



# THE ACORN

SEASON 2026 ISSUE 7

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hey Dragons,

This week we saw a very empty Scammell Reserve, with no home games scheduled. Thankfully, we were able to catch up at the clubrooms for Grub@theClub, hosted by the U12 & U14 girls teams. There were so many comments about the amazing food provided by these teams, and a special mention to Paula for the ridiculously tasty tiramisu! Thanks to all the families from these teams for hosting.

With the onset of Winter, the air has turned cold and it's starting to feel like true footy weather, but it's great to still see heaps of our spectators at the games – it lifts the vibe and the kids absolutely love having a large audience! We saw lots of strong competition around the grounds this week, not a lot of wins, but not a single team gave up without a fight. Keep getting around each other Dragons, celebrate the small moments, not just the victories.

Enjoy the Kings Birthday weekend & if you're wanting to catch some Oakleigh Dragons action, check out Skye Schurr and Alex Reading playing for the U14 Boys & Girls SMJFL Interleague teams – they'll be playing on Saturday 6th & Monday 8th June.

Also, grab your tickets for our first ever Kids Social Event! This is sure to be an awesome night of fun & prizes, and we'd like to see every team having at least 1 table full of enthusiastic kids! June 19th 6-8pm at the Club.

Go Dragons!

Justine Leopold, President

# GO DRAGONS

### 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: Jackson Leopold  
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



**CLAYTON &  
CHADSTONE**



**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



## REMINDERS

### UMPIRE ESCORT ROLE

Umpire Escorts must be at least 18 years of age and have a valid WWCC uploaded in PlayHQ.

The Umpire Escort must escort Field Umpires to and from the ground at the start of the match, during breaks, and at the end of the match. Umpire Escorts should offer drinks to the Umpires during breaks (ask your Team Manager for a water bottle).

The Umpire Escort is responsible for monitoring the Interchange. Players must enter and leave the field during a game via the designated Interchange Area unless a Player is injured. An injured Player may leave the field wherever is convenient and safe to do so, but their replacement must enter via the Interchange Area, and only once the injured Player is off the field.

The Umpire Escort must stand near the Interchange area during play, and may stand immediately inside the fence (but doesn't necessarily need to).

**The Club also asks that Umpire Escorts ensure all gates around the oval are secured during play, so as to prevent injuries to Players on the field.**



# OAKLEIGH DRAGONS

# DRAGONS

## KIDS SOCIAL NIGHT

Get ready for a night of fun, laughs, games and prizes!  
Bring your team mates and put together your own team table for an awesome night featuring:



CARD GAMES



FUN CHALLENGES



HEAPS OF PRIZES TO WIN



SILENT DISCO FINALE!



**PARENTS ARE MORE THAN WELCOME TO STAY AND JOIN IN THE FUN TOO!**



FRIDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> JUNE



CLUB ROOMS – SCAMMELL RESERVE



6:00PM – 8:00PM



ALL AGES WELCOME



\$10 PER PERSON –

Tickets available online (preferred for catering purposes) or at the door



PARTY FOOD AND SNACKS PROVIDED

GRAB YOUR TEAMMATES, BRING YOUR BEST GAME FACE AND GET READY FOR A FANTASTIC NIGHT AT THE DRAGONS!



**TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE!**

<https://www.trybooking.com/DMNVR>





## Harcourts Next Gen Oakleigh



**Grand-Scale Living with Resort-Style Entertaining**



32 Sumersett Avenue, Oakleigh South

*Sold for \$2,880,000*



6  6  4 

**James Grosso**

P | 0458 037 060

E | [james.grosso@harcourts.com.au](mailto:james.grosso@harcourts.com.au)





## 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

## 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



## COACHES' REPORTS

### U9 MIXED JAMES LAVDAS

Round 7 was another fantastic effort from the team, with everyone showing great energy, teamwork, and determination throughout the game. The group competed hard all day and continued to improve with their pressure and effort around the contest.

A special mention to Apollo, who captained the side and led the team really well from start to finish. His encouragement, effort, and leadership around the ground set a great example for the whole team.

Isaac and Leon both had a great go up forward, working hard to create opportunities and keeping the pressure on the opposition defence. Elijah also played a terrific game and was rewarded with the Maccas voucher after a strong all-round performance.

Petros tackled hard all day in the midfield and showed plenty of toughness around the ball. We were also lucky to have some great support from the U10s, with Gianni, Ethan, and Elijah all playing fantastic games and helping the team compete strongly.

Another really pleasing performance from the whole group, with great teamwork and effort right across the ground. Well done everyone!

### U10 MIXED JAMES CHAPPLE

The team was hosted by East Malvern on a very chilly morning, with an early start that set the tone for a tough day. We arrived keen to compete, however we began at a disadvantage with only 15 players available due to several children being unwell. To help ensure everyone could still get meaningful minutes and that rotations were manageable, East Malvern kindly lent us two players so the game could be played in good spirit and everyone had more game time on the ground.

From the opening bounce it was a one sided match, with consistent forward entries from East Malvern putting us under pressure for long periods. Despite the circumstances, we battled all morning and continued to give our best effort across all four quarters. There were moments where we worked hard to move the ball and lift our intensity, but with reduced numbers the workload on each player was high and we were often forced to defend repeatedly. Credit to East Malvern, they are a well drilled side and their structure and clean movement highlighted the level we are working towards as a team.

While it was a difficult day, the match provided a clear reminder of the fundamentals we need to keep building, including sticking to the basics, maintaining our shape, and staying composed when the pressure builds. This result was not a true reflection of our ability given the reduced numbers and illness affecting the group, but we will take the lessons, learn from the mistakes made, and keep improving with a positive mindset.

The focus now is on having a strong break over the King's Birthday long weekend, recovering well, and then returning to training ready to work on the basics and lift our consistency. Thank you to everyone for their effort and attitude throughout the morning. Have a great long weekend, and we will see you afterwards.



## U12 GIRLS TARA ROGERS

We played Saint Kilda City at Peanut farm reserve, feeding off the nervous energy from the rollercoaster rides that we could hear at Luna Park. I was feeling good about our game and looking forward to some healthy competition. Paige was team captain and told the girls to lock in for the win!



Our game plan was to put lots of pressure on and set up strategically trying to play down one side of the ground. We talked about the danger zone in front of the opposition goals, and introduced the hot zone in front of our forward line goals, where we were going to try and kick the ball inside our forward 50.

We came out strong with the girls laying big tackles, standing on the mark and chasing down the opposition. We were rewarded with a fantastic goal by Sam and a point kicked by Annika! Our centres worked very hard with Holly, Sophie and Mikayla playing a very physical game. Elia, Kendyl and Rachel made some beautiful handballs out

of the contest but unfortunately, we couldn't convert our efforts to any more points on the board.

The parents and I can see how far the girls have come so far this season, they are very close knit team and we always have a lot of fun during our games. We're going to work hard on our skills over the coming weeks to try and notch another win soon!

Congratulations to Pippa and Sam on playing 25 games for the Dragons! We had a great time co-hosting grub at the club with the under 14 girls, I overheard a few parents saying it was the tastiest food so far this year. Big thank you to our team managers Paola and Emma for working hard to pull off a successful night.

3-2-1 Dragons!



## U12 MIXED TOM MOLONEY

The Under 12 Mixed team had a Bye this week.

## U14 GIRLS RUBY FORD

Our Under 14 girls travelled to Ormond for a fantastic contest and came away with another strong performance. The girls played with great intensity after a slow 1st quarter, showing plenty of teamwork, determination, and skill across the ground.

A standout performer was Mabel, who was deservedly awarded Best on Ground after an outstanding defensive effort with strong marks and heaps of second efforts. Her effort, composure, and willingness to compete at every contest set the tone for the team throughout the match.

Up forward, Kiana proved a constant threat and was rewarded with a very handy three-goal haul. Her ability to find space and finish her opportunities was a key factor in the result.



It was another terrific team effort, with every player contributing and playing their role. The girls should be proud of the way they competed and supported one another throughout the game. Well done to everyone on another excellent performance!

## U14 MIXED JOSH CONSOLMAGNO

This week we travelled to Highett/Cheltenham for a tough away fixture.

Highett came out strongly in the opening quarter, kicking four goals and putting early pressure on our boys. Despite the scoreboard challenge, the team competed hard and showed plenty of physicality around the contest.

The second quarter followed a similar pattern, with our boys continuing to be strong at the ball and willing to put their bodies on the line. While we couldn't convert our hard work into goals, the effort and intensity remained high. Highett added another three goals before half-time.

The boys were rewarded for their persistence in the third quarter. Their hard work around the contest finally translated onto the scoreboard with a goal, while the team also tightened up defensively to limit Highett to just two goals for the term.

To their credit, the boys never stopped competing in the final quarter. Despite trailing on the scoreboard, they continued to fight hard, apply pressure and challenge until the final siren. While the result didn't go our way, the determination, resilience and effort shown by the group throughout the match was something to be proud of.

Final Result: Highett/Cheltenham defeated us by 80 points

## U17.5 BOYS TOM NOLAN

Oakleigh u17s boys played Ormond away for their round 7 matchup. After a strong performance the previous week, the Dragons were keen to continue their good form.

The first quarter began as a tight contest with both teams struggling to break through strong defensive structures. It was a battle and Ormond applied the pressure on Oakleigh. After the first quarter Oakleigh were down by 2 points, although each team only kicked 1 goal.

A fierce contest continued in the second quarter, but Oakleigh managed to get on top in the second half of the quarter. With 2 goals to 1, Oakleigh took a 5 point lead into the half time break. Playing with 1 on the bench, the break came at a good time.

Both sides came out in the second half with the same intensity as the first half. Each contest became more important, but neither side could pull ahead. Oakleigh took a 4 point lead into the final quarter.

The challenge was set for the Dragons to finish the game strongly. Ormond would not let up with their strong defence, but it looked promising for the Dragons as they kicked the first goal of the last quarter. From there Ormond fought their way back and wouldn't allow Oakleigh any easy possessions. Ormond then responded with 2 goals of their own and the ball spent most of the quarter in their half of the ground.

Unfortunately, Oakleigh couldn't find a late goal to take back the lead and ended up losing by 5 points. A great match and lots to learn from. Congratulations to Lacey for 100 games.

## U18 GIRLS PAUL GUERGUES

It was a tough day at the office against East Brighton who were well structured and showed why they are one of the top teams in the league.

Despite the challenge, our girls battled hard and showed plenty of class in patches throughout the game. Our first goal came in the second quarter, starting with a kick in from Layla Christian. The ball transitioned smoothly around the wing with some nice possession footy - Georgia, Ava, and Milly Black all involved. A deep entry inside 50 ended saw Ava fighting off her opponent and handballing back to Sienna who finished brilliantly with a well-earned goal.



After a disappointing third quarter, but still only 22 points down, the girls rallied and came out from the huddle breathing fire. A few structural changes were made, and the response was outstanding with the girls dominating and keeping the ball in our half for 14 of the final quarter's 17 minutes.

Lucy moved to the forward line and provided a spark. She took a strong mark inside 50, went back and very coolly kicked her first goal in years. The reaction from her teammates was perfect - every one of them getting around her to celebrate a special moment - a highlight of

the day.

Our girls fought hard and never gave up - playing through to the final siren and giving it their all. Their effort, resilience and determination showed that they have what it takes to play against the top teams and that they absolutely belong in Div 1.



### 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.



## 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		

