

POINTS POST

2017 Half Time Report

Welcome

What a busy start to the 2017 season it has been. In fact, we are already sitting in Round 8, the half way point of the competition rounds. I thought it would be a good time to take a check on the highs and lows of the season so far.

I must say we really started on a super high point with the opening of ELS 1 synthetic. This is a great asset to have available to the club. You may have noticed we are assisting other clubs such as Willoughby by hosting club home games. This not only keeps the grounds in use, it provides extra sales for the canteen etc.



The preseason also had the executive committee working hard to promote the club to get the maximum benefit for the 2017 comp. We held promotional days at Top Ryde shopping Centre to boost team numbers and test the interest for an inaugural girls team. Unfortunately, we didn't quite get the numbers for a girls team this year but we are looking forward to progressing this next year. Remember to get your sisters involved, grab their friends and be ready for a new venture next year.



Swans Visits

We have been lucky this season to have two visits from the swans' players. The first was our



season launch which saw Darcy Cameron and Jeremy Laidler come for training and a Q&A session. The second was this week combined with our popular pie night.

Harry Cunningham and Jordan Dawson got the boys working out and earning their pies!

Thank you to the coaches and managers that have stepped up and volunteered to assist the club and your teams in your respective roles. It would not be possible for the kids to play week on week without your dedication and commitment.

Our coaches and managers for the 2017 season is as follows;

Team	Coach	Manager
A/Kick		Elaine Stack
U9	Sean Geraghty Mel Jenkins Mehernaz Mistry	Georgia Pantic
U10 w	Andrew Kellett Kyle Mahoney	Doug Whiteford
U10 p	Andrew Darnell Kyle Mahoney	Gina Dunford
U11	Naushad Mistry	David McMillan
U12	Matt Wilson Sean Cronin Byron Muntz	Barbara Turner Andrew Muggeridge
U13	Graeme Economos Craig Parr	Nick Andripoulos
U14	Ian Riley Kyle Mahoney Brad Charters	Sarah & Warren Platts

The following is a summary from a few of the teams on the season so far.....

U10's White

Our season so far has been like a roller coaster, a mixture of highs and lows.

We've had a mix of best on grounds, with different team members excelling each week. Everybody has improved when compared to our first game and we always look forward to our weekly segment of "What will Will Say?".

A proverbial class clown, Will has a laser keen ability to say the wrong thing at the right time and get a laugh from the team.

It's a reflection of the spirit within the team that it's not just about winning or losing but having fun.

It's also being great to see the emergence of talent and continual improvement within the team, the reading of play and midfield pressure being two points of note.

A massive shout-out to the parents as well. They have all been supportive of the club and actioned all rostered activities as requested. It goes a long way and deserves to be called out. As a team manager, it's one less point of concern I have to worry about and their support is nothing less than awesome. Bring on the second half of the season. Cheers,
Doug.



U12's

What a great start to the year the Dockers U12's has had. With the younger team mates from the previous year staying back to re-build the U11's, the team was in the need for a few new recruits. Step in four new players Toby, Tate, Lily and Jake and what a start to the year they have shown. All developing the skills it takes to make it in club footy. Toby's run through the midfield and want to get amongst it outstanding and respected by the more experienced in the team. Tate filling strategic roles forward and back and now

developing as a ruckman as well, Lily unafraid to get amongst it and improving every week and last but not least Jake; in the votes 3 of the last 4 weeks stabilising our backline. Welcome to the new recruits! You are all assets to the team, hope you are enjoying your footy.

The Veterans that we have watched in some cases for 5-6 years are developing into fine young men and great footy players as well. In alphabetical order Henry's leadership commitment and silky skills are a joy to watch. A well-deserved spot in the North West rep team again this year. Big Jack Coburn has scored his first 3 goals in his career in the last month and is starting to realise he can dominate his opponents. Jacko Cronin has taken another leap leading his teammates on the field. His words of encouragement and genuine concern of his team mates will hold him in good stead as he continues his footy development. Plays great footy as well in all positions. Jacob the 'Running Man' is a Coaches delight as he is able to cover two positions on the field with gut busting end to end running. Leandre always gives 100%, the coaches love his competitive spirit and is one of the best trainers in the group on a Tuesday night. Liam has built year on year on the form he showed in the 9's, a massive kick, good runner and a key defender this year, because that's where we have needed him. Lukey M's season cut short by a broken thumb, desperate to get the midfielder elite kick back by finals time. Ned has



proven half forward is his spot. Great at the ball and on the scorebook most weeks. Who can forget the 'Daikos' dribble goal from the boundary at home a few weeks back? Thierry standing tall, Best on Ground in the defeat of top of the table Canada Bay in week 6. Also registering goals up forward. Will Muntz! What can we say? At the time of writing this, in the votes for 7 straight weeks. Key defender, tagger, ruck, tackles his heart out. A pleasure to have in the team and last but not least Zac (that's mum's

fault for giving you a name starting with 'Z'). Moved from defense into attack this year and flourished. Has played in the mid field this year as well. Another on a massive improvement spike. Votes in his last 4 games.

Add the much needed and much appreciated sprinkling of a few eligible players in the 13's helping us out over the first 8 weeks. We would not be in finals contention without Jasper, Lachie and Luke who are stand out great blokes and bring a fresh competitive edge to the team. You guys are welcome every week! *please*, every week?

On the scoreboard the mighty Dockers U12's sit one spot out of the top 4 with 4 wins and 4 loses. They key win; Drummoyne on a coolish damp Sunday morning against top of the table Canada Bay. That 50-41 win was truly an amazing result and a good reward to the great training the team has been putting in and for all the Mother's on that Mother's Day!!

Thanks, Matt Wilson

U13's

Hi All,

The under 13's had a good off season (recruitment drive) signing new players Rueben, Micah, Jasper, Will and Liam only to lose Tom for 4 games with a knee injury & Harrison Knot who has missed the season so far, however his dad tells me he is on the mend so hopefully we will see him back soon. Most of last year's team are back together, including Cam, Luke J, Luke A, Ibrahim, Harrison R, Lachy, Tom, Harry, Mitch, Rhys, Zac, Simon, Keyton, Matty, Bill and Ashton. Bronson has come back after playing another code last year. A total squad of 23. We had a rough preseason (training wise) due to all the ground



closures which reflected in our first game of the season, going down to Willoughby Mosman, we did however bounce back & win our next four games to be coming 2nd in the competition.

It's also great to have all the volunteer help from the parents, and Nick A stepping in as manager doing a great job so far.

Nick Andriopoulos

U14's

We are very excited to have a number of new players in the Under 14's team this year; we would like to welcome the Kelty, Voss, Bathis, Nadile and Pickering families and a big welcome back to the McGlashan's. Of course we have back the regular players who are growing in their skill level, love of the game and sportsmanship every year; a great bunch of young men and role models for the club.

The lead up and preparation to the season for all teams was less that we would have liked due to the weather conditions. Rissa and the coaching team tried all sorts of strategies to get in some training and to build fitness in the team. The good news was that all teams were in the same position so the playing field of preparation was even.

Our victory in the U13's last year saw us being moved up to division 1; we experienced a new level of intensity, skill and pace of the game. Our games against Willoughby Mosman Swans and Northern Lights were an education in Division 1 footy with our boy experiencing a few pretty convincing losses for these first few games. The boys attitude and



development through these games was noticeable and they were able to hold their heads high. Our third division 1 game against the East Coast Eagles at Charles McLaughlin Reserve saw us beginning to gain some rhythm, at 1/4 and 1/2 time we were ahead on the scoreboard, we saw some wonderful team play and great skills. Unfortunately, fitness saw us losing intensity in the 3rd and all important quarter and our opposition

inched ahead on the scoreboard. The final score was against us but ever so close at 59 – 51. Our 4th round game against the Western Suburbs Magpies was again a loss 98 – 42. The Magpies are a team known to us so we were determined to come back better and stronger in round 2 to play the game we know that we can.



At the end of the 4th round the AFL conducted a re-divisionalisation of the draw; due to our early season losses this saw us being placed back in division 2 to play the remainder of our games for this season. Taking zero ladder points into this competition from division 1 the boys have a

tough road ahead to win games and be a chance at a semi-finals position. With conviction and complete respect for other teams the boys have played some confident football to win each of their division 2 games against Manly Bombers and Miranda Bombers. The challenge now is to continue to build our game play, skill, fitness and attitude so that we are in a position to contend for the finals rounds. Our game this week against our 2016 finals opponents will be a tough one as we are sure they will be on the ground with renewed conviction to prove a point following our finals win.

Boys, stay strong, challenge yourselves individually and as a team, and play the footy we know you can; but above all have a load of fun doing it!



Canteen News

Thank you - contributions to canteen and BBQ glue the North Ryde Dockers community beyond age based teams, and raises funds for ground rental, lights, umpires, jumpers etc. Extra thanks to Brad and Deb for supplying gas, to Gina, Qasem and Rahul who often jump in to assist cook and serve, to Qasem again for electrical work and routing the leads for the coffee machine, to Mehernaz who has consistently delivered brownies each week for sale, to Darren for sorting out the paper work, to Andrew for always arranging the float and banking, to Julian who on top of everything else purchases the bread each week.

Mother's day – we hope the Auskick mums all enjoyed their flowers, and all mums around the ground enjoyed the new honey men biscuits made in Hornsby.

Embroidery comp – responses predominantly came from U12s including reasons and creativity – ask your manager for a drink token when next playing at ELS. “Volunteers make our club strong”

Electronic cash register – this has been installed to collect the data we need for stock levels, forecasting and budgets. Please bear with us while we serve and learn to use it.

Training nights – parents should come up to the canteen to warm up with a free cup of tea/coffee and assist get ready for the next weekend. Many hands make light work.

Pie night – we hope you enjoyed the extended selection of food available and added flexibility with drinks. It was a great gathering.

2nd hand boots – these are moving at \$10 a pair. Thank you for all who donate the old boots for sale at the canteen. Bring in any Dockers gear that no longer fits and we also sell it at a price that gets it quickly to a new home.

Regards Thomas



A shout out to the Dockers umpiring group. It's great to see this group of young individuals representing the club showing the Dockers spirit through leadership and respectful learning.

Thank you to the teams who have contributed to this edition of the newsletter. Remember to send through great results and photos so they can be shared with everyone on our Facebook, Instagram and team app.

Speaking of Team App, make sure you sign up if you haven't already. It's the fastest way to get last minute updates on training and wet weather as well as all the schedule games. For more info head to www.teamapp.com available for Apple and Android smartphones, and search for North Ryde Dockers AFL.

NORTH RYDE DOCKERS AFL



Some of our Auskickers going through their drills. Definitely some future champions in this bunch!

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