

President's Report

It was fabulous footy, watching the U12s and U13s in their semi finals. Well done to the officials, players and families. Best of luck to the U13s in their Preliminary final this weekend! Note the venue has been changed and is now Rofe Park, Hornsby.

The Greater Sydney Juniors (GSJ) AFL Head Office has reminded all clubs that umpires are a no-go zone, and that coaches, officials, parents, players, and spectators must be aware that the Code of Conduct will be enforced.

Annual General Meeting

The AGM will precede the Presentation Day on Sunday September 8th. All financial members of the club get one vote per family. Please be on time for the AGM as, by our constitution, if failing to provide a quorum the meeting will need to be held over for thirty days with new notice to membership with fourteen days

notice minimum.

Nominations need to be sent to the Secretary, Greg Randle, gjrandle@bigpond.net.au for positions you may want to fill within the club. We will advertise these a week prior to the AGM.

Sunday September 8th

10:00 - arrival

10:30 - 10:45 AGM

10:45 - 11:00 Club presentation and awards

11:00 - 12:00 BBQ and socialise

12:00 - tidy up

Congratulations to the North Ryde Dockers players nominated for the Outstanding Achievement Award to be presented Tuesday 3rd September at the GSJ AFL Sydney Harbour Kieran Jack Presentation Awards 2013: Henry E (U9 Purple), Cameron P (U9 White), Robert C (U11 Purple), Yianni F (U11 White), Ben R (U12).

– Thomas Jubb (0429 794 743)
President, North Ryde Dockers

Rofe Park (Hornsby)				
Time	Division	Game	Team 1	Team 2
9:00	U13 Div 3	Prelim	North Ryde	Manly

Secondhand footy boots

Quickly growing boys often outgrow their footy boots during the season, and we end up with used boots still in very good condition. It is a shame to throw them out, and it would be much better to use these boots to help support our Dockers club and players.

If you have any used footy boots in good condition that you would like to donate – please bring them to ELS on Presentation Day (September 8th). We plan to have second hand boots for sale (cheap!) at the start of next season, and then throughout the season.

Auskick

The weather was perfect for football on Sunday and again we had a big turn out with 20 Auskickers attending the session. This included some newcomers to the group through our "bring a friend" campaign which has earned some of our regular Auskickers a new football. Congratulations to everyone who has scored themselves the new footy this week. As always everyone is welcome to the remaining sessions up to 1 September so keep bringing friends along and exposing them to

our great game and a fun Sunday morning.

After some kicking warm-up in the goals we had a quick session of "Swim Fishy Swim" led by "Assistant Warm up Coach" Laila complete with flowing dress and high heels! The group then focussed on kicking and hand ball drills to compete the opening session for the morning before the set up for the game.

We had a very balanced game with goals being scored at both ends of the ground and some of those skills developed over the season on display. One of our newcomers, Oscar showed bursts of speed out of the centre setting up a number of passes into the forward line and a couple of big goals from the centre! In the first half Daniel and Oliver demonstrated great skills in the forward line with a number of tight angle and snap shots for goal.

Amongst some great offensive play there was also solid defence that kept the game in balance, including Hugo and Liam keeping a close eye on their opposition players. In the second half and at the other end of the ground Luke and Harrison teamed up to lift the score line with some impressive footwork.

We look forward to seeing everyone again next Sunday and for those that can make it to training on Tuesday night.

– Auskick Coaches

U9 White

The U9 Whites played in the Gala Day at Pennant Hills on the weekend. Harrison has gotten better every week and showed how far he has come by running around 3 defenders, shouldering a path and then kicking to the advantage of his forwards. Aarish thinks he is the next Buddy Franklin and seems to grow a foot in the forward line. He managed to evade a number of defenders and goaled a few times.



Jacob proved to all that despite his 24kg frame can bomb them as far as the big kids, surprising even his

team-mates with a few booming drop punts down the wing. Jack seems to always get his head over the ball even if it means he lands under a pack. Great confidence and drive mean he will further develop next year into one of the elite.

Connor took several marks, plays with strong hands and is never afraid to get amongst it. James “got his skates on” a number of times with great runs through the midfield, and played very well. Cameron was very strong and ran out every game as always, and even managed to straighten up on occasions and kick with a straight technique.

Alex was very strong in every position. He has a long kick, loves to make a tackle, and gave a strong display. He took a number of key opponents one on one much to the delight of the Coaches. Daniel played well and got a number of kicks away out of defence under pressure. He is looking to run a bit more too these days which is great for the future of the team.

Zach must have had 14 weet bix for breakfast! He has developed into a very strong midfielder, with a strong head over the ball. Could he be the next Chris Judd? “3 votes Zach”

We have found Nicholas's preferred role. Fantastic in the forward line, learning to run to the right spot, leading and goaling in several games, he may have been the Dockers top scorer for the Gala day. Well done, Nicholas!



Tom was also full of running and happy to get amongst the rough stuff. Was given the job on the oppositions bigger guys a few times and showed us all he has the skills to be a great player in future years.

– Matt Wilson

U11 Purple

As the manager of our U/11 Purples this year, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the team parents for their support and friendship, the Club for their ongoing commitment, and our awesome team players who consistently amazed me with their skills in all areas of play.

Our team has been driven by an

inspirational coach and role model, Kyle Mahoney, and fully supported by his coaching assistant, Brad Charters. Kyle and Brad have the ability to make every child feel like an integral part of the team, to see their strengths and utilize them, to take a group of kids and develop not only their footy techniques and skills, but create a bond which enhances character, instills self-esteem and personal growth in our young team. Thank you Kyle and Brad.

For the record, our 2013 U/11 Purples team consisted of the following players; Nick, Harry, Jack, Blake, Fynn, Robbie, Ryan, Matt, Janne, Ned, Luke, Lachlan, Lachie & Sebastien. Most of these little Dockers have been together in the one team for 4 years, with the first eight of them celebrating their 50th game this year.

Next year our youngsters, Fynn, Matt, Janne & Blake will all be eligible to play another year of U/11's, they along with coaches Kyle and Brad will stay back another year in U/11s, along with some of this year's U/11 Whites to help form a team in the age group that was missing this year. This sadly means, that after 4 years, they will split from their mates, which for some has been really

tough. Thanks goes to all of kids (both U/11 Purples & Whites) who have made this sacrifice to ensure the club has teams in all ages & remains strong. Thanks (for their understanding) also goes to the older kids who will move up to U/12's without some of their buddies. I'm sure they'll all get to kick a footy around together again sometime in 2014.

From my novice footy eye, this year I saw the team introduce the tricky tap forwards, the flick of the ball over the top of an opponent, the specky's, the snap kick for goal. Many times I've heard the surprised "oohhh's and aahhh's" from the crowd, the cheers and applause after watching a textbook stream of play. I've seen our team sweat from exhaustion, be covered from head to toe with mud, play in the pouring rain in freezing temperatures, get punished by the wind storms and come back the following week to do it all again. I've seen them fist punch the air with delight, group hug after a goal, high five after a great team play. The camaraderie and bond our team has formed over the years is an irreplaceable and wonderful experience for our young children. They have learnt drive and determination, commitment and support for their fellow team-

mates, sportsmanship and humility. Thank you again to everyone involved, I look forward to 2014!

– Debbie Charters

U12

While the end result of our elimination semi-final wasn't what we were hoping for, the match was exactly what we expected – a fierce contest between 2 evenly matched teams. Once again our Rucks in Bart and Super had to battle against taller opponents and managed to give the Dockers midfielders an equal opportunity. An outstanding job all season boys, always providing a marking target around the ground.



Early Hornsby clearances saw our defence under pressure, with Ranga and Hammer holding firm like they have all season, providing plenty of physical presence. Jacko and Rizza provided us with dash from half back in great rebounding performances. Rizza also gave us options when moved forward,

while Jacko learned you can't bounce a footy on sand. Merlin had a day to forget, hurting his hand in Q2, a sad way to finish his best season yet.

I challenged our small forwards to attack the ball when it hit the ground and Ryan and Dougal did just that, with both players crumbing well. After kicking 3 goals against Mosman 2 games ago, Sticks had problems with the bouncing ball on the day, before copping a knock to the nose when moved to FB early in Q4 – it was one of those days. You are an inspiration to the team the way you came back from your injury, Sticks.



Picking a final to play his best game of the season, Phantom showed great poise at half-back, stopping a number of Hornsby attacks. On the wing, Harry (U11P) and Justin found space and gave us some much needed run on the big

ground, with Justin kicking a goal in the last quarter.



Junior (U11P) got a start after Merlin's injury and didn't let us down, with his usual run and attack on the ball. The "Crash Test Dummies" played like they do every game – Bomber, Bull and Diesel, you guys are the hardest midfield in division 2 and sometimes intimidate (fairly) opposition players with your attack on the footy, shepherding and tackling. Keep it up next year! Two players were given specific "jobs" during the match and both exceeded the Coach's expectation.

Dash had the difficult task of playing an offensive tagging role across half forward, against one of Hornsby's best runners, while still providing an attacking option. He did an excellent job before being set free to play loose in defence in Q4 and giving us some much needed drive.

The Hornsby # 80 is very quick, a

Swans Academy player and a potential match winner. I asked the Wizard to man up and then run off him and make him accountable, a job he did perfectly, kicking 2 goals in Q1. Wizard kicked another goal in Q4 when moved to FF in his best game for the Dockers.



Thank you for an excellent season boys and hope to see you again next season. A special thank you to the Bartlett family, who are moving to Canberra – we will miss you. Mia has acted as Team Manager and Shane as Assistant Coach and Runner, while Bart was one of my 4 U9 “Originals” (Bart, Bomber, Diesel & Wizard) and responsible for some of my hair loss. Irreplaceable – the Bartletts & my hair.

Q1	NRD 2.0=12	HB 2.4 =16
Q2	NRD 2.0=12	HB 3.7=25
Q3	NRD 2.0=12	HB 3.9=27
Q4	NRD 4.1=25	HB 4.13=37

Goals: Wizard (3), Justin (1)
 – Michael Hudson (Coach)

U13

For the first time this season the under 13's entered a game with all players available. It was a good thing as we were playing a finals game on the very large Picken Oval at Croydon.



The bad news is we didn't win. The good news is that after playing well all season we have another chance this Sunday to make the grand final.



The game was a tough battle. Hornsby started better than we did

and had a lead at quarter time, by half time we had pegged them back and went into the break down by 4 points. The third quarter saw us take the lead and into the final quarter we had a 6 point break. Hornsby had the wind, which seemed to grow in strength as the game went on, and toward the end of regulation time a long swirling kick bounced through for them to tie the scores.



We then entered uncharted territory for our young team... extra time, 5 minutes each way. Hornsby managed a point and then a goal and with many tired players the ball spent plenty of time locked up. At the final siren the score in Hornsby's favour was 27-20. A low scoring game although exciting from start to finish with players from both teams putting in performances worthy of a final.

For us, Ehsen in the back line was solid, our run through the middle

was strong all game with Rory, Cory, Hirsty, Bryn, Connor and Macca all having an impact.



Up front Tom W scored our only 2 goals and was busy while being well marked. Emlyn, Ben and Tom S all had plenty of touches. The team was disappointed although can take a lot of confidence into next week's qualifying final against Manly.

– Christopher Whitnall

[Keeping fit over summer](#)

Get ready for the next Footy Season by having fun and keeping active and fit at Ryde Little Athletics!

It's smart for footy players to do other things in the summer to keep up their fitness and have fun at the same time. The best way to do this is to join Ryde Little Athletics from

September through to the end of March. Athletics helps you work on your speed, strength, endurance and jumping, all great skills for next season on the footy field. Little Athletics is a fun activity for the whole family on Saturday mornings at Ryde Little Athletics Centre. Everyone can join.

How can I join up?

You can register any time online at <http://www.ryde-athletics.org.au/content.asp?ID=11>. Our Pre-season Registration Day is on 25th August 2013, at Dunbar Park, Sobraon Road, Marsfield. You can also register on any Saturday morning from 7th September 2013 at Dunbar Park. Find out more at www.ryde-athletics.org.au.

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The advertisement features a central circular logo with a sun and moon, surrounded by the text 'ALL DAY-NIGHT PLUMBING ALL DAY-NIGHT'. The background is split into a light grey left side and a dark grey right side.

Acknowledgements

Thanks to all managers and coaches for their reports, to Amanda Jubb, Debbie Charters and Naushad Mistry for the photos in this week's issue, and all club sponsors for their support.