



THE ACORN

SEASON 2026 ISSUE 11

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hey Dragons,

Well the winter sun came out for our return to footy after the lovely school holiday break! Round 11 saw the awesome IKON Women & Girls Round, where we had a chance to celebrate all of the girls and women who make a difference at the Dragons.

The U10s braved the chill at 8am at Scammell, and it was clear that they were thrilled to be back on the footy field. Although it took them a little bit to get back into it, the final quarter showed their development and fierce determination to win the ball!

The U12 Mixed team were next up, playing the top team in the Dingley Dingoes. The past games have proven to be challenging for our boys, going down by huge margins. But this week, our boys came out fighting, celebrating Chris' 50th game with a massive effort to show the Dingoes what we're made of. Although they came away with a loss, they should be very proud of the way they played - with true Dragons spirit. Congratulations to Chris!

The U12 Mixed stood in a guard of honour for our U12 Girls team, showing respect to the Girls & Womens Round. Maybe it was this start that had the girls come out absolutely firing! In a super strong effort, the girls had us all biting our nails in the last 2 minutes, but they held on for an absolutely inspiring win!

The U14 mixed team were definitely happy to be back playing footy, running out in the warm Winter sun after Alex ran through the banner for his 50th game. The boys seemed to enjoy the points more than the goals, kicking 8 goals 22, and coming away with a convincing win. Congrats Alex, a fabulous milestone for you!

Finally, the U14 Girls had their turn on the track. They were under the pump with no bench, but Ruby's 50th gave them something to fight for. And fight they did! Check out Ruby's Coach report for details on this game.

The Falla Family Fund gofundme page is live - the proceeds from the meat raffle at Grub on July 6th were the first donation, with over \$600 raised that night. Our Club is like a family, and we are so proud to be able to support Lisa's family in this way. If you would like to donate, please go to <https://www.gofundme.com/f/the-falla-family-fund>. Dave, Finn & Archer thank you for your kindness and support.

Justine Leopold, President

2026

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CHADSTONE**



2026 COMMITTEE / OFFICIALS

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Girls Coaching Coordinator: Marco Persi
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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)

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

MILESTONE GAMES!

CONGRATULATIONS

50 GAMES

Chris Saisanas, U12 Mixed



CONGRATULATIONS

50 GAMES

Alex Reading, U14 Mixed



CONGRATULATIONS

50 GAMES

Ruby Arnott, U14 Girls



REMINDERS

STOPPING THE CLOCK DURING A MATCH

The Clock can only be stopped for an injury during a match where the player cannot be removed from the ground AFTER a period equivalent to one quarter of the game has lapsed. For example if a player cannot be moved from the ground until an ambulance arrives.





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SEASON 2026

ISSUE 11

ROUND 11 / 19 JULY

OAKLEIGH DRAGONS
FOOTY CLUB

DRAGONS

AFTER DARK

NOT YOUR AVERAGE TRIVIA NIGHT

★ AN ADULTS ONLY ★
TRIVIA, CHALLENGES & GAME SHOW VIBES NIGHT!

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE
WIN GREAT PRIZES!

TRIVIA CHALLENGES
LAUGHS
PRIZES

\$20
TICKETS

TABLES
OF **10**

7PM
START

SCAMMELL
CLUBROOMS

BYO
SNACKS

DRINKS
AT BAR PRICES



BOOK TICKETS
Scan the QR code or visit:
<https://www.trybooking.com/DNUEN>

FRIDAY 24TH JULY
Gather your crew for a night to remember!



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



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.



Harcourts Next Gen Oakleigh



Timeless Character, Beautifully Reimagined



25 Dermot Street, Oakleigh South

Auction

8/8/2026 at 11am



5  2  2 

James Grosso

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THE ACORN

SEASON 2026

ISSUE 11

ROUND 11 / 19 JULY



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 7TH AUGUST	 ALL AGES WELCOME
 CLUB ROOMS - SCAMMELL RESERVE	 \$10 PER PERSON - Tickets available online (preferred for catering purposes) or at the door
 6:00PM - 8:00PM	 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>



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



COACHES' REPORTS

U9 MIXED JAMES LAVDAS

Our U9s took on St Bede's Mentone this week in another great game of footy, and once again the team showed plenty of effort, teamwork, and determination. It was fantastic to see the players continuing to improve each week, with one of the biggest highlights being how much more confident they are becoming at kicking the ball long. The hard work at training is really starting to show on game day.

A big congratulations to Leo, who was one of our best players with another strong all-round performance. Apollo was outstanding in defence, reading the play well and making some important stops. Miley continued her terrific form down back, laying plenty of tackles and applying constant pressure to the opposition. In the midfield, Alec had a great run, working hard around the contest and helping drive the ball forward. Also Captains Petros and Will showed great leadership all day.

It was also wonderful to be part of a round recognising the incredible contribution of women and girls in the SMJFL. It was a great reminder of how important inclusion, respect, and opportunity are in our game, and our team was proud to celebrate everyone who helps make junior football such a great community.

Well done to all the players for another positive performance. The improvement across the group continues to be exciting to watch, and we can't wait to see what the team produces next week.

U10 MIXED JAMES CHAPPLE

Today we faced Prahran on a cold morning with an 8:00 am start. The boys arrived early, were organised and ready to get going. During the week we spoke about the forecast conditions and the importance of being prepared and switched on from the first bounce.

Our key instructions were clear. We needed to be strong around the ball, get first hands on it, lead by example for our teammates, and protect each other with our pressure, communication, and contest work. We also spoke about gaining territory, driving the ball forward, and getting it into the forward line so we could apply pressure and lock the ball in.

The first quarter did not start as planned, with Prahran bringing the intensity we needed to match from the outset. We were second to the ball too often and did not consistently win the early contest, which made it difficult to play the style we wanted. There were positives though, particularly David, who continued to improve week by week. He played strong contested football, showed intent at the contest, and drove the ball forward, which aligned with our pre game focus.

At quarter time we addressed that we were not getting to the ball first, and that it was being reflected on the scoreboard and in the flow of the game. We regrouped, discussed what we needed to change, and asked everyone to meet the KPIs set at the start of the game. The second quarter was similar to the first, and Prahran continued to demonstrate the standard we are aiming for. We kept working, but we needed more consistent pressure and better connection as a group.

After half time we regrouped in the rooms and reviewed what we wanted to do well as a team. The message was to stay together, lift our contest work, and show that we could be competitive for extended periods. The third quarter was more even and we started to get better balance around the ball. We worked harder to match them at the contest and began to give ourselves more chances to move the ball with purpose.



The last quarter saw a complete momentum shift, with Oakleigh putting it on the jets and showing what we are made of. The effort lifted across the ground and we brought the intensity, pressure, and belief that we had spoken about. Standout performances included David, with his intent on the ball and courageous play, and Luca, who again showed athletic ability through marking and kicking. Liam H demonstrated strong running and worked hard to provide an option up and down the ground. Cooper P and Cooper Chapple both hit the scoreboard, which lifted the group and helped the boys finish the game strongly.

We clawed back the deficit and gave ourselves a real chance late, but still came up short. Better luck next week. Go Dragons.

U12 GIRLS TARA ROGERS

Round 11 was a home game at Scammell against Ormond. A cold start to the morning turned into a beautiful sunny day, perfect weather for our womens and girls round!

We managed to fit in some extra training during the school holidays, and had a session with Clint Johnson, so the girls were well primed for our match today. Our game plan was to be 1st to the ball, tackle safely and keep the pressure on when defending.

The girls came out super strong with big energy, literally hitting the ground running! Sam cleared the ball out of the middle, went for a run and kicked our first goal in the first minute of the match! Not long after Pippa made a fantastic assist and Sam kicked another goal! Ormond answered back with a quick goal of theirs and our game was on! It was neck and neck most of the match which made for some exciting watching. Elia kept strong pressure on her player who dropped the ball and made a turnover, Sam cleared the ball out of the scrum and had another shot at goal and kicked a point, and Tiana has earned a new nickname "Tackling Tiana" with her amazing chasing and tackling skills. This was just the first quarter!

Second quarter our defence stepped up with Kendall clearing out the ball to Charlotte who made a wonderful mark, Aria also put pressure on her players and chased the ball down, Sophie made a brave smother, and Sam went on another run halfway across the ground to kick another goal.



The scoreboard was tight the whole game. In the third quarter Charlotte cleared the ball out of the contest, kicked to our Captain Sophie who then kicked to Pippa who was able to kick a goal. Mina also made an excellent clearance out to Elia. Sophie made a beautiful handball to Pippa who had an attempted goal and hit the post. Anika was strong in the midfield passed out to Pippa who passed to Sophie who kicked her first goal for her career. Paige put pressure on her player chasing them down and then picked up the ground ball for a conversion.

The fourth quarter was much of the same; strong defence and some beautiful play. Sophie kicked another goal! It was a nail-biting last two minutes on the clock with Dragons ahead by two, Ormond managed to get the ball into their forward 50, but our Dragons flooded their forward line and kept the ball in contest to finish the match for a big win!



It was an amazing feeling to sing our Club song and celebrate the girls achievements. We're all so proud of their determination and they really deserved the win today.

3-2-1 Dragons!

U12 MIXED TOM MOLONEY

Celebrating Chris Saisanas' 50th game, we came up against a top of the table side and pushed them right to the wire.

Dingley have been the premier team in our division this year. They have won games routinely by 10+ goals so it was always going to be a tough game. But our kids were up for the challenge! Billy and Chris captained this week, and Billy's message challenged the boys to lock in and play for Chris in his milestone. We had Will Waters back in the team after a nasty hand injury which also buoyed the team, and we were set for the task!

In the first quarter it was Dingley who got the fast start. They kicked the first couple of goals and we were on the back foot. But the great sign from our boys was they didn't let that lead increase. We got to work and kept the game close. In one single passage of play, Will Waters had 5 tackles. It was such a great example of how determined the boys were playing – and ultimately it led to our first goal when George Moloney stepped up to claim a contested mark 20 metres out from goal. Others were having trouble controlling the slippery leather ball, but not George as he perfected a lovely drop punt post high through for our first goal.

In the second term, our team really got to work. It was an arm wrestle and for us it was Will Matthews this time who took his chance following up a second effort to snap a lovely goal. Will's energy really lifted the team, we went into the half time break with some real belief.

In the third quarter we worked hard to contain the Dingoes. Remembering this was the top team, our boys showed no hesitation. Jimmy and Francesco were leading the way. Patty in the ruck was gallant, and our mosquito fleet led by Blake and Reyan were following Will Waters lead tackling much bigger bodies ferociously. Chris in his milestone was playing tight in defence on their most dangerous forward, and helped keep us in the game.

So moving into the last quarter, 2 goals adrift we still had belief. Pressure was high, and the game went up another level. Again George Moloney stepped up when the ball bobbed in his area, and a sharp second effort resulted in a snapped goal which closed the margin. We never gave up, but a late surge from Dingley saw their full forward mark and goal from the goal square to ice the game. Dingley prevailed by 17 points.

Against the top team, it was a massive effort from our kids. We were all proud of their intent on the sidelines, and as coaches are loving the development of the kids both individually and as a team. We will get back to training, and look forward to our next game against Mordi-Brae at home.

Thanks to all the volunteers.

U14 GIRLS RUBY FORD

Although the scoreboard didn't fall our way against South Melbourne, this was one of our most improved performances of the season. After our previous meeting, the girls came into this game determined to compete harder, and they certainly did just that.

From the opening bounce, our pressure, effort, and willingness to contest every ball was a huge step forward. The girls worked hard for one another, applied great defensive pressure, and never stopped fighting, even when South Melbourne gained momentum.



It was fantastic to see the confidence and teamwork continue to grow. We had players putting their bodies on the line, supporting their teammates, and backing themselves with the football. While we couldn't come away with the win, the improvement from our last game against South Melbourne was clear for everyone to see.

As coaches, we couldn't be prouder of the attitude and resilience the girls showed. If we continue to bring this level of effort and keep building on the fundamentals, the results will come. Well done to every player for your determination and commitment. Keep working hard, and we're excited to see what this group can achieve over the rest of the season!

U14 MIXED JOSH CONSOLMAGNO

The boys played at Scammell against St Peter's in ideal football conditions, with the sun shining on what turned out to be a great day for footy.

We got off to the perfect start, kicking the opening goal of the game and holding St Peter's scoreless in the first quarter. Despite creating plenty of forward entries and scoring opportunities, inaccurate kicking meant we could only manage the one major for the term.

Our dominance continued in the second quarter as we controlled the play and repeatedly locked the ball inside our forward 50. We added 3 goals but couldn't make the most of our opportunities, finishing the quarter with 3.9 and leaving the door slightly open for the opposition.

St Peter's showed some fight after halftime, kicking their only 2 goals of the game in the third quarter. However, our boys responded well, adding 2 goals and 2 behinds to maintain a comfortable lead heading into the final change.

The final quarter was much the same story. We continued to create scoring chances but couldn't quite find our range, kicking 2 goals and 10 behinds. Thankfully, our dominance around the ground ensured the result was never in doubt, with the team finishing strongly to record an impressive 53-point victory.

Congratulations to Alex, who celebrated his 50-game milestone.

U17.5 BOYS TOM NOLAN

U17s fresh off the 2 week break played Mordi-Brae away. A rematch from their round 1 match, it would be a good test to see how Oakleigh go the second time around after a close win from the first encounter.

The Dragons started red hot with a goal from the opening bounce. Mordi responded with their own goal, but then Dragons really took control of the quarter. Oakleigh held Mordi-Brae to 1 goal for the quarter while kicking 5 of their own.

Now kicking against the wind in the second quarter, Oakleigh continued to control the ball. The Dragons took advantage of the bigger ground and stretched the opposition defence. Another 3 goals to 1 and the lead was 35 points at half time.

Despite feeling well in control and with a strong lead, Oakleigh continued in the same manner in the third quarter. Fortunately for Mordi-Brae, Oakleigh were inaccurate kicking 3 goals 5 behinds. Just as impressive as their attacking was Oakleigh's defence as they kept Mordi-Brae goalless with the ball barely entering their forward 50.

Mordi showed some fight in the last quarter, but the game was over. With 3 goals to each side, Oakleigh won comfortably with a strong performance from all players. The Dragons look forward to their next match as they hope to continue their form.

U18 GIRLS PAUL GUERGUES

After a 4-week break between games, we knew Beaumaris would be a tough opponent having won their last match by more than 100 points.

The girls executed the game plan perfectly in the opening quarter, moving the ball with purpose to create our first scoring opportunity. Yana, strong in the contest, burst through to kick a brilliant running goal and give us the perfect start. Only a couple of lapses in concentration allowed Beaumaris to score 2 first-quarter goals, but we were right in the contest and had everything to play for.

Our backline stood tall throughout the day, with Zoe taking multiple contested marks and leading the defence superbly. With no players on the bench, the workload was immense, making it difficult to maintain the same intensity as the game wore on.

Heading into the final quarter, we made a few changes to try and generate some momentum. Millie Thomson, who had worked tirelessly through the midfield all day, moved forward and found plenty of the ball. Zoe moved into the midfield, where she continued to have an impact before pushing forward to kick an early goal and keep the Dragon spirit alive. The celebration that followed from the girls was a highlight of the day - capped off by Zoe's air guitar performance.



Unfortunately, despite dominating the final quarter in our half, we couldn't convert our opportunities to close the gap - losing by 23 points.

It was a determined performance against one of the competition's strongest teams. The girls never stopped competing, showed great resilience in difficult circumstances, and can be proud of the effort they produced from start to finish.



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	





TOGETHER WE MAKE MORE POSSIBLE

The Falla Family Fund

All funds raised will support Lisa's family - her husband Dave and her sons Finn & Archer - during this difficult time.



OUR CLUB
OUR COMMUNITY
OUR DRAGONS



SUPPORT
A local family
in need



**MAKE
AN IMPACT**
Every donation
helps



**STRONGER
TOGETHER**
Oakleigh Dragons
always



THANK YOU
For your kindness
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DONATE TODAY

Every contribution
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THANK YOU!

DONATE NOW

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<https://www.gofundme.com/f/the-falla-family-fund>