

Point Post

Round 10, 2014

President's Report

The **Independent School comp** is doing well in bringing in needed funds to keep the club balance sheet positive. Our following teams have the remaining shifts:

U10 8am – 4pm Sat. 19 July

U13 8am – 3pm Sat. 26 July

U14 8am – 3pm Sat. 2 August

U12 8am – 4pm Sat. 9 August

The Club's **Sports Lunch**, which will be held on Friday 18th July at The Ranch, is targeting to raise \$20K in funds for the renovation of the club building. More details coming soon!

Swans players are scheduled to visit ELS Hall Park on Sunday, 20 July from 9:30am to 12:30pm. Please let me know if you would like to be responsible for greeting the Swans players and escorting them around our home ground.

Please note the Rounds 11 and 12 are rounds affected by Holiday Minimum & Match Number reductions. As per by-law 10.9:

During school holidays, to assist Clubs to field teams the minimum and match numbers below can be reduced by two (2) Players.

– Thomas Jubb

U9 White

Our opponents this week brought out the toughness in our team with many solid clashes taking place all throughout the game. Having focused on marking at training during the week, this translated into more attempts at overhead marks during the game with Matt taking an outstanding contested mark at centre half back.

Kicking out from full back has significantly improved over the past few games with team instructions to kick to the wings being followed on all occasions. Liam, Will and Ryan C consistently presented as tall targets to kick towards. Our defensive pressure went up a notch after Westbrook Reds kicked a few easy goals early in the first quarter with tackling and chasing a feature of Aarish, Sean and Luca's game.

At one stage during the second quarter, our forward line pressure locked the ball into our attacking zone, enabling us to have 5 consecutive shots at goal. With a little bit more luck hopefully we can convert some of those opportunities into goals next time. Andrew, Ben B, Thomas and Ryan M all put their bodies on the line

on numerous occasions whether it was in a forward line, back line or through the mid field.

We look forward to our next game as an opportunity to create more memories and highlights.

– Naushad and Loretta

U9 Purple Round 9

After having a break from playing over the long weekend and missing out on training, the boys could have been forgiven for a slow start at a very early 8am game against Pennant Hills at the Demons' home ground. Instead the boys were ready to go from the starting siren and worked hard throughout the first quarter. Early on, the boys showed their skills at marking the ball with DJ, Zach and Jack leading the way. Alistair and Ollie made some great tackles and clearing kicks to help move the ball into the forward line. Jeremy and Daniel were always looking for the ball and supported their team-mates well.

In the second quarter the contest between the two teams remained even. The Dockers showed great discipline staying in their zones and getting rid of the ball quickly. Oscar narrowly missed a goal early on

and showed great skill offloading the ball while under pressure from defenders. DJ used his strength and speed to break through the packs and after some fine supporting work in the forward line was rewarded with a goal! Ned maintained pressure on his counterparts marking his man and chasing well. Ollie was able to find his teammates with some accurate kicking, and Daniel had another strong quarter weaving a bit of magic in the centre and following up with good kicks.

In the premiership quarter the boys lost a bit of steam against the Demons who kicked it up a notch with a run of goals. The boys were tested in defence with Jack and DJ both making strong tackles. Jack also showed great composure taking a couple of good defensive marks with clearing kicks. Zach was strong in the packs and was able to take a crucial mark, and Tobin spoiled a certain opposition goal. Jerome and Jeremy seemed to thrive under pressure from the opposition with some good work in the packs. Captain Connor took a great mark, which helped set Ned up for a good attempt at goal.

Again in the final quarter the well-drilled Demons had the Dockers on the backfoot. But some good

efforts by Ned to spoil a potential goal and good kicking passes from Alistair helped ease the pressure. Ollie sealed his player of the match award with good pick-ups and kicks from the centre. It was an entertaining match to watch. The Dockers will have to work on maintaining their intensity throughout the four quarters in next week's game. Well done boys!

– Deb Walker

U9 Purple Round 10

The Purple's away game against the Baulkham Hills Hawks seemed to play out in reverse order to the last game. A late morning start caught the team waking up from a Sunday morning sleep-in. Captain of the day, Oscar, started well though with good possession and Jack effected a spoil but the Hawks managed to snare an early goal.

Christian tried to regain ground with a good attempt at goal from far out. Daniel and Ollie worked well in defence with skilful pick-ups and clearing kicks. DJ and Jeremy as always were fully committed to the task putting the pressure back on the opposition, with some good support from Tobin.

In the second quarter the Hawks maintained their offensive pressure

and had several chances on goal. The Dockers' midfield and defence worked hard throughout. Ollie and DJ teamed up well in the tight packs. Daniel and Zach made great tackles in the centre, winning the ball. Christian and Oscar used their height to advantage taking good marks and making effective clearing kicks.

The third quarter marked a steady turnaround in the Dockers' performance. Player of the week, Oscar, led the way taking strong grabs under pressure. Jeremy was outstanding as our last line in defence and was well supported by Oscar and Jack. Zach showed persistence in chasing and tackling his man. DJ managed to move the ball forward and, although the boys weren't able to score a goal, they had several opportunities to score. One notable moment being when Daniel took a great mark from a kickout and his spiral shot on goal just fell short.

The last quarter showcased a great display of marking, passing and tackling. Jerome and Jeremy used their speed and agility to chase and tackle the opposition. In the forward line Zach, Oscar and Daniel worked tirelessly to move the ball towards the goal and were constantly looking for players to

pass to. It was an intense quarter with good passages of play from the boys. A great note for the Purples to end the game on and to continue their skills development over the remainder of the season.

– Deb Walker

U10 Purple

This week saw our two U10's teams play each other and it was nice to see the boys have some fun playing against their friends in the white team.

For the Purples the instructions from the coach this week were simple: back yourself with the ball, use your pace and work as a team. It was pleasing to see the game plan adopted by everyone with the outcome being a fast open game of

the boys understanding that by playing as a team we can control the game and create a lot of opportunities for everyone to be involved in the game and have fun.

This was by far our best game for the year and it was nice to hear that from the boys who recognised this as well and seemed very pleased with their team effort. Well done to all.

If statistics had been kept this week we would have topped the season for handballs, tackles, kicks to team mates, contested possessions, bounces, marks and goals. This was a direct outcome of everyone focusing on working as a team, creating space, running hard and kicking to team-mates. It was great to see the excitement on the boys faces and them congratulating each



AFL with plenty scoring opportunities. It was great to see

other after a goal was scored from a collective team effort rather than

an individual effort. Well done to everyone and lets keep this teamwork going.

On the day Henry was best on ground topping the possession count. His determination to get in and get the ball then use his speed to avoid the opposition and create space and then kick to a team mate was first class. James provided lots a dash around the ground with a number of great runs, including bounces, to set up his team-mates. He also scored a couple of great goals with some strong attacking moves and set up his team mates with some great passing and handballs on many occasions to score themselves. Great teamwork James.



Ryan was awesome again this week, not only his tackling, but he gathered plenty of kicks and a number of marks in the forward line where he went on to score three goals to top game total for

the year. Matthew was the rock in defence, reading the play very well and often taking a great mark in defence to repel any whites attack. Matthew's handpassing, tackling and kicking to team-mates was the best we have seen all season and his tough work in the packs was fantastic.

Hugh had one of his better games for the year getting involved in everything. If he wasn't tackling someone he had the ball in his hands weaving his magic looking for a goal or a team-mate to pass to. Hugh started one of the best plays of the game busting from a pack and kicking to Henry who passed to James who passed to Rhys who goaled. Great team play boys.

Kyeton was again awesome using his pace, and linking up with his team mates with some great hand passing that created great opportunities to kick the ball long into our forward line. Kyeton also tackled his heart out again and was rewarded with a number of free kicks. In the last quarter we saw something very special with Rhys not only kicking his first goal for the club but also two more and a point after some great assistance by his team-mates and some individual brilliance from himself. Great stuff

Rhys. Josh took some great marks, and used his strengths with two players hanging off him to still score a goal. Well done Josh. Liam and Nicholas ran their hearts out gathering a number of kicks and tackled everyone they could get their hands on.

Well done to all the boys this week it was a great game and great to see you working together as a team producing some fantastic AFL.

– David Lugsdin

U11

An early morning start saw us against Pennant Hills at their home ground. We were down a couple of players with Connor & Will away on holidays, but still left us with one player more than the opposition. This gave us a chance to have a bench where we could rotate players through.

Pleasingly, after we'd had a couple of weeks off, there were no rusty signs as the Dockers got off to a strong start with Sam up forward kicking the first goal of the match within just a minute or so of the opening bounce.

Flynn in ruck gave our midfielders every chance to push forward with

strong tap outs, and push forward they did through great "hard ball gets" from Alexander and strong bullocking runs from Matt, who was so dominant all day that he was pulled from the field in the last quarter.

We also saw great midfield work on the fringes with terrific handballs from Luke, Ben and Lucas, who in particular had his best game this year. The hard work through the midfield saw results in the forward line, with running goals to Rhys, another bag of crumbing 6 pointers to Yianni and big marking which lead to 4 goals to Fynn & another 2 to Sam for his best haul for the year.

Special mention must go to Blake who not only returned to his some of his best footy after injury, but to show true unselfish teamwork as he set up his mate for goals with pinpoint passing.

The Dockers dominance in the first two-and-a-bit quarters meant that the ball did not spend too much time in our back line, but when it did, solid defensive efforts from Aiden, Tom, Jayden, Ben and Adam cleaned up and moved the ball back out of danger. Only 1 opposition goal was registered to this point, a fact that will have

opposing forward lines shaking in their boots.

Luke, aided by brother Adam, took on a tagging role and performed it really well to shut down some of the crack Demons players. With a good lead, we made some changes to give some players a rest and to get our defenders a slice of the action up forward. Flynn moved to full forward and put one through the big sticks.

Jayden had his shot touched at the last moment to prevent his goal,

but his efforts at both ends of the ground were noticed by all.

To the Demons' credit they rallied in the back half of the game and they came back to put a few goals on us, so congrats go to them, but it the Dockers' players who triumphed on the scoreboard and today. Well done lads.

– Kyle Mahoney

Thanks to coaches and managers for reports and David Lugsdin for photos.



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