality passages of play and slick ball movement. Having a more consistent line-up over the last month, their efforts from training and growing chemistry has shown on field. With a focus on ball movement and tackling, Oakleigh were able to ensure South Melbourne never got too far away from them with some strong defensive efforts.

The game was a tight contest in the first half with a tussle on the scoreboard however, South Melbourne were leading into the main break. In the 2nd half the Dragons fought valiantly until the final siren, with the lead creeping out to a 44-point win for the Swans.

Nathan Rekas was B.O.G with multiple clearances and hard hits throughout the game which helped us drive the football our way. Swingman player Mitch Phillips found himself both at centre half back and in the forward line. He played his role and did everything we asked from him providing great inside 50 pressure and a few big intercept marks. Ari McLeod also starred with 2 goals for the day.

The boys will face AJAX this weekend away to conclude the season!



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SEASON 2024

ISSUE 15

ROUND 14 / SUNDAY 12 AUG

## U18 GIRLS JOHN BERNARDO / GAVIN KENNY



Unfortunately we didn't have an official game this week as our opponent, Beaumaris, forfeited. Instead of playing the Sharks, some girls took the opportunity to catch up on homework. For the rest, we decide to play a game amongst ourselves with willing parents, siblings and friends joining in.

On a lovely day, there was some great skills displayed and lots of running, marking and long kicking on show. In a free flowing game more than 20 goals were kicked.

The younger players handled the conditions with ease while some of the parents were left reaching for the ice packs and pain relief at the end of the game.

Thanks to everyone who joined in and contributed to a fun afternoon of Dragons footy.



### 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



## 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					

