



THE BEAR FACTS

CAULFIELD BEARS JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

ROUND 15 | ISSUE 33 | AUGUST 2018



Platinum Sponsor



FINALS RND 1 FIXTURE

Team	Opponent	Home/Away	Location	Time
U8's	Season Completed	-	-	-
U9's	Season Completed	-	-	-
U10's	Season Completed	-	-	-
U11 Polars	Prahran	-	Centenary Park	3.00pm
U11 Grizzlies	East Brighton	-	Murphy Reserve	9.00am
U12 Girls Polars	Ormond	-	Mc Kinnon Reserve	10.15am
U12 Girls Grizzlies	Season Completed	-	-	-
U12 Polars	Season Completed	-	-	-
U12 Grizzlies	Season Completed	-	-	-
U13's	Cheltenham	-	Highett Reserve	10.30am
U14's Girls	Season Completed	-	-	-
U14's	Season Completed	-	-	-
U15's	East Sandringham	-	E.E. Gunn Reserve	1.30pm
U16's	Season Completed	-	-	-
U17's	Season Completed	-	-	-

Calender Events

MATCH REPORTS!

If all teams could provide reports and a few photos for the newsletter that would be appreciated! However if nothing is received the scores where relevant, with locations and weather will be all that's published.

Major Sponsor



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Final's Time!

After 15 rounds of football, last Sunday saw us reach the end of the home and away season.

Our Under 10 team finished the year off in style, winning all three of their games in the end of season Lightning Carnival and consequently being awarded overall winners in their group (Note: the SMJFL allows scoring and presents a 'winner' for the end of season tournament in the Under 10 age group only). It was a fantastic afternoon of football, played in great spirits.

In the rest of the Club, five of our twelve eligible teams (Under 11 and above) have qualified for finals which is our best ever result and a testament to the hard work and dedication of our Coaches and Football Department. Our Under 16 team were very unlucky to miss out, despite a great win on Sunday, they were 3 percentage points short and were pipped to the post. Our most senior team, the Under 17s bowed out in a heartbreaking 'do or die' game against local rivals Murrumbena, with the winner advancing to finals.

A big congratulations to the following teams who will be playing in finals football this weekend:

- Under 11 Polars (Coach: Shane Walsh)
- Under 11 Grizzlies (Coach: Dale McCabe)
- Under 12 Girls Polars (Coach: Adam Conrad)
- Under 13 (Coach: Gary Birrell)
- Under 15 (Coach: Andrew Beet)

Keep a look out for notifications on Facebook and Team App for venue locations and times and if you are available, please pop down and support our teams in action.

Good luck to everyone playing this weekend.

Louise Nelson

President



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 find the Caulfield Bears Junior Footy Club.

Download our App!



NOTICE BOARD

BY-LAW OF THE WEEK

Water Carriers

Water carriers may enter the field of play from any position on the ground. They are not permitted to communicate with the Team Bench other than during the breaks between quarters. must not at any time other than during the breaks between quarters be within 30 metres of the Team Bench. They are not permitted to pass messages or give instructions to players, or disrupt play.

MILESTONES!

Congratulations to James Williamson, Bailey Cormic and Mack O'Keeffe, Luca Greco for making it to 50 games!

Nicholas Lanaras who ran through the banner for his 100th club game!

Finally a huge congratulations to Jack & Liam from the U17's who have made it to 150 games!

Well done all!



Helping out the Neighbours!

Our summer co-tenant of Koornang Park, Carnegie Cricket Club, have made it through to the public voting round of the Victorian Government's Pick My Project Program to upgrade and expand their training net facility. This project will benefit so many in the community and they need our help to make it happen.

Please spare a couple of minutes to log on to the Pick My Project website pickmyproject.vic.gov.au and register to vote. You simply search for projects in Carnegie, find the 'Community Cricket Facility Upgrade' project, select, verify your details and submit. It's that simple to support another great community club.



PICK MY
PROJECT

Auskick was cancelled this week due to the poor weather.





MATCH REPORT



U8's and U9's

Season Complete

Editors Note: As per SMJFL By-Law 25.12, scores are not printed for out modified rules games. Also 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:

J L Murphy
Reserve, Port
Melbourne



Min:

4°C

Max:

14°C

Windy and cool

Game Highlights:

Caulfield Bears vs AJAX U10 Rockets

1st Half: The Bears were up and about early, kicking with the breeze, with Lewis and Grady working hard to get the ball forward, whilst Cooper was chasing the ball relentlessly, like a bear after the picnic basket. Raf was rewarded with our first goal after playing on from a mark delivered by Cooper. Caspar was in and amongst it, and Grady was very unfortunate to have not been recognized for a great goal, after a mark taken on the boundary, but unfortunately it was deemed after the siren.

2nd Half: Lewis and Frankie were combining well, with Christian feeding them the ball from the ruck, and the other boys laying tackles to obtain the ball. Frankie took a great mark, and banged home his first goal for the day. Adam's work rate was up, and Lucas was magnificent defensively, thwarting AJAX's attempts to push forward, with Alex Rance-like determination. He had set up his "Bearcade", and no one was getting past!

Overall, the Bears were all contributing well, and their determination to achieve the best they could for the day was well and truly now on display.

Prahran JFC Hassett

1st Half: This was a tight tussle from the get-go, with the ball being tied up as often as it spilled free. The Bears tackling was desperate, with Raf laying a bone-rattler and Cooper trying to push the ball forward. The Bears were all getting their heads over the ball in the contest. Tyler and Luke were both gutsy, Sheldon dominating the centre and great marks to both Lewis and Raf. Both teams, despite their efforts, remained scoreless in the first. The tension was unBearable!

2nd Half: Jack Curwood set the scene in the second, with a ferocious tackle, some great marks, and huge taps in the ruck contest. This allowed the supporting sleuth of Bears to get the ball free. Frankie took a mark, and posted his second major to get us on the board, with Grady following suite with a couple more soon after. Tackling was tough, Luke, Cooper and Jack Conrad highly visible, and again Lucas roamed the defensive line, turning Prahran's efforts away from their attacking line time and time again.

After a nervous start, Caulfield well and truly had their "Bear-ings" now, and the parents could "Bearly" contain their excitement as we waited for the last game was well and truly now on display.

East Malvern JFC (Red)

1st Half: Like a team possessed, and two wins under their pelts, the Bears attacked the footy with an enthusiasm unbridled. Jack Curwood again dominated the ruck, sending the ball forward...and BANG! Grady – and the Bears – were on the board early. Not to be out done, Martin stepped up and bagged a lazy five for the half in what was a scintillating display, Frankie kicked his third for the day before the siren slowed down our relentless attack, which was in part thanks to Lewis, who showed skills and maturity beyond his years to consistently clear the ball out of the centre, with the assistance of his comrades. The Bears were dominant, and it was a fantastic display of a team that just clicked.

2nd Half: The team kept the momentum up, going into the breeze, with Cooper and Lewis finding the ball time and time again. Mac was rewarded with a free for a great tackle, and Raf was hungry down forward kicking three goals. Cooper went down hard with thirty seconds to go, after the opposition finally managed to get a hand on him.

It was a game for the ages – one our foreBears would have been proud of - with the team all contributors to a resounding win to decisively seal the lightning premiership for the U10 Bears in 2018. Many thanks to the Coaches, Pat and Malcolm, the parents who assisted throughout the year with various duties, and of course Silvana who worked tirelessly to make everything possible. Well done Bears!

U11 Polars

Caulfield Bears 6.4 (40) def. Prahran JFC 5.7 (37)

Location:

East Caulfield



Min:

4°C

Max:

14°C

Sunny, with a slight breeze

Goal Kickers:

Rory, Noah (2). Jacques and Jakob (1)

Bear of the Week:

Bailey, Mack, James, Jakob, Rory

Game Highlights:

In a game that was likely to be a dress rehearsal of next week's final, the Polars were keen to try and gain a physiological advantage over Prahran. And with another 3 Polars (James, Bailey and Mack) to join the illustrious 50 game club the boys were pumped and raring to go.

The first quarter was a tight affair, with both midfields and backlines standing strong. Jakob was toiling hard in the ruck and Max B solid across the backline. The score at 1/4 time was Polars 1 point, Prahran 2 points.

The second quarter was a more free-flowing game. Grady slotting an early goal. Mack marked strongly in the pocket and when his kick faded across the face of goal Jakob snared the ball and snapped truly. Then came a 3 goal run from Prahran. Copper, was able to stop Prahran's momentum when he sprinted from the middle to the wing, swooping on a loose ball and pumping the ball forward where Jacques gathered and kicked his 16th goal for the season.

The third quarter was a torrid affair, with goals harder to score. When Johnny ran down a ball that looked certain to be going out of bounds in the pocket and kicked it to the top of the square, Noah was there to put it through. It was to be the only goal for the Polars in the quarter, while Prahran managed 2.

With the Polars down by 9 points at three quarter time it was going to take a big effort to pull out a win. Max B again was magnificent, as was Jacques and Rory. Tom W lifted. When Rory switched to Jakob on the wing who sent a long bomb into the forward line, Noah was ready to pounce and goal.

The Polars were back in the match. With seconds to go Tom W marked just too far out to score, he dished off to Rory who gave it everything he had, as everyone held their breath, the ball sailed through. The Polars win by 3 points!

With the ledger now square, with Prahran winning the first game by a point, and the Polars the second by 3 points, next weeks final promises to be a cracker.



U11 Grizzlies

Oakleigh Dragons 6.1 (37) def. Caulfield Bears 5.5 (35)

Location:

East Caulfield



Min:

4°C

Max:

14°C

Sunny, breezy

Goal Kickers:

Ben (2), Charlie, Nick and Cameron (1)

Bear of the Week:

Luca, Ben, Charlie, Jed, Isaiah, Matt

Game Highlights:

The Grizzlies came into this last game of the home and away season knowing that the result could make or break their chance of playing finals. And from the outset that was reflected in the intensity of both teams. The first quarter was a low scoring affair, with Matt and Isaiah standing strong for Caulfield in defence. It was clear the Bears were going to have to draw on all their stamina if they were going to come away with a win.

Charlie scored the first goal for the Bears early in the second quarter, with Ben also scoring shortly after. This term saw some more long kicking and open passages of play, which Nick and Cam used to the Bears' advantage. Oakleigh clawed their way back with a couple of goals late in the term, including one seconds before the half-time siren.

The signs were good for Caulfield early in the third quarter, with Charlie setting Ben up to kick for his second goal from right in front. But after that, the Bears' intensity dropped. There seemed to be a sea of green shirts and an Oakleigh goal soon followed. At this point, both forward lines seemed to have it over their opposing defence, so any time the ball made it out of the midfield, a goal was likely. A dashing long goal from Cam, and a snap from a tackle from Nick, gave Caulfield the advantage going into the final break.

The last quarter opened with an end-to-end play resulting in a goal for Oakleigh, which put them in front. The remainder of the term was so tense this match reporter failed to actually put pen to paper. The game could have gone either way, even in the dying seconds, but Oakleigh ended up running out winners by 2 points.

The U11 Grizzlies' record and percentage should still see them play finals footy, but either way, these Bears can hold their heads high after a season well played.



U12 Girls Polars

Caulfield Bears 13.6 (60) def. Brighton Beach 0.2 (2)

Location:

East Caulfield



Min:

4°C

Overcast

Max:

14°C

Goal Kickers:

Anika (4), Jas, Violet, Hannah (2), Sophie, Lucy and Matilda (1)

Bear of the Week:

Jasmine, Mia, Sophie and Hannah

Game Highlights:

Q1 Going into the final round undefeated, the girls stood up to expectation and led from the very first contest. The centers were on fire with long kick clearances into the forward line, Cohesive teamwork from Violet and Anika in the forward saw the first of many goals! Lucy, Matilda and Violet all followed suit with the ball sailing through the goals.

Q2 A great contested start by Claudia in the second quarter saw the girls once again strong in attack. Hard-hitting tackles by Charlotte in the center and long bombs from Violet and Anika resulted in a 51 pt lead at half time.

Q3 Matilda and Lily used their hand balling skills to push the ball forward, hard tackling by Jas and excellent ruck work by Akeisha all worked fluidly to push the Bears lead out further with goals to Hannah and Sophie. Macca was tireless in her efforts to shut down Brighton!

Q4 It was lonely down in the defensive half but the girls showed great discipline holding their positions especially Monique in full back! Mia responded well shutting down BB's forward pursuits, with Skinner and Charlotte darting in and out of the packs. Jas was on fire tackling hard and making good position with her hard work paying off to the tune of 2 goals! FINALS here we come!



U12 Girls Grizzlies

Mordi-Braeside 8.7 (55) def. Caulfield Bears 0.0 (00)

Location:

Walter Galt
Reserve



Min:

4°C

Sunny

Max:

14°C

Bear of the Week:

Sienna, Lily, Bailey

Game Highlights:

Perfect conditions greeted the girls at Mordialloc for their last game of the year. Maya set the tone of the game with some great ruckwork from the opening bounce. In the first quarter Sienna and Mariyama were rebounding everything in defence. Our best foray forward in the opening stanza saw Bailey almost run into an open goal but she was stopped on the last line. Only 1 point separated the teams at quarter time.

Sienna took a great overhead mark to start the second quarter. Georgia displayed plenty of dash in the midfield which included a long run and bounce down the wing. The girls were beginning to link up very well, with Mariyama kicking to Tashi who marked and in turn kicked it to Sienna who also marked. Only 1 goal separated the teams at the main break.

Elisa started the third quarter with a great clearance from defence. Bella was ferocious with her tackling and continued to notch up possessions around the middle. Maya was moved forward and had a great run and bounce, almost setting up a goal.

The girls fought valiantly in the last quarter. Tashi was getting plenty of the ball in the midfield and Elisa almost took a sensational mark close to the final siren. Not having fresh legs on the interchange bench was beginning to take its toll and Mordi-Braeside managed to kick a few goals towards the end to put the game beyond reach. Despite what the scoreboard showed, not much separated the 2 teams which is a great effort seeing Mordi-Braeside are in the finals. As coach Tony said after the game, the improvement shown by all the girls throughout the year has been amazing and was on show today.



U12 Grizzlies

Prahran 8.9 (57) def. Caulfield Bears 1.1 (7)

Location:
East Caulfield



Min:
4°C

Max:
14°C

Cold wind running east

Goal Kickers:

Jarvis kicked the first goal of the game and it was a cracker

Bear of the Week:

There were a lot of good contributions by all, and some of the notable post match mentions by the coaches went to Jackson & Christian, James G, Jarvis, Sam, Raff, Lachy Machy, Jack K, Ollie T, Rocco, Jack C and Ollie T.

Game Highlights:

It was the boys' final game for the season. Lachie M was out with a knee injury. Jackson and Christian joined the team to bring back numbers and were great contributors. We kicked with the breeze in the first quarter and Jarvis kicked the first goal of the game. 4 landed a great tackle. 39 took a great mark. In the second quarter Raff laid some good bumps and some good tackles. Numbers 14, 17 & 47 took great marks. We had some fantastic play against the wind. Some really good defence by Jack C and he was able to draw a free kick. In the third quarter Raff took on the ruck, taking on the opposition and getting some air. Jack C took the role of rover. Good tackling by James G. In the third quarter we weren't able to make the most of the wind. Rocco drew a free kick toward goal. The team kicked against the wind in the final make or break quarter. Jack C took a good mark in the face of the opposition's goal.



Location:

Koornang
Park



Min:

4°C

Partly sunny

Max:

14°C

Game Highlights:

It was an early start but the sun was shining albeit still chilly. It was our last home and away game and the boys were pumped. Waverley started strong with a goal in the first few minutes of the game but this was soon answered with JJ who burst through the pack and kicked our first goal.

Jackson showed real strength in the middle and was able to deliver the ball down to Ben who lined up but only converted a minor score. Back to the middle where Gubba was strong in the ruck, Paddy cleared the pack and sent the ball down to JJ who goaled again. Hugo was really strong in defence and Ezra had an awesome first quarter, the Coaches quoting it was his best effort yet.

The Bears proved to be threatening in the second quarter with 5 goals added to the scoreboard. Two goals to Lucas, one to Harry, Jackson and JJ. Charlie and Oscar both having a huge impact on the game from the wing.

Bears started the third term with a 32 point lead and it was hard for Waverley to come back with Haydos and Josh both dominant in the back line. Much of the play in the third quarter was in the Hawks forward half but they were unable to close the gap on the scoreboard.

With our 35 point lead at the commencement of the final term, the Bears continued to be too strong for the Hawks converting another 2 goals by Harry and Rhino. The Hawks did have an opportunity to add to their score however, Jackson marked the ball right on the line preventing that score. The Bears won the game 10/4, 64 to Hawks 4/6, 30. It was a great day out for the boys who are now heading into week one of the finals. Good luck Bears!!!



Location:

Wattie
Watson Oval



Min:

4°C

Windy

Max:

14°C

Bear of the Week:

Thomas, Charlie C, Ben K

Game Highlights:

Sea breeze? Sea hurricane methinks! Elwood beach, far away in time was the setting for this last match. A fierce battle in the first 5 minutes. The Bears were linking well, chains of handballs going down the line. Evan marked and passed beautifully to Charlie who the Bears first goal. Team work can make the dream work, as they say!

Q2. Lucas B kicked a ball that seemed to roll 70 m into the forward line. Haddi tapout to Charlie, GOAL! A few minutes later, GOAL from Angus. Jenna was battling hard, Thomas got a well deserved free and goaled again! Bears on a roll!

Q3. After a frantic few minutes, Angus snaps a snag! Another from Charlie Clancy! Amazing mark from Angus. They finally let a Saints goal through but they made them earn it!

Q4. In my humble opinion the Bears were playing out of their brains. Jonah was in and under, Luca was burrowing his way under packs, Ben King marks and kicks into the arms of Charlie 'Plugger' Clancy who kicked his fourth. As the quarter played out, we were left wondering what could have been if this season was two games longer? The back line was a wall of steel... nothing was getting through there!

And so as season 2018 ends for the Under 14's, we thank Jenna and Angus who have given us so much. Good luck with your footy futures!

Thanks to all the coaches and staff who made everything run smoothly, we salute you all.



U14 Girls

Caulfield Bears 4.7 (31) def. Caulfield Bears 3.2 (20)

Location:

Koornang
Park



Min:

4°C

Sunny

Max:

14°C

Game Highlights:

It was a beautiful sunny dry morning for our girls last game of the season. The ground was in a fairly decent condition except for the muddy bog in the middle! Much to the joy of our girls.

The first quarter was a pretty even affair. No scores being made. Great team work right from the start. An awesome tackle from Maddie Walsh at the start then a great mark from Hendo. Ines great defense from the start. Freya put in an amazing tackle and Bella many good attempts. Sienna Rogers putting in many great tackles throughout the first quarter. Pippa.E, Emily and Freya all putting in some great efforts.

Second quarter great kick out from Pippa and great mark by Tash. The other side got a couple of goals in this quarter.

Third quarter started with a great bounce from Jemima, followed by some great team work especially from Beth. The other team scored another goal. A few good tackles were also made by Liv Hendo in this quarter. Some fantastic attempts all round from Gisele.

The last quarter again, great teamwork. An awesome tackle from Maddie Walsh a great mark from Hendo followed by some great defense from Ines. Some great attempts also from Emily and again from Sienna.R. Bella also giving it her all. The game ended up a defeat but all girls gave their best and should be very proud. Fabulous season, all girls full of enthusiasm throughout. I personally was in absolute awe at the girls fight and determination. Way to go girls!!!!



Location:

Koornang Park



Min:

4°C

Max:

14°C

Sunny with light winds

Goal Kickers:

Nick K, Harry P (4), Nick L (3), Harry B (2), Dom, Luke (1)

Bear of the Week:

Spencer, Luke, Harry P and Boopa

Best on Ground:

Everyone!

Game Highlights:

It was a do-or-die match today – win, we're in or lose, we're out. Our thoughts were all with Cormac, who has broken his arm for the second time this season.

Big thanks to Andrew C, Haddi and James A from U14 who helped us out and allowed us to have a bench.

We celebrated Nick Lanaras' 100th game with the banner run-through and then played a close first quarter. Scores were level at 3 points apiece until Harry P put the first goal on the board shortly before quarter time.

We broke away in the second quarter with goals from both Nicks and Luke and great teamwork all round, while AJAX didn't advance beyond their 3 points. Another couple of goals in the third quarter stretched our lead – thanks Nick L and Harry P, while AJAX managed just another 7 points.

In case you thought a 6 goal lead wasn't enough, our guys booted another 8 in the final quarter. Two each to the Harrys and Nick K. One each to Nick L and Dom. Win, we did convincingly! Coach Andrew cannot wipe the smile off his face and we'll be back again next week for another shot.



Location:

Koornang Park

**Min:**

4°C

Partly sunny

Max:

14°C

Goal Kickers:

George 4, Beau & Kai 2

Game Highlights:

Come to the final round sitting in 5th place, 2 points behind our opponent for the day, so beat them and we leapfrog them, but the other issue was Beaumaris sat in 6th spot, only a few % points behind us, and they were playing a bottom side, so even a victory wouldn't guarantee a finals spot.

Still no Josh with an ankle injury and of course no Ben, so 20 players for the day, better than what the coaches had recently. We have first use of a slight breeze in the first term, and whilst we dominate early play we couldn't impact on the scoreboard and we hold a 4 point 1/4 time lead.

It's a very physical game with so much riding on the result, East kick 3 goals to our 1 in the 2nd term and they now hold a 7 point lead at 1/2 time. There was no need to panic, we were playing reasonable footy and just needed to be a little more polished with our skills under pressure and we were capable of hurting them on the board. This occurred in the 3rd term and we kicked 4 goals to their nil, and we held a handy 19 point 3/4 time lead.

East Sandy had last use of the breeze, and for the first 10 minutes we were defending stoutly, holding them goalless, then they slammed on 3 goals in 5 minutes to get within a few points before George kicked his 4th goal and the sealer.

So in a great team effort we knocked off East Sandy by 8 points, and held our end of the bargain, but unfortunately we were soon to learn that Beaumaris won by enough to bump their percentage above ours and we ultimately missed the finals by 3%.

Despite the disappointment of missing the finals, it was a tremendous season by the group, we were usually short on players due to injuries and unavailabilities, and to go from div 3 to div 2 after 5 rounds and still be in the final hunt was a credit to all involved.



Location:

Koornang
Park



Min:

4°C

Partly sunny

Max:

14°C

Goal Kickers:

Jono, Huddo (2), Max, Tom, Harr (1)

Game Highlights:

Well, I don't know how they did it – they must have played four or five games every weekend – but both Jack & Liam have posted 150 games for the Bears. Has anyone ever don't his before?!? My fact checkers are desperately trying to find this out!

Jack has been an astounding player for the club, spending at least 93% at the bottom of packs as he has dived fearlessly for the ball. We've lost count of the number of times that the opposition has been stopped by Jack's second, third and fourth attempts at the ball. Not only has he been a key defender for the Bears, he has also carried the mantle of leadership with aplomb as co-captain for a premiership team. Congratulations on capping off a brilliant career at the Bears Jack.

Liam has always been a key utility player for the Bears, playing in a multitude of positions over the years. Usually a forward he was asked to play as a sweeper on the half back line, he did so brilliantly, swooping on the ball. Moving back to the wing and forward pocket, he retained his swooping and sweeping style that was always a pleasure to watch. He certainly had a great year last year with both the Bears and his beloved Tigers picking up premierships. Well done Liam.

Well, as to the Murrumbeena match, all I can say is the Bears left nothing out on the field. Every player in the team put in everything they had and walked off the field both mentally and physically drained. It was a courageous effort but kudos to 'Beena, they were a better team on the day and we wish them well in the finals.

So one of the great teams of the Bears takes its final bow, one Lightning and one season Premiership under its belt. I have been impressed that after 10 years, there are still 10 core players in the team who have lined up since day one – 10 for 10! I also recall a former president saying this player group was "the heartbeat of the club", one of the highest

compliments paid to both the players and their parents, all who were giving their utmost to the club. We have had some terrific players come join the club and we have also seen some move on, all of them playing their part in the journey of this great team. I salute all of you who proudly wore the navy, gold and red.

Of course, the highlight was the premiership last year. What a spectacular year, the lads driven by their "Scared of the Bears" ethos, demonstrating a singular intent and a team camaraderie that took them to the ultimate prize. What an absolute thrill that was and both our young men and the parents will treasure that year forever. The premiership can't be mentioned without the brilliance of O'Shea. The Coach was not only a fantastic tactician, he was also a motivator, mentor, psychologist, confidant and spiritual guide – all the things a great coach should be. I know that many times he took a troubled soul under his wing and, in his own inimitable style, guided them through their troubles and back into the light. I personally cannot thank him enough for his efforts of the past two years.

To finish off, I have made a point of not mentioning my son Aidan too much, a combination of not showing favouritism or embarrassing him, but I will embarrass him now! He was devastated after the game, not because the team had lost but because it was the end of an era. The Bears was his second home and even though we knew this day was coming, it was still a bitter pill to swallow. We drove home pretty much in silence, sat down in the living room to have a drink and raised our glasses: "To the Mighty Bears".

Thank you all for such a wonderful journey, for all of the fantastic memories and friendships that will live on. To those who follow on for this proud club and will continue to make it grow and succeed, what else can I sign off with but; Go Bears!



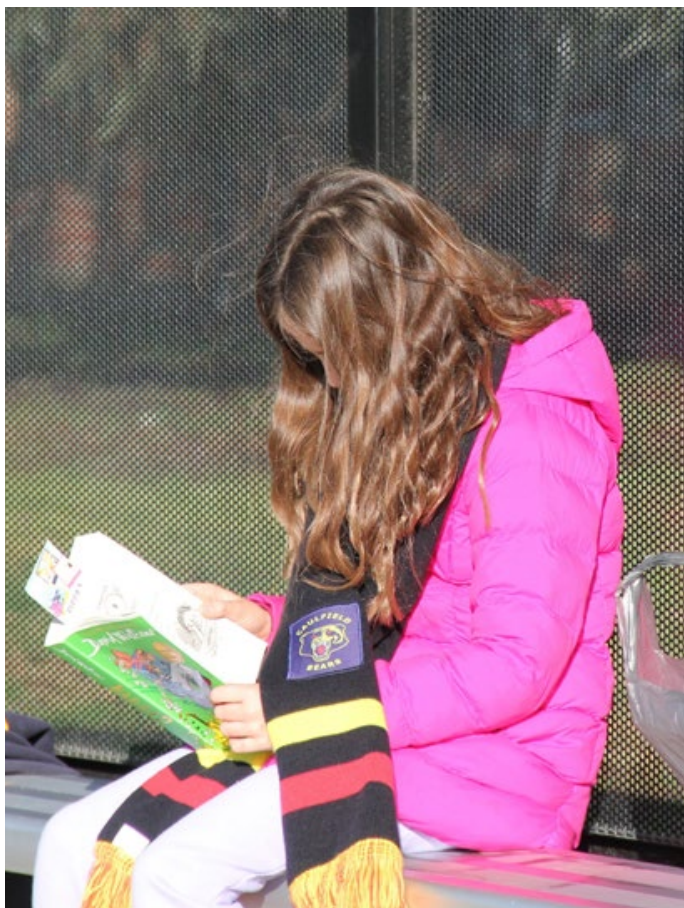
LIGHTING CARNIVAL





AROUND THE GROUND





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Silver Level



Bronze Level



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