



THE ACORN

SEASON 2025 ISSUE 6

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hey Dragons,

Another gorgeous Autumn day for footy for Round 5! I was lucky enough to see the U12 & U13 mixed teams and the U14 & U15 girls play at Scammell this weekend, and there were some fabulous games being played by some very courageous and talented Dragons teams! The U12 mixed team had a terrific comeback victory and celebrated every goal with gusto! Hopefully they'll bring that energy to the Club next week when they host Grub.

Congratulations to Troy Morton, Lucia Shaw & Sienna Leopold for being selected in the U15 Boys & Girls Interleague teams. It's a wonderful reflection of the hard work and dedication you've put into your footy skills, and we look forward to watching you represent the Oakleigh Dragons JFC at your 3 Interleague games. The first game will be played at Langwarrin on Wednesday 28th May. I will post information about the Kings Birthday weekend games for those of you who can't stand the thought of a weekend without watching Dragons play footy!

Don't forget that we're still looking for a volunteer to take on the role of Canteen Coordinator – you don't need to be in the canteen all day as we have staff for that, but we need someone to take on the 'overseer' role. Please reach out if this interests you!

Finally, a massive shout out to Stelle who has taken on the role of Social Media Coordinator - make sure you check out the Dragons Instagram & Facebook pages for all the happenings around the Club & the new addition of "Player of the Week" spotlight. See you around the Club & at Grub next week!

Go Dragons!

Justine Leopold
President

GO DRAGONS

2025 COMMITTEE / OFFICIALS

President: Justine Leopold
Vice President: Ross Black
Secretary: Caz Hayes
Treasurer: Volker Heinze
Registrar: Kane Leopold
Compliance Officer: Vacant
Property Officer: Emma Hastings
Canteen Manager: Kai Deorffus
Sponsorship Coordinator: Phil Sturrock
Social Media: Christelle Perez

Football Operations Manager: Ross Black
Team Manager Coordinator: Sharon Stevenson
First Aid Coordinator: Emily Heverin
Child Safety Officer: Kathleen Windsor/Christelle Perez
Boys & Mixed Coaching Coordinator: John McLaughlin
Girls Coaching Coordinator: John Bernardo
Junior/Senior Club Liaison: John Bernardo
Incident Coordinator: Caz Hayes
Bar Manager: Gab Dunn
Social Committee: Vacant

General Committee:
Annelise Scott
Justin Scott
Sarah Arnott
Joel Harrison (U10M)
Kathleen Windsor (U12M)
Lisa & Dave Falla (U13M)
Justine Karauria (U15G)
Lisa & David Gee (U16B)

2025 MAJOR SPONSORS



**CLAYTON &
CHADSTONE**



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FACEBOOK Oakleigh Dragons Junior Football Club **INSTAGRAM** @oakleigh_dragonsjfc



THE ACORN

SEASON 2025

ISSUE 6

ROUND 5 / 25 MAY

MILESTONE GAMES!

CONGRATULATIONS

50

GAMES

Darwell Begue, U12 Mixed



CONGRATULATIONS

50

GAMES

Blake Conn, U12 Mixed



CONGRATULATIONS

50

GAMES

Ellie Emery, U14 Girls





REMINDERS

TEAM BENCH AREA

The Team Bench area is where it all happens during a footy match. The Coaches manage their game play strategy and team structure here. It is important that they have the space to focus on these important tasks. As such, this is a reminder that in addition to Players participating in the match, only the following Team Officials are allowed in the Team Bench area during a footy match:

- Coach
- Assistant Coach
- Trainer
- Runner

They must all be wearing the appropriate SMJFL bib.

No other person is permitted in the Team Bench area during the match.

The Team Manager has the authority to ask people to leave the bench if they do not fall into the above categories.



Harcourts Next Gen Oakleigh



Coming Soon

Oakleigh South



James Grosso

P | 0458 037 060

E | james.grosso@harcourts.com.au

COMPULSORY



MENTAL HEALTH SESSIONS

Held by the the Danny Frawley Centre, these mental health sessions are tailored to each age group (U13 - U16).

Learn how to access the tools and support needed to tackle life's challenges, so you can Play Life Better.

Attendance is compulsory for all U13-U16 players with sessions held at the Oakleigh South Bowling Club (next door to Scammell).

DATE	TIME	TEAM	PROGRAM
Thursday, 29th May	5:00 - 5:50pm	Under 13 Mixed	Help out a mate - Ahead of the Game
	6:00 - 6:50pm	Under 14 Girls	Help out a mate - Ahead of the Game
Thursday, 5th June	5:00 - 5:50pm	Under 13 Mixed	The Challenge - Ahead of the Game
	6:00 - 6:50pm	Under 14 Girls	The Challenge - Ahead of the Game
Thursday, 12th June	5:00 - 5:50pm	Under 16 Girls	Mental Fitness
	6:00 - 6:50pm	Under 16 Boys	Mental Fitness





UNIFORM SALES

**TO ORGANISE UNIFORM SALES,
CONTACT EMMA ON
0411 966 226**

**OR EMAIL CAZ AT
SECRETARY@OAKLEIGHDRAGONS.COM.AU**



COACHES' REPORTS

U9 MIXED JAMES CHAPPLE

Oakleigh Dragons under 9's faced St Peters on a beautiful morning for football but from the start we were on the back foot, they played their ground a lot better than we did and we found ourselves chasing them around all day.

The team tried really hard with improving their tackling and handballing, we will work on different aspects of our game at training the following week. We had some really good individual performances such as awesome effort by Elijah and Max Bishop, with Zephan again standing tall in defence and then having a run through the midfield. We take the



positives out of today and move on with trying to improve each week.

Today we looked a bit lost in the middle of the ground and didn't roll to each side to provide an exit from defence. The most important thing is that everyone was having a great time just being out on the field. We started a rolling roster this week which made it easier to rotate every one through all positions with all showing great abilities in different roles. We are having a break from training this week and hope everyone gets a good rest. See you all next weekend.

U10 MIXED DANIEL AITKEN

The Under-10s travelled to Murrumbeena for a tough contest, ultimately falling short but demonstrating resilience throughout the game.

Despite the away challenge, we started with intensity, pressing forward, and creating early chances. The midfield worked hard to connect play, while the forwards tested Murrumbeena's defence with Ethan and Max hitting the scoreboard. However, Murrumbeena were able to respond with swift counterattacks, ensuring they were in the lead at halftime.

The defining moment came in the third term, when Oakleigh defended strongly against the wind. Max, Luke, and Bodhi anchored the defensive unit, holding firm to repel repeated attacks and keep Murrumbeena goalless which kept us in the contest. Their composure and teamwork were key in absorbing Murrumbeena's pressure.

Special mentions go to, Sam H who stood out in the midfield, covering the ground tirelessly with repeat efforts and driving us forward with determination. His efforts





ensured the team maintained momentum and continued battling until the final siren, and to Sam K for her constant pressure and attack on the ball all day.

Whilst we were unable to sing the song, the teamwork, resilience, and defensive stand in the third quarter highlighted their growing strength. It was a great effort that sets the foundation for future success!

A special mention goes to Kate, who stepped up at the last minute to umpire the game after being at two earlier games and despite not having any kids in the team—a true display of great club spirit and dedication to the community. Go Dragons!

U11 MIXED TOM MOLONEY

First and foremost, a huge shout-out to Eli, Zack, Rishon and Elijah, along with their parents, for stepping in and lending us a hand. Without their support, we wouldn't have been able to field a team, so their contribution was invaluable.



Our pre-game focus was on pressure and owning the field position, and I'm thrilled to say we executed this strategy brilliantly. Raj, Connor, and Thien set up exceptionally well down back, cutting off numerous attacks and keeping us in control.

In the midfield, James Scott led the charge by getting first use to the midfielders. Francesco, Koby, and Ari worked tirelessly throughout the day, ensuring we maintained our momentum. Koby managed to sneak forward and kick three goals, adding to our impressive performance.

Up forward, Jimmy was a strong focal point for us, contributing three goals of his own. His efforts, along with the rest of the team's, demonstrated significant

improvements and a really strong team effort.

Overall, it was a fantastic match, and the progress we've made is evident. Let's keep pushing forward and continue to build on this success.

U11 GIRLS TARA ROGERS

Another beautiful morning for footy and we played Brighton at King George Memorial Ground. Our first game with a full team!!! Welcome to our new girls (pictured) who have completed our Dragon Family these last few weeks!

We headed into the first quarter and once Brighton took possession of the ball it was difficult to wrestle it off them. Their players were quick to clear out of the scrum and had some big kicks at goal. A lot found the post but enough went through that they had a big lead already at the end of the first quarter. Most of the rest of the game was played in their forward line and our defenders were busy. Our mid girls made some really good attempts at moving the ball to our forwards but their girls managed to thwart our attempts. The girls played a brave game again and even our new players made some



courageous tackles. We tried our best to stop Brighton's goals but they were a talented and fast team with a big bench.

Third quarter we made some fast breaks down to our forward line but couldn't quite convert to points on the scoreboard. The girls kept their chins up and played their best till the last minute. It was a bit of a brutal loss in the end but they had such grace and good sports(wo)manship at the end of the match. Looking forward to working hard at training and resetting for our next match.

3-2-1-Dragons!

U12 MIXED ALEX O'BRIEN

We took on the East Brighton Vampires on a beautiful Sunday morning at Scammell Reserve. We wanted to increase the focus on pressure, ball movement and having fun.

In the first quarter we were kicking into a slight breeze and were up against it with the opposition kicking 2 goals and then a further 2 goals in the second quarter.

We emphasised on improving our contest work at the half time break and the flow of the play turned in our favour. We ended up kicking 4 goals in the third quarter with Kai and James S providing great targets forward and ended up singing the song loud and proud. The defence held up extremely well in the last half. Eli, Bronx, Charlie, Wyatt, Theo and Anastasios were great in defence and made it hard for the opposition to move the ball.

It was a great effort by everyone with special mention to Hamish, Maison, Max, Deon, Ethan, Paige, Hugh, James T and Phoenix.



Our captains for the week were Blake and Thomas Morel (pictured left) who led the team exceptionally well.

Congratulations to Blake and Darwell (pictured right) on playing their 50th games. Well done.

We still have a lot of room for improvement and we can work on our ball movement and fitness at training and bring it out on game day.

Go Dragons!



U13 MIXED ALLEN COOK

We hosted Prahran today at Scammell for our first official game in Div 2. The boys were excited for the opportunity to test themselves against high quality opposition after strong showings in the Div 3 grading games.

On a very windy day we lost the toss so started off kicking against a strong wind. This put our mids and backs under loads of pressure from the get go. Despite our best efforts, the opposition took advantage and kicked out to a commanding lead at quarter time.

In the 2nd quarter we weren't able to take advantage of the wind with the opposition being very organised in defence and cleaner with the ball across the ground. It was much the same in the 2nd half with our onballers starting to feel the pinch after doing a mountain of work trying to keep up with well drilled opponents.

The opposition seemed a lot fitter across the board and were able to cover the ground with more ease to outnumber us at the contest and in space to earn a well-deserved win.

Bit of a reality check for the boys about what it will take to be competitive at this level. We certainly have the potential to do that but it's going to take lots of hard work at training and I know they are up for it.

Good effort today boys, see you Tuesday.

U14 GIRLS MARCO PERSI

On a sunny Sunday at Scammell we celebrated Ellie's 50th match and welcomed back Prahran who kept us scoreless and beat us by 16 points only 3 weeks ago..... Today would be a different story.

The girls were switched on from the get go and got off to a flying start with a goal in the first minute and set the tone for the match with outstanding pressure and intensity for the whole match.



We added new players to our team and Anthea and Marlie were great up forward working well with Kiana to keep the ball near our goals.



Our on ballers were fantastic, if we didn't have the ball it was chase down tackle after tackle with Ruby A, Mabel and Jess leading the charge while Alexis, Miette and Bella took control of the wings.

When the ball got down back Semira and Lavinia had everything under control with Lois, Ruby T and Anastasia winning the battles against their opponents

Our team work and connection was great to watch and a credit to the girls working hard at training highlighted by our first goal being created with a shepherd from Victoria allowing Sophia to pick up the ball, pass it onto her teammate culminating into a strong mark and goal from our captain Skye.

To highlight our non-stop desire to work for each other we linked up to get Mia her first goal on the 3 qtr time siren and our last goal for the day was a second before the final whistle.

The team work and trust in their own abilities will make yesterday's performance our standard for the season. Super proud of the group

Dragons 8.6..54 def Prahran 1.2.8
Goals: Skye 5, Jess 1, Sophia 1, Mia 1



U15 GIRLS PAUL GEURGES

Our u15 girls were presented with their biggest challenge so far this season at Scammell against Beaumaris and we got a glimpse of what our group will be capable of this year, walking away with a convincing 56-14 win.



Beastmode was the theme for the day, we asked for a team first mentality with a harder edge today and the girls certainly played with it.

We got away with a great start again, with Nicky D Ciorciari kicking our first and Layla controlled the back line roaming free, superbly assisted by Millie while Lucy read the ball very well.

Needing a marking target up forward, we anointed Jezza Black as our CHF, who took the role with both hands, literally, presenting and marking strongly overhead all day and capped off a great game with 2 goals.

Christina and Serana once again covered plenty of ground on the wings, Cam

rucked with purpose, Tractor ploughed the field and Astrid danced around opponents. With our defensive set up on point, all our defenders just clicked which certainly gave us plenty of opportunities up forward.



This was a good test and a great result however..... There is a big fish waiting for us but if we play OUR game and EVERY player contributes, WE will be the tough test.
Well done again to our u15 girls. Onward we march.

U16 BOYS TOM NOLAN

The U16 Boys had a Bye this 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.

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
27-Apr	Round 1	Round 1	Round 1	Round 1	ANZAC Round	U10 Mixed
4-May	Round 2	Round 2	Round 2	Round 2	Community Umpire Round	
11-May	Round 3	Round 3	Round 3	Round 3	Wellness Round/ Mother’s Day	
18-May	Round 4	Round 4	Round 4	Round 4		U9 Mixed
25-May	Round 5	Round 5	Round 5	Round 5	Grill’d Round	
1-June	Round 6	Round 6	Round 6	Round 6	Monash Round	U12M & U12G
8-June	No Games					
15-Jun	Round 7	Round 7	Round 7	Round 7		U13 Mixed
22-Jun	Round 8	Round 8	Round 8	Round 8		
29-Jun	Round 9	Round 9	Round 9	Round 9	TS4A Round	U11 Mixed
6-Jul	No Games					School Holidays
13-Jul	No Games					School Holidays
20-Jul	Round 10	Round 10	Round 10	Round 10		Committee
27-Jul	Round 11	Round 11	Round 11	Round 11	TAC Round	
3-Aug	Round 12	Round 12	Round 12	Round 12		U14 Girls
10-Aug	Round 13	Round 13	Round 13	Round 13	IKON Women & Girls Round	
17-Aug	Lightning Carnival	Round 14	Round 14	Round 14	The TRYBE	U15 Girls
24-Aug		Lightning Carnival	Round 15	Round 15	The TRYBE	U16 Boys
31-Aug			Semi Finals Grand Finals	Semi Finals		
7- Sep				Preliminary Finals	Father’s Day	
14-Sep				Grand Finals		
TBC PRESENTATION DAY, SCAMMELL RESERVE						

