



THE ACORN

SEASON 2026 ISSUE 15

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hey Dragons,

What a sensational weekend of footy for our awesome Dragons! We kicked off with the Auskick presentation on Saturday, where our youngest footballers celebrated the 1st season of Auskick at Scammell. They had a brilliant presentation, followed by yummy food, and then they ran out onto the "Oakleigh MCG", through the guard of honour created by their parents, for a fantastic game. Once the game ended, the Auskickers were joined by their fans and were part of their own guard of honour that the Seniors players from Oakleigh Krushers were honoured to run through.

Sunday at Scammell was a quiet day, with a forfeit creating a gap in the morning, but the U12 mixed team kicked off the final home & away round with a fantastic game of footy. In a 'must win' mini-final, these boys showed us what they're made of, every one of them stepping up to take on Waverley Park Hawks and coming away with a nail-biting win to secure their spot in the finals.

Speaking of finals, we have 5 out of our 6 eligible teams in the finals for season 2026 - what an amazing achievement! Congratulations to the U12 girls who have once again pulled together a team from scratch - and what a community they've created! If you're ever in doubt about building a team, look to Tara & the U12 girls for inspiration!

Our U10s headed out to Port Melbourne to finish their season with their lightning premiership. They absolutely came out to play, and had such a wonderful trio of games, and ended up winning the flag! Congratulations to James, Matt and the whole U10s family on a very fitting end to your season!

Thanks to everyone who made it to our last Grub @ the Club, hosted by the Committee. The pizzas were devoured and a massive thank you to the entire Committee for all your hard work this year. We will celebrate all of our teams on Presentation Day, Sunday 13th September. Don't forget to get your nominations for our perpetual awards in by Wednesday for consideration.

Finally, we will close donations to the Falla Family Fund on Sunday, 23rd August <https://www.gofundme.com/f/the-falla-family-fund> We will announce the final donation amount at Presentation Day. Thank you so much to those of you who have donated to support Lisa's family.

See you at the finals!

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



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



REMINDERS

SAVE THE DATE - PRESENTATION DAY

Join us for our **Presentation Day** as we celebrate the 2026 footy season and recognise the outstanding efforts and achievements of our players, teams and club members.

When: Sunday, 13 September from 11am

Where: Scammell Reserve

All players and families are encouraged to attend as we come together to celebrate a fantastic season. A range of awards will be presented, including Club Awards and Team Awards, recognising the dedication and achievements of our players and volunteers.

There's plenty for the whole family to enjoy, with an **inflatable slide for the kids** and a **free sausage sizzle for everyone**.

We look forward to celebrating the 2026 season with you!



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TOGETHER WE MAKE MORE POSSIBLE

OAKLEIGH DRAGONS PRESENTATION DAY 2026



WHEN: Sunday 13th September



TIME: 11am start



CLUB AWARDS



TEAM AWARDS



SEASON 2026 CELEBRATION



INFLATABLE SLIDE



FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLE



DRAGONS GIFT FOOTRACE



**COME ALONG AND CELEBRATE
SEASON 2026 WITH ALL
YOUR FRIENDS!**



OUR CLUB OUR COMMUNITY OUR DRAGONS



**QUESTIONS?
CONTACT:**

Caz – secretary@oakleighdragons.com.au

Juzzie – president@oakleighdragons.com.au

OAKLEIGH DRAGONS JFC

MORE THAN FOOTBALL

A STRONGER COMMUNITY

COACHES' REPORTS

U10 MIXED JAMES CHAPPLE

It was a beautiful day for football and a fitting way to finish our season. With a 12:00 pm start, the sun was out, there was a real finals atmosphere around the ground, and the boys were ready to go. From the warm up, you could see the energy and focus, and everyone understood what was at stake across three short, intense games.

In Game 1 against Hampton Rovers, the boys did everything right. They continued their strong form, played with great intent, and attacked the scoreboard at every opportunity. We moved the ball well, made good decisions under pressure, and worked hard for one another, which set the tone early. The group stayed composed, built momentum throughout the match, and came away with the win. This result put us in a great position for the remainder of the day. Special mention to Zephen for controlling the tempo of the game with great intent and skill, and helping keep everyone organised. Congratulations to all the boys who hit the scoreboard in Game 1, and to the whole team for the way they shared the workload across the ground.

Game 2 was our most challenging. After a long break and plenty of food, we started sluggishly and lacked concentration, while Mentone showed impressive skills from the opening stages. Their overhead marking and kicking were exceptional, and they made the most of their chances. To the boys' credit, they never gave up and kept the final margin respectable, going down by around nine points. The effort lifted as the game went on, and the group stayed determined even when things were not going our way. Zephen and Luca contributed well again, and Elijah and David showed great strength around the contest, competing hard and keeping us in the fight.

Going into our last game against Ormond, the message was simple: go out and have fun, as it was our final 24 minutes of football for the year. The boys brought great intent from the start, but Ormond dominated the first five minutes and applied early pressure. With some good passages of play, Oakleigh finished the first half strongly, hit the scoreboard, and applied pressure back onto Ormond. The second half was a competitive contest, with the ball spending most of the time in the middle of the ground and both teams playing hard football. It was a tough, honest contest, and the boys kept working right to the end. It was a strong finish to our season, with another win.

Oakleigh put together three strong games, and the hard work paid off. We won the Lightning Carnival competition. We were shocked when the officials announced Oakleigh as the winners. The boys and parents cheered, and it was a very special moment for everyone involved. Credit to the entire group for the effort throughout the day, the teamwork across all three games, and the way the boys represented the club. That hard work earned us the winners' flag.



Thank you to Ram and Matt for their help and support, and a big thank you to all the parents for getting the boys there, cheering them on, and supporting the team throughout the year.

Go Dragons

U12 GIRLS TARA ROGERS

I can't believe it's the end of the season for the under 12 girls! Our last match was away against East Malvern, who were 5th on the ladder (Oakleigh being 7th). The girls have been playing awesome footy the last few rounds, so we were looking forward to a competitive match.

Mina and Tiana were joint captains for our last match and the main goal was to have fun! I also asked the girls to put pressure on, play in front to be first to the ball and finally to land some big kicks out of the scrum into our forward line.



We started strong and not long into the first quarter Sam made a beautiful kick to Pippa who scored our first goal! East Malvern answered back quickly despite Holly and Aria in the back line laying some huge tackles. Charlotte was formidable in the middle, winning nearly every ball-up and Annika managed to tear through a pack to kick our second goal!

Second quarter the girls didn't let up the pressure. This is the first game we've seen the girls go up for contested marks, with Holly leading the way. Elia took a huge mark and Sam worked her reliable game in the middle. The girls were really helping each other out by using their shepherding skills to further apply pressure.

At halftime they recharged and revved up (our team chant was the loudest one of the year), and I asked them to keep going up for contested marks, play in front and don't hesitate to be 1st to the ball. I also asked them to try and keep their cool so they could execute accurate handballs and kicks when they were under pressure. I also reminded them of our most important goal, which was to have fun. They played just as well in the second half as they had in the first half and seemed to actually hear what I was saying by using their shepherds





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to help each other out. Holly and Mina did a great job of playing in front of their players and Sam kicked the biggest goal of the season (almost from the centre bounce circle)!

While we didn't win the match, it was one of our best games of the season. I'm very proud of how far the girls have come with their skill development and their team spirit.

Thanks to all the parent volunteers and to the committee for hosting grub at the club.
3-2-1 Dragons!

U12 MIXED TOM MOLONEY

Coming into the last round, it was 4th vs 5th and a spot in the finals was up for grabs. Our boys arrived at the ground early, worked hard all day and came away victorious against a gallant Waverley Park Hawks team.

We had two close games against the Hawks this season. The first time they beat us, and in the second we overcame them narrowly. We knew it was going to be a very close game because they are a great team, and they have some star players.

We built the game up to be a mini final. If we win we would make the finals possibly finishing third, but if we lost we were out. Everyone knew the importance of the game and their results on the field reflected that.

Some incredible individual performances on the day, particularly by Francesco, however it was overwhelmingly a team effort that saw us produce our best game in some time. Eli kicked a beautiful goal, Archer and Francesco both hit the scoreboard twice. The back 6 were rock solid all day, and pleasingly we kicked our highest score since round 5!

Going into the last quarter we were up by just over a goal, however Waverley Park hit the scoreboard early. In a game of momentum, we managed to wrestle it back before they could goal again, and in a seesawing affair in the final stages we held them off.

When the final siren went we were a goal ahead, and the boys celebrated with gusto - at the same time they showed humility which is a sign of great maturity.

All the parents and all the coaches were so proud of the boys. They've worked so hard for this opportunity, and they really played the game in the right spirit. Moving into the finals we have finished third so will face East Brighton. I congratulate all the boys for their hard work - they deserve to be in the finals. Coming up a division from last season, and still winning enough games to finish third is an incredible achievement. We now get an opportunity to go one better than last season, not only making the finals but hoping to win one.

We look forward to a great week ahead and again I congratulate all the other Dragons teams who have managed to make finals this year. Thanks everyone for their support.

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



U14 GIRLS RUBY FORD

The girls put in a great effort yesterday and showed plenty of improvement across the game. Mabel was strong and consistent all game, working hard and continuing to make an impact whenever she was on the field. Semira was also very consistent, giving a great effort from start to finish and helping the team wherever she was needed.

A special mention goes to Skye, who kicked an absolute Goal of the Year contender! It was a fantastic moment and definitely one the team will remember.

Overall, it was a great team effort with plenty of positives to take into our next game. The girls continue to show improvement, work hard for each other and never give up. Great job, girls!

U14 MIXED JOSH CONSOLMAGNO

A massive game awaited the boys as we travelled to Dingley, with the winner securing a spot in the finals.

The boys started slowly, with Dingley controlling much of the footy in the opening term. They hit the scoreboard first with a goal, but our boys soon settled into the contest and responded with a goal of their own to level the scores at quarter time.

The second term was a hard-fought battle. Dingley continued to have the better of the possession, but our boys defended strongly and refused to let them get away. We restricted Dingley to just one goal for the quarter, while we managed a couple of behinds to keep the margin tight at the main break.

After half time, the boys lifted another gear. The intensity and pressure around the contest improved, and we started to take control of the game. Two goals to one in the third quarter saw us hit the front and head into the final term with plenty of confidence.

The last quarter was a brilliant display of determination and teamwork. The boys controlled the game, keeping Dingley scoreless while adding the only goal of the term ourselves.

When the final siren sounded, the boys had secured a hard-fought 14-point victory and, more importantly, locked in 4th spot on the ladder and a place in the finals!

U17.5 BOYS TOM NOLAN

The Dingley Dingoes forfeited, meaning the U17.5 team took the win.

U18 GIRLS PAUL GUERGUES

The U18 Girls had a Bye this week.



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	U9	U10	U11-U13	U14+	Holidays	Grub at the Club
19-Apr	Round 1	Round 1	Round 1	Round 1		
26-Apr	Round 2	Round 2	Round 2	Round 2	ANZAC Round	U18G
3-May	Round 3	Round 3	Round 3	Round 3	Cabrini/Wellness Round	
10-May	Round 4	Round 4	Round 4	Round 4	Mother's Day	
17-May	Round 5	Round 5	Round 5	Round 5		U17.5B
24-May	Round 6	Round 6	Round 6	Round 6	Grill'd Round	
31-May	Round 7	Round 7	Round 7	Round 7	Reconciliation Round	U12G/U14G
7-Jun	No Games					
14-Jun	Round 8	Round 8	Round 8	Round 8	Monash Round	Maccas Fundraiser
21-Jun	Round 9	Round 9	Round 9	Round 9		U9/U10M
28-Jun	Round 10	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	Round 11	IKON Round	U12M
26-Jul	Round 12	Round 12	Round 12	Round 12	TAC Round	
2-Aug	Round 13	Round 13	Round 13	Round 13		U14M
9-Aug	Lightning Carnival	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					

