

# Point Post

Round 13, 2016

## Editorial

A chilly day for footy – but a good day to be cheering from the sidelines in your new North Ryde Dockers hoodie! And, for a change, this week the U9 match report is at the end of the issue.

## U13

This week the boys played at home against tough competitors the Forest Lions. Whilst we were short a few of our stronger players, our regular helpers, Gabe, Tom and Cameron were there to lend a hand and made their presence known.

It was a tough day at the office and we started with a lead after the first quarter. From the 2nd quarter

on, it was a case of not getting to the ball first and not picking out our man from the disposals and clearing kicks. It was also a day that the ball didn't bounce our way on most occasions, which didn't help the score at the final siren. Standouts today were Nathan, Lucas, Adam and Blake, who added to the scoreboard more than once.

Playing to the whistle and listening to umpire calls is something to takeaway into the coming rounds. We will meet the stronger teams in the coming weeks before the finals. We need to stay focused, committed and come together as a team. Final score Dockers 9.6=60, Lions 11.4=70.

– Bron Papandrea



## U17

A week is a long time in footy.

Lots of thanks to the match day crew comprising the return of "Across the Top" Curdie who extended his recent 9,000km odyssey by running the boundary for our match against Willoughby/Mosman. Also back in harness, or more correctly wearing the prescribed ridiculous hot pink apron, was the imposing Brookshaw and Professor Barrett who waved the flags with regularity and significantly greater precision than the clubhouse scoreboard.

Also accolades to Sydney's own Mr Junior Footy Dean who appeared at Drummoyne, coached at Cronulla

and coached at Gore Hill in the one day. Thank you for deploying the necessary gravitas to get the ship back on an even keel. And at the top of the organisational food chain was Coach Plummer who resumed his control of the magnetic board with the mission to redress the ambush the Swans inflicted on his debut in Round 7.

Thank you to Brendan and Luke who had a run with us after their U15s Div1 fixture and added their touch of poise and hard nut ball winning to the mix. It was a surprise that we had Ryan back after almost 3 months of hiatus and James had his first run since being injured in the Rep Carnival. Both will be much better for the gallop. Both sides had plenty of numbers



so it was 18-a-side with an extended bench of 5, which made for a good contest that was played in commendable spirit.

The oval was worn and threadbare of grass and there was the not inconsiderable obstacle of a quagmire guarding the northern goal which made the southern end the scoring zone.

Scheduled to commence at 3:50pm I had been of the assumption we'd be playing under lights. But not so. The groundsman's view was that if we got done by 5pm we wouldn't need that and, with both sides agreeing to an early start and a change to using a yellow ball for the second half, we avoided having to play out the fixture using Braille by, well, as much as 5 minutes. For

the last quarter the only light on the ground was either reflected off the high rises to the east of the park or coming from vehicles leaving the car park.

It was a day for the goal-kicking wizards with outrageous majors being kicked from wide out, from on the boundary and occasionally from outside the boundary. As it reads on the scoreboard we steadily ground out a comfortable win but it was closer and more competitive than that. Late in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter Willoughby/Mosman had all the momentum, got within 3 straight kicks and the prospect of a boil-over loomed.

We started positively and were up by 2 goals at the first change successfully kicking a couple



through the mud heap. The game was really won in the second quarter when running to the dry end and working hard across the park we kicked five and opened up a six goal break.



Willoughby/Mosman came back into the game in the third quarter and looked threatening, but composed defending by us and some wasteful kicking by them stifled their momentum. After an even start to the last quarter we took progressively worked our way into a strong position and ran out comfortable enough winners by 7 goals. Final scores: Canada Bay Dockers 11-9 (75) defeated Willoughby/Mosman 5-4 (34).

It was a very even game all round

from the squad with a lot of players playing outside their usual position. The Volkswagon "Played strong, done good" award was won by Jeremy who continues to improve each week. Luke was a clear winner regardless of which end he was playing. Ehsen was given a run in mid-field and showed his usual poise. Harrison #1 won the ruck as usual and Harrison #2 took some big grabs when we needed them. The engine-room of Tyler, Michael and Robbo provided the drive. Dylan had some productive possessions. Lots of other positive contributors, no detractors.

Showdown #3 vs Forest Lions is the coming week. Hopefully the Heathcote result from round 11 and this week's performance will show what can be achieved with cool heads, sound skills and high work rate.



It's our last home game for season

2016, we play the last two rounds out of Drummoyne.

– Graeme Durrant



### U9 Purple

Fifteen of the U9 Purples lined up to play under near freezing conditions against Kellyville Camerons early Sunday morning. This week again had some great team plays, starting in the first quarter with Scarlett clearing the ball under pressure with a handball, directing play towards the forward line. Ryan marked strongly up forward, to kick the first of his goals for the day. Aiden was also strong in the midfield, making solid handballs to set up plays to move the ball into the forward line.

The second quarter saw Charlie E tackle strongly, which resulted in a

free kick to Charlie. Our defence was kept busy preventing goals, with key plays from Ali, Sean, Aiden and Scarlett. Jeremy was instrumental with his running of the ball through midfield.

The third quarter saw Harry C clearing the ball from the backline to prevent an opposition goal. John was strong under opposition pressure, to kick the ball towards the forward line. Brodie went in hard for the ball, and, under the pressure of several opposition players, cleared the ball from ground level with a handball out. Hugo had a turn as Ruckman, and cleared the ball to set up his team in the forward line.

The final quarter had Ryan, Sean, Aiden and Charlie C in the midfield, working well to move the ball to the forward line, where Callum scored a goal. Charlie E kicked a great ‘Captains’ goal to lead his team. In the backline, Liam K, Harry, Liam R and Hugo applied strong defence to apply constant pressure to the opposition team.

Thank you to Harry C, Callum, Ryan and Scarlett who each played a quarter for the opposition team.

– Sharon Irish

## Acknowledgements

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