



# THE ACORN

SEASON 2026 ISSUE 3

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hey Dragons,

Well the weather made a massive turn this week, and our new families got to experience true footy sideways rain! Another busy day at Scammell, with 6 out of our 8 teams playing at home. The U9s kicked off Round 3 at 8am against Dingley and they couldn't wipe the smiles off their faces as they ran onto the ground again. This team is showing real improvement already, and we're still looking to build the numbers, so if you know any 8 or 9 year olds who are keen to play, please send them down to training on Wednesday night. Up next were the U10s, playing against the powerhouse East Malvern. James Chapple has led this team with enthusiasm and passion, and the skill level is awesome to watch – much higher than expected for U10s!

The U12 Mixed team were up next and showed how to play like true Dragons! It's their last grading game as they have a bye in Round 4, so it was a wonderful way to finish off grading for this mighty team. Congratulations to James Scott for his 50th game, such a fantastic milestone!

The U14 mixed team have had a rocky start to the season, with Round 1's game being abandoned & Round 2 having to forfeit due to players being injured/away. So these guys came out ready to play on Sunday, and play they did! With a couple of U12 boys filling in, they showed St Kilda City what they're made of and their Coach, Josh, couldn't be prouder! The double training sessions for these boys are paying off, and the cohesion in the team was awesome to watch – keep it up boys! Huge congrats to Archer Falla for playing his 50th game – what a great effort!

The U12 girls were up next & it's fair to say these girls had a tough game. The team is rebuilding after a few players left, but they kept their heads up the whole game and still seemed to enjoy themselves. Power on girls, one more grading game to go and you'll be playing in the right division for success! Finally, the U18 girls had a chance to go up against Port Colts and find out where they sit amongst the U18 teams. Unfortunately Port Colts had a few of their players out, and the game was a huge success for the Dragons but possibly not reflective of the future – we'll wait and see what these girls can do next week! There's one thing for sure though, these girls grabbed the Social Media challenge with both hands – they are the first team to be allocated the job of creating 5 pieces of content for the Club's Instagram & Facebook pages.

## 2026 MAJOR SPONSORS



### 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)

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



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Continued)

This task will be allocated to each team the week that they host Grub – so you will have 2 weeks to create the content. Stay tuned on the socials to see what the U18s came up with!

Speaking of social, make sure you save the date for our two epic social events this year:

- 19 June, 6-8pm for the kids
- 24 July for the adults!

Please take a moment to chat with your child/ren about our Club's Code of Conduct. It's important that everyone - players, spectators, and officials - understands what's expected when it comes to showing respect, playing fair, and creating a positive environment. These expectations come from both our Club and the League, and help make footy fun and safe for everyone involved.

Don't forget that Auskick starts at Scammell this week - Friday 5-6pm with a free sausage sizzle afterwards. Come on down in your training top if you want to have a kick with the Auskick kids! See you next week for Mother's Day - hope all the teams have something special to serve up to the Mums, Grandma's & special women in their lives on Sunday.

Go Dragons!

Justine Leopold  
President

# GO DRAGONS



## ANZAC DAY MEDAL WINNER

Our U18 Girls didn't get the chance to take the field last week for ANZAC round, due to the opposition having to forfeit, but yesterday we made sure the moment was still recognised. A special congratulations to Emma Cooke on receiving the ANZAC Day medal, a well-deserved recognition.





## MILESTONE GAMES!

### CONGRATULATIONS

# 50 GAMES

James Scott, U12 Mixed

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### CONGRATULATIONS

# 50 GAMES

Archer Falla, U14 Mixed

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#### 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)





# Important dates

Stay up to date with what's coming up this footy season

**19**

JUNE

## Kids social event

🕒 6-8pm

**24**

JULY

## Adults social event

🕒 TBA

**2**

AUG

## Team photo day

🕒 Schedule TBA



## REMINDERS

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### PLEASE REMEMBER

This is a game.

The players are children.

The umpires are human.

The coaches are volunteers.

Treat them with respect.

Verbal abuse and inappropriate behaviour will not be tolerated.

You have all signed a Code of Conduct, so play and support the Dragons according to that code.

Get behind our teams and give them the positive support they need and deserve.

GO DRAGONS!



## Harcourts Next Gen Oakleigh



Enjoy no body corporate and a private courtyard in the South Oakleigh Primary zone.

*Presenting to you*



1/15 Dermot Street,  
Oakleigh South



2  2  2 

James Grosso

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**4-7 YEAR OLDS\***

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



# Superkick

**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 VIC).*

## OAKLEIGH AUSKICK AND SUPERKICK

SCAMMELL RESERVE, OAKLEIGH SOUTH - FRIDAYS  
OAKLEIGH SOUTH PRIMARY SCHOOL - SATURDAYS

**STARTING MAY 8<sup>TH</sup> & 9<sup>TH</sup>**

**FRIDAYS 5PM - 6PM**

**SATURDAYS 9:30AM**



**ALL ABILITIES WELCOME**

**GREAT FUN & ACTIVE PLAY**

**BUILD SKILLS, MAKE FRIENDS**

**AUSKICK**



**SUPERKICK**



**REGISTER NOW! SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT [PLAY.AFL/AUSKICK](http://PLAY.AFL/AUSKICK)**



## COACHES' REPORTS

### U9 MIXED JAMES LAVDAS

Fantastic team effort from our U9s today in a great game of Aussie Rules against the Dingley Dingoes. The group played really well, especially with the competitive side and physical approach of the game, showing exactly what we worked on at training on Wednesday.

A special mention to Isaac, who led the team strongly as captain on Sunday. He set the tone with his effort, encouragement, and leadership around the ground. There was real courage shown by Gianni, Eli, and Chinnh, who attacked the contest hard and never took a backward step. Their willingness to put their bodies on the line and compete for every ball was outstanding.

Petros did a terrific job down back, working hard in defence and helping stop many opposition attacks. Luca was great in the midfield, using his energy and effort to get involved in plenty of contests and drive the team forward. Up forward, Miley showed great promise, working hard to create opportunities and presenting well all game.

It was also fantastic to see the whole team supporting each other, sharing the footy, and bringing great energy from start to finish. A strong all-round performance against the Dingley Dingoes and something for everyone to be proud of. Well done team!

### U10 MIXED JAMES CHAPPLE

Today was our 1st home game and we hosted East Malvern, it was a very windy and wet game. We started the week knowing we would be 3 players short so we asked some of the under 9s to fill in and they didn't hesitate and we appreciate those players who filled in. We lost the toss and were kicking into the wind and it was very difficult getting the ball into our forward line as East Malvern were a very well-oiled machine with Oakleigh finding ourselves second to the ball but to the team's credit our defence held up very well with Zephen, Max M and Max B doing a great job.

Second quarter was slightly better with us concentrating more on our game plan and executing it much better this quarter with our mid field get hands on the ball with Elijah trying his best all day.

The second half the heavens opened with pouring rain and the game didn't really slow with East Malvern still managing to find the score board, but in the last we managed to find the goals twice with Hamish showing the team how valuable he was up forward. As this was our third grading game with one more to go, this showed us the standard we need to reach and we are gaining momentum to get there.

Looking forward to our next challenge and let's go Dragons!!

### U12 GIRLS TARA ROGERS

Round three and another home game at Scammell against the East Sandringham zebras. They have had a strong start to the season so we knew we would have our work cut out for us.

Our aim for the match was to celebrate our successes and to have some fun in the wet weather. I also asked the girls to think about a personal best to achieve so they keep improving their skills every week.



As usual, the girls showed incredible bravery and big tackling. Holly and Sophie in the back line put a lot of pressure on and saved plenty of goals from being scored. Sam and Mikayla in the centre made some big tackles and some beautiful plays with some marks and kicks between them. Annika and Charlotte (who had an incredible first game) were fantastic rucks.

Unfortunately, despite the girls' effort and determination, we were not able to get any points on the board and we left hoping we wouldn't see them again once grading finishes. Big losses sting a bit, but they show us what we need to work on and where we can improve our game - we're going to lock in at training!

Big shout out to the parent volunteers today who stuck it out in the heavy rain. These games really couldn't happen without the support of the Dragons community and the parents are the biggest part.

3-2-1 Dragons!

## U12 MIXED TOM MOLONEY

On a wet and windy morning at Scammell, the U12s played united football and came away with a strong win.

James Scott was playing game 50, so we ran through the banner and the energy was electric. Perhaps it was the later start, but probably more the milestone man and the fact we had 2 new players in Oscar and Ryan, but our boys jumped out of the gates and against the wind had a huge first quarter. Ari K kicked a nice dribbler after an awesome second effort from George. We wanted to start well – and for the second week in a row we did!

In the second quarter we got the game on our terms – and established a strong lead. All the things we had focused on the boys executed. Team first, enormous pressure and playing the conditions (wet and windy). We kicked away, taking our chances in front of goal. Highlights of the quarter were an amazing snap from Jago from a difficult angle – the boys erupted and the team spirit was first class.

The second half turned into a slog – and South Melbourne never gave up. We spun the magnets and it was amazing to see players playing in a variety of different roles, including Krishiv who is normally a dour defender kicking a goal. There were some clever passages of play with our boys sharing the ball and linking up. A huge effort again by Jago where he saved a clear goal with a desperate smother that left him winded. We spoke about it as the ultimate team play at 3/4 time and all the boys got around Jago.

Very proud of the effort again this week. Our team are really shaping up as a connected, committed bunch which will hold us in good stead as grading finishes and the season begins. Congratulations to James and the Scott family – what an amazing contribution to the club by all involved!

Thanks to all the volunteers!



## 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.

## U14 GIRLS RUBY FORD

Another dominant performance from the Under 14 girls saw them take control against St Peters in impressive fashion. Despite a rainy lead-up, the conditions cleared right as the game began, setting the stage for a high-quality display of footy.

From the first bounce, the girls brought strong pressure, clean skills, and great teamwork, moving the ball confidently and keeping St Peters on the back foot. Their ability to link up across the ground and maintain possession was a standout, showing just how much they've developed as a group.

Jess was outstanding throughout the game, consistently winning the ball and driving the team forward with her effort and composure. Skye continued her strong form, working tirelessly around the ground and providing plenty of run and carry and huge impact on the scoreboard. Sophia was also impressive, making the most of her opportunities and having a big impact on the scoreboard and in general play.

It was another all-round team performance, with every player contributing and playing their role in what has become a consistent run of dominant wins. The girls should be proud of their effort and the way they continue to improve each week.



## U14 MIXED JOSH CONSOLMAGNO

The U14 boys delivered a strong team performance at home against St Kilda City, not only fielding a full side for the first time this season but also playing out a complete four-quarter game.

With the wind in the first quarter, the boys set the tone early, moving the ball efficiently and capitalising on their opportunities to kick three goals. Just as impressive was the team defence, which kept St Kilda City scoreless and under constant pressure.

The second quarter tested the group as they kicked against the wind, but the boys responded superbly. Adding two more goals while restricting the opposition to just one, the backline stood tall and absorbed repeated forward entries with composure and determination.

After the main break, the third quarter saw a return to controlled ball movement and attacking intent. The boys again made the most of their chances, adding two goals and maintaining momentum heading into the final term.

In the last quarter, the team finished strongly, kicking a further two goals to seal a well-earned 31-point victory. Their first win of the season and a great reward for their effort and persistence.

A big thank you to Jim and Francesco from the U12s for stepping in and making a valuable contribution to the team's success.



## U17.5 BOYS TOM NOLAN

The 17s boys travelled to play Caulfield Bears away for their round 3 match up. Oakleigh have been in good form, however had a few key outs for the game.

It didn't appear to impact the Dragons, as they started off strong and kicked the opening 3 goals of the game to lead at quarter time by 17 points.

In the second quarter, the Bears responded strongly and kicked 5 goals to 2 and took the lead into the main break. Oakleigh were unable to play to their strengths and allowed key Caulfield players to get on top.

The remainder of the third and fourth quarters were a tight battle, but Oakleigh never really felt in the game. It took some individual efforts and occasional passages of great play for Oakleigh to score.

Unfortunately, the Dragons could never quite bounce back and take the lead. The free flowing and team oriented footy that the Dragons had played in the previous 2 games couldn't be repeated against Caulfield.

The Dragons ended up going down by 10 points. A narrow loss despite Oakleigh never quite looking their best. Caulfield, the better side on the day, were able to nullify Oakleigh's ball movement. A lesson for future games, the Dragons look to respond next week.

## U18 GIRLS PAUL GUERGUES

After an interrupted start to our season, we finally played our first game on home soil. The girls were super keen to put on a show for the home fans, and they came out breathing fire right from the start.

The tackling, pressure, and intensity was evident immediately. Emma Cooke came out all guns blazing and kicked 2 beautiful first quarter goals. Ava took a nice mark on the lead and slotted the goal beautifully from 40 metres out, while Julia snapped truly from the pocket after pouncing on the footy from a contest.

Our backline was sensational and let absolutely nothing through. 4 goals to zero capped off a dominant first quarter. Second quarter was much of the same with the girls playing with relentless intent to pressure the opposition and force them into turnovers. Yana slammed home a goal early in the quarter, and Georgia added another when she took a mark, turned around and went bang.

A quieter third quarter with just 3 behinds added to the scoreboard, but the girls were still playing some decent footy. The backline were just a brick wall, giving the opposition no way through and leaving them very frustrated.

When the girls came in at 3 quarter time, the message was simple. They were asked to finish the game off the way we started – and they did exactly that with another 4 goals.

The final quarter featured a goal of the year contender that deserves to be sent straight to the AFL. It started deep in defence with a handball from Elaine to Sienna. Sienna kicked to Emma Cooke who dished off the handball to Julia. Julia's run and carry ended with her delivering a kick to Lucia who then kicked it over to Natalie who had drifted forward. Natalie then cruised in to kick a sensational team goal.

It was just scintillating football to watch – transition play at its very best - and reward for effort put in at training. Lucia was outstanding in her first game back for the year – finishing off with 2 last quarter goals. Cooky finished the game with 3 goals, and it was exciting to have Marina debut for the club in her first game for the year.



# THE ACORN

SEASON 2026

ISSUE 3

ROUND 3 / 3 MAY

I'm so proud of the culture that is building within this team. The bond and connection continue to grow stronger each week. The Dragon Spirit is alive and well and I can't wait for the challenges that lie ahead.



## 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

**CONTACT DETAILS** Justine Leopold Ph: 0404 843 040 secretary@oakleighdragons.com.au www.oakleighdragons.com.au

**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	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		

