



THORNLEIGH SPORTS CLUB Inc.



SOCCKER DIVISION  
BLUE & GOLD NEWSLETTER  
3<sup>rd</sup> July 2004

\*\*\*\* Support your Premier League \*\*\*\*

*Premier League Divison 1 Games – All Reserves Grade games at 1.15pm,  
All 1<sup>st</sup> Grade games at 3.15pm*

Visit <http://www.thornleighsports.org.au/> Soccer – then follow the Premier League Link for 2004 Fixtures

Hi All,

For most teams the upcoming games are the last for the round. Our O35/2 team have secured their place on the competition table with this week's win. They have secured the Premiers spot for their division. Well done.

We are anticipating a number of the Thornleigh teams making it into the play off round; despite the difficulty of playing during school holiday period.

Our Premier League team will be playing at Oakleigh Oval this coming Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> July against Normanhurst. Such encounters are always 'interesting'. We would like to see as many Thornleigh supporters as possible at the game, dressed in their blue & gold. Damien Suplina is running hot. Last weekend he scored three goals, let's hope he can equal, if not better it this week.

Thank you to Dave Ball and Gill McLean for running the goalie clinic last Tuesday, as well as the upcoming Tuesday. I know those that have turned up will benefit from the extra coaching provided. I hope we can make this a regular feature each year.

This is the first reminder that 2<sup>nd</sup> August will be the club's monthly meeting and Annual General Meeting. We are seeking to make next year's committee work even better than this year's by spreading around the many duties that need to be completed. We would like everyone to give some thought as to how they may help out by playing a small or large part in the running of the club.



\*\*\*\* Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2004 \*\*\*\*

Yours in commitment

*Rob Roberts*  
President

*End of Year function and Senior  
Presentation Night,  
Fun night being planned, keep this date free*

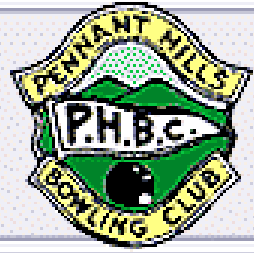


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Thornleigh Soccer Club gratefully acknowledges the generous support of its sponsors for the 2004 season and hope that you support them with your patronage.

**Email Addresses of Interest:**

THORNLEIGH SPORTS & RECREATION CLUB - <http://www.thornleighsports.org.au/>  
GLADESVILLE HORNSBY SOCCER REFEREES ASSOCIATION (GHSRA) - <http://www.goal.net.au/ghsra/>  
Go to Menu-Referees Report-Uncovered Games by Club to see games not covered by referees  
GLADESVILLE HORNSBY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION (GHFA) - <http://www.ghfa.com.au/>

**U6 RED THORNLEIGH vs Ararat (Thornleigh won on forfeit)**

Ararat were unable to field a side for this game so Thornleigh u6 provided players from the other U6 sides, to be able to put on a 5 a side game. Callum Hands was great in attack with numerous breaks and rewarded with a goal. Emily Sunnucks and Max Edwards also were great in attack supporting all the way and were unlucky not to score. Luke Spyer was strong in defense helping his Goalkeepers Christopher Watt and Adam Walker who were consistently impossible to break. Although the other team forfeited, the kids still had great fun and thanks go to Alex and Callum from the other U6 Thornleigh team for allowing the game to go ahead at all. Thanks to for Deb again for the oranges.

**U6 WHITE No Report**

**U6 PURPLE THORNLEIGH 1 vs Holly Cross 2**

A close game this week. The first half was dominated by play down Holly Cross' end. CORY GILBERT worked hard as goalie, kicking and diving on every ball. Holly Cross proved too good however and scored two goals. ALEX BORG (Player of the Week) then took control of the game, turning the ball around again and again and working it back towards our goal posts. It was only a matter of time before he scored a goal, making the score 1-2. Alex was well supported by team mates AIDAN LANE, BENJAMIN HURWOOD and MARK NEWLAND all on the attack, working hard to get the ball down our end. The second half both teams were evenly matched with neither side scoring. ANNIKA REYNOLDS was on the ready as goalie and whist she stopped all balls coming for her, play tended to dominate down our end. WILLEM OATES (Most Improved player of the Week) worked well in both attack and defense. SEAN NOTLEY-RUMBENS and JACK GOLDSBROUGH covered a lot of ground when in possession of the ball. Defense on both teams finally proved too tight and the score remained fixed at 2-1.

**U7 GREEN No Report**

**U7 RED No Report**

**U7 ORANGE No Report**

**U7 WHITE THORNLEIGH 0 vs WEST PENNANT HILLS 1**

A more fitting score line would have been 3:1 to THORNLEIGH, but it wasn't to be. It was hard to watch given that THORNLEIGH dominated most of the match, especially the first half when a goal was conceded, but unfortunately the boys could not convert the goals. WPH was able to score one goal from a run away attack late in the 1st half. The amazing thing is that all the boys played good soccer. Player of the Match went to NATHAN BIRRILL because he had an all around solid performance. One notable play was NATHAN'S impressive deflection pass up the line to the forwards. Also deserving a mention are the goalies – ROBERT JONES and BENJAMIN WALLWOOD, who kept the score line only to 1 nil. The rest of the team also had a great game, contributing with some spirited play. Keep plugging away at it boys, the wins will come.

**U8 BLUE THORNLEIGH 6 vs KENTHURST 1**

Coach BRAD got it right this week when he awarded the player-of-the-match award to the WHOLE TEAM. Today the Blueys really turned it on, running hard, tackling hard and putting team mates into gaps. At times it was like the Running of the Bulls with the boys moving forward in blue and gold waves. There were some silky dribbling skills on display particularly by LUKE and JAKE. CAMPBELL played his best game of the year, with two goals, some excellent passes and the best defensive play of the year when he chased back when all seemed lost and stopped a certain goal. LUKE got two goals which highlighted different skills; one a blast from way outside the box and the other after a mesmerizing run and clean shot. JAKE also scored twice; once from a neat left footer that he set up himself and the other after a weaving run from LUKE. NIC was on fire, running hard at the loose ball and ensuring we got possession. MAX and the AXE (MITCH) made sure any Kenthurst attacking raids were kept wide. TOM D took on kids four times his size and ensured a steady stream of possession for our forwards. In the halves BLAKE and TOM L both ran strongly and pushed forward and threatened the goal on several occasions. Finally CAMERON showed wonderful positional play up front and was unlucky not to get on the end of a couple of cross balls. After a couple of losses it was good to see the Blueys back to their fluent best.

**U8 GREEN THORNLEIGH 1 vs NTH EPPING RANGERS 3**

The Thunders burst onto the field with enthusiasm as usual and within minutes WILL had a thrilling attempt at goal which fell just wide, whilst shortly after NICK made a great save in goals to stop the opposition scoring. JESS and CALLUM were terrific in defence and the mids ALEX, TAYLOR, WILL, JAY and JULIAN worked hard but found it tough to break through the Rangers' defence. By half time, the rangers broke through our defences twice to score two very confident goals which left the guys gob smacked. However after the break, NICK came on raring to go and the rest of our guys stepped up the pace. Alex kicked some big, long kicks and had some great runs up the field towards the goal. One of these resulted in a pass to NICK who scored a textbook goal from it. BECKY was brilliant in goals saving some nail-biters. All the greens played well and ALEX was awarded Man of the Match for his great kicking and following up on the day.

We were down three players, the opposition fielded a full team with reserves, the whole match was played in our half and still we played with courage, enthusiasm and dignity. A testament to our Thornleigh Thunder spirit even in the face of adversity. BEN continually side-winded the direction of the ball frustrating attempts at goal. CLAIRE and DANIELLE were kept extremely busy in goal and even though a few got through, a lot more didn't. MATT played fly goalie with great skill and helped keep the score down. DELANEY managed a couple of good kicks towards the opposition's half and TESS got us excited with her runs, but we just didn't have the numbers to take it anywhere. JOSHUA was all over the field in damage control mode, as was TYLER, tackling and working to get some of the ball. The team never gave up and decided they had won in spirit and put up a courageous fight.

U9/4

THORNLEIGH 3 vs ROSELEA 2

As the end of season draws near, the boys have got use to the field size. Some excellent passing between SAMUEL LANE, JOHN BAYNIE, SAM CARTER AND JULIAN COHN. The mid field provided great ball to the forward, some clever ball from TIM CLAREMONT AND SAMUEL CLARK were the highlights. ROBERT STARREVELD, DOM BORG, OLIVER JUDSON AND DARREN JOOSTEN WERE AGAIN EXCELLENT IN DEFENCE. JOHN BAYNIE scored our three goals, but they were all a team effort. A hard fort win well done to all.

U9/7

THORNLEIGH 0 vs Beecroft 1

Thornleigh faced one of the competition front runners, and were a little slow in warming up. Beecroft took advantage early in the first half and scored the only goal. Luke Morrison was brilliant in goal and although playing while still unwell, pulled of some great saves. Fergus likewise, was as good in goals in the second half. Raphael was his usual strong consistent self, and covered enormous amounts of ground to help his team. Katherine was great in attack, and beside her all the way was Andrew. Rebecca Feild was also strong in attack. Charlotte, Dale, Josh were very strong midfield keeping back the Beecroft attack. Abby helped in attack when able, and Lindsay and Rebecca Fowler were there in support as well. All in all Thornleigh played a great game to keep the score as close as they did. Great game team.

U10/6

THORNLEIGH 1 vs SAINTS UNITED 1 (report for 26/6/2004)

The draw today was a fantastic result playing against a team which has won every game this season. The THUNDER boys were intending to upset this team and weathered the early attack from Saints but just when it looked like we going a goal down we made a break down the sideline and BEN PHILLIPS was put into the clear. BEN was tripped in the penalty box and scored from the penalty kick. The opposition took a while to recover but were determined to level the score. Our forwards Tim Love, MICHAEL GAMBLE and JULIAN COHEN from the 9/4s continued to take the ball up the oppositions half but met some solid defence. It wasn't long before Saints were attacking our goal again but our defenders were holding them out until a deflection of one of our players eluded our goal keeper XAVIER BOUCHER just before half time. The whole team defended intensely all the second half with standout efforts from ANDREW CARDWELL and JACK ANGEL who cleared out many of the oppositions attacking moves. Keep training hard boys because we will be playing the three teams above us in the competition each week now.

THORNLEIGH 0 vs PUTNEY 2

Our boys encountered another physically tough game from Putney. The score was 0 all at half time and it was reasonable to expect that it was going to remain the same. However due to some lack of concentration on our part failing to clear the ball from our goal, Putney capitalised on our mistakes. We also had several opportunities that were not capitalised on. But our boys can still hold their heads up high. XAVIER BOUCHER again excelled himself in the goalkeeper's position by making many difficult saves. BEN PHILLIPS, MICHAEL GAMBLE, ANDREW MEIKLE, DANIEL CHRISTIE, ANDREW CARDWELL, JEREMY TOHEY, and JACK ANGEL had a good game along with MICHAEL CSOMORE coming back from a two-week's injury. By correcting a few of our mistakes, we can look forward to a better result in our next game.

U11/2

THORNLEIGH 1 vs WEST RYDE ROVERS 2

U11/4

THORNLEIGH 2 vs GLENHAVEN 1

U12/1

THORNLEIGH 0 vs HILLS HAWKS 6

The boys started off really strong and kept the pressure on the Hills Hawks. Thornleigh was down 2-0 at half time unfortunately but came back on with the same enthusiasm as displayed in the first half. JOEL CARTER and MAX BARTSCH played a strong attacking game. HENRY McANULTY played an outstanding defending game teamed with LACHLAN BEENIE who never gave up. Many thanks to CHRIS GEORGIU, JARRED ROBERTS and other players from the U/11's who showed great determination.



☆☆☆ *Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2004* ☆☆☆

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U12/5

**THORNLEIGH 4 vs SAINTS UNITED 2**

WOW !!!!! What a game, there aren't enough superlatives to describe this game. The team came today determined to show Saints United that their position in the grand final was not guaranteed. Craig has been working on their skills level since the start of the season, and today they put it all together for their best performance so far. Upfront RYAN PYSAR perfectly placed himself to finish off all of the goals – EXTRADONARY EFFORT. LUKE MESSINA in goals for the whole game was able to get his hands to a Penalty but not quite deflecting it enough, and in the second half making some AWESOME saves. The game was played at a FRENETIC pace, with the ball moving from side to side and end to end in seconds. Saints scored the first goal, but the Thunder soon equalized. Unfortunately with minutes to go Saints scored again and you could see our team's heads drop. At half time Craig applauded the quality of their play and told them "keep going and you will win". With a few more red frogs - courtesy of the Pysar's -, the team seemed to lift a notch again in the second half, scoring three unanswered goals. The whole team deserves a mention this week: ALEX H for his perfectly crossed corners and tenacious defense, BRENDAN D for his finesse and persistence, LINCOLN B protecting the right flank, JAMES F for his commitment in defense, ALEX G for his classy footwork, JOHN C for his classic save in front of goals with his head, KEELY Mc for her tenacity, WARWICK S for his perpetual game, JORDAN S for his perfect passes, SEAN D for his persistence, JACKSON S for his galloping runs down the left flank, RYAN D for his dogged defence, LUKE M for his team spirit and scrambling saves and last but not least, RYAN P for being there and putting them away. The spirit that this team plays with is admirable, and as the coach said, "If they can keep playing like this, there will be no stopping them".

U13/4                      **THORNLEIGH 5 vs EASTWOOD ST ANDREWS 0**

U14/1                      **BYE**

U16/1                      **THORNLEIGH 2 vs RYDE 3**

U16/3                      **THORNLEIGH 1 vs NORTH EPPING RANGERS 1**

This week the boys were back in form, fired up and playing a positive and aggressive match against the competition leaders. They reduced the "kick high and chase" game which didn't work last week, and mostly kept the ball on the deck playing their natural passing game. Our defence was really solid with LUKE GROSS making many match-saving tackles. JONATHON STABLES from the 14/1s played his second week with us in goals and again had a faultless match – thanks heaps for helping us out Jonno! DEREK HAMBRETT, when playing in attacking mid-field was an awesome sight on the run – as an opponent you either step aside or suffer the consequences! The first half was scoreless but we appeared to have the edge on the Rangers, spending a lot of the time on the attack in their half. Five minutes after the break the Rangers broke through and scored. But our guys kept their heads up knowing they have what it takes, and the equaliser came 10 minutes later and that was the final score line - the same as our previous meeting. Overall it was a very entertaining match played in good spirits by both teams who, hopefully, will lock horns again in the championship final.

U16 GIRLS                      **No Report**

U18/1                      **THORNLEIGH 1 vs CARLINGFORD REDBACKS 3**

The lads would have been desperately disappointed to lose this match. Going into it, a victory was a reasonable expectation, and such an outcome would have clinched them a spot in the championship round robin. Instead, they now face a must-win situation in the regular season finale against a game Holy Cross outfit. Try as they might on Saturday, Thornleigh never got out of first gear. With the exception of a sparkling period of play to close out the first half, the afternoon did not produce a brand of football that brought pleasure to any on the blue and gold side of the pitch. JOSEPH WONG and SIMON FACTOR were the providers for TONY LAING's fourth goal of the season. JASON BURT and TRISTAN PETERS were on song in the back line and, along with keeper OWEN RODGERS, made the Redback's forwards work hard for their chances. BEVAN CALVERT also laboured hard all afternoon.

AA/3

THORNLEIGH 0 vs YMCA 3

AA/7

THORNLEIGH 2 vs ST. ANDREWS 1

Better, but by no means our best. Bottom placed St. Andrews should never have posed a problem for the might of the Thunder and there were hopes that a win comprising of a multitude of goals could assist our for and against record, thus providing at least some semblance of hope to our tenuous chances of obtaining the elusive 4th spot. The opening passages of play made overtly clear the vast differences in ability between the two teams, with the Thorners pushing the ball around on the ground well, PETE squandering a great early chance. Redemption was swift however, and the possibility of a lot of goals being scored became more than a fleeting chance when he eventually found the target. Perhaps it was over enthusiasm, having just opened the scoring, that then led PETE to blast a penalty straight at the ‘keeper shortly after, no matter the cause it was simply inexcusable. And so, halftime saw us only leading 1 – 0, making the obvious David Beckham – Pete Spears comparisons and questioning why we did not have several more goals. The second half was fairly uneventful but for one moment of sheer individual brilliance from hardcore Thunder-man CRAIG. A great through ball saw DAVE G in space on the right hand wing. From there he was able to execute a lethally accurate cross to CRAIG. Towering over the hapless defence CRAIG noticed the ‘keeper was ever so slightly off his line (or so he says) and met the ball with his head. It was as though time itself had stood still as the craftily placed long-range header traced its slow, deliberate path towards goal. The fans gasped. The ‘keeper dove awkwardly backwards in a vain attempt to deny CRAIG the glory that comes only from scoring such majestic footballing masterpieces. The ball caressed the net, and as CRAIG boldly strutted his way back to the halfway line tears of joy were shed by his wife, whilst others somehow managed to contain their emotions despite witnessing such a thing of beauty. MICK continued his remarkable progression and is surely in contention for a most-improved commendation, BEN displayed excellent vision at the back, linking up well with DAVE G to push the ball into strong midfield positions and no-offence but the less said about KEANEY’s performance at sweeper the better. Next week’s game is a going to be an epic encounter, 4th spot is still a mathematical possibility. All we can do is win; the rest will be in the hands of the footballing Gods, (sorry CRAIG, you are not a footballing God, at least not yet).

AA/10

THORNLEIGH 1 vs HILLS HAWKS 4

AAWOMEN

THORNLEIGH 1 vs BALMAIN 1

A Bit of a disappointing result leading into semi final time. We needed to gain valuable points this round but it wasn’t to be. We started off well with some solid passing and running, some balls across the face of the goals but no finishing. A quick turn of play saw Balmain score first and hold us scoreless into the break. Half time instructions were given to relax and not panic.(although the side line was). To the teams credit they hung in, and with about 5 mins to go LUCY the smiling assassin knocked one into the back of the net. Some good running by KELLI, AMANDA in the midfield saw some positive chances created down the side. Again great keeping by SAM kept us in it. Thank you to KYRI for bringing down MEL and LUCY from the 16’s as they always seem willing to help out at a moments notice.



\*\*\*\* Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2004  
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*End of Year function and Senior  
Presentation Night,*



Over 35/2

THORNLEIGH 6 vs WEST PENNANT HILLS 1

CHAMPIONS!...WE JUST WANNA LIL’ RESPECT.....

With one game still to go your gallant, ageing heroes thumped W.P. Hills 6- 1 to seal the minor premiership. The broken forward line let us down AGAIN with backs PETER MOLLOY, ALEX MCINTOSH AND MICK CARTER getting goals plus STEVE THOMPSON and ROSS GALLAHER (2).A solid game with the squad of 18 depleted to just 11 “40 something “ athletes flying the clubs flag. Tonight sees a crisis meeting with an array of barristers, QC’s, DPP’s, and consultants brought in to draft the all important “we must stay in division 2 “ document. If a decrepit. Blue and Gold dressed pensioner approaches you in the coming weeks, don’t worry - it’s an over 35 player with a petition designed to preserve his division 2 dignity. Come one come all to the semis and indulge your children with the artistry known to those in the north as “THE MEN OF THUNDER”

Over 35/4

THORNLEIGH 3 vs WPH 4

Over 35/6

THORNLEIGH 3 vs DURAL 3



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**PL1/Res THORNLEIGH 2 vs YMCA 2**

Thunder needed to win this game to stay in touch with the teams battling for 4<sup>th</sup> spot. Thunder started well and were unlucky not to score in the first few minutes when STEVE "Jumping" JACK's shot was just wide of the mark. TRAVIS PRICE opened Thunder's goal scoring in the 25<sup>th</sup> minute with a typical priceless goal. YMCA responded with several shots on target but were denied the equaliser by keeper DAVID BALL. Mid way through the second half YMCA were awarded a dubious penalty, which they converted to level the scores. Then in one of the best plays of the game GAVIN TAIT pushed the ball through to MATTHEW "BABS" BARBER who drew the opposition and presented CHRIS WOOD with an open goal. Thunder looked set to record a much need win Then with less than 2 minutes of play remaining YMCA scored from an even more dubious penalty. Thunder's defender STEVE JACK was still protesting his innocence an hour after the game, "I did not touch him, it was a dead set dive". A draw was not in the script, Thunder will now have to win all remaining games and hope the teams above "trip over" to sneak into the finals.

**PL1/1sts THORNLEIGH 4 vs YMCA 0**

YMCA were desperate to win this game, as a loss would surely mean relegation next year. Thunder were also looking to consolidate their mid table position. The first half was a tight affair with both teams pressing to score the first goal. RYAN ROFF and LINTON ISTED had chances but could not find the back of the net. NIL NIL at half time was the wake up call Thunder needed. The second half turned into a Thunderfest of goals. DAMIEN SUPLINA opened the scoring after just 2 minutes when he slotted the ball past YMCA's keeper. Shortly after Damien scored his second from a corner. Thunder were now on top and YMCA's fate was sealed. LAYN MELLISH was on hand to score Thunder's third following good lead up play from Damien. Then with only a few minutes of play remaining Damien completed his hat trick when he scored from a LAYN MELLISH cross. Best players were DAMIEN "Hat Trick" SUPLINA and the ever reliable MATTHEW FRENCH. The only sour note to the game was an arm injury to MARK HOLLIDAY that forced him from the field mid way through the second half. Next week Thunder takes on local rivals Normanhurst at Oakleigh Oval... get there early as a huge crowd is expected.