



THE BEAR FACTS

CAULFIELD BEARS JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

ROUND 3 | ISSUE 22 | APRIL 2018



Platinum Sponsor

GARYPEER

ROUND 4 FIXTURE

Team	Opponent	Home/Away	Location	Time
U8's	BYE	BYE	BYE	BYE
U9's	Waverley Park	Away	Columbia Park	8.30am
U10's	Prahran	Home	East Caulfield	9.00am
U11 Polars	Waverley Park	Away	Lum Reserve	1.15pm
U11 Grizzlies	Brighton Beach	Home	East Caulfield	10.15am
U12 Girls	Hampton Rovers	Away	Castlefield Reserve	9.40am
U12 Polars	Ormond	Home	Koornang Park	8.45am
U12 Grizzlies	Ajax	Away	Princes Park	1.25pm
U13's	East Brighton	Home	Koornang Park	10.15am
U14's Girls	Ajax	Home	Koornang Park	3.15pm
U14's	East Brighton	Home	Koornang Park	11.45am
U15's	Beaumaris	Home	Koornang Park	1.15pm
U16's	Waverley Park	Away	Columbia Park	3.05pm
U17's	Highett/Cheltenham	Away	Highett Reserve	3.00pm

Calender Events

MAY

20

Family Night

4.30pm – 7.30pm

Major Sponsor

GARYPEER

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.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Play Fair

Last Sunday was designated as a "Play Fair" round by our governing body, the SMJFL. Our Club wholeheartedly supports the "Play Fair" campaign year round as we know that poor behaviour at sport has a significant impact on participation and that adults in particular have a profound impact on kids enjoyment and participation.

It may surprise you to learn that research has shown that the top 3 reasons that kids play sport are:

1. For enjoyment and fun
2. To make friends and socialise
3. To keep fit and active

Winning plays far less of a role than most adults would think. Most young people participate in sport because they want to improve their skills and abilities, only a tiny minority (less than 5%) wish to progress to a higher level within their sport.

The following quotes were received by children that participated in the research study:

- "I don't like it when people get yelled at or when I get yelled at"
- "It's embarrassing when someone is shouting at you"
- "It makes me feel like I'm useless and can't do anything"
- "It was really stressful and made me feel not good at all"
- "I stopped cause I was being yelled at and it wasn't fun anymore"
- "He was stripped of all confidence"
- "They don't understand I'm doing my best"
- "Could they please stop it"

By all means support and cheer your children from the sidelines, but please make sure that you are doing this in a positive and encouraging manner and that none of your children would be thinking any of those quotes listed above.

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

Mercy Rule

23.9

The official winning margin in under 11 to under 13 mixed and under 12 and under 14 girls' matches shall be no more than 60 points. Where the actual winning margin is greater than 60 points, the Chief Executive Officer shall ensure that the winning team's score is reduced so that the official margin is 60 points, and the adjusted score shall be used for the ladder percentage calculations.

50 GAMES!

Congratulations to Rory Wright and Max Bremner for their 50th game and to Joshua Agar and Billy Duncan who made it to 100 club games!



This week's SMJFL Secretary's' Scoop

Reminder: Publishing Modified Rules Scores.

While it is common knowledge that there are no scoreboards, and published ladders for Modified Rules competitions (excepting Under 12 Girls). These practices which aim to remove a focus on results are important even away from the field including SOCIAL MEDIA.

There have been a number of posts/photos of Modified Rules teams (which is great), but the caption has read along the lines of "Great Win by the Under 9s". This is inappropriate and defeats the purpose of adjusting the focus to effort, fun and skill improvements. A simple change to "Great game by the Under 9s, showing a great effort in Round 2". Please remind those on

Social Media to keep the language positive, and do not focus on results.

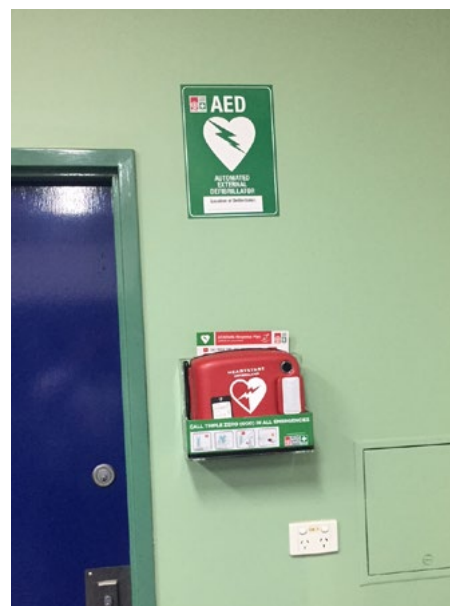
Weeks of losing may be inconsequential to children who feel they are still improving their skills, having fun and/or spending time with their mates, provided the win/loss situation is not overemphasised by the adults around them.

New Defibrillator Installation

Recently we had a new defib installed at East Caulfield Reserve, our secondary home ground. You will find it located inside the canteen. A reminder that the defib machine at Koornang Park is located on the wall opposite the door to the kitchen

This piece of equipment is a vital addition to the club should one of our players, volunteers or spectators have a Cardiac Arrest. The chance of surviving a Sudden Cardiac Arrest without intervention is less

than 10%. However, that chance increases to 70% if defibrillation is administered within the first five minutes of the incident.



AUSKICK

This week at Auskick

At Saturdays second Auskick session went much more efficiently and smoothly, and it was lovely to see our new format being embraced by both children and parents.

Many of the coaches arrived early to assist in setting up the activities in the grids and with the assistance of Billy Williams (our support person from AFL VIC) we were able to recruit many more parents to become actively involved in Auskick this year. We now have over 110 children registered which showed on our very busy oval on Saturday!

Boots Squad!

The first week of the 'Boots Squad' got off to a ripping start, with some great feedback from parents on positive impact this will have both the kids skills and confidence for this season.

This week we are having Billy Williams come along from AFL Vic to run a Level '0' Coaching course. It will go for around 40-45mins from 9.05am, so you can learn a few footy basics while your kids are having a ball with their activities. It will be fun, plus then you can practice your new found skills with your little Auskicker!

Level O Coaching session this week!

Join us this Saturday for our Level O Coaching session. 9.05am. All Welcome!

BBQ Helpers Needed!

Don't forget to put your hand up to a BBQ helper, we really to appreciate it.

Mothers Day

Lastly, we are urgently seeking donations for our Mother Day raffle on Saturday 12th. So please if you can bring along a little something for our gift baskets that would be awesome.

For more information about Caulfield Bears Auskick, Please contact:

April Matthews, Auskick Coordinator





LEVEL 0 COACHING COURSE

COME ENJOY A FUN HANDS ON PRACTICAL SESSION

- ✓ LEARN TO "HAVE A KICK"
- ✓ LEARN BASIC SKILLS OF FOOTBALL
- ✓ LEARN BASIC UMPIRING COACHING
- ✓ HAVE SOME FUN AND LAUGH

WHAT TO BRING

ACTIVE WEAR
DRINK BOTTLE

ALL
AGES

FREE

SESSION DETAILS

SATURDAY 5TH MAY

9.05am – 9.45am

Koornang Park





MATCH REPORT

U8's

Caulfield Bears vs. St Kilda

Location:

Wattie Watson Reserve



Min:

10°C
Partly Sunny

Max:

18°C

Bear of the Week:

Henry and Kenneth

Game Highlights:

The team was lead by captains Baden and Archie for the day who won the toss. The Bears attacked right from the start. Great kicking and marking by both teams saw the game even up toward the end of the first quarter. Tackling was really good; there were plenty of Bear hugs on display!

In the second quarter the Bears hit the scoreboard several times and defended well when the opposition went forward. Woody kicked a running goal in the third quarter as the Bears continued to attack.

Good kicking and strong defence saw the Bears hold their own against St Kilda until the final siren. The players worked hard to adjust to their new zones this week and their focus on kicking, tackling and staying on their feet was impressive.



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:Koornang
Park**Min:****10°C****Max:****18°C**

Sunny with gentle breeze

Best on Ground:

Zac Millar, Luca Cipriani

Game Highlights:

The Bears finally break the curse of the Koornang Park hoodoo with a stellar performance in an evenly matched showdown with McKinnon's St Paul's. Caulfield placed genuine pressure in the first quarter, bearing down on the St Paul's back line. Angus B delivered some flash along the flanks with Joshua G holding firm in the centre. Andrew provided a sharp snap for goal in the second quarter while being inundated by St Paul's players and Luca held fast in defence. Caulfield took it up a notch in the second half with a neat snap from Archie to put the Bears in a solid position.

Quinn punched in a tidy right footer. The team shone best in the last with some breathtaking play. Angus B, Zac, and Charlie B were solid throughout. Jackson was laudable in defence which set the tone with some first class passages through the centre. Quinn to Luca to Josh G straight through for a goal.

Our newest members showed great poise and passion. The Bears have had a cracking start to the season. Well done Derrick, Dave and the team, you've made us proud.



Location:

King George Reserve



Min:

10°C

Partly Sunny

Max:

18°C

Bear of the Week:

Luke and Ryan

Best on Ground:

Jack Curwood

Game Highlights:

A great morning for football, and the boys were ready and excited to take to the field and the game was started. A dynamic start by Bentleigh initiated through a very strong midfield, put the Bears on the back foot with some quick goals being put on the board by Bentleigh. The second quarter was a similar story however Lucas, Grady and Jack started to apply more pressure which enabled some of the players around them to get more involved. Still the game was tough.

Half time and a strong message from the coach was delivered, to increase our pressure, lift and switch on.

Needless to say the boys started strongly in the third qtr with Ryan and Luke finding the ball and increasing their respective tackling pressure, this stopped the Bentleigh momentum completely and the Bears kicked two important goals for the term.

The Bears started to lift across the ground Nicholas and Caspar having a good qtr. This increased pressure continued in the fourth term with Bentleigh finding it very difficult to clear ball through midfield, Frankie and Veer increasing their influence also, and the defenders lifting to clear the ball more regularly.

A true game of two halves, important lessons for the Bears to come to the game ready to play for the first qtr, focused and committed to their roles



U11 Polars

Caulfield Bears (67) vs. St Peters (7)

Location:

Koornang Park



Min:

10°C

Max:

18°C

Fine and Sunny

Goal Kickers:

Rory, Royce, Jacques, Oliver, Max Regan, Johnny, Tom Ritchie and Jacob

Best on Ground:

Rory

Game Highlights:

The Polars celebrated Rory and Max Bremner's 50th games with a rousing cheer as the boys lead the team through the banner to take on St Peters in our first home game.

The first quarter was a tough battle and both sides showed they were ready to play. St Peters scored the first major which definitely woke up the Polars to the realization that they would have to get cracking to get back into the game.

In the second quarter the Polars turned the game around, they were first to the ball and forced St Peters into a defensive mode.

Shane and Al stressed that the boys had to handball more and get back to basics, our forward line was congested and the boys really needed to open up the game and focus on their positions and what was best for the team. Mack, Dom, Bailey and Rory were outstanding in the 2nd quarter and helped hold St Peters goalless.

Great one on one's by Gus and Tom Ritchie kept the Polars momentum going though the 3rd quarter as the boys built a handy lead which set them up for a good last quarter.

The last quarter was also a scrappy affair but the Polars fought it out and stuck to the game plan to earn a good win. Max Regan and Oliver picked up their first goals while Dom ran hard all day and had a big impact on the game.

Rory in his 50th match was again outstanding, he ran all day to get to the contest and created opportunities for the team with his marking, run and carry and handballs. Bailey, Jacques, Maxi Brenmer and Noah also made great contributions whilst Royce bobbed up with 2 handy goals. The Polars again had a good spread of goal kickers with 8 of the boys getting on the scorecard. Valuable lessons were again learned which the boys will work on for the coming rounds.



Location:

Moorabbin
West Reserve



Min:

10°C

Max:

18°C

Partly Sunny

Bear of the Week:

Isaiah Teycheney

Best on Ground:

William, Ethan, Benjamin

Game Highlights:

Q1: The first quarter started with a great mark by Jaikia and the ball was highly contested and our boys fought hard to bring the ball down to the forward line, but the Vampires managed to overcome the challenge and managed to squeeze a point in. With some hard work from Otis, Joel and Jed the opposition worked its way to score their first goal. The last part of the quarter saw Daniel taking a great mark from Joel which ends with Ethan kicking point, but it wasn't over yet as the ball ended up in Isaih's hands which results in a goal to equalise.

Q2: This quarter saw Vampires on the attack, but with some great tackling by Ethan, our defence managed to work its way to Kristian and Christopher, but the opposition found a way around us and put through another goal. Seeing some great marks by Benjamin and Joel, our chances for another goal almost there, but only a point could be managed, but a good mark by Charlie B, ended with the siren.

Q3: After some recharging during half time, our mid field players had their work cut out for them, Nicholas, Charles N and Otis continued the pressure, but the Vampires managed to squeeze through another goal and two following points. But the boys weren't giving up, with some hard work from all, the ball finds its way to Jackson in full forward manages to have a shot but misses.

Q4: With some great encouragement from our coach Dale and some quick work by Asher, Kristian, Daniel, Ethan and Benjamin, our forward line was ready with Jaikiah taking a great left foot snap which results in a fabulous goal. This seemed to pump our boys up and give them the confidence to keep pushing through even harder and not give up. The midfield saw great work with Charlie B doing some great tackles and Ethan doing a smart hit out to keep the ball in our forward line. Our boys saw the chance to keep pushing forward with some great hand balling from Phoenix and Otis, which results in Jed taking a great mark, who in turn scores us a much needed goal. With this much needed boost, the Vampires were on the back foot this quarter - our push kept on going right to our goals and the ball was rushed through for a point to us.

With only 5 minutes left, the tackling was getting more intense and we just needed one more goal, but to no avail. Our backline worked very hard to keep the ball away, but the Vampires managed to squeeze through a point as the siren sounded not too long after.

The intensity and commitment from all our players in this last quarter was much to be admired. They didn't give up in trying, working together and the teamwork from all was great to see from today's game.



U12 Girls

Caulfield Bears (66) def. St Peters (6)

Location:

East Caulfield



Min:

10°C

Max:

18°C

Overcast

Goal Kickers:

Anika Stehbens, Charlotte Brewer,
Abigail Osborne, Leona Clohesy, Isabella Milne,
Violet Dunn and Mia Kirkham

Bear of the Week:

Hannah Vendy Leona Clohesy Nina Jost

Best on Ground:

Abigail Osborne

Game Highlights:

"We're the team that never let's you down" words that pretty much summed up the under 12 girls performance this week which saw them take St Peters through their paces and demonstrated that every member of the team is willing to put in the work to win the race.

It's fair to say that throughout the game most of the play occurred in the Bear's goal square. We saw some monster kicks (Violet, Anika Abigail, Nina, Matilda, Elisa, Charlotte, Ivy), some determined tackling (Sophie, Mariyama, Anika, Hannah, Leona, Lily), some awesome marks (Jasmine, Violet, Anika, Samantha, Maggie) a lot of fast running and dodging (Mia, Sophie, Jasmine, Alice) and pressure on the opposition when needed (Isabella, Akeisha, Lily, Grace, Lucy).

The third quarter was the highlight of the game. It started with Anika scoring a goal and then a second goal in a matter of minutes. Violet scored the third goal and we saw some great tackling from Jasmine and a mark from Samantha which led into Anika's third goal for the game. There was a point scored by Sophie, some great marks by Samantha and Maggie and then Anika scored her fourth goal for the quarter.

As the coaches said, the girls kept their intensity up, they were tackling, moving and putting the pressure on St Peters throughout the match with loads of support from their subs and supporters on the sidelines.

While St Peter's have probably seen better days, we should also acknowledge the fact that their players also had some great marks and kicks throughout the game.



U12 Polars

Caulfield Bears 4.3 (27) def. East Brighton 3.8 (26)

Location:

Moorabbin
West



Min:

10°C

Max:

18°C

Overcast and Cool

Goal Kickers:

Lachlan T (2), Jacob and Luca B (1),

Game Highlights:

Q1: Bears get first score through Jacob and Vampires fight hard to get 2 points and hanging for a even quarter. All boys playing well.

Q2: Bears get 1st goal of the 2nd from a set shot from Lucas Bremmer, Vampires reply quickly with one! Ash tackling well and Ben taking some good marks. James playing well in ruck, Leo using his speed to get the ball and again an even quarter with bears up a goal at half time.

Q3: Jeremy working hard to get the ball out of the back line and Benjamin showing courage. Game in the balance with Vampires leading by 2 points half way through the 3rd quarter. Good pressure from Ged to finish of the quarter.

Q4: Great run by Lucas Bremmer to start off the 4th with a strong kick to Lachlan in the forward line, who kicks a goal early in the 4th. Vampires fight straight back with a goal, game is very touch and go! With a few minutes to go in the final quarter, Lachlan takes a stunning mark and kicks the goal leading the bears to a great win!



U12 Grizzlies

East Sandringham (66) def. Caulfield Bears (6)

Location:

Koornang Park



Min:

10°C

Max:

18°C

Overcast with a slight zephyr

Game Highlights:

The teams started fairly evenly, but East Sandringham began to get on top as the first quarter progressed. Our backline worked well together to defend, and forced the opposition into quick kicks under pressure and so their accuracy at goal was thankfully poor. Some nice marks were taken by Jackson on the last line of defence, Gordon and Poole (in a welcome return to the Grizzlies), but the Bears struggled to penetrate our forward line.

East Sandringham grew in confidence in the second quarter and really put the screws on us. It was a quarter to forget as we succumbed to the pressure that had been building in the first stanza.

After a gee-up from fill-in coach Geoff Dart, we were more competitive in the third, with Graham, Abbott and Larkins busy around the ball. Mackie and Dart showed good endeavour, and we headed into the final quarter with hope of worrying the scorers.

This happened with a marvellous passage of play, as Kennedy marked strongly on the half back line, passed beautifully to Mackie on the wing who speared it to Hudson in the forward pocket. Showing confidence, he played on and dobbed a big one!

Like a rotten round of golf, where a birdie will bring you back next week, this goal gave the boys a boost, and should give them hope for next week that with continued effort and skill, our competitiveness is sure to increase.



Location:

Wattie Watson
Oval



Min:

10°C

Max:

18°C

Sunny with strong sea breeze

Goal Kickers:

Jackson Healey, Jarod Prins, James Hopley, Will Freeman, Harry Nelson, Charlie Besnard, Jackson Cauchi, Ryan Farrar and Ezra Bloch

Bear of the Week:

Oscar Gardiner ("intelligent football"), Josh Vendy ("he's found his spot"), Marcus Prins ("the one that listens"), Nick Mavropoulos ("needs no introduction")

Game Highlights:

So we started as we often do – lost the toss, kicking into a typical gale at Wattie Watson Oval, the scene of several heartbreaking games over the years.

But this time, Gubba controlled the bounce, patting straight down the throat of Jackson Cauchi who kicked it towards a powerful and hard-hitting JJ Prins. The first score was a behind, but quickly followed by JJ's first goal, then a second, and with Bucket dominating on the outer wing, and Will Freeman everywhere, we saw Heals dribble one out the back and we were 3 goals to nothing at quarter time.

The game progressed when we kicked with the wind, as it became apparent the match-up was uneven. The teamwork was immaculate, nothing passing Nick Mav or Harry at half back, and Ezra snaring a goal.

With Assistant Justin busy getting his whiteboard marker to work, Coach Gary spoke at half time of JJ's tackling "like a spider", snaring the Saints players in his web, and of playing more down the outer wing to attack. This paid off with a 6 goal third quarter, two coming from the left boot of sharp-shooting new recruit Jimmy Hopley. Rhino marked strongly at the top of the square to kick truly, playing a fine game. When our water carrier went in for the centre bounce, we were correctly penalised with a free kick and subsequently our first (and only) score against for the day, a rushed behind.

The team was switched around for the last quarter, and the scoreboard was turned off – a first ever for this team when being ahead – and our regular defenders loved the opportunity. Haydos marked well and narrowly missed a goal, but Captain Harry scored his first since 2016 when he marked well 20m out. In junk time, we kicked 7 behinds, but the final highlight was Jimmy's banana goal from the boundary. An excellent team performance.



U14's

Caulfield Bears 7.11 (53) def. Ashwood 4.10 (34)

Location:

Essex Heights Reserve



Min:

10°C

Partly Sunny

Max:

18°C

Game Highlights:

The solar powered Dimma set the tone by roaring out of the middle after being on the receiving end of one of the numerous tap outs from a rejuvenated Haddi. The quarter was punctuated by some great passages of play, handballs under pressure from Jenna, a searing pass from Andrew to Lucas to Miro to Coops. The team was playing as just that – a team. After a goal from Aiden, who played what the coach described as his best game for the Bears.

Quarter 2 began with a courageous Coops smother and tackle. Luca went so close with a dynamic shot on goal. Comeback kid Angus set the crowd alight with a goal on the run from 35 metres out. Miro was awarded a free and kicked the first of his four goals for the match.

The third quarter, was tight. Ashwood goaled early to level the score, then another came only minutes later. After a mark from Angus on the kickout, straight to Miro and another goal to him. Features of this quarter were a brilliant effort in the backline by Ben, Jonah and Jenna, and brilliant run and carry by Andrew. Aiden again inspired his teammates with a searing tackle. Bears up by a point at three quarter time.

The message was clear 'We all need to commit ALL of the time!' Jack got an immediate clearance, Haddi fed it to Angus. Luca was tackling players twice his size. Are these Bears the real deal? Time will tell, but if they play with the same commitment, watch out!

U14 Girls

Caulfield Bears 8.5 (53) def. St Pauls McKinnon 2.2 (14)

Location:

McKinnon Reserve



Min:

10°C

Mild to cool

Max:

18°C

Goal Kickers:

Giselle Hennequin, Jemima Jost-Stileman (2), Claire Vise, Eliza Krevici, Tash Kaufmann, Madeleine Walsh (1)

Bear of the Week:

Hannah Cohen-Budge (St Pauls Award), Tash Kaufmann, Olivia Hamilton, Clementine Crowe.

Game Highlights:

The girls created history today winning their very first game of the season. The highlight of the morning came in the rooms at the completion of the game when the girls sung the club song loudly and proudly to celebrate. It was a great reward for the girls and coaching staff who have only been together a short period. Their improvement has been evident each week, culminating in today's great win.

Gisele Hennequin continued her great form kicking the Bears first 2 goals and putting in a great 4 quarter effort. She was aided by Olivia Henderson on the ball. Down back

Madison Szep and Siena Rogers were very solid down back repelling all forward entries to our backline. Tash Kauffman was brilliant up forward in her first game while Tess Keogh couldn't quite hit the goals and kicked a few behinds. Emily Chen also proved her worth when moved to the middle in the second half. Meanwhile Bethany Elliott also managed to get some crucial possessions in her best performance for the season. Jemima Jost-Stileman on the ball and up forward all day which saw her kick 2 important goals. All around though – a brilliant team effort!



15's

Mordialloc Braeside 22.18 (150) def. Caulfield Bears 0.3 (3)

Location:
Walter Galt
Reserve



Min:
10°C
Partly Sunny

Max:
18°C



Location:

Koornang Park

**Min:**

10°C

Max:

18°C

Partly Sunny

Goal Kickers:

Kai 4, Henry 3, Woodsy 1 and Ethan (1)

Game Highlights:

After winning our first 2 games, we were playing at home against Mordi-Brae, a team who absolutely belted us both physically and on the scoreboard on several occasions last season. So a big game for the boys, still trying to ascertain where we fit in the competition. We had 17 fit players, and Patty bravely making up the numbers by standing in the goal square on one fit foot.

It was Josh and Billy's 100th games, so hopefully the team would be up for the occasion, and it was clearly evident from the start we were so, even though it was a scrumbly start to the game, all the boys were attacking the ball with great ferocity, and had some of the opposition looking around. The Bears kicked 3 points to 2 by the 10 minute mark of the first term before Mordi kick the first goal, but our resident goal sneak, Kai, gets on the end of some fantastic teamwork and kicks our first goal. There's a period of great footy from both teams, Mordi kick the next 2 goals to go out to a 10 point lead, then Kai marks late in the term and kicks our 2nd goal, and we go in at ¼ time 5 points down, but playing good footy.

Mordi kick an early goal in the 2nd term, Patty on his one fit leg gets several chances to goal, but misses on each occasion, and then Mordi get a rare foray forward and goal. A highlight of the term had been several magnificent smothers from Josh, leading by example in his milestone game, then Kai soccers through his and our 3rd goal just on ½ time, and we go into the long break 4 points down, but our inaccuracy was killing us, recording 3 goals and 14 points for the half.

We again dominate the first half of the 3rd term, continually going forward, but only resulting in behinds, then as usual, Mordi would go forward once and goal. Kai gets on the end of a Patty handball and kicks his 4th goal, then Woodsy gets rewarded for his continual bullocking work, breaks the pack apart and goals, then Henry kicks another one, and we are now 12 points up, before Mordi kick the last goal of the term and we hold a 6 point lead at ¾ time.

Mordi kick the first goal of the term, and it's game on, then credit to our boys, we finally get our kicking boots on, with Henry kicking a further 2 goals to complete a great game from him, and Ethan finally kicking accurately and we are 2 goals up late in the game before Mordi kick one last goal, and we run out 7 point victors. I would suggest some goal kicking practice will be the order of the next few weeks, because we were clearly the better side on the day, but could of just of easily got beaten due to our inaccuracy.

Hopefully we start getting a few of the injured boys back, and all looks promising for a successful season ahead.



Location:

Koornang Park



Min:

10°C

Partly Sunny

Max:

18°C

Goal Kickers:

Tim (4), Liam, Charlie-Joe, Fletcher and Jackson (1)

Super Award:

Special call out to O'Shea who posted his 100th Game for Senior Bears on Saturday. We all know that the Coach has Navy, Red & Gold coursing through his veins so great to see him achieve this milestone for the Club.

Bear of the Week:

Harry S: Once again his speed and determination is setting him up as one of the key players for the team. A joy to watch him accelerate away from the opposition

Aidan: Given a run in defence – “the gentleman’s position”, so the very objective Coach tells us – he made the most of his strength in bringing a slew of Dragons to ground.

Harrison: Had a cracker of a game at full back, especially as he didn’t get much rest up there in the backline. Is getting better each week and his punching the ball away is becoming deadly for the opposition.

Game Highlights:

Well, once again, I have spoken to soon! I had mentioned that the days of the slow start were over. Alas, against the Dragons we spooled up very slowly in the first quarter and were caught napping. The Dragons were revved up and ready to go from the get go. I did happen to overhear some of the Dragon players talking about how they were up against a ‘premiership side’ and would be going hard against us. Something to remember in future – that the Bears are seen as a team to beat.

While it was a slowish start to the quarter, there were still some fine pieces of work, with Hudson in his usual fine form and Fletcher throwing down a cracker of a tackle that brought an Oakleigh player to the ground. Oakleigh were setting the pace and style of the game and the Bears were caught a little flat footed. Coach pointed this out at the quarter break and ‘strongly encouraged’ the lads to get back to BEARS FOOTY rather than let the Dragons write the script.

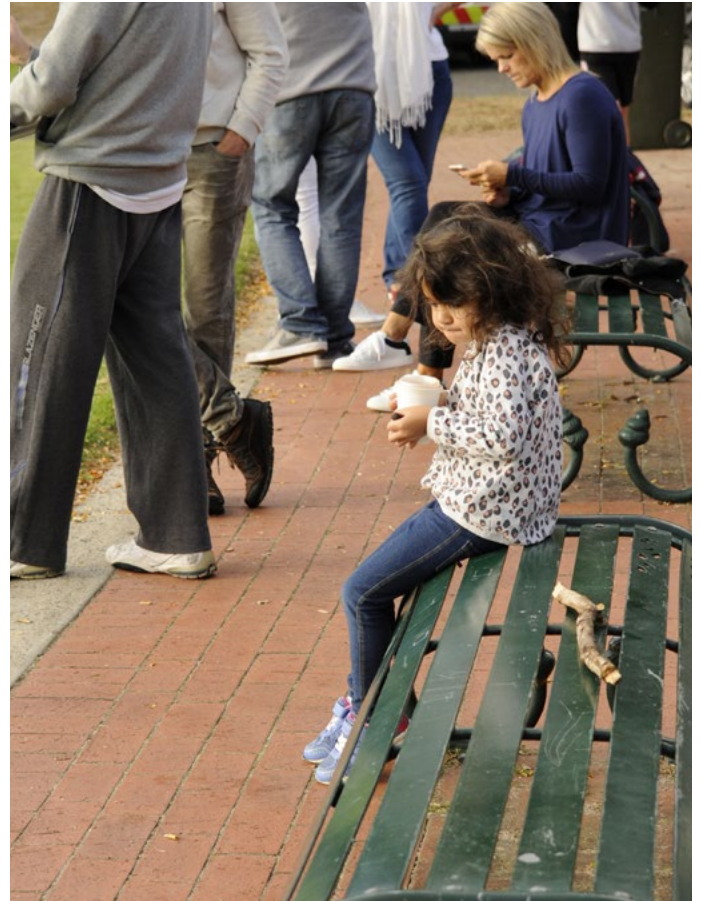
The Coaches words must have stung as our young men came out in the second quarter full of resolve and we saw the style of footy that we are used to. As mentioned last week, we knew that there were going to be some brain snapping moves and one of these was the move of Aidan into defence. In the second quarter he started hitting his straps and throwing around some of the deadly tackles that he is quite fond of. Coming out of defence, there was a sweet piece of play, with Pincus booting out to Emin, who then caught the Dragons flat footed with a magnificent square pass to Tim who then had a clean express lane all the way up to goal. In a bitter-sweet moment, we had our new recruit Jackson pull off a cracker of a twisting, round the corner snap which ended up with a goal. Alas, it also ended up with a badly injured knee which, devastatingly, had him off for the rest of the game. At half time, the Bears had found their way back into the game and the scores were close to level.

Well, I don’t know what brand of energy drink the Dragons had at half time but I need to find out and stock up on it. They blasted out of the blocks and completely dominated in the third quarter. To their credit, the Bears defence worked as hard as they could and Harrison was dominating in punching away the ball. The Dragons though were grabbing every crumb and pinging goals like they were on special at the supermarket. Kicking 9 goals to 1 in a quarter left the Bears reeling and coming into a tough last quarter. No wonder it’s called the premiership quarter!

Our fine young lads really lifted in the last quarter and finally pinned down the Dragons, keeping the scoring fairly level as they went eyeball to eyeball. The defenders, to their credit, went even harder in the last quarter and we had some fine demonstrations from “The Harry Show”, with both Shulman and MacLeod-Smith putting some fantastic work in defence. Jack was also relentless in this quarter, always pressuring his players and making sure they no room to move. Alas, we also had another injury with Remi copping what looked like to me a dislocated shoulder which made this an even worse day at the office. With scoring held to an absolute standstill, the third quarter burst for the Dragons gave them the lead they needed to win the day.

Well, a valuable lesson for the chaps, as we can see that in Div 2 that if you even relax for a second, the opposition will take advantage and put you on the ropes. All part of a learning process for the team and there’s no doubt that the lads will respond in the coming weeks. Best wishes to Jackson and Remi – speedy recovery boys.

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