

Point Post

Finals week 3, 2014

Finals and Presentation Day

Congratulations to the U14s and commiserations to the U11s for their results over the weekend! Both teams did the Club proud by reaching the Grand Finals. Read on for match reports...

The Dockers Club Presentation Day will be Sunday September 21st, for all age groups from Auskickers up to U17s. The day will start at 10am – more details to follow from team managers.

U11

From the manager:

The U11s were runners-up in Sunday's grand final and played a hard fought game against a strong Kellyville side. Despite being defeated, heads were held high during the presentation with the umpires complementing the team on their standard of play and awarding the match ball to Matt. The finals series has shown how competitive this team is and these boys will be a force in next year's competition.

– Liz Thomson

From the coach:

I want to say a hearty thanks to all

of our Dockers' parents for their enthusiasm and wonderful support of not just their child, but all Dockers' players and coaches.

To Julian, Brad & Britt, thank you for your contribution, support, friendship and in particular your patience.



The most special thanks goes to our wonderful players, who've had a great year we are all really proud of. You are all terrific kids who are pleasure to know.

Go Dockers!

– Kyle Mahoney



From the parents:

Many thanks to all involved in moulding our kids into good winners, but more importantly gracious losers. To Kyle, Julian, Brad and Britt, our kids are in good hands. Next year "The Purple Haze will reign". And to the glue that keeps this wonderful mosaic called North Ryde Dockers U/11's together, your efforts have not gone unnoticed, Liz.

– The Fotias family



From a player:

On Sunday we played our grand final against Kellyville. The atmosphere was overwhelming: there were so many people there, more than I have ever seen in any of my other cricket, hockey or rugby games that I have been part of. The crowd was so big.

We got to run through an awesome purple Dockers banner at the beginning of the game. The game was great fun but we did not win. The best part of the match was

when Fynn took a run straight down the middle of the field with the ball, it was such a good break to our end of the field. After the game we had a BBQ at Matt's house. We had so much fun! The best part was that we all went in the pool, most of us with our clothes on, and we got to throw the coaches in. I love AFL and look forward to next year for sure.

– Sam



From a spectator:

Here we have proof that not only winners are grinners. The U11's final was a pure display of guts and determination with the Dockers not able to hold back the very impressive Kellyville side for the full 60 minutes. At the end of the game, and for the rest of the day, the boys enjoyed the camaraderie of a Grand Final experience and should be very proud of their achievements this season. And yes they really did spend the afternoon

pushing each other, siblings, coaches and the President in the pool!

– Amanda Jubb



U14s

After a week of rain the sun came out for a glorious day of grand final revelry on Sunday. We were up against the very strong Forest Lions, the team who had finished top of the table. The boys seemed focused and ready for the contest.

Coach Garry was again well prepared and have the boys a similar game plan to the one that has been working for most of the season, be hard at the ball, second and third efforts and enjoy your footy!

The first quarter set the tone for the game – we were in for a close, low scoring game. At quarter time Forest led 7-2. In the second quarter it was again tight although we started to find the footy a little more cleanly and went into the main break up 15-10.

We knew the second half would be more of the same so the half time rest was welcomed. The third quarter saw the ball go end to end and at three quarter time the game (and spectators) were on a



U11s belting out the Club song!

knife's edge and we went into the final quarter with a narrow 18-11 lead. Our midfield was gaining the ascendancy with Bryn, Macca, Ehsen, Connor and Rory getting plenty of ball. We scored a few behinds early and then Forest scored a major to make it tight.

Our leading goal scorer for the season Tom W then took a solid contested mark and then went back and slotted his 3rd goal for the game to put our lead out to 16 points. That was where it finished and the final score of 33-17 was a fair reflection of a great game. Every boy played their part and it was great to have the full squad on hand to receive their medals and the premiership shield.

For most of the boys this is their second premiership in a row, which is a great effort and a wonderful reflection on them as individuals and as a team.

Finally, a huge amount of the credit goes to Coach Garry and his assistant Steve, their tireless effort and enthusiasm was a joy to watch. Go Dockers!

– Christopher Whitnall

Acknowledgements

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