



THE ACORN

SEASON 2026 ISSUE 2

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hey Dragons,

It is with great pride that I write this week's President's Report for our Acorn newsletter. On Saturday, 25th April, ANZAC Day, I was honoured to lay a wreath on behalf of the Oakleigh Dragons JFC at the Oakleigh Cenotaph - I was joined by Natasha Sturrock, Ruby Arnott, James Scott, Eli Brown and Ethan Perepeczko who were all proudly wearing their Oakleigh Dragons hoodies. It was a very meaningful commemoration and a wonderful prelude to our day on Sunday. We had 5 games scheduled at Scammell Reserve on a balmy Autumn day; unfortunately our U18 girls didn't get to play as Prahran had to forfeit the game. Four games at home began with four ANZAC Day ceremonies, with our brand new U9s team kicking off the commemorations. This group of young players gives us great optimism for the future of the Oakleigh Dragons, showing their courage, enthusiasm and a brilliant sense of fun in their first game! How lucky they are to have a wonderfully positive Coach in James Lavdas.

The U18 girls kicked off our first Grub at the Club, preparing and serving meals to a huge portion of our Club, then cleaning up afterwards. They will also be the first team to showcase their players and Coaching staff, as well as their marketing prowess, with 5 pieces of social media content. Each team will have an opportunity to do this throughout the season. Check out our Instagram and Facebook pages to see how the U18s go!

It is with true sadness that we said goodbye to one of our teams this week. The U13 mixed team had some serious challenges with player numbers this season, and the Committee and the U13 families have worked tirelessly to try to build the team back up. Unfortunately this week we had to concede defeat and the team have disbanded. We will do everything we can to bring the team back together in 2027, and we hope that all of our Dragons boys have a wonderful season.

The Oakleigh South Primary School fete is on this Saturday, 2nd May, 10am-4pm and the Oakleigh Dragons will have a stall there to promote our wonderful Club and hopefully even recruit a few players! We would love to see all Oakleigh Dragons players who get to the fete to be wearing their Dragons training tops and hoodies so everyone takes notice of the green & gold!

Friday, 8th May from 5-6pm will see the first ever Auskick program kick off at Scammell Reserve! Come down and support our Coaches Dave Dawson and Lavinia Mandile (U14 girls player) and show the little kids what the Dragons spirit is all about!

Good luck next Sunday - remember to have fun and get around your teammates to keep building the incredible culture of our Club. See you around the grounds!

Justine Leopold, President

2026 COMMITTEE / OFFICIALS

President: Justine Leopold
Vice President: Ross Black
Secretary: Lisa Falla
Treasurer: Carlie Harrison
Registrar: Kane Leopold
Compliance Officer: Vacant
Property Officer: Vacant
Canteen Manager: Ruby Davidson
Sponsorship Coordinator: Phil Sturrock
Social Media: Sarah Arnott

Football Operations Manager: Ross Black
Team Manager Coordinator: Lisa Falla
First Aid Coordinator: Oscar Morton
Child Safety Officer: Kathleen Windsor
Boys & Mixed Coaching Coordinator: Paul Guergues
Girls Coaching Coordinator: Marco Persi
Junior/Senior Club Liaison: Marco Persi
Incident Coordinator: Ross Black
Bar Manager: Vacant
Social Committee: Vacant

General Committee:
Joel Harrison (U10M)
Annelise Scott (U12M)
Justin Scott (U12M)
Kathleen Windsor (U13M)
Dave Falla (U14M)
Sarah Arnott (U14G)
Lisa & David Gee (U17.5B)
Justine Karauria (U18G)

2026 MAJOR SPONSORS



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



ANZAC DAY MEDAL WINNERS

On Sunday, we took a moment to remember and honour the courage, sacrifice, and spirit of all who have served. A sincere thank you to David and Jay from the Oakleigh Carnegie RSL for presenting the ANZAC Day medals to our deserving winners. It was a privilege to have them join us for such a meaningful occasion.

As part of our ANZAC Day Round, we recognised one player from each team who truly embodied these values on the field - demonstrating courage, teamwork, respect, and determination. Congratulations to these ANZAC Day medal recipients:

U9 Mixed - Elijah Scalzo

U10 Mixed - Gianni Alizzi

U12 Mixed - Raj Arora

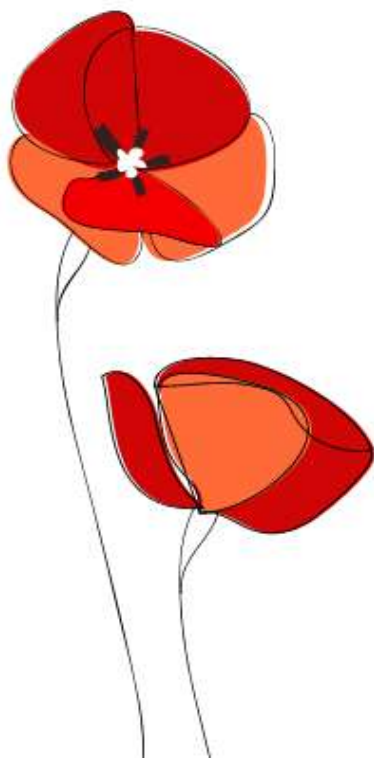
U12 Girls - Sam Kalaitzis

U13 Mixed - Eli Windsor

U14 Girls - Skye Schurr

U14 Boys - Harrison Cook

U17.5 Boys - Troy Morton





REMINDERS

WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECKS FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS

- We ask that one parent/guardian from every family holds a valid WWCC. For volunteers, a Working with Children Check is simple and free. Apply here: www.vic.gov.au/working-with-children-check

If you already have a WWCC, please make sure that Oakleigh Junior Football Club is listed as a linked organisation on your WWCC.

- Please note all volunteers must also register as a volunteer at Play HQ at: www.playhq.com/login and login or create an account.



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THE ACORN

SEASON 2026

ISSUE 2

ROUND 2 / 26 APRIL



4-7 YEAR OLDS*

Your introduction into Australian football centred around game-based activities kids love.



7-12 YEAR OLDS

Designed for any child to give it a go, with a focus on skill development and learning how to play the game.

**Kids can join NAB AFL Auskick if they are turning 5 in the calendar year (before 30th June in WA).*

OAKLEIGH AUSKICK AND SUPERKICK

SCAMMELL RESERVE, OAKLEIGH SOUTH - FRIDAYs
OAKLEIGH SOUTH PRIMARY SCHOOL - SATURDAYs

STARTING MAY 8TH & 9TH



FRIDAYS 5PM - 6PM



SATURDAYS 9:30AM

AUSKICK



SUPERKICK



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REGISTER NOW! SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT [PLAY.AFL/AUSKICK](https://play.afl.com/auskick)



Oakleigh South Primary School

Autumn Family FETE

SATURDAY 2ND MAY

10AM - 4PM

AMUSEMENT RIDES, FOOD & SWEET STALLS,
CAFÉ, CARNIVAL GAMES, SILENT AUCTION,
FRIENDLY FARM ANIMALS, PLANTS,
PRODUCE, FACE PAINTING, SILENT DISCO,
DUNKING MACHINE, SHOWBAGS, PRE-LOVED
BOOKS & TOYS, HUGE ENTERTAINMENT
STAGE & LOTS MORE.

EARLYBIRD RIDE TICKETS

SCAN THE QR CODE TO ORDER YOUR WRISTBANDS NOW
FOR UNLIMITED RIDES BETWEEN 10AM-3PM.
TICKETS AVAILABLE UNTIL 4PM FRIDAY 1st MAY





OAKLEIGH AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB PRESENTS



MAY
2ND

BCNA LADIES

Luncheon

With Special Guest Speakers

WA SCAMMELL RESERVE

1 Jack McAllister Ave, Oakleigh South 3167

12:30PM START

\$50 at entry including **BCNA DONATION**

Dress code: 'A touch of pink'

Drinks at bar prices

RSVP IS ESSENTIAL

Emily Heverin

E: emillyheverin@gmail.com

PH: 0479 071 145

Codi Hall

E: codihall55@gmail.com,

PH: 0420 879 205

COACHES' REPORTS

U9 MIXED JAMES LAVDAS

The team produced a strong performance at home against South Melbourne, showing great enthusiasm, effort, and teamwork throughout the game. It was fantastic to kick the first goal of the match, which gave the team early confidence and momentum. The players were rewarded for their effort by winning the third quarter and maintaining strong intensity throughout the game.

What we did well

- Fast start with the first goal of the game.
- Strong third quarter effort.
- Great teamwork and sharing of the ball.
- Consistent effort and positive attitude.

Player highlights

- Ethan had an outstanding game up forward, applying pressure and showing great confidence when taking his opportunities.
- Gianni showed excellent courage on the ball, attacking ground-ball contests and competing strongly all game.
- Leon was excellent in the ruck and provided strong leadership as captain, leading by example with his effort.
- Max had a great all-round game, working hard and contributing strongly across the field.
- Hamish had a strong game, showing lots of courage and great effort in contests.
- Elijah was the winner of our ANZAC Day medal with his amazing defensive efforts and team first attitude.

U10 MIXED JAMES CHAPPLE

On Sunday we were up against St Kilda City away and what a great day for football. It was quite a different feeling starting a lot later than we are used to. The sun was out with a two goals breeze, and this showed in the 1st quarter with our captain for the week Liam H choosing to kick with the wind.

We started the game with the 1st clearance and first goal within 30 seconds with Eathan down the middle. At training this week, we have been working on movement without the ball and using our voice around the ground, as well as trying to be on the move and not flat footed. We had some good contributors in the first quarter with Elijah and Harvey M with good run and carry, Eathan up forward was solid.

The second quarter was very even and with our back line standing strong with Zephan and Max doing a great job kicking into the wind. It showed that we needed to carry the ball and kick lower and the kids did this well. Our tackling was outstanding later in quarter.

At half time we regrouped and I gave the team some personal goals to achieve and asking each player to reach our set KPIs and this quarter was outstanding again kicking with the wind and hitting scoreboard putting some pressure and giving the team some breathing room going into last quarter.





We finished strong with all players standing up and playing their role. I found today was more a team effort than any individual and because of this we got to sing the song at the end of the game and the excitement on their faces was so good to see, a big thanks for the parent helpers!!

I would like to congratulate the following players for their 1st game for the club with Tobi, Oliver and David all having contributed today.

Some of the players for special mention Max B, Eathan, Liam H, Elijah, Gianni and Zephan.

ANZAC DAY MEDALLIST was a close one between three players but Gianni has worked really hard on his game which showed today, proving he deserved the medal.

U12 GIRLS TARA ROGERS

Round two we played against AJAX at Caulfield East and it was a late afternoon game. We're still on the hunt for a few more players and ended up fielding a team of 12 against AJAX's 19 girls which meant we had our work cut out for us! We began the match, acknowledging the ANZAC's with some beautiful words spoken by one of the AJAX players the Last Post and a minute silence. Our aim for the game was to have fun, kick four goals and be courageous. While the girls played their very best and embodied the ANZAC spirit of determination, mateship and courage, AJAX were simply too good.



But we still made them work. Our girls made huge tackles and kept the pressure on AJAX in the midfield. We also put our training into practice and got some clear handballs out of the contest and some big kicks and marks.

We played the first two quarters without answering any of their many goals and points. Despite this at half time we all agreed that we were still having fun and that we still had plenty of energy left. In the third quarter Pippa Rogers kicked our one and only goal!

By the last quarter the girls were gassed but still giving it they're all. We're all so proud of them for not giving up and staying determined right till the very end. Big congratulations to Sam our ANZAC medal recipient who displayed courage, determination and passion for footy.

3-2-1 Dragons!

U12 MIXED TOM MOLONEY

ANZAC weekend, balmy conditions and a real desire to be our best, all made for a great contest against the Dingoes down at Chadwick Reserve.

After a practice match against Dingley three weeks back where we got thrashed in the first half, but came out to play in the second, the boys knew they had to bring their best to compete. We lost that practice match by 8 goals - and so we knew we had work to do to be competitive. And competitive is exactly what we were!



Low scoring, windy conditions and a lot of contested possession made for a tough slog. Dingley peppered the goals but our dour defenders lead by Raj, Chris and Paddy never relented. They were so organised and united across the field, and it meant Dingley had to earn every possession.

Tackling, pressure, and team first football were our focus. And whilst perhaps not the most beautiful of spectacles given the low scoring, our kids really took up the challenge together. They proved to themselves that they could compete against quality opposition - something all of us were proud to see.

Highlight of the game was in the third quarter - we linked up with great ball use in one of our better passages with the ball for the day. We hit the hot spot where Archer bought the ball to ground, our smalls got to his feet and then dished off to Ari S-R who snapped truly. The only goal of the game - and the boys erupted!

We ultimately went down by a point - and whilst disappointed the boys walked away with a really positive attitude. They'd survived a tough, hard fought game and almost pinched the win off a really good team. So many players stepped up - with special mention to our ANZAC Medallist Raj, to Francesco who wore a tight tag all day, and James and Jimmy who rucked and rucked all day against bigger opponents. Chris was tasked with playing on one of their most dangerous forwards, and he wore him like a glove, sticking to the task like a great defender keeping him goalless - well done buddy!

We've had two close games thus far and all parents and coaches are pleased with how the boys have started. We look forward to next week where we can hopefully snag a win as reward for our hard work.

Thanks to Dingley for putting on a memorable ANZAC Day commemoration to start the game. And thanks again to all of our volunteers!

Go Dragons!

U13 MIXED CHRISTIAN BERNARDO

We came across the Caulfield Bears this week at Scammell Reserve. We wanted to boys to go out with a bang and have fun on their last game. Unfortunately with low numbers and Caulfield being a good team they won convincingly. Charlie, Eli and Bronx tried to stop their fire power all day. Hugh didn't stop running on the wing all day which was great to see.

It was sad that our last game ended this way but we are sure the boys will show their new clubs what they are capable of straight away. Good luck to the boys on their new chapter.

Our ANZAC Day medalist was Eli Windsor. We chose Eli because of his bravery to go head first for the ball and his gut running. Well done Eli well deserved.

U14 GIRLS RUBY FORD



What a fantastic performance from our Under 14 girls, coming away with a comfortable win over Murrumbena in what was a dominant team display.

For the first time this season, the girls had a full side of 18 players - and even a bench, which made a huge difference to our intensity and ability to run the game out strongly. The extra rotations allowed everyone to stay fresh, and it showed in our pressure and ball movement across all four quarters.

We controlled the game well and created plenty of scoring opportunities. While the scoreboard reflected our dominance, we did finish with quite a few behinds, which is something we'll look to tidy up at training moving forward.

A standout performance came from Skye, our ANZAC Day medallist, who was exceptional. Her work rate was outstanding, running hard all game and even taking three bounces in a brilliant display of confidence and skill.

Most pleasing of all was the team effort, every single player contributed and played their role. The girls supported each other, worked hard around the contest, and showed great improvement as a unit.

A great win and an exciting step forward for the team.



U14 MIXED JOSH CONSOLMAGNO

Round 2 proved to be a challenging outing for the team as we travelled to Le Page Reserve to face Highett/Cheltenham. Unfortunately, a number of late withdrawals left us with just 11 players, forcing us to officially forfeit the match.

In a great show of sportsmanship, Highett/Cheltenham offered to play a scratch match and provided five additional players so the game could go ahead. This allowed our group to still take the field and make the most of the day.

With the pressure off, the focus shifted to enjoying the game and experimenting with different roles. It was pleasing to see players embrace the opportunity and step into new positions.

There were several standout moments:

- Andrew provided excellent run and carry out of the backline, taking the game on with confidence.
- Will competed strongly in defence, holding his own against much taller opponents.
- Karlos made an impact up forward, finishing his work with a well-earned goal.

The ANZAC Day Medal was awarded to Harrison, our ruckman, who delivered a tireless performance. He competed strongly in the ruck and worked hard around the ground, setting a great example for his teammates.

Despite the circumstances, the team showed resilience and a positive attitude throughout the day

U17.5 BOYS TOM NOLAN

U17s took on Dingley at home for our round 2 clash. The Dragons had played and lost against Dingley in a practice match before round 1. However, the side were confident they had learnt from that match and went in to today's game prepared.

The boys theme for today, in line with ANZAC round, was to play with a focus on mateship and resilience. Dragons required their resilience as Dingley took advantage of the wind in the 1st quarter and kicked the first 3 goals for the early lead. To the Dragons credit, they fought back against the wind and kicked the last 2 goals of the quarter to go in 6 points down with plenty of room for improvement.

In the second quarter, the Dragons controlled the ball but couldn't quite take full advantage of the wind. Oakleigh kicked 2 goals 8 to be ahead at halftime by 9 points.

With mounting injuries to key players and kicking against the wind in the third, Oakleigh could have easily fallen away. Truly showing their resilience, Oakleigh managed to keep Dingley goalless and kick 2 goals against the wind. The game was won in the third as Oakleigh held off Dingley in the last with 2 goals to both sides.

A great 18 point win, as it was the first time this Dragons side have beaten a Dingley side. There were even contributions across the board and the team played the conditions perfectly. We move on to our next opponents.

Congratulations to Troy Morton on being awarded the ANZAC Day medal.

U18 GIRLS PAUL GUERGUES

Our opponents forfeited the match this week, we'll announce our ANZAC medallist next week.



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	U10	U11-U13	U14+	Holidays	Grub at the Club
19-Apr	Round 1	Round 1	Round 1		
26-Apr	Round 2	Round 2	Round 2	ANZAC Round	U18G
3-May	Round 3	Round 3	Round 3	Cabrini/Wellness Round	
10-May	Round 4	Round 4	Round 4	Mother's Day	
17-May	Round 5	Round 5	Round 5		U17.5B
24-May	Round 6	Round 6	Round 6	Grill'd Round	
31-May	Round 7	Round 7	Round 7	Reconciliation Round	U12G/U14G
7-Jun		No Games			
14-Jun	Round 8	Round 8	Round 8	Monash Round	Maccas Fundraiser
21-Jun	Round 9	Round 9	Round 9		U9/U10M
28-Jun	Round 10	Round 10	Round 10	TS4A Round	
5-Jul		No Games		School Holidays	
12-Jul		No Games		School Holidays	
19-Jul	Round 11	Round 11	Round 11	IKON Round	U12M
26-Jul	Round 12	Round 12	Round 12	TAC Round	
2-Aug	Round 13	Round 13	Round 13		U14M
9-Aug	Round 14	Round 14	Round 14		
16-Aug	Lightning Carnival	Round 15	Round 15		Committee
23-Aug		Semi Finals	Semi Finals		
30-Aug		Grand Finals	Preliminary Finals		
6-Sep			Grand Finals		
TBC			Presentation Day		

