



THE BEAR FACTS

CAULFIELD BEARS JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

ROUND 7 | ISSUE 25 | MAY 2018



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ROUND 8 FIXTURE

Team	Opponent	Home/Away	Location	Time
U8's	St Peters	Away	Centenary Park	9.00am
U9's	Murrumbeena	Away	Murrumbeena Park	11.00am
U10's	East Malvern	Home	East Caulfield	11.25am
U11 Polars	Prahran	Away	Como Park	11.10am
U11 Grizzlies	Mordi-Brae	Away	Walter Galt Reserve	12.40pm
U12 Girls Polars	Dingley	Away	Corrigan Oval	11.20am
U12 Girls Grizzlies	Mordi-Brae	Home	East Caulfield	12.35pm
U12 Polars	BYE	BYE	Bye	BYE
U12 Grizzlies	Beaumaris	Home	Koornang Park	8.45am
U13's	Waverley Hawks	Away	Columbia Park	12.00pm
U14's Girls	Mordi-Brae	Away	Walter Galt Reserve	2.20pm
U14's	Mordi-Brae	Home	Koornang Park	10.15am
U15's	East Malvern	Home	Koornang Park	1.15pm
U16's	Cheltenham	Home	Koornang Park	3.05pm
U17's	Murrumbeena	Away	Murrumbeena Park	3.00pm

Calendar Events

JULY

21

Stand Up Comedy

7.00pm onwards

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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

Playing in a team is a commitment. A commitment to your team mates and to the other volunteers who give up their time to organise the games each week.

The Club understands that from time to time, special occasions arise or holidays are booked, but we do please ask, particularly in teams where numbers are tight, that due consideration is given to the impact on others when players are absent. Choices need to be made and priorities considered. At the very least, please ensure that Team Managers are given as much notice as possible for any planned absence so that we can do our best to come up with alternative arrangements and contingencies.

Similarly, if your team is asked to help another team by playing a second game, please give this due consideration and embrace the opportunities it provides for further learning and game development. Our Coach's would never put a child in harms way and if they felt the player was unable to compete in an older age group, they wouldn't be asked. Assisting other teams is an integral part of our 'Club' first mentality.

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

Blood Rule 19.1.

Upon a player being noticed by an umpire to have blood on them, the player must leave the ground immediately to be attended to; and may be immediately replaced with an interchange player. Once the bleeding has stopped, and all blood cleansed or covered, the player may be interchanged back onto the ground.

MILESTONES!

Congratulations to Quinn Cooper, Liam Golding, Jake Gurrie, Jack Joyce and Noah Will who are celebrating their 50 games club milestones, well done all!

Also a big congratulations to Dominic Hart's who played his 100th game over the weekend!



Secretary Scoop

Sir Douglas Nicholls Round (formerly Indigenous Round) 1-3 June

The AFL's annual round recognising and celebrating indigenous players and culture is named in honour of Sir Doug Nicholls. SMJFL Round 8 aligns with AFL Round 11 and kicks off on Friday 1 June. Sir Doug, who epitomised the spirit of reconciliation, played 54 games for Fitzroy and was a brilliant all-round athlete. The first Aboriginal person to be knighted, he also served as Governor of South Australia and was devoted to the wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. All 18 AFL clubs will wear special indigenous-themed guernseys during the round.

Reminder to Team Managers and parents:

Undergarments (i.e. compression skins) that extend beyond the length of the jumper are only permitted to be worn in Modified Rules competitions.



Stand-Us Comedy Night!

7pm @ the Bear Cave
Saturday 21st July

featuring Daniel Connell,
Brad Oakes and Dave Oneil

TO BOOK YOUR SEAT HEAD TO:
<https://www.trybooking.com/WDHK>

\$30 PER HEAD
BYO FOOD
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AUSKICK

Weekly Round Up

Hi parents,

Another great weekend of Auskick with the Caulfield Bears.

The weather was fantastic and saw a larger number of participants arrive.

We have had continued improvement in the set up and running of all 4 of our groups, from the Prep/Kinders right through to our Level 2 participants. This has been well supported by all the active parents in attendance, but don't forget we need you each and every week to make this the most engaging and fun experience for our kids!

Coaches have all been commenting that in the short time Auskick has been running this year, that they have noticed an improvement in the children's ball handling and kicking skills.

Remember its even better if you practice your skills during the week. Whether it be bouncing the ball, kicking the ball up to yourself to catch, kicking to a parent or even handballing into a fence. Remember the coaching cues your coaches tell you.'

Boots Squad

Week number 5 and the feedback I have been receiving is extremely positive! Participants have been integrating their kicking and handball skills into more complex drills and games. I am sure for many, these sessions are really showing in their games each Sunday!

This Week



We will have our famous Hot Dog Stand going.

Will it be.....mustard, cheese, coleslaw, relish, onions... or the lot? Helpers are needed. Please let me know if you can be one of them

Level O Coaches Course will again be run this week by Billy from AFL Victoria

This will go for around 40 mins after Auskick starts on Saturday morning! Please join in this week if you missed the last one!

NAB AFL Auskicker of the Year

The 2018 NAB AFL Auskicker of the Year competition provides all registered participants with the chance to win an unforgettable 3-day Grand Final experience in Melbourne.

It could be someone from our centre!

For more information go to: www.nab.com.au/auskick

See you on Saturday!



For more information about Caulfield Bears Auskick, please contact:

April Matthews,
Auskick Coordinator





MATCH REPORT



U8's

Caulfield Bears vs. Hampton Rovers

Location:

East Caulfield Reserve



Min:

9°C

Fine and sunny

Max:

20°C

Bear of the Week:

Roman, Woody, Arvi and Lila received awards for their great efforts during the game.

Game Highlights:

The Bears were led by captains Jock and Seb this week who led the team with style.

The two teams were evenly matched. There were lots of Bear tackles in hard fought close contest. The Bears moved the ball around well, never gave up and fought right to the end.

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.

U9's

Caulfield Bears vs. Dingley Dingoes

Location:
Corrigan Oval



Min:
9°C
Sunny

Max:
16°C

Bear of the Week:

Josh G and Zac

Game Highlights:

It was a glorious, sunny Sunday morning for football as the Bears met the Dingoes in Dingley. The game was a seesawing affair with the Dingoes taking the early initiative. Angus W was solid in defence and Harry and Eamonn both kicked a goal. The Bears were dominant in the second quarter, with Quinn scoring two goals and Zac efficiently moving the ball forward. The Dingo backline was under siege as the Bears peppered the ball forward.

In a quieter third quarter, Archie was influential and Angus B was agile and moved the ball cleverly to Eamonn on several occasions. Sam took a strong mark. In the last quarter, the Dingoes rallied and applied pressure to the Bears back line. Andrew's goal steadied the Bears and at the end of the game, nothing separated these evenly placed teams.

As a team, the Bears showed improvement in a number of areas – players were picking up the opposition, tackling was fierce but fair, and players were finding teammates with their kicks and handballs. Well done, Bears on a determined effort!



U10's

Caulfield Bears vs. St Peters

Location:
Centenary Park



Min:
9°C
Sunny

Max:
20°C

Bear of the Week:

Luke, Raph, Max, Martin and Veer

Best on Ground:

Luke

Game Highlights:

1Q: The boys started strongly in the first quarter with great defensive work by Frankie and Max being finished off by Grady with two and Raph with one goal.

2Q: The second quarter saw the Bears kicking into the breeze. This quarter Luke took a great mark and made some strong tackles. Martin kicked a goal on the end of some good team work.

3Q: The Bears struggled to make use of the breeze and only kicked one goal by Tyler with a long range effort.

4Q: The team attacked the ball really well and held their own into the breeze. Mack laid a big tackle. Max and Veer had great quarters and Ryan managed to scramble a goal.

Location:

Koornang Park

**Min:**

9°C

Sunny

Max:

20°C

Goal Kickers:

Jake 2, Oliver, Jacques

Bear of the Week:

Rory, Johnny, Paddy

Best on Ground:

Noah

Game Highlights:

In the season of 50 game milestones it was Noah's turn to run through the banner on a beautiful and sunny Sunday morning. The Polars were excited to go up against the East Brighton Vampires in what was perfect weather for footy. In the 1st quarter the Polars contested ball possession was terrific and some great link play including Jacques kicking to Rory who kicked to Mack who handballed back to Rory who kicked to Johnny who put it up for Jake who marked and snared a goal. Johnny was tackling hard and Tommy Walsh was using his body to dispose of the opposition. Maxi B, Ollie and Noah were also hard at it in the packs and creating opportunities.

During the second quarter the Vampires came out hard and desperate, which showed up the Polars lack of effort and focus to get the ball. The boys needed to refocus on the basics, which started with being first to the ball. Rory, Noah and Johnny were all competing well in the air and if not marking were bringing the ball to ground. With the Vampires in front at the big break a big 3rd quarter effort would be needed to get back into the game. Noah was running his guts out and with his creative kicking was moving the ball forward at great speed.

The Polars again showed that they could regain the ascendancy in the premiership quarter with Jake leading the way in the centre. The boys focus on attacking the marking contests started to turn the game and the game was set up for a final quarter showdown.

The Polars maintained their 3rd quarter intensity and ran the game out in great fashion. Johnny showed that he had fully recovered from his injury with his dynamic play and fast ball movement. Noah's running, tackling and finishing was an inspiration for the team in what was a stellar showcase of his skills and determination. Rory also showed great leadership through his fearless attack on the ball and the opposition who always knew when he was about.

Paddy, Gus and the other backs also fought hard all day; they tackled hard and forced the Vampires to earn every possession. Special thanks to Lucas for playing up and as always competing and pressurizing the opposition.



U11 Grizzlies

Caulfield Bears 5.6 (36) def. St Kilda City 3.2 (20)

Location:

Koornang Park



Min:

9°C

Sunny

Max:

20°C

Goal Kickers:

Jacko (2), Dan, Ethan and Otis (1)

Game Highlights:

A wonderful morning for football with the sunshine beaming down and the Grizzlies fired up for a home game after coming off a win from behind last week spirits were high.

The 1st quarter saw the ball down the Grizzlies half for most of the quarter with excellent constant forward pressure and tackling. Dan managed to weave his way through traffic to score the first goal of the match and the only one for the quarter. St Kilda were kept scoreless with Grizzlies ensuring they were first to the ball in contests.

The 2nd quarter was a carbon copy of the first with the bears dominating the contested ball however not being able to have too many scoring shots. The determination in the tacking was on show and the boys were communicating well with several shepherds laid to help each other out. Ethan managed to find some space to again score the only goal for the quarter.

The 3rd quarter was a much more contested quarter with both sides stepping up the pressure and tackling fiercely. St Kilda managed to get on the board with a nice goal. The play of the quarter saw Ben pass the ball to Charles in the back pocket and Charles raced away with 2-bounces around the wing showing a clear par of heals and then passed to full forward Jacko who pierced the big sticks with a fantastic show of how to play end to end football.

The last quarter was a see-saw affair with St Kilda coming out all guns blazing. They managed to kick truly and score two goals and suddenly there was a close game with only a kick in it. The Grizzlies responded in true last quarter fashion and with a few positional changes they responded with two great goals of their own. Otis goal from the sideline on the run was a great thing to watch and the Grizzlies managed to keep their winning streak alive for another week.



U12 Girls Polars

Caulfield Bears (62) def. Prahran (2)

Location:

East Caulfield



Min:

9°C

Sunny

Max:

20°C

Game Highlights:

The girls got off to a cracking start with lot of pressure through the mid-field from Jasmine, Claudia, Violet and Charlotte. They gave the forwards every opportunity to kick goals and they delivered! Two goals to Annika and one to Sophie with some terrific forward pressure from Mia and Lily. Our girls went into the ¼ time break 22 up.

It was much the same in the 2nd quarter with Charlotte controlling the mid-field. The rare times in went down back, Samantha and Matilda dominated the aerial duels with strong marking on the half back flank. The highlight of the 2nd quarter was a passage of player which started in the mid-field with Charlotte kicking to Jas, who kicked accurately to Annika who handballed to Mia who handballed to a running Lily who snapped a fantastic point. It was a great passage of team play. Annika kicked two goals for the quarter alongside Mia with one and Alice who kicked her first goal for the bears. The coach praised the girls at half time.

The shuffling of the magnets at half time saw a new look mid-field. First gamer Maddie, Hannah, Lucy and Samantha took over when where the other girls left off. Hannah showed real strength kicking the ball long into our forward half and Maddie making some piercing passes through the middle of the ground. Violet stood tall kicking three goals straight while down the other end of the ground the back five were checking everyone's social calendars with lots of talking!

Prahran came out fighting in the last trying to get on the scoreboard but the girls held strong. First gamer Maddie kicked her first goal on debut for the bears and our only goal for the quarter. The ball was played mainly in Prahran's half with Claudia defending strongly with defensive punches and tackles and Lily and Jas combining for some great rebounds to keep Prahran scoreless, the bears running out winners on what was a great team performance. Mia as captain for the day choose the 'worm' as the goal celebration with all 13 girls performing in 11 times for the day, multi-tasking at its best!



U12 Girls Grizzlies

Bentleigh 7.11 (53) def. Caulfield Bears 0.1 (1)

Location:

East Caulfield



Min:

9°C

Max:

19°C

Partly Sunny

Bear of the Week:

Natasha, Chloe and Grace

Game Highlights:

A gusty breeze to the University end of the East Caulfield Reserve greeted the Grizzlies for their clash with the undefeated, top of the ladder, Bentleigh team. The understrength Grizzlies, missing several team mates could only muster 9 players and accepted Bentleigh's offer to lend three of their team member to even the numbers.

From the start Bentleigh's height and fast ball movement proved difficult for the Grizzlies.

The girls worked hard all game, with some strong tackling (Bella, Elisa, Mariyana, Abby and Grace). A couple of great tackles in the goal square by the Grizzlies stopped goals for Bentleigh.

There was some strong and determined work in and around the packs (Grace, Natasha, Maya and Mariyana).

The girls marking improve again this week with many fine marks.

(Georgia, Cloe, Maryiana, Natasha and Elisa). The stand-out mark for the game and definite "Mark of the Year" contender was Georgia, looking over her shoulder and running with the flight of the ball taking a one grab mark.

A tough day for the Grizzlies, but to the girls credit they kept trying to get the ball and move it towards their goal. After giving up 6 goals in the first half the girls put a dogged defence in the second half and kept Bentleigh to just 1 goal.

Well done girls!

U12 Grizzlies

St Bedes/Mentone (73) def. Caulfield Bears (13)

Location:

Southern Road Reserve



Min:

9°C

Max:

21°C

Sunny

Goal Kickers:

Lachlan Hudson and Jarvis Dart (1)

Game Highlights:

For a half it felt like whatever we did St Bedes just seemed to have more players than us. There was a good reason for that and it was not just the jumper clash which made it harder to work out who was who than watching Collingwood-North in Arden St mud on a black and white tv. No the reason we felt outnumbered was ... we were.

The outnumber meant that kicking into a stiff breeze in the first term was all the harder. Still, Jack C hunted the ball, Felix found space and Sam Luth put some pressure on. Regardless poor Hugo and Rocco and Tom were left trying to hold back the tide.

With the wind in the second quarter we put pressure on when Raff fended a don't argue and punted long to goal to get us moving. Jordan laid a few good tackles as we trapped the ball forward.

Number 11 (Lachlan Hudson) got us going with a fine goal followed shortly by Jarvis converting from a strong mark.

The second half things got tough for us holding up the St Bedes runners and by the last term the dam walls opened up.

Campo, James Gearon and Jac C held things up for us, fought hard and were deserving award winners.

Fighting tirelessly all day was Seb Poole who was a little general. He hunted the ball in the middle then played as a quarterback a kick behind when it was forward for us. He was tremendous.

Location:

Koornang Park



Min:

9°C

Sunny

Max:

19°C

Goal Kickers:

Quinn Cooper(2) & Finn McMahon-Johnson (1)

Bear of the Week:

Marcus Brittain, Matthew Hamilton, Ash Margerison and Finn McMahon-Johnson.

Milestones:

Congratulations to the 4 players celebrating their 50 games club milestones: Quinn Cooper, Liam Golding, Jake Gurrie and Jack Joyce, well done all.

Game Highlights:

Q1: Match starts at 12pm in warm sunshine. East Sandringham (Sandy) start the match off full of running with the Bears a bit flat. Sandy keeps attacking their goal with the Bears defence repelling the attacks repeatedly. Bears strong defence kept Sandy to 1G 3B's for the Qtr.

Q2: Was much like Q1 with Sandy doing most of the attacking with the Bears defence working hard to limit scoring opportunities. The Bears were finding it difficult getting the ball in their forward 50. Half time scores Sandy 32points Vs Bears 0 points did not reflect the Teams efforts nor state of the match.

Q3: Bears come out full of running after ½ time and pushing hard into the forward line and the Team gets rewarded with a goal kicked by Quinn Cooper following a good mark and Team effort. Very even Qtr. with both teams kicking 1 goal for the term.

Q4: Bears again full of running attacking early with Finn McMahon-Johnson continuing his fine game with an early goal. The Bears continue to attack and the Team rewarded via a great goal kicked from the pocket by Quinn Cooper. Bears out play Sandy in the 2nd half, well done Team.

Better players for the Bears: Lucas Bremmer, Quinn Cooper, Finn McMahon-Johnson, Ash Margerison, Matthew Hamilton and Marcus Brittain.



U13's

East Malvern 12.12 (84) def Caulfield Bears 5.5 (35)

Location:

Stanley Grose Reserve



Min:

9°C

Overcast

Max:

19°C

Goal Kickers:

Ben "Webby" Webb (3), Charlie "Bucket" Besnard and Will Freeman (1)

Best on Ground:

A team effort

Bear of the Week:

Niko Caon, Ben Webb, Will Freeman

Game Highlights:

A top of the table clash at a much smaller ground than when these teams met in Round 1 had the Bears looking to take advantage of more favourable conditions. Unfortunately they failed to bother the scorer in Q1 as East Malvern kicked-off to a strong lead.

Some insightful messages at the first break saw the Bears come out transformed in Q2 with a lot more focus on winning the ball first and good use of the corridor leading to a 3 goal quarter with Ben Webb (returning from injury, and a two week restricted diet of dim sims) kicking the first of his three for the day. We finally had a contest!

Q3 saw the teams trading goals with the Bears midfield and forwards lifting and some solid work out of defence by the captain Harry Nelson and his lieutenants Nick Mavropoulos and Will Freeman. Despite being three goals behind the game was still there for the taking.

Despite the Bears tackling hard and chasing down second efforts in Q4, the effects of a small bench and limited rotations, saw East Malvern flex their fresh legs with a barrage of goals from their midfielders.

Let's see if we can match them in the grand final!

U14's

Caulfield Bears 14.14 (98) def. Beaumaris 0.3 (3)

Location:

Jack Barker Oval



Min:

9°C

Sunny

Max:

20°C

Bear of the Week:

Jake Bird, James Cooper, Andrew Callaghan

Game Highlights:

We welcomed back the Birdman at the home of the Rosellas by playing the Sharks. Confused? Well the Bears weren't. Byron Bay Blues Fest move aside, here comes the Bears goal fest. Coops and Jimmy started the show with some great pressure which allowed Haddi, Miro and Gus all to kick early goals.

The skills were a symphony with Benji passing to Andrew who goaled. Maestro Luca had a hand in a couple in the second quarter and Charlie Clancy showed his usual guts to snare his own goal and help set up another.

A great first half was achieved by all the Bears singing from the same song sheet - outstanding team work. The Sharks were trying to get off the hook in the second half and came out firing. Some hard work in the clinches by Hilly and a goal to Miro helped steady the ship and Thomas was relishing his move to the forward line and kicked truly after an Andrew assist. Jenna hit a high note with a great goal in the last and the crowd sang along. Sixty minutes of great footy. Tick Tick Tick.

U14 Girls

St Paul's McKinnon 4.3 (27) def. Caulfield Bears 3.8 (26)

Location:

McKinnon Reserve



Min:

9°C

Max:

21°C

Gorgeous mild autumn afternoon, the sun was out and the parents weren't freezing!

Goal Kickers:

Olivia Henderson (2), Jemima Jost-Stileman (1)

Bear of the Week:

Claire – 4 quarters of consistent effort
Ines – running (like a gazelle) when it counted
Maia – fabulous effort in the back line
Tess – big boot
Bella – persistent endeavours

Game Highlights:

Our second game against St Paul's this season – would we see a repeat of the decisive victory at McKinnon Reserve for coach Nick's first game?

The first quarter saw a lot of enthusiasm from the team. Tackling from Sienna R, Jemima, Hannah, Tess and Emily with Bella determined in chasing down her opponent. Great work with the ball from Emily, Freya, Tess, Sienna R and Jemima, with Jemima scoring a much needed goal.

Good team work in the second quarter, with strong marks from Bella, Clem, Tess, Olivia (Hendo) and Sienna R. Despite attempted interference by a rogue Airedale, Claire, Maddie, Emily, Olivia (Hendo), Jemima and Tess were all persistent in getting to the ball, unfortunately not quite enough to make up the St Paul's lead.

The second half (Q3) started with a fabulous kick from Jemima. A handball from Maia to Olivia (Hendo) who then kicked a miraculous goal! This winning combination worked well for the quarter, with Liv managing to score another sneaky goal. Tess, Sienna, Emily, Clem, Pippa and Jemima all worked hard to get the ball back into Bears hands.

Coach Nick encouraged the girls to use the intensity of the third quarter to claw back the lead in the final term. Despite the determination of Annabel, Pippa, Tess, Jemima, Claire, Maia, Ines, Bella, Clem and Sienna R, it wasn't enough, with St Paul's winning by 1 point in a nail-biting finish.



Location:
Koornang Park



Min:
9°C
Sunny

Max:
21°C

Goal Kickers:

Harry P, Stephan M, Jarred S, Nick L

Bear of the Week:

Stephan M, Antoine P, Harry B, Andrew K

Best on Ground:

Harry B

Game Highlights:

This was the second game against Ormond. We showed our improvements since the last game. Despite the lack of numbers we played good smart footy. With the Bears starting off strong with two goals both kicked by Stephan. The Bears had a strong and obvious lead at the end of the first quarter.

Due to great ball movement and positioning the Bears were able to sustain a strong lead for nearly the whole game. But due to the Bears having no bench they seemed to show signs of fatigue. Ormond managed to close the gap in the fourth quarter by scoring goals, sealing their victory with a goal with in the last few minute of the game.



Location:

Souter Reserve

**Min:**

9°C

Sunny

Max:

20°C

Goal Kickers:

Chris, Ethen (2), George and Harro (1)

Game Highlights:

We make the long trek out to Dingley to face a team who'd had a history of giving us some smashings, so it was to be of great interest to see how much improvement we've made this season. Arrive only to hear bad news, Henry and Warbo both out with injuries, so even more pressure now with 2 of our best players out.

We find ourselves kicking into a breeze for the first term, we start the game very well, competing strongly, teaming well to control possession and limit Dingley to 2 goals for the term and we kick one goal, courtesy of Chris, who was absolutely on fire, dominating the game with his explosive speed and kicking the ball with great penetration.

Dingley kick the first goal of the 2nd quarter, and we are 14 points down, before we kick 2 quick goals, courtesy of George & Chris to be right in the game. We are dominating possession and outplaying Dingley, we have frustrated them, and they begin arguing with the umpires and teammates. Ben goes down with what looks like a serious knee injury, is off for the game and unfortunately taken to hospital, this only leaves us with 1 on the interchange, so this would surely hurt us in the 2nd half. Chris gets yet another clearance, gets the ball to Ethan who kicks a great goal from 40 out, then Harro takes a big pack mark and goals. At ½ time we are 11 points up, and we've played a terrific ½ of competitive and skilful footy.

Again into the wind in the 3rd term, we defend strongly, but Dingley manage 4 goals to our nil for the quarter, and it looks like we have run out of a bit of steam. We go into the last change with a 16 point deficit.

Dingley go into defensive mode, and whilst we are doing all of the attacking, we can't impact on the scoreboard. 13 minutes of play have gone with no goals kicked, then Dingley go forward once and goal, Flynn then takes a big pack mark, gets the ball to Ethan and he kicks his 2nd goal.

We are 16 points down with 5 minutes to go, but I think we've run out of puff, Dingley kick one more goal, and then with only minutes left Woodsy takes on their biggest bodied player and runs in a straight line and they have a massive hit. Woodsy is stunned, but shortly gets up and resumes the contest, this is a great example to all of his team mates.

So since the competition has been restructured, we are 1 bye and 2 narrow losses against good sides, so hopefully the wins start coming, and importantly we can get our best side on the ground.



Location:

Highett Reserve



Min:

9°C

Sunny

Max:

20°C

Goal Kickers:

Jono (4), Jack, Emin, Bhayne, Huddo, Josh and Jake (1)

Bear of the Week:

Remi – Cranked out his best game of the season so far. I'll take a stab and say he's a confidence player and, with each game getting better and better, he will have a belter of a season.

Josh – Someone needs to warn the opposition that sledging Pincus is a bad move. Just fires him and makes him play better and go and kick goals from the half back line.

Artem – Told the coach he was ready to play and, my goodness gracious me, he was. See above for top notch tap to Jono and was unlucky when one of the Sainters got a knee to his kick for goal.

Game Highlights:

Many moons ago, the Bear had a game against St Kilda City where the Bears only had 16 players and had to go up against the Saints who had 24, thus playing eight off the bench. The Bears tried their best and kept it level pegging until he last quarter where they ran out of steam. This time the roles would be reversed, with the Bears fully stocked with 24 fit, manly players. I wish I could keep the suspense up but the scores are up on the top of the page.

Well, the first half was a very scrappy piece of football. One does have to give credit to the Saints, knowing that with limited players, the best approach was the play 'stop 'n' start' football and not let the Bears flowing game eventuate. This worked well for them and there were very few occasions where the Bears were able to play their preferred style of game. The Coach was not happy though, and insiders have commented on having a temporary bout of deafness after his half time speech.

One thing I will call out though is how well all of the new recruits (Henri, Jacko, Jono, Remi, Bhayne & Bill) have now slotted into the team. In this game they really shone and have now slotted into the way that the Bears like to play their footy. All of them played a cracker of a game and it's now obvious that they are helping the Bears hone their play up to the level they want to compete at this year.

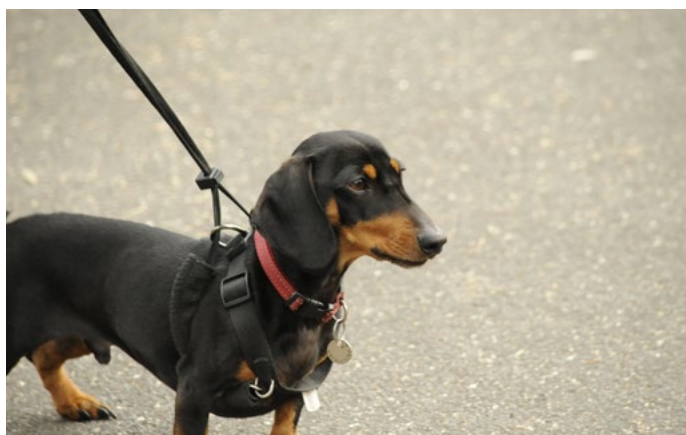
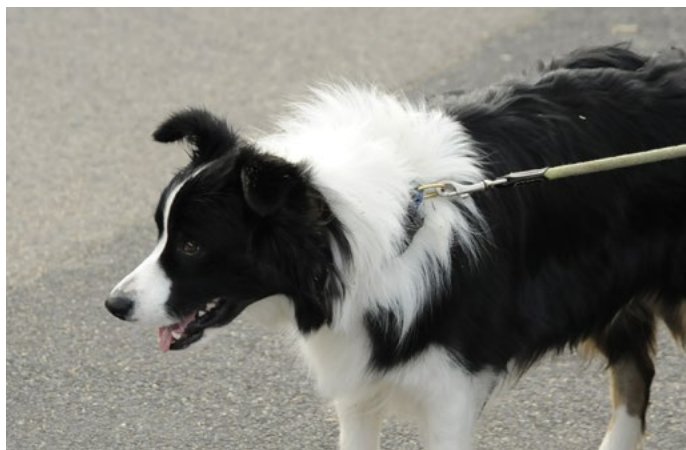
Anyway, after being lightly by firmly toasted by the Coach, the Bears came out determined to smash through in the premiership quarter. And smash they did. The Bears were just brutal in the ruck with the three tall stooges – Frenchie, Remi & Bhayne – just dominating and tapping the ball down Emin's throat who then dashed away like a man with his pants on fire. Tom once again used his cloak of invisibility and was continually left unmarked and was able to ping countless balls down to the forward line. Jono may not have the height but, boy, can he read the play and did some magnificent leads for the ball. There was one beautiful tap down into his arms from Artem (who had just interchanged on) and it couldn't have been a sweeter gift if it had come with flowers and a card. Jono made no mistake.

After a six goal break in the third, the Bears were well set up and the Coach's blood pressure had returned to human levels. However, there was no time for complacency as he set the challenge for the Bears to kick a few into the strong northerly wind, a feat no-one had achieved yet. Well, the lads like a challenge and Jack, after tackling at least four times and finally breaking free, slotted one against the tide! It's been so long since Jack kicked one the footy had to be DNA tested to prove it was him. His father couldn't remember the last time he kicked one – though that may be due to the encroaching years...

The Bears kept pushing forward for most of the quarter and although the Saints picked up two, it was more that the breeze carried the ball over the Bears defenders, who I must say, significantly impressed. Continually talking to each other, ensuring all opposition are marked, it's going to get harder and harder for opposition teams to score this year. Good solid win for the Bears.

AROUND THE GROUND





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