



THE ACORN

SEASON 2026 ISSUE 8

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hey Dragons,

It is with immense sadness that I shared the sudden passing of our beautiful Secretary and Mum of Archer (U14M) & Finn, Lisa Falla, last weekend. Beyond her role as Secretary, Lisa was also a much-loved football Mum, proudly supporting Archer & Finn, as well as all of our players. She was a valued and dedicated member of our Club whose commitment, kindness and countless hours of volunteer work helped make our football community what it is today. Her loss will be sorely felt by the Oakleigh Dragons community, and our thoughts are with Dave, Finn, Archer and all of Lisa's family during this incredibly difficult time. As a small footy Club, we have never been more aware of the wonderful community that we are part of. All teams are asked to wear black armbands this Sunday in Lisa's honour. Please continue to support each other during this time, and reach out to the Committee if you need anything at all.

After a well-earned break for the King's Birthday long weekend, Scammell was jam packed this week with 6 games played on our awesome ground. The U10s started the day with a great game on a very dewy ground and you could feel their energy coming through the fog. They were followed by the U12 girls and the U14 girls, both teams suffering a loss but never giving up – showing the true Dragons spirit we all know & love!

The Sandringham Dragons scouts were in attendance, watching two U16 Div 1 girls games and our own U18 girls who played a tough match against Port Colts. The games were all live streamed, so the pressure was definitely felt by all of the players during these 3 games. Our U18 girls unfortunately faced an unexpected loss against Port Colts, but with a few injured players hopefully coming back soon, they're sure to go into the second half of the season in beast mode! Congratulations to Captain Milly Black and Maddy Carlton on their 50th games - awesome milestone girls, well done!

Speaking of milestones, a massive congratulations to Oscar L & Troy for 'officially' celebrating their 100th games by running through the banner against St Peters/Murrumbeena. This is an incredible achievement, and we are super proud of these boys! Unfortunately a very late goal from the opposition stole the win away from this very powerful team, but nothing will stop these boys in their fight to the finals.

Grub this weekend is hosted by our youngest teams - the U9s & U10s. We would love to see everyone at the Club to farewell our beloved Secretary, Lisa, and to support our hosting teams.

Justine Leopold, President

2026 COMMITTEE / OFFICIALS

President: Justine Leopold

Vice President: Ross Black

Secretary: Caz Hayes

Treasurer: Carlie Harrison

Registrar: Kane Leopold

Compliance Officer: Vacant

Ground Manager: Jackson Leopold

Canteen Manager: Ruby Davidson

Sponsorship Coordinator: Phil Sturrock

Social Media: Sarah Arnott

Football Operations Manager: Ross Black

Team Manager Coordinator: Vacant

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**



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



MILESTONE GAMES!

CONGRATULATIONS

50 GAMES

Milly Black, U18 Girls



CONGRATULATIONS

50 GAMES

Maddy Carlton, U18 Girls





CONGRATULATIONS

Troy Morton, U17 Boys

100 GAMES



CONGRATULATIONS

Oscar Lacey, U17 boys

100 GAMES



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





REMINDERS

HEAD INJURIES & CONCUSSION

Australian football is a high contact sport, but footy rules have always had a focus on protecting the safety of players, with the most important body part being the player's head.

Head injuries can be associated with serious and potentially fatal brain injuries. Concussion is a brain injury caused by collision with another player (which includes whiplash from body contact) or with the ground, resulting in movement of the brain within the skull causing temporary dysfunction.

Any player who sustains a head injury during a match must come off immediately and be assessed by their trainer using the HeadCheck Concussion Management app. Players may not want to stop playing, or may say that "it's not that bad", but they must leave the field and undergo a proper assessment - no exceptions. Whether you're a coach, a parent, or a player, it's about smart play for the long game.

If concussion is suspected, the player must not return to play in the same game and must be medically assessed as soon as possible after the injury. The player must get written clearance from a medical practitioner to return to training and playing.

Trainers remember: if in doubt, sit them out. Let's keep our players safe.



Harcourts Next Gen Oakleigh



Beautiful California Bungalow on a Corner Allotment with Exceptional Garage



20 Wilson Street, Oakleigh VIC 3166

Auction

(unless sold prior)



4  1  4 

James Grosso

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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 7TH AUGUST



**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>





THE ACORN

SEASON 2026

ISSUE 1

ROUND 8 / 14 JUNE

ADAM PALMER'S

HYPNO HYSTERIA

YOU'RE
HYPNOTISED!

YOU BE
THE STAR!



LICENSED TO THRILL

BE BLOWN AWAY BY THE
POWER OF THE MIND



SATURDAY 22ND AUGUST
WA SCAMMELL RESERVE

7.30PM START

\$40 TICKET INCLUDES 2 HOUR SHOW & LIGHT FINGER FOOD.
DRINKS AVAILABLE AT BAR PRICES.

GET YOUR TICKETS AT: www.oakleighafc.org.au/product/hypno-hysteria/



Important dates

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

24

JULY

Adults social event

🕒 TBA

2

AUG

Team photo day

🕒 Schedule TBA

7

AUG

Kids social event

🕒 6-8pm

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

This week the team travelled to Dingley for a tough away game and once again showed plenty of determination and spirit. The players competed hard throughout the day and continued to show improvement in their teamwork and willingness to support each other around the ground.

A special welcome to Will, who played his first game for the team. Will showed great courage and passion from the opening bounce, throwing himself into the contest and giving his all every time the ball was near him. It was fantastic to see him embrace the game with such enthusiasm.

Chinnh had another strong performance, starting in the midfield where he worked hard around the ball and made several important contributions. Later in the game he was moved down back, where he took on the challenge of playing on the opposition's best forward and did an outstanding job shutting down their influence.

Congratulations to Leo, who was awarded the Grilled Best on Ground voucher after a fantastic all-round game. Leo's effort, competitiveness, and willingness to get involved in every contest made him a deserved winner.

The entire team should be proud of their efforts. Playing away from home is never easy, but the group showed great character and continued to fight until the final siren. Well done everyone!

U10 MIXED JAMES CHAPPLE

Today we hosted SBMT and I had a good feeling about the game today, the kids were eager and ready to go after a break. The game started well with both sides very even and resulting in the ball going up and down the ground, with Hamish solid in defence taking several marks and saving shots on goal.

The second quarter was much of the same with Elijah and Luca having plenty in the midfield. We changed some players around with Zephan having a bit more freedom running through the midfield. Quarter ended with Eli hitting the score board with a fantastic shot. Cooper had multiple shots but just fell short.

The last half we didn't come out to play but SBMT did, showing us the way. They played how we would have liked, we came up short but lots of positives today and some good efforts by David, Joshua, Max M and Max B.

Better luck next week. Go Dragons!



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.



U12 GIRLS TARA ROGERS

Round 8 was an early home game against East Malvern. At training the girls nominated their favourite positions to play so that we can start developing some forward, centre ground and defensive skills. Luckily for Coach there was an even spread of preferences over the ground, so we will aim for more consistency in positions played for the rest of the season. We practised strategic positioning at centre bounce and ball ups and keeping structure in our forward 50.

Our game plan was to implement our structure, communication and focus on using our developed footy skills. The girls made a great start, their determination, effort and tackling couldn't be faulted. Annika, Sam and Sophie made some good clearances out of the contest. Mikayla and Holly were tackling like champions and putting lots of pressure on. Our big effort resulted in us moving the ball right into our forward 50 and Elia scored our first goal!

Second quarter was quieter with no scores for us and girls lost their structure. We had rucks taking kick outs and forwards in the back line, it was getting to be a bit of a hot mess.

After a rev up from coach, third quarter we looked more organised on the ground. A beautiful clearance and handball out, another handball and a kick to a mark really made an impression. Then Sam took a solid mark, played on and kicked our second goal!

The girls were trusting each other and moved the ball down the ground efficiently. We had 3 marks in a row to land in our forward line. A few more points scored by Annika and Paige finished our score for the day.

We're really proud of the girls' efforts and it's wonderful to see them growing more and more each week. We will keep raising the bar for them and push them to be the best players they can be. They all deserved their maccas!

Big thanks to all the parent volunteers, the game can't go on without you all!
3-2-1 Dragons!

U12 MIXED TOM MOLONEY

Round 8 vs Waverley Park Hawks (Away)

After a bye and the long weekend break, the boys were itching to play - and we managed to grind out another close victory.

We had two good news stories this week. Josh Buxey celebrated his 50th game, and Eli celebrated his first in the green and yellow. With James Scott our ever reliable ruckman injured, we had some changes and the boys embraced it.

In the first quarter we kicked the first two goals of the game. Francesco and the mids got to work and the ball lived in our forward line. We were peppering the goals and fortunately it was the Will's who took their chances and kicked truly. Will Waters snapped after roving the pack, and Will Matthews after hitting the post earlier kicked truly.

After that it became a real grind for the boys. Waverley Park (WP) stepped up - and it really was our backline who held it all together. Raj, Connor and co were dour, repelling attack after attack. Thien and Paddy rucked superbly against a really big opponent. The dam wall broke late in the quarter and WP kicked their first goal.

At half time, the boys were frustrated. We reminded them that the most level headed team has the best chance of winning - and we needed to reset. We did that well, until one of our players was penalised with a yellow card. Will Waters had injured his thumb and you could sense our opponents had levelled up and were on the attack.

It came down to the final few minutes. WP kept peppering the goals - and couldn't score. In the end it was desperate pressure and the one percenters that won us the game. Francesco with a goal saving smother, Raj with sublime long



kicks from out of the backline, and Connor putting his body on the line. Reyan, Krishiv, Oscar, Blake and Jago all had big moments. With 30 seconds left it was Jimmy who repelled an attack, kicked long to George who cool, calm and collected ran as far as he could and then kicked as long as possible taking as much territory forward, sealing the game.

Full credit to Waverley Park - we've now had 1 win and 1 loss against them - they are a fair and skilful opponent. We will need to work on our fitness, our goal kicking and some of our positioning if we are to beat them again in the future. But our boys should be proud with how they never give up - sealing their 3rd win by under a goal. We are all very proud of them and the spirit they are showing.

Special congratulations to Josh Buxey on his 50th game - we'll run through the banner with Josh for our next home game.

Thanks to all the volunteers. And wishing a speedy recovery to James Scott!

U14 GIRLS RUBY FORD

The girls faced a tough challenge against Bentleigh on the weekend, going down to a strong opposition side. While the scoreboard didn't fall our way, there were plenty of positives to take from the game, particularly the effort and determination shown throughout all four quarters.

A standout performer was Ruby, who worked tirelessly from start to finish. Her attack on the ball, willingness to compete and leadership around the ground never wavered, even when the game became difficult. Ruby consistently put her body on the line and set a great example for her teammates with her effort and commitment.

Despite the result, the team continued to battle hard and showed plenty of resilience. There were moments of strong pressure, teamwork and determination that we can build on moving forward. Every game is an opportunity to learn, and the girls should be proud of the way they continued to compete right until the final siren.

We'll take the lessons from this week, continue to work hard at training and look forward to the next challenge together.

U14 MIXED JOSH CONSOLMAGNO

Round 8 saw us travel to take on Murrumbeena in what turned out to be a hard-fought and exciting contest.

Murrumbeena started strongly, kicking two early goals in the opening quarter to put us under pressure. After settling into the game, we began creating plenty of opportunities going forward but were unable to capitalise, registering three behinds for the term while Murrumbeena held the early advantage.

The second quarter saw a much-improved performance from our boys. We maintained strong pressure around the contest and were rewarded on the scoreboard, kicking three goals for the quarter. A late goal to Murrumbeena saw them take a narrow two-point lead into the main break.

The third quarter was a genuine arm wrestle, with both sides creating chances inside 50. Our midfield worked tirelessly to gain territory, and we managed to edge ahead by kicking two goals to Murrumbeena's one. At three-quarter time, we held a slim four-point lead.

With the game on the line in the final quarter, the boys stood up when it mattered most. A strong defensive effort limited Murrumbeena's scoring opportunities, while we were able to add the only goal of the quarter. The team showed great composure and determination to close out the match and secure a well-earned 9-point victory.



U17.5 BOYS TOM NOLAN

U17s took on St Peters away for our round 8 clash. It was a match the playing group were highly anticipating since the release of the fixture.

Conditions were perfect for the match and it was clear early on it was going to be a tough match. St Peters kicked the first 2 goals of the game in a hot start, but the Dragons fought back with 2 of their own. At quarter time St Peters were up 3 goals to 2. The second quarter continued to be a fierce contest. Oakleigh controlled most of the first half of the quarter, but were inaccurate at goal. St Peters in response were able to kick the only goal of the quarter to extend their lead at half time.

With only 10 points the difference, Oakleigh needed to start the 3rd quarter strongly. However, St Peters were up to the challenge and came out stronger in the 3rd quarter. With 4 goals to 2 to the advantage of St Peters, they extended their lead to 24 points at the last break.

With nothing to lose, Oakleigh came out in the last playing their best brand of footy. The Dragons piled on 4 unanswered goals and took the lead with less than 2 minutes to play. Football is a cruel game sometimes, as St Peters managed to kick their only goal for the quarter with 20 seconds to play. The Dragons went down by 5 points, but didn't give up without a fight.

Congratulations on Lacey and Troy for their 100 games.

U18 GIRLS PAUL GUERGUES

Back at home for this Round 8 match against Port Colts, we knew that we would be challenged, especially with some of our key players missing. But with Milly Black celebrating her 50th game, the girls were fired up for this big contest.

We started strongly with some impressive attacking chances early. Lucia made her intentions known early and was straight into Beast Mode. Ava had a couple of shots at goal early without quite converting, but it was Lucia at Centre Half Forward who put the first major on the board with a brilliant goal on the run.

Our best passage of play came in the second quarter, with the girls transitioning the ball beautifully from defence to our forward line. The move began with Layla G intercepting at half back, then handballing to Natalie who kicked it to Milly Black. Milly took a strong contested mark, played on quickly, and delivered a precise kick to Ava on the lead. Ava went back and finished the play off with a magnificent set shot goal.



A goal down at half time and the teams looking evenly matched, the girls were given a big rev up in the rooms and they were determined to come out firing. In the third quarter, Layla Christian, who had been working hard all day in the midfield was rewarded with her first goal of the year. A nice set play with Elaine giving the hand ball off from 50 metres out and Layla running in to kick a wonderful goal.

Two goals down in the last quarter, we pressed and pushed hard to close the gap. Zoe moved onto the wing for the last quarter and made an impact, driving forward and kicking a magnificent goal to edge closer in the contest. Unfortunately, we left our run too late and weren't able to overpower the Colts who were just a touch classier with ball in hand. To the girls' credit, they never gave up, and we take the lessons and move on to our next opponent in a must win encounter.



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		





*In Loving
Memory of*

LISA FALLA

It is with profound sadness and heavy hearts that we share the passing of our much-loved Secretary, **Lisa Falla**.

Lisa was more than a committee member – she was a friend, a supporter, a volunteer, and a valued part of the Oakleigh Dragons family. In her time with the club, she took on the role of **Secretary** while also volunteering as our **Team Manager Coordinator** and helping with **merchandise**. No matter what was needed, Lisa was always willing to step up and help.

Her kindness, dedication, warmth and quiet determination made a lasting impact on our club and everyone fortunate enough to know her. Behind the scenes, Lisa worked tirelessly to support our players, families, volunteers and committee, always putting the club and its people first.

Today, our hearts are with Lisa's family, especially her husband **Dave** and her boys, **Finn** and **Archer**. We ask our Dragons community to keep them in your thoughts and to support one another through this incredibly difficult time.

As a club, we are shocked and heartbroken. The loss of Lisa will be felt deeply throughout our Dragons family, and her contribution to our club will never be forgotten.

Thank you, Lisa, for everything you gave to Oakleigh Dragons. Your kindness, friendship and dedication have left a mark on this club that will endure for years to come.

Rest peacefully, Lisa.  

FOREVER A DRAGON.  

