



THE BEAR FACTS

CAULFIELD BEARS JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

ROUND 1 | ISSUE 2 | APRIL 2017



Platinum Sponsor

GARYPEER

ROUND 2 FIXTURE

Team	Opponent	Home/Away	Location	Time
U8's	Cheltenham	Away	Le Page Park	9.00am
U9's	South Melbourne	Home	Koornang Park	8.45am
U10 Grizzlies	Mordialloc	Home	Koornang Park	8.45am
U10 Polars	Waverley	Away	Columbia Park	10.00am
U11 Grizzlies	South Melbourne	Away	Albert Park	8.45am
U11 Polars	Oakleigh	Home	Koornang Park	11.30am
U11 Kodiaks	Cheltenham Green	Home	East Caulfield	9.00am
U12's Girls	Murrumbeena	Home	Koornang Park	10.00am
U12's	East Malvern	Home	East Caulfield	10.30am
U13's	Mordialloc	Home	East Caulfield	12.00pm
U14s	South Melbourne	Home	Koornang Park	1.00pm
U15s	Murrumbeena	Home	Koornang Park	3.00pm
U16s	Highett	Away	Le Page Park	2.00pm
U17s	Waverley	Away	Columbia Park	2.45pm

Calender Events

APR 26 U16 & U17 AFL Education Community Series:
7.30pm

MAY 21 Family Night:
4.30pm – 7.30pm

JUN 4 Sponsors Day:
All Day

JUN 18 Family Night:
4.30pm – 7.30pm

Major Sponsor

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Start of a new season

Season 2017 is turning out to be a year of records. The most number of teams we have ever fielded, the highest number of registrations, the first ever girls team and a record number of new sponsors. It is certainly shaping up to be a big year.

It was overwhelming to see the level of support for our girls team at their first ever match. In addition to numerous family members, other club members turned out in force and in a gesture of inclusiveness, our Under 17 boys team formed a guard of honour as the girls ran through their banner to celebrate the occasion.

Adding to the festivities, was a message of encouragement from AFLW star Daisy Pearce, a rousing half time address by the Mayor of Glen Eira, Cr Mary Delahunty and an address and awards presentation in the Rooms by Mr David Southwick, State MP for Caulfield.

Now that the season is off and running, let's all sit back and enjoy the games.

Louise Nelson

President



Team App Update

We are currently in the process of updating all the access groups and we hope to have this fully functional and ready for use in the coming days.

Match Day Photos

If you have any photos of your teams for our newsletter, please e-mail them to cbjfcnewsletter@gmail.com



Contact Us

Club Website

caulfieldbears.com.au/juniorteam

Facebook

For the latest in social media, visit facebook.com/CaulfieldBearsJuniors

Newsletter

Please send photos, articles or anything else to cbjfcnewsletter@gmail.com

Team App

Team app is the preferred communication method for CBJFC - make sure you install and enable notifications to stay up to date with your team's news, fixtures and events

Available from the App store or the Play Store - simply install the app, and fins the Caulfield Bears Junior Footy Club.

Download our App!



NOTICE BOARD



HALF TIME AT THE G!

On ANZAC eve, 30 Auskickers participated in both a Grid Games and the centre Rules game at the 'G'!

We had the best seats in the house while we watched the Anzac ceremony and lighting of the flame!

Our kids had, what is for most a once in a lifetime experience of playing on this hallowed turf. Well done to all.

Watch out for some images on our Facebook pages.

BEAR OF THE MONTH

The Club presents a senior and junior bear of the month, for those that have gone above and beyond in some capacity.

Junior Bear of Month

Sophie Hamilton from the U12 Girls team was awarded the first "Junior Bear of the Month" for 2017 at our first family night.

Sophie was nominated by her coaches who said that she had shown incredible dedication, hard work and commitment throughout the pre-season. They added: "if everyone showed the same level of enthusiasm and intensity as this player, we would have the best prepared team in the comp."

Well done Sophie.

Senior Bear of Month

This award could have gone to umpteen people this month as the work that has gone on behind the scenes in preseason has been incredible.

However, the first Senior Bear of the Month award for 2017 was awarded to our U16 Coach, Anthony O'Shea.

Anthony was new to our coaching ranks this year and has hit the ground running, impressing his team, parents and committee alike with his coaching skills and passion for the game. He has done an incredible amount of work in the pre-season and instilled a new rigour and set of standards to the team.

Anthony doesn't have a child playing with the Bears, but as a member of the Senior Club, gives us his time and great experience voluntarily for which we are all very grateful.

CLUB CAPTAINS

Last year we introduced Club Captains at the Caulfield Bears. These were individuals from our most senior team who had displayed real leadership during their time with the Club and would be seen as role models for our younger players.

This year we are delighted to announce that our Club Captains for 2017 are Jake Thompson and Spencer Martinez from the Under 17 team.

AUSKICK

What a massive and wonderful day to start our Auskick season. It was wonderful to see all those smiling faces in their footy colours and ready to get active. Thanks to all the parents for getting the children there on time. Although we started a little late this week, we will do our best to start at 9am each week with the whole group get together.

A couple of special mentions:

Prep/Kinder

The Prep/Kinders were lucky enough to have Marc Bullard (Bully) come down with all his enthusiasm to run their session. Unfortunately, this was only a guest appearance from Marc but I know all our parents sitting on the sideline along with our wonderful volunteer coaches will be able to step up and make that group thrive and enjoy the year. A special thanks to Karen Massier and Craig Diss for stepping up and volunteering.

Year 1

The Year 1 group had a great session. We have a great group of parent volunteers in this group. The numbers were higher than what we had anticipated and have since been reflected with enrolments in the past couple of days. Our years 1's were kicking accurately and long when required and learnt all the other major skills before a very inclusive match. Thanks to Steven Close, Clay Dunn and Mauro Affinita for their coaching of this group.

Girls

Congratulations to our girls. This was the first time we have ever run this program after being requested to do so for the last 2 years. The numbers are healthy and have grown again since the weekend. I went over to that group at the end of the session to ask them how it went. The feedback from the girls was that this opportunity allowed them more chances to get the ball and perform their skills. Just a reminder that this week is a 'come and try' day for girls. So tell your friends to come along and we will accommodate them as we do everybody.

Under 8's

Congratulations to our under 8's who played in their first ever official game on Sunday morning. After seeing these young people run around for the last 3 years, it was very special to see them run on the field together in Bears colours. Thank you to Ian Burrage for stepping in and helping David Stacey and David Birch with the year 2's and above.

Special Mentions

Thanks to our volunteer Junior club players who came down to help. We had assistance from representatives of our Girls under 12's team and Boys under 15's team. This is the first time I can remember where our Junior club players have volunteered like this before. Thank you so much to those players. We hope to continue seeing you at Auskick.

Parents assisting sessions:

FYI our volunteer coaches will mostly be required to run the activities and take children a side to work on skills. They need time to give feedback to the children and they cant do that running a single line of children. They do need to roam around assisting everyone. We do require parents or older siblings to assist us with rolling balls, holding tackle bags, collecting balls etc. If we could get that assistance that would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks and seeing you next weekend for another great day of Auskick.

For more information about Caulfield Bears Auskick, Please contact:

Jamie Fardell, Auskick Coordinator
0405574691





MATCH REPORT



Girls running threw their first banner

U8's

Caulfield Bears vs Bentleigh

Location:

Koornang Park,
Carnegie



Min:

13°C

Max:

21°C

Dry and mild with light wind

Game Highlights:

Great debut from the Under 8's who played their first ever official game for the club against Bentleigh on home turf in front of a big crowd of very proud parents, family and friends.

After putting in some good training for the best part of a month they were a little shell shocked in the first quarter in particular as Bentleigh got off to a quick start, kicking the first few goals of the game. Our boys and girls then settled to kick 4 goals in the second half with Joshua G (1st goal for the team), Luca, Harry and Alex all kicking majors. All players contributed to the effort in one way or another.

There was some really good teamwork from the team and excellent marking in the dewy conditions and the willingness to share the ball was great. They were very exhausted after the game and we look forward to our next training session this Saturday.

Coaches Award:

Charlie Dimogotsi



Editors Note: As per SMJFL By-Law 23.10, a mercy rule applies to the publication of all scores in U11-U13 matches. No team shall have a winning margin greater than 60 points.

Location:
King George
Reserve



Coaches Award:

Jack Curwood, Cooper Acklom, Lewis Goudie



Game Highlights:

As the sun shone down for the start of the footy season, 21 eager, nervous and happy Caulfield bears got ready for their first game of 2017. With a number of bears playing their first game there was a huge rush for the bathroom just before they ran out on the ground, led by the captain for the day Lewis Goudie.

The first quarter started with a bang with Caspar, as directed by Coach Pat, getting the first tap of the season. Martin roved beautifully to Max and the game was on! The first score was a rushed behind but with fantastic forward pressure, Grady finished the quarter with 2 goals. With 2 quick goals to Bentleigh testing our defence the game was going to be tough.

The second quarter saw another 2 goals to the Demons but our defence was first rate with some great tackling by Jack Conrad on their biggest boy epitomising our Bears endeavour. Our centres worked hard to get the ball down to our running forward with Cooper fighting hard for the ball the whole quarter.

Quarter 3 began with a quick goal to Raph and the defence was once again tested but Cooper and Nicholas worked hard to get the ball back to the centre where Jack Curwood was pushing the ball through at every opportunity. The best passage of play with passes from Grady, Luke, Will, Ryan, Raph from coast to coast saw the crowd go wild!

The last quarter of the day saw our team keep working so hard! Great tackling from Ryan and Eddie, and some great work by Will and Jack Curwood in the centre saw the ball moving forward and we kept the demons goalless in the quarter.

Well done to the whole team — some fantastic work by each and every under 9 Bear. It's going to be a great season!

U10 Polars

Caulfield Bears vs Oakleigh

Location:
Koornang Park



Bear of the Week:

James Williamson, Daniel Affinita

Coaches Award:

Jack Curwood, Cooper Acklom, Lewis Goudie



Game Highlights:

A great game to start the season with Claudia and Jackson named as captains. The Bears were hard at the ball and the tackling was strong throughout the game. Down back both Ethan and Jakob had to work very hard in the first quarter with several marks each in defence. Together they prevented several goals throughout the match. From the second quarter, we started to get some good service into the forward line with a fast Romy consistently winning the ball on both wings and Oliver marking strongly across the middle before launching long kicks forward. Up forward Tom was always looking dangerous and he was unlucky not to score a few goals.

After half time nothing got past Dom at half back, his tackling and clearances out of defence were a highlight. Up forward Luca was taking control before being rewarded by scoring a great goal. Jackson also stepped in with a fantastic goal from the sideline. The bear of the week awards went to James who was always tough in the ruck and marking contests and Daniel whose ferocious tackling was invaluable in the backline. Jaikiah made a huge impact in the middle of the ground and was given a coach's award for a dominant performance.

U10 Grizzlies

Caulfield Bears vs Ajax Stars

Location:
Princes Park



Min:

13°C

Max:

21°C

Sunny

Coaches Award:

Zagames: Noah

Bear Bucks: Joel & Paddy

Footy Card: Bailey



Game Highlights:

After hibernating for way too many months the Grizzlies were presented with a very pleasant morning at Princess Park Jacques and Otis were captains of the first match of

the season. They won the toss and choose to kick to the west end of the ground.

Ajax started well getting the first two goals, before the Bears fought back with some fierce tackling and running. William, Asher, Johnny and Bailey were playing out of their skin with great tackling. Strong defensive marks by Otis and Oscar slowed down Ajax as they attacked their goals.

In the second quarter we asserted our authority. Jacques started off the quarter with a fabulous give and go to Max. Solid marking & kicking from Joel gave us good momentum to allow Rory to kick the Bears first goal.

At half time, Coach Shane was super proud of the team highlighting Paddy's 7 tackles and Oliver, Angus and Tom's sterling quarters.

In the third quarter we dominated, our mid players Bailey, Rory, Max, Jacques & Otis started to take control from the centre and put pressure on Ajax. A super kick from Charles set-up Noah for the Bears second goal. The Bears were fired up! Great second efforts from Noah & Charles to allow Noah another 2 goals.

The final quarter saw Noah kick his 5th goal for the game!!! William and Christopher saved some sure goals in the back line and Joel took a fantastic mark. It was a great team effort and very pleasing to see all the boys working hard and having fun.

A tough game for the first round. Coach Shane was very proud of the team's performance.

U11 Grizzlies

Prahran JFC (60) def. Caulfield Bears (00)

Location:
Koornang Park,
Carnegie



Min:

13°C

Max:

21°C

Sunny

Goal Kickers:

No Goal Kickers this week

Bear of the Week:

Kristian Taalikka, Oli Jackson, Lachlan Mackie

Best on Ground:

Henry Abbott

Game Highlights:

Perfect footy conditions were presented as the Grizzlies ran out at Koornang Park for their first round match against Prahran JFC.

The opposition turned up the heat early with an offensive onslaught in the first quarter. Jeremy Dalton stepped up

early, along with Jack Kennedy and Henry Abbott, and thwarted a couple of early attempts at goal by Prahran. However, Nathan Buckley's side lifted their offensive pressure with some effective ball movement, which was rewarded with number of quick major and minor scores.

The half time address from Coach Joyce was simple "attack the ball more aggressively".

After leaking a couple of early goals in the second half, the Grizzlies lifted their aggression and started to string together some nice passages of play. Lachlan Fyfe showed off his rugby skills with some hard tackling and Hugo Hales and Paddy Hanley took a couple of nice marks and followed up with some clever kicking. The final quarter saw a vast improvement from the bears, which served to dampen the Prahran offence. As the final siren went, there was a little soul searching, but a lot to look forward to.

U11 Kodiaks

St Paul's 5.2 (32) def. Caulfield Bears 4.3 (27)

Location:

McKinnon
Reserve Oval 1



Min:

13°C

Fine

Max:

21°C

Game Highlights:

First game of the season and the boys were keen for the siren to sound. It was great to see the Lascelle and Poole family's there supporting Ben and Andrew in their first game for the club. After a tight struggle in the first few minutes it was clear this was going to be a close game. Ben against his old team laid the first tackle setting the tone for a great tackling effort all day. Rory was showing great aggression at the ball and his opponents while Finn, Leo James and Adam combined well on a number of occasion clearing the ball out of defence. Ged, Ash, Kobie and Ben were working overtime in the midfield but despite the constant pressure we found ourselves down at half time 3.1.19 to 0.0.0.

With a few positional changes at half time the boys came out firing. With Lachie creating space and Jacob and Harvey continuing to run at the ball Lucas was able to get the team on the scoreboard with a great running goal. Points to Rocco, Jesse and Ash soon followed by another long snap from Lucas and Finn resulting in two more goals which meant we were leading by 2 points at ¾ time. The last quarter saw two quick goals to St Paul's as they reasserted their dominance. The boys pressed hard in the last few minutes resulting in a great goal to Mohan. The boys should look forward to a great season if they maintain their aggression at the ball and keep training hard to improve their skills.

Goal Kickers:

Lucas Agar (2), Finn McMahon-Johnson (1),
Mohan Parmar (1)

Bear of the Week:

Rory Wright, Finn McMahon-Johnson, Viv Sallaban

Best on Ground:

Rory Wright

U11 Polars

Dingley Dingoes 9.10 (67) def. Caulfield Bears 1.1 (7)

Location:

Heatherton
Reserve



Min:

15°C

Overcast and mild

Max:

21°C

Game Highlights:

The Polars team's first match for the year was a challenging encounter. With Marcus P and Lachlan T leading as co-captains, in the first quarter, the Bears back line was under constant pressure, finishing with the Dingoes 6.3, to a scoreless Bears. Some highlights included Lachlan H's strong contested mark on defence, Matthew's kicking out of the back line and Amelie's handballing out of the packs.

In the second quarter the Bears stemmed the damaging momentum, with attacking and defensive activity featuring some strong play across the team, including Marcus B, Thomas, Elliot, Matthew, Jonathan, Quinn and Luke and a huge kick by Liam G. The Dingoes were held to 2.2 and Michael scored the Bears first (and only) goal. In the third quarter our defence tactics were effective to keep the Dingoes' to 1.1. James T, Michael and Quinn all stood out with some skill and determination to contest the ball and drive it forward.

By the final quarter, it was clear the Bears were starting to get the measure of the Dingoes, and again were able to limit their score to 1.1, while also chalking up a behind. Liam C, Liam G and Jac contributed some terrific long kicks, James G landed a tackle which was rewarded.

While the final score was definitive, the team showed promise for the season ahead.

Goal Kickers:

Michael Liolios

Bear of the Week:

James Thomas

Best on Ground:

Michael Liolios, Elliott Davies, Quinn Cooper,
Lachlan Hudson

MAKING HISTORY



U12 Girls

Caulfield Bears (69) def. Bentleigh (9)

Location:
Lum Reserve



Goal Kickers:

Violet Dunn (5), Jasmine Conrad (2), Jemima Jost-Stileman (2), Lily Skinner (1), Maggie Huntley (1)

Best on Ground:

Captains Awards to Gisele Hennequin, Violet Dunn and Jemima Jost-Stileman presented by Councillor David Southwick.

Game Highlights:

An unseasonably beautiful, warm & sunny late April was the perfect backdrop for the inaugural Caulfield Bears Under 12 Girls team game against the Bentleigh Demons.

The first quarter saw the Bears camped in the Demons defensive zone for most of the term, and in fact set the tone for the whole game. Violet became the first goal scorer with a great snap, however that was the only goal for the quarter with some inaccurate kicking also producing 5 behinds. Gisele had great control of the midfield and along with Mariyana was dominating possessions. There was some great kicking from Amelie while Eliza was providing valuable support in the forward line. The few times the Demons had the ball Jasmine was terrier like with her ferocious tackling and was a big reason why the Demons went scoreless this term.

The accuracy improved in the second term with the Bears kicking 2 goals and 2 behinds, whilst still keeping the Demons scoreless. With Jemima having been rotated into the forward line she responded with great kicks producing both these goals. Sophie really stepped up in this term with an amazing mark and gutsy play burrowing into packs to get possession and put us back on the attack. Eliza also took a great mark and Akeisha showed some great handball skills. Hannah showed excellent pressure in her defending and Lily started to show us her strong kicking skills, in particular a super kick out of defence getting us out of trouble at one point. In attack, we saw some strong running through the pack from Matilda and some sidestepping magic from Charlotte.

The girls had a special guest appearance from Mayor Mary Delahunty at half time where she talked about how lucky the girls were to be involved with a girls only team and that she wished she'd had the same opportunity as them. This seemed to further inspire the girls early in the third term where they continued their upper hand in this game, outscoring the Demons by two goals, kicked by Lily and Maggie as their first goals for the club (with much screaming and hugging!). Ivy took a great mark inside our forward zone and Mariyana showed some great tap ruck work. Sophie continued her determination and bravery in the centre as did Hannah with her tackling. There was also some great kicking forward from both Jemima and Maggie. While the girls continued to play well there was a noticeable drop in intensity as the warm weather started to take its toll on energy levels.

Thanks to a stirring three quarter time speech, and some timely intervention from Liz Martello with a much needed energy boost (snakes), the final quarter is where the girls really turned it on! Six goals to one in the term says it all, Violet with four and Jasmine with two, but the girls all showed some incredible teamwork. This was best displayed by a particular passage of play where Akeisha dropped a tough mark but then recovered brilliantly to regather possession, handball to Jasmine who hand balled perfectly to Violet who kicked truly. A stunning kick from Matilda to Lily that travelled about 30 metres but only went about 5 feet high was another major highlight. Sophie took two awesome marks, Hannah continued to defend strongly, and Giselle also took a great mark and continued her great game.

Huge thanks to everyone involved on the day, I must make particular mention to Gilbert and Donno for their efforts in getting the girls ready for today, along with Amy for organising behind the scenes and on match day.

Next week we're on the road down to East Caulfield Reserve against Murrumbeena, please come down and continue to support our girls!

Location:
Lum Reserve



Min:

13°C

Sunny

Max:

21°C

Goal Kickers:

Charlie B, Jackson H, Ryan F, Jackson C, Oscar P

Best on Ground:

Backline award – Harry N

Teddy F, Jackson H



Game Highlights:

It's been a long wait. Not just for the start of our season. After being separated for over 2 seasons, we finally got the band back together.

The boys were keen and seemed to heed the notes on Gary's whiteboard – Listen to instructions, Play in front/punch from behind, encourage each other, play as a team and have fun!!

Oscar P dominated the ruck from the first bounce and although we conceded the first goal, we constructed a fantastic team effort to produce a super goal. Setup by Oscar delivering to Jackson H, whose snap was kept alive beautifully by Liam who moved the ball to Bucket who nailed it on his left. Another goal from Heals after great work from Ted and Oscar put us in front and things were looking great. Despite JJ defending well, the Hawks put on another 2 goals.

The second quarter was a real tough, end to end battle. With Gubba now smashing every hit out forward and Ted rebounding the ball into our forward line, Rhino snapped a great goal. The Hawks also scored despite some great tackling by Lucas and rebounding by Nick Mav, to keep just ahead. We dominated the quarter but were wasteful, kicking 6 points before Jackson C slotted a long range goal from a mark just before the siren. We went into half time 4 points behind but spirits were high. We were playing a great game.

I'm not sure what was in the oranges, but maybe we need to find a different fruit to eat next week because we came out after half time a different team. Despite Oscar continuing to dominate, we forgot all the great things we had done in the first half. The Hawks played in front, ran in numbers and attacked the ball while we just watched them score 4 goals.

The highlight of the second half was a super solo goal by Oscar who smashed the ball forward from the centre ruck contest, collected the ball, crashed through Hawks players, had a bounce then slammed it through from a long way out. Inspirational stuff.

The Hawks ran over us to put on another 3 goals in the last quarter. It was the classic game of 2 halves. The positives were that we did string some great passages together, so we know can do it, we just need to become fitter and more consistent.

U13's

Caulfield Bears (60) def. East Sandringham (00)

Location:

Petersons St Reserve



Min:

13°C

Sunny

Max:

21°C

Game Highlights:

Footy is back! The team headed to Petersons St Reserve to play East Sandringham. In absolute perfect conditions we won the toss and kicked to Highett RD end. From first bounce it looked like that tough pre-season was about to pay off with good ball movement straight into forward line and a shot at goal just missed. From kick off we kept the ball in the forward line to score our first goal of the season. With more of the same we ended the first quarter with 3.5 to 0.0. Last quarter saw great ball movement and skills shine kicking 9.2 to 0.0.

Co-captains Andrew and James Cooper.

Leadership group Miro, Lucas, Angus, and James Dimogosti.

Milestone 50 games: Ben E King (No. 21)

Goal Kickers:

Nick (4) Charlie, Luca and Andrew (3) Evan and Jack (2) Noah, Angus and B King (1)

Bear of the Week:

Nick Angus

Best on Ground:

Jenna

U14's

Beaumaris 9.13 (67) def. Caulfield Bears 7.4 (46)

Location:

Jack Barker Oval



Min:

13°C

Sunny

Max:

21°C

Game Highlights:

Started with all 14 players plus Tom Magart, who played up for us.

Beaumaris loaned us 2 of their players for the first half.

We got off to a lovely start with an opening goal from Harry Penhall.

Half time saw us ahead 31 to 10 but we were unable to keep that lead in the 2nd half.

Goal Kickers:

Nick Karamihos (3), Harry Penhall (1), Stephan Mitzeliotis (1)

Bear of the Week:

Cormac and Luke

ZAGAME AWARD for teamwork and leadership:

Anton Paruit



Location:
Beaumaris



Goal Kickers:

Joel & Harro 2, Beau & Rex 1

Game Highlights:

After last seasons magnificent premierships success, we go up a division to test ourselves against better opposition. We have lost some key players from last season, and in return pick up Patty Carman from 4 years AWOL in NZ and Flynn returns after a season in hiatus.

We find ourselves travelling to play Beaumaris, and as we haven't had the opportunity to play a practice game it was hard to judge where the boys are at in their preparations. As the first term evolves, it was obvious we were underdone in match practice, our endeavour was terrific, but our skill errors were very costly, many kicks and handballs missing targets and chest marks dropped regularly. We probably had as much ball use as the opposition, but found ourselves well down at ¼ time.

The second ¼ we were dominant, we were doing all the attacking, but kicked 4 points in a row before Rex kicked our first goal of the season, then late in the term Beaumaris got a rare forward entry and goaled to see us go into the major break 20 points down, but still in the contest. Woodsy had a great half attacking the ball ferociously, and Joel and Fraser were getting leather poisoning all over the field.

Beau took a strong mark 15 metres out and goals to start us well early in the 3rd, Patty stopped a certain Beaumaris goal when he beat 2 direct opponents on his own at full back. Joel again found the footy and goals from 55 metres out, then Josh smashed the opposition with his aggression at the ball, got it to Harro and another goal, and all of a sudden we were within 1 point. A turning point came with a free kick awarded against Patty and the ball found itself into their forward pocket and the goal gives them some breathing space. By now we seem to be running out of fitness, and Beaumaris again goal and they go in with a 15 point lead at ¾ time.

Beaumaris kicked the first 2 goals of the final term before the Bears fight the match out hard, Joel kicked his 2nd to top off a great personal game and Harro also kicks his 2nd goal, and we lose by 14 points.

It was a good effort, as with game time under our belts we will see massive improvement come in the next few weeks in regards to skill levels and match fitness.

Location:
Koornang Park



Min:

13°C

Sunny

Max:

21°C

Goal Kickers:

McCulloch (2), Syme (2), Florenza, French, Robinson and Yates (2)

Best on Ground:

Tom Robinson - For years I've been saying that a good defence wins games - for once I was right! Absolutely rock solid in defence, Tom then decided to show how it's done and kicked the winning goal.

Harry Shulman - Had to be taken to the doctor after the game with 'leather poisoning'. Played the game of his life, making life a misery for the Bentleigh players. Did not stop fighting for the ball - and winning!

Shamus MacDonough - I almost feel sorry for the other team when Shamus gets the ball and accelerates away and they are left standing there choking on his dust.

Game Highlights:

It's only the first game of the season and already I'm going to up the strength of my heart medication. What a game!

Our little baby boys are turning in fine young men and showed a new maturity and determination out on the field. The Bears obviously mean business this year and were out to prove themselves.

Bentleigh was always going to be a tough test; they have always been a tough competitor and have a few gun players. This was a tough one out of the starting blocks.

The Bears this year threw off their slow starts of previous years and fired up from the centre bounce, applying intensity that lasted for the whole game. This was especially important when Bentleigh pulled ahead and the Bears just knuckled down and fought back, pulling ahead in the third.

The game was like watching a 36 man arm wrestle. No side could clearly dominate and it was a continual battle for ascension.

One note for the Bears - their tackling was relentless. This bodes well for future games for when they man up, they are basically impossible to get past.

The last quarter saw Bentleigh throw everything they had at the bears as they clawed their way back into the lead. The Bears were not to be dissuaded though and fought hard to stop Bentleigh from pulling away until the last minute when two 50 metre penalties allowed a goal to make sure the Bears won by the slimmest of margins. The cool, professional demeanour of the Bears also helped them in the last quarter, ensuring they kept focus in the dying minutes.

A great game that was a credit to both teams.

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55 Inkerman Street, St Kilda **9526 1988**
[**garypeer.com.au**](http://garypeer.com.au)

Location:

Koornang Park

**Min:**

13°C

Sunny

Max:

21°C

Game Highlights:

Round 1 opener for the season played at home as a curtain raiser for our Clubs first ever girls match. Congrats to the U12 girls' team for the formation of a stand-alone team in this year's comp.

Numbers have increased this year out of sight, 23 taking the field for the 1st match. Dylan withdrew in the warm ups due to a lingering illness that he couldn't shake off.

The 1st quarter flew by with players setting a high standard in the tackling and showing a fine commitment to put their heads over the ball. By half time we were down by 13 points, but not out of it.

The 3rd quarter was a turn around with fine ruck work a couple of goals as the game heats up. We hit the front and led by 4 points at 3/4 time

The game is up for grabs with multiple lead changes and Beena come up trumps by the smallest of margins by a point on the last kick of the day

The signs are there for a good season ahead, and with the increased player numbers the coaches are excited.

Goal Kickers:

Spencer (3) Arvi (3), Locky (2), Jacob, Axxel

Coaches Awards:

Spencer. Remy. Jordan

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Any sponsorship enquires please contact **Alistair Rowlands** on **0408504006**.