

Point Post

Round 15, 2016

Editorial

Well, the U11s had a bye, and the U12s, U13s, both U15s, and U17s were all washed out, so it was only the two U9 teams that got a game on the weekend!

U9 White

It was a bit of a strange week, with no Coach Naushad, and no Aarish, Friyana or Alex. Rumour has it that Naushad had early warning that the Hawks were going to be in trouble, and he wisely decided to lay low... Once again, Miller stepped up to help out the big guys. This was needed, as the entire Kellyville Rouse Hill team was the same size as Will and

Archie!

Captain Coby started the first quarter where he left off last week, as did Oliver, Lincoln and Harrison. Will and Archie obviously benefited from the week off and the Saturday sport wash-out, and they also came out firing. Harrison was desperately unlucky not to score the first major, as the goal umpire saw a Magpie finger just touch the ball on the way through.

Will followed up immediately with a trade-mark bullocking run and kick into the pocket, where Xavier snapped a quick shot off his trusty left foot, and scored our second behind. Tommy earned a crucial



U9s in action earlier this season

free kick with a nice tackle, and the play moved forward once again, where this time Harrison left no doubt as he kicked it cleanly for a major.

We then commenced a period of sustained defending around the rucks, with multiple tackles to Will, Kaelan, Archie, Oliver and Tommy. Will kept up his strong running and kicking, and Coby was consistently around the ball. Tommy made a nice kick forward which was marked by Harvey, and Jackson took one for the team, taking a huge hit during a tackle. The Magpies kicked a behind, but our defence was stout. Kaelan made a nice handpass, as did Reid, and Lincoln closed off the quarter with a series of contested possessions, runs and kicks.

The early part of the second quarter was all Archie, Will and Miller, with a quick behind (literally - it bounced off a Magpie back!) to Tommy amidst some confusion as to why the umpire had blown the whistle.... Will followed up immediately with another goal, after a clever pass in from Archie.

Reid was having a great game, and winning some good ball in the rucks, and Archie and Harvey were also dominant. Miller continued to

ignore the gap in size and age, and tackled beautifully. Kaelan pulled off a smother and was a real pest chasing down loose balls. Archie, Will, Harrison and Xavier kept up the work rate, the latter with a nice mark and clever clearances. The Magpies scored their second behind, but couldn't improve on that due to crunching defence and clearances, with Lincoln continually involved. The half ended with a pinpoint kick from Tommy to Will, but Will was beaten by the buzzer. At the main break, the Dockers had shown great teamwork and excellent commitment in defence.

Xavier and Will came out hard in the third, and Coby was on the wrong end of a massive Magpie tackle. Lincoln and Archie were running and dominating, supported by strong tackling from Oliver and Xavier. Archie scored a behind as he followed his own kick into the pocket (which he did a few times!), and Harrison gave the report writer some good material with a breakaway run and clever kick, unfortunately in the wrong direction! Happily for everyone he immediately squared the ledger with some good play and ball to Archie, who banged through another goal for the Dockers.

Once again we saw excellent

tackling and commitment, with Archie, Lincoln, Xavier, and Oliver, also supported by Tommy who threw in a clever smother. Will, Coby and Lincoln were busy, and the latter made a great kick, marked by Harrison, who in turn kicked long and deep into the pocket to Oliver. Miller closed out the quarter with his first point in the big league, and was unlucky not to score a debut goal. On this form, it can't be far away.

Tommy was a tackling machine in the final period, chasing and tackling everything that moved. Kaelan was busy again, and Lincoln and Coby had some nice exchanges. Lincoln scored the first point of the quarter for the Dockers, and some good play by Archie to Tommy kicking to Oliver for Oliver to make a penetrating run and kick a confident goal, finally generating some excitement from the impartial goal umpire!

Archie and Miller formed a good defensive combination, and also threw in some good handball skills. Harrison started to dominate, both on the ball and in tackling. The pressure eventually told, and Harrison earned a free, and cleared to Lincoln who goaled. Archie threw in a clean handpass to Tommy, who notwithstanding

hitting the ground under pressure, also managed to do a nice pass. Miller finished off the game in style, with some hard work on the ball, against bodies much bigger than his.

All up, a good performance by the Dockers team, and a fitting way to see out the last full game of the year.

Best on Ground (joint): Reid and Jackson

Best off Ground: everyone except Andrew and Judy!

– Andrew Loadsman

Acknowledgements

Thanks to everyone who does their bit to help the Club out!

