

Please remember that if you can't make your teams training night that you are welcome to introduce yourself to a team on another night and join in. It was great to see evidence of this tonight.

Call for volunteers

Thank you to the hard working volunteers. There is a lot of pleasure in being part of a community that supports our children and their opportunity to play sport.

It is disappointing that every week there are some parents who expect to watch sport instead of supporting the running of their children's club to keep players on the field. Please encourage each other as a community to work towards anything that keeps our children playing on the field.

First Aid assistants required

To date, we have received one offer of assistance for first aid during Auskick. As parents we all care very much that the health of our children is looked after. If you are interested in assisting in this way please let your team manager know as I will be asking the managers to nominate a first aid assistant for all teams playing at home games.

Ground Manager skills and duties need to be passed on

If you prefer working with equipment and facilities, or have good communication skills then please contact me for further details on how you can help at your home games. If you are interested in assisting in this way please let your team manager know as I will be asking the managers to nominate a ground manager assistant for all teams playing at home games.

Saturday Canteen assistants required

The funds we raise at the canteen go towards running our club and as such is vital to keep our children playing on the field on Sundays. We are still in need for volunteers to help run the canteen on the following Saturdays when we host games for the independent schools competition— 18 May, 1 June, 20 & 27 July, 3 August. Please contact me for details.

Joint Ventures

This topic was discussed at the recent Presidents meeting, and the intention behind the bylaw was explained. During team formation, if it is determined that a full team can not be formed, they are given the opportunity to combine with another team in similar circumstances. This gives players of the combined team the opportunity to play together that season. It is not the intention that this bylaw be used to bring players together of a similar playing ability to create super teams. The AFL is very clear that they are looking for us to develop AFL skills in the players by keeping clubs competitive.

Thomas Jubb, 0429794743
President, North Ryde Dockers

Team Reports

Auskick

The development in the Auskickers is already starting to show. The boys quickly moved from practicing some chest marks to overhead marks with everyone wanting to take the big grab. Some of Aarish and Ned's high marking would have rivalled Jack Riewoldt or Adam Goodes. Goal kicking proved successful also (apart from the coaches and parents) - Leif and Ryan simply could not miss. As always the boys were keen for the end of session game and once again after some good fun the scores were tied at the end. To all the parents - keep involved and enjoy seeing all the boys progress. A big thank you to Fynn Mahoney and Rob Culliver for umpiring the game at the end of the Auskick skills clinic.



U9 Purple

On a day that was focused on 'Kids First' it was pleasing to see all the boys enjoying a great game of AFL with Kellyville. New player Liam chased down many opponents for the four quarters. Josh, Kyeton and Mitch were great in defense. Ben and Lachlan tackled hard and worked very well together all day. Plenty of kicks and hand passes to your team mates in space. Great stuff boys keep up the great work. The endeavour to get in and get the footy first was fantastic from all players. James and Hugh were often at the bottom of the pack wrestling the ball back and running away with it to pass it onto a fellow Docker in space. The marking was the best I've seen so far this year. Well done to all. Henry had a cracking game, in particular the third quarter where he delivered the ball continuously from the centres

to our forward line. The forward line combination of James, Hugh and Lachlan were ON FIRE kicking so many goals I lost count awesome work boys and how great were some of the kicks! Congratulations to Hugh for being awarded Kids First Player as voted by the Umpires and James for Best on Ground for trying hard all day, your teamwork and some great defence and goals.

U9 White

Under 9 White started today's game with 12 players which included 3 of our younger Auskickers, Leif, Ned and Jeremy, who helped make this morning's contest a balanced affair against Hornsby Berowra Reds. All 12 players had a quarter with the opposition as well as Dockers and to a man acquitted themselves well. The game was a closely fought affair with some fine marks, tenacious tackling and accurate kicks and scores from all of the Dockers players no matter what side they were playing for through the course of the game. The hours on the training paddock are paying dividends with increased confidence on the ball evident throughout the game for the newer AFL players, with the more established players continuing to lead by example. Once again the club song received a rousing rendition with our Auskickers centre stage. A great Sunday morning in the North Ryde sun.



U11 intra – club game

The post-holiday game for our two U11 Dockers teams was a chance to re-unite with existing players and welcome new players.

Julian stated how impressed he was with the players, particularly during the first quarter where they provided fantastic tackling pressure. They tired as the afternoon wore on and will focus on fitness and running over the coming training sessions. A stand-out for the day was Alexander who never gave up all day and was ably supported by captain for the day in Yianni, as well as Rhys who was tireless in defense.

Kyle was impressed with good play and sportsmanship and saw benefit of the players understanding of the game, having played for several seasons for the Dockers. Matt, Rob and Harry made consistent efforts throughout the game. Ned's goal using his non-preferred side impressed the coaches.



U12

After a disputed result & a comfortable win in the first 2 rounds, the 12s had a reality check against a fast and committed Pennant Hills Team in round 3. The lack of run and "one percenters" made goal scoring difficult for the Dockers and had the defense under constant pressure. A courageous game across the half back line by Ranga foiled many Penno attacks, while Bomber put in a BOG performance after being moved to CHB at quarter time to quite a rampant opposition captain. Bull showed his usual hardness at the ball in midfield winning regular clearances, with his fellow "crash test dummy" Diesel earning 7 free kicks from his constant blue collar tackling and work ethic. Thanks to Matt from the U11 Purples for his contribution. We were beaten by a better team on the day, but nothing that hard training and individual commitment won't reverse.

NRD 4 - 1 25 lost to PH 10 - 7 67

Goals: Super (2), Justin (1), Matt (1)

U13

The second game of the season for the Under 13's was played in beautiful sunshine at ELS Hall. After our initial concern regarding player numbers before our first game, we now have some new recruits who have fitted into the team like veterans. Today we had another three new players and all possess standard AFL nicknames which will now be used for the rest of the season ... Hursty, Dicko and Macca. The team had a solid win against the Maroubra Saints with efficient team play across all areas of the ground resulting in seven separate players scoring goals. We had the game tied up by three quarter time so lent a few of our players to the opposition for a free flowing final quarter. All round a really pleasing team effort and we look forward to our first road trip of the season to Hornsby next Sunday.



U15/16

It was another tough and hard fought match this week. Unfortunately going down to a well drilled, Baulkham Hills side by 60 points. The score did not reflect the effort. The seven goals kicked by the Docker's showed great heart and with only 16 on the paddock (no bench) against a full squad our boys ran out of steam and the last quarter saw the score blow out. Well done to all the boys for a great effort. Given a full team we know we can give Baulko a good run next time around.