



THE ACORN

SEASON 2026 ISSUE 12

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hey Dragons,

Firstly a massive thank you to our Social Coordinator, Sarah Arnott. Sarah singlehandedly ran our biggest fundraiser of the year – “Dragons After Dark”. It was a sensational night, with some serious competition between teams, and a few sore heads on Saturday! Next up – the kids social event on Friday, 7th August, 6-8pm. Book now **Kids Social Night Tickets** – we’d love to see heaps of the kids come together to celebrate what a wonderful Club they’re all part of!

Round 12 was TAC Road Safety Round, with players wearing blue TAC armbands to raise awareness of road safety. This year’s road safety focus is speeding, which contributes to nearly 30% of fatal crashes and nearly 25% of serious injury crashes.

Sunday started with the U9s back at home at 8am and it was clear from the beginning that this team came out to have a great game. In their penultimate home & away match, the U9s faced up against Port Colts – the development of this team is so clear, and it’s wonderful to watch their skills improve week after week. The day was full, with U10s, U12 mixed & U14 mixed all playing their hearts out at Scammell. An absolute nail-biter concluded the day with the U17.5 boys taking on SMDJFC and coming away with a 1 point win! Read all about the games in the Coaches reports below!

Congratulations to Reyan & Ari from U12 mixed for playing their 50th games – a fantastic milestone. U17.5 player Noah ran through the banner for his 100th game – proving that commitment and dedication to your footy pays off!

Next Sunday is Photo Day – check with your Team Manager if unsure of timing. Don’t be late – there’s no rescheduling or photoshopping available! It’s a big day at Scammell next week, with photos and 6 games at home, followed by the U14 Mixed hosting Grub, so lots to look forward to.

Also, don’t forget to save the date for our Presentation Day on Sunday 13th September from 11am.

See you around the grounds! Go Dragons!

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



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



MILESTONE GAMES!

CONGRATULATIONS

50 GAMES

Ari Singh Randhawa, U12 Mixed



CONGRATULATIONS

50 GAMES

Reyan Shah, U12 Mixed



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



THE ACORN

SEASON 2026

ISSUE 12

ROUND 12 / 26 JULY

CONGRATULATIONS

Noah Delaney, U17.5 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



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.



REMINDERS

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE DIARY

Photo Day - Sunday, 2 August Scammell Reserve

Photo times for each team are listed in the newsletter below.

Wear your full game gear including your Dragons footy top, green shorts and clean footy boots!

All players, whether sick or injured will be included in the photo shoot.

DON'T BE LATE!

Kids Social night – Friday, 7 August, 6-8pm Scammell Reserve

Get ready for an evening of fun, laughter, games, and awesome prizes!

Bring your friends along, and parents are welcome to stay and join in the fun too.

\$10 per person, party food and snacks are included.

Book your tickets online at www.trybooking.com/DMNVR.



Team Photo Day - Sunday, 2 August (Scammell Reserve)

- Arrive **15 minutes** before your scheduled photo time.
- Wear **Dragons green shorts, Dragons playing top, Dragons socks and clean footy boots.**
- If your team is playing **away**, bring **white shorts** to change into after the photo.
- **No visible undergarments** under your jumper (skins under shorts are OK, but not full-length).
- **Green and yellow hair ribbons** are allowed.
- **Be on time** - late arrivals will **not** be added to the team photo.
- **Only one team photo** will be taken (no individual photos).
- **Sick or injured players** should still attend the photo in their **full Dragons game day gear.**



PHOTO DAY

Schedule

SUNDAY, 2ND AUGUST

📍 W.A. SCAMMELL RESERVE - OAKLEIGH SOUTH VIC 3167

TEAM	ARRIVAL TIME	PHOTO TIME
U9 Mixed Dragons	7:15 AM	7:30 AM
U10 Mixed Dragons	7:45 AM	8:00 AM
U14 Girls Dragons	8:30 AM	8:45 AM
U14 Mixed Dragons	9:15 AM	9:30 AM
U12 Mixed Dragons	9:45 AM	10:00 AM
U18 Girls Dragons	10:45 AM	11:00 AM
U12 Girls Dragons	12:15 PM	12:30 PM
U17.5 Boys Dragons	1:45 PM	2:00 PM



PLEASE ARRIVE ON TIME AND WEAR FULL
DRAGONS UNIFORM.
THANK YOU FOR REPRESENTING OAKLEIGH DRAGONS!

ONE CLUB
ONE COMMUNITY
— ONE DRAGON —



Harcourts Next Gen Oakleigh



Timeless Character, Beautifully Reimagined



40 Oakpark Dr, Chadstone

Auction

8/8/2026 at 1pm



5 

2 

2 

James Grosso

P | 0458 037 060

E | james.grosso@harcourts.com.au





THE ACORN

SEASON 2026

ISSUE 12

ROUND 12 / 26 JULY



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>





COACHES' REPORTS

U9 MIXED JAMES LAVDAS

Our U9s were back at home this week for a great contest against Port Melbourne. The team played with plenty of enthusiasm and effort, continuing to show the improvement we've seen throughout the season. Every player had a crack, worked hard for their teammates, and never stopped competing.

A special mention goes to Chinh, who had a run up forward and played a terrific game. His hard work, pressure, and willingness to compete gave us plenty of drive in attack. Down back, Vian was one of our best players, standing strong in defence and doing a fantastic job of kicking the ball out long to set up our next attack.

A big thank you to Ethan from the U10s, who joined us in the midfield. Ethan showed great composure and experience around the contest, making smart decisions with the footy and helping guide our younger players throughout the game.

It was another positive performance from the whole team. The confidence to move the ball, support each other and take the game on continues to grow each week. The effort and teamwork on display were outstanding, and it's exciting to see the development of every player as the season progresses. Well done, team!

U10 MIXED JAMES CHAPPLE

Today we hosted Hampton Rovers, and it was a great morning for football. Leading into the match, I had been thinking all week about how to get the boys playing more of a team focused style of footy, with everyone buying into the same approach and supporting each other around the ground. In the pre-game chat I asked the group to keep it simple, have fun, and be hard around the footy, because this is an area where we have let each other down in recent weeks. The key message was to work together, stay disciplined, and make sure our effort and intent were consistent for four quarters.

We started exactly how I wanted them to play, with repeated entries and strong territory, and we made it very difficult for Hampton to get any clean ball going forward. The ball did not enter Hampton's forward line all day, which was a direct result of the team pressure, the willingness to keep presenting as options, and the way we committed to our roles. One of the key points we discussed was gaining territory, and that is exactly what we did, moving the ball with purpose and keeping it in our half for long periods. The group kept the game on our terms by staying switched on, contesting hard, and backing each other up at ground level.

David played his best game by far, showing strength, determination, and a real drive for the football. He competed strongly, stayed involved, and set a standard with his intent, which lifted those around him. His effort reflected the focus we have been trying to build, which is to be accountable, take the contest on, and keep working until the job is done.

Stand out players today included Luca, whose marking and ability to kick long gave us a strong option and helped us gain valuable metres. Hamish was excellent busting packs and hitting the scoreboard, providing a genuine presence and rewarding his work with impact. Max B and Max M both played their roles all day, stayed reliable, and did the team things that keep our structure working, whether or not it shows on the stat sheet. Cooper C played his best game of the year, with hard tackles, repeat efforts, and hitting the scoreboard, and his willingness to apply pressure and follow up created opportunities for others as well. Cooper P had, by far, his best game, kicking three of the best after taking two great marks, and he looked confident and composed in the moments that mattered.

I will leave it there, as we played each quarter exactly as we set out to. It has been a tough few weeks against quality sides, and it was pleasing to see the boys respond with a complete team performance and a clear commitment to

playing for each other. I hope the boys and spectators loved what we produced, because the effort, discipline, and togetherness were there from the opening bounce. It was definitely a proud coach day.

Go Dragons.

U12 GIRLS TARA ROGERS

Round 12 we played top of the ladder South Melbourne in a late afternoon game in sunny Albert Park. Our game plan was to put pressure on as soon as we ran out, be first to the ball, and in a scrum land one handball out then big kicks to our forward 50.

The girls needed a bit of revving up but had high energy as they ran out onto the ground. They certainly got the message to put pressure on and the girls did not disappoint! As always, they laid big tackles but also chased down the opposition pushed them out of the way to be 1st to the ball and laid some good bumps in early on. They were rewarded with some solid attempts at goal, and a point kicked by Sam K. Mina used her big kick to move the ball forward and Sophie managed our only goal of the match! They also played strategically, when marking the ball, they waited for their teammates to move forward on the ground.



The second quarter they kept demonstrating good pressure with a lot of second and third efforts for the ball, Charlotte especially made a great second effort and nearly turned the ball over. Ellie went up for a contested mark and Pippa made a goal saving mark in the opposition's goal square.

Unfortunately, their amazing efforts were not rewarded with any further score and we ended the game 1,1 for 7. South Melbourne were a very strong side but as always we're proud of our girls for giving it they're all and never giving up! 3-2-1 Dragons!

U12 MIXED TOM MOLONEY

In Ari and Reyan's 50th games, we went down to a spirited Mordi-Brae side who were out for revenge! We knew it was going to be a tough game against Mordi-Brae. In our previous encounter they were quick, skillful and it took a fairytale finish for us to get over the line right at the end. No doubt they wanted to even the ledger – and that endeavour shone through.



They got the fast start and kicked the first goal. We've started well all season, but this time we were on the back foot. It was a lesson for our boys to arrive early and in the right frame of mind – as we had several stragglers out to the warmup despite the later than normal morning game time.

After a rev up at quarter time we responded. We contained their midfield better, and their speedy half back who had played sensationally in the opening quarter was kept quieter by our forwards. We controlled a lot of the second term, but just couldn't put it on the board. Our best chance to goal came when Jimmy swooped on a ball and ran into goal but in a sign of the times we just couldn't convert the chance.

At half time we lauded Ary K's tackle, and Ari SR's desperation. We were right in the game and just needed to finish our work. After another dour quarter, we were 2 goals down at three quarter time. Evan Lavdas was playing his best game for the season, and the back 6 lead by Raj, Reyan and Krishiv were sublime.

Knowing we'd performed the miracle comeback last game – the boys still had belief that we could come back. And we started the last quarter well and showed great determination. The play of the game, and perhaps the season was a brilliant team effort that resulted in our first goal. We repelled an attack and exited the backline strongly. We laced out Paddy who took a great overhead grab. He played on quickly and kept the ball moving. The final kick in saw a brilliant overhead mark by Will Waters who thought quickly and dished a nice handball to a running Ari SR who finished sensationally on the run. The crowd and the boys went wild – and it kept us in the game!

Unfortunately we couldn't repeat that conversion, and Mordi-Brae sealed it with a few minutes to go with an impressive mark and goal on the goal line. Final score was 1.5 11 to 3.3 21. We praised our players for never giving up – a great trait that will hold us in good stead in the future.

Thanks to all the volunteers, and congrats to Ari SR and Reyan on 50 fantastic games for the club!

U14 GIRLS RUBY FORD

What a game! The girls came away with a thrilling 2-point win over Ormond after a hard-fought battle from the first bounce to the final siren.

It was a true team performance, with everyone digging deep when it mattered most. Semira was outstanding in defence, reading the play brilliantly and consistently stopping Ormond's attacks. Kiana was dangerous up forward, kicking some fantastic goals at important moments to keep us in front. Jess dominated in the ruck, giving our midfield first use of the footy all day and working tirelessly around the ground.





The girls showed great resilience, composure, and determination to hold on in a close finish. A well-deserved win and another great step forward as a team. Well done, girls!

U14 MIXED JOSH CONSOLMAGNO

This week we played at Scammell Reserve to take on the undefeated Highett/Cheltenham, knowing it would be one of our toughest challenges of the season.

Our boys came out with plenty of intent, controlling the play early and applying strong pressure around the contest. We were rewarded with the only goal of the opening quarter, while our backline stood tall with some outstanding defensive work to keep the opposition scoreless.

The second quarter was a hard-fought battle, with both teams creating opportunities. While we couldn't add to our score, Highett/Cheltenham managed to kick their first goal, sending the game into half-time with the scores level.

The third quarter proved to be the difference. Highett/Cheltenham made the most of their chances, kicking two goals, while we were unable to capitalise despite creating several scoring opportunities.

The boys never stopped believing and attacked the final quarter with great determination. We had plenty of the football and gave ourselves opportunities to get back into the contest, but unfortunately we couldn't convert on the scoreboard.

U17.5 BOYS TOM NOLAN

After 5 away matches in a row, the u17s returned home for their round 12 match up against South Melbourne. The Dragons had not played South Melbourne previously, but it was sure to be a good match.

The first quarter started a tight contest with Oakleigh unable to convert their shots on goal. South Melbourne managed to kick the first goal to break the deadlock. Oakleigh responded with the next goal, before South Melbourne kicked their second goal of the game. Oakleigh were down early by 5 points at quarter time.

In what proved to be an important quarter, Oakleigh responded strongly by kicking 3 unanswered goals and controlling most of the second quarter. The Dragons control came from a strong team defence that kept South Melbourne scoreless as they couldn't cope with Oakleigh's pressure. The Dragons went in at half time 15 points up after brave individual and team efforts set the tone for Oakleigh.

South Melbourne were clearly given a talking to at half time as they gained control in the centre. They responded with 3 of their own goals, while Oakleigh were able to maintain a 1 point lead going into 3 quarter time with a goal of their own.

With the game up for grabs, Oakleigh set themselves for the challenge. The last quarter was a survival of the fittest and Oakleigh stuck true to their game plan. The Dragons put South Melbourne under pressure with their repeat inside 50s, but the opposition defence stood strong. Finally, Oakleigh broke the deadlock and kicked a goal to give them a 7 point buffer. South Melbourne tried their best to regain the lead with a goal in the last 30 seconds. However, it wasn't enough as the clock then ran down, giving Oakleigh a 1 point win.

Congratulations to Noah on playing his 100 games in a nail biter.



U18 GIRLS PAUL GUERGUES

The task was set for our girls this week – win, and keep our finals hopes alive. But it was not a simple task because we had top of the ladder East Brighton Vampires standing in our way. It was going to take a monumental effort and a massive upset to get the 4 points.

The girls came out breathing fire - Lucia Shaw set the tone with a sensational chase down tackle that lifted the team and signalled our intent. You could see the girls were switched on right from the start. A brilliant opening quarter with 3 unanswered goals that stunned the opposition.

Milly Black laid a bone crunching tackle, Layla Christian was everywhere, running off half back and delivering the footy lace out, and Lucia was looking very dangerous every time she was anywhere near the ball.

Camryn Davidson took no passengers – she was a fierce presence at half forward, busting through packs, creating forward entries, and capping off her outstanding work with a magnificent goal of her own. Emma ‘Bickies’ Cooke was back on the scoreboard with a nice goal, and Ava also kicked a goal after missing a month of footy.

In the second quarter, Lucia kept on with relentless tackling pressure and running around winning possession after possession and driving the team forward. She hit a perfect pass to Yana Ciorcari who took a magnificent, contested mark just inside forward 50. Yana dished off the handball to Lucia who continued her run before kicking an unbelievable long-range goal.

3 more goals followed in the 2nd quarter to Ava Lombardi, Milly Black, and a very classy set shot from Yana. There was absolutely no chance the girls were going to allow the Vampires back into the game. That was made very clear when Layla Christian kicked a magnificent goal from 40 metres out on the run in the 3rd quarter.

There were some outstanding performances across the ground with Emma Dean having her best game for the club, Helena Kladouris was fantastic on the wing all day for her best game of the year, and Teresa Huang in and under, winning the contested ball in the midfield all day. It was a huge win and a performance for the ages. The girls are now in the top 4 and hitting their straps at the right time of the year.





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		
13-Sep	Presentation Day kicks off at 11am				

