



THORNLEIGH SPORTS CLUB Inc.

SOCCKER DIVISION  
BLUE & GOLD NEWSLETTER  
10<sup>th</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

**IMPORTANT MESSAGE REGARDING PHOTOS**

***Team Managers** are asked to collect a proof copy of team photos from the canteen at Oakleigh Oval from 8.00am onwards this Saturday 17 June. Managers will need to provide the correct SPELLING of names of players back to Craig Millard via the canteen ASAP.*

*Please leave the photos in the BOX next to the freezer marked “junior referees”. Names in full eg. Richard Smith not R.Smith or Dick Smith. Manager and Coach in brackets. eg (Coach)*

Hi All,

For most teams it is the play off round for this week. I would like to wish everyone good luck and hopefully we can bring back some trophies.

I watched a very pleasing game on Sunday where our All Age 7 team took on their division leaders on a somewhat messy Normanhurst field. We may have gone down two to nil, but it was a great game to watch and see some very spirited play from the underdogs. The good thing about Thornleigh is that even when we lose we still look like winners.

Two events that are coming up are the junior and senior presentation days. The Junior Presentation is at Oakleigh Oval on August 29 and the Senior Presentation / End of Year Social is on September 11 at the Pennant Hills Bowling Club. Further details of both events will be coming out shortly.

Yours in commitment

*Rob Roberts*

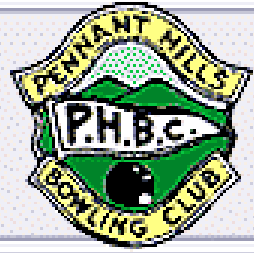
President

## Committee Contacts

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# Pennant Hills Bowling Club



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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 0 VS SAINTS UNITED 4**

Thornleigh were again affected by colds and Flu, and were short reserves for this feisty rematch. Saints were attacking from the first whistle and LUKE SPYER did a great job defending his goal. IZAAK MUNOZ was not completely well, but was relentless in his all-over-the-field performance. CALLUM HANDS and EMILY SUNNUCKS, were good support in attack, but could not find the net. MAX EDWARDS and ADAM WALKER played in midfield and were constantly backing up the forwards. LIAM SHERMAN was in goals in the second half, and played an excellent game, stopping numerous shots. Thornleigh U6 RED should be back to full strength next week, and all families and supporters wish the players a speedy recovery.

**U6 WHITE****No Report****U6 PURPLE****THORNLEIGH vs BEECROFT (FORFEITED)**

Thornleigh team arrived ready to play only to be advised by the Beecroft team manager that he had cancelled his team due to rain!

**U7 GREEN****THORNLEIGH 0 vs SAINTS UNITED 4**

BEN started the game as goalkeeper and was in great form saving plenty in difficult wet conditions. BEN also got man of the match for a fantastic effort; today he was our main attacker, defender and enforcer as one little SAINTS boy soon found out. Great game BEN! The boys really put in a good effort in the first half being a player short and having to deal with heavy rain and very slippery conditions. ANGUS showed lots of determination at the back, he was everywhere and his usual dependable self, whilst CHRISTIAN was his usual self in attack and defence covering lots of ground and generally stopping most attacking raids from SAINTS. At half time the score was 3-0 but the boys played better than the score showed. The second half was a real arm-wrestle with our pocket dynamo JAMES sporting a new hair-do really playing a great game chasing everything and rolling his sleeves up and getting heavily involved. MURRAY was very determined and put the fear of God in the opposition bringing some much needed aggression into the team attacking the ball strongly and putting his body on the line every time. DANIEL was playing a very strategic game up-front and in the middle but the SAINTS stopped most of his attacking raids. CHRISTIAN was solid in goals making some excellent saves but special mention to BEN and MURRAY for some amazing sliding tackles, they really enjoyed the wet weather. Good effort from the boys all round as we had no reserves in difficult, heavy conditions.

**U7 RED****No Report****U7 ORANGE****No Report****U7 WHITE****No Report****U8 BLUE****THORNLEIGH 4 vs BEECROFT 2**

The Blueys showed true Thunder spirit and courage today by winning despite being 2 men short. In a match played in wet and muddy conditions the boys played all over an ordinary Beecroft team. Upfront JAKE and CAMERON combined well with midfielders CAMPBELL and LUKE to put together some impressive attacking moves. Our defensive was solid TOM D and MAX stopping almost everything that was thrown at them. Goals were scored by LUKE, JAKE and CAMPBELL, and one, we are still not sure about, but it was decided to award it to both CAMERON and JAKE. Special mention must go to MITCHELL for getting up from his sick bed to play goalie for the entire match (and to Dad for standing ready with a bucket just in case!). JAKE's performance was awarded with the Man-of-the Match. Well done to all the boys.

**U8 GREEN****No Report****U8 WHITE****THORNLEIGH 1 vs RYDE DISTRICT 7**

Today's theme was musical teams starring a cast of thousands. We borrowed TAYLOR, JESSICA and REBECCA from U8 Green for our match and lent them ANDRE, MATT, DANIELLE and DELANEY for theirs. It worked out well as they scored our goal for us with a brilliant run from TAYLOR and we reciprocated with an equally brilliant run from ANDRE. Thank you to U8 Green for kindly lending us players, all of whom made a real and positive contribution to our match. Okay, now, we were tired from all that playing, fairly worn out, and our opposition got the better of us. Still, outstanding effort and never give-up philosophy stayed in play. MATT outdid himself in goal, TESS made a classic save while BEN played star defense. JESSICA and REBECCA wouldn't take no for an answer with continuous tackling. DELANEY played her best game yet. DANIELLE played a strategic game while CLAIRE kept the ball rolling. Well done extended team.

U9/4 THORNLEIGH 1 vs REDFIELD 1

U9/7 THORNLEIGH 0 vs PUTNEY 2

U10/6 THORNLEIGH 3 vs GLADESVILLE RSL 1

Our boys kept up their improvements from their previous games. Considering that they lost four nil during their last encounter against Gladesville RSL, the outcome was quite pleasing. Gladesville RSL opened up the scoring in the first half with a rather controversial goal by having three of their players off side. In the second half our boys made a very determined run up the middle which was finished off by MICHAEL GAMBLE kicking our first goal. MICHAEL CSOMORE's continuous running up the sidelines and bringing the ball in to the opposition's goal area paid off when ANDREW MEIKLE shot our second goal from right up front. This was followed up by our third goal by BEN PHILLIPS. This outcome could not have been done without the good support in the fullbacks' position by ANDREW CARDWELL and JACK ANGEL, and the good work in midfield by HUW FISHER, DANIEL CHRISTIE and XAVIER BOUCHER giving up his goalkeeper's jersey in the second half. This win was the ideal preparation for the semi finals.



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

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U11/2 THORNLEIGH 2 vs WPH 1

This was a good win to end the competition on a positive note. We got off to a great start with a good goal by Anjun in the first five minutes. Ten minutes later Lachlan on the end of a great individual run (one of many in the game) timed a perfect cross which was flicked on to Pat, who positioned perfectly was very unlucky not to score. A very good save by the goalie meant he was unable to add to his very impressive goal scoring record this season. Our second goal came from a great through ball by Jordan that Lachlan got hold of and put into the net. Lachlan played very well and was one of our best. Jordan's ball distribution was good and he was unlucky not to score himself when late in the game he headed the ball just over the top of the net. We had other opportunities like when Mitchell displaying some great individual skill put through a great ball that our strikers could not get past the goalie. Mitchell was very busy all game and was responsible for setting up other opportunities for us as well. We showed some outstanding work on the ball and also in defense. In particular Josh and Stefan showed why we are in the top four with their skilful and enthusiastic contributions. Both have been vital to our success all season with their consistent contributions each game. When the opposition did make a raid our defenders did a terrific job. Jarryd made a particularly gutsy tackle that shut down one very threatening situation. Jake also with his reliable long kicks got us out of trouble time and again and Chris Smith saved one that looked certain to be going in. Chris Georgiou still supercharged with enthusiasm and passion from the Greek win in the European Cup had a very good game distributing the ball intelligently and taking the right options in defense. This has been a feature of his game all season. We could easily have scored on many other occasions especially Eddie who we know can be very dangerous with his long-range shots. He had a couple of opportunities to get his missile launched but was foiled by a minor malfunction in his radar. He had a good game never giving up and he contributed well in attack. Congratulations to the coaching staff and management in getting us this far and lets hope we go all the way.

You could feel the excitement amongst the players before they took the field loaded with anticipation, high expectations, sausage sandwiches and jelly snakes. The misty rain just seemed to add to the atmosphere. Every player wanted to score. From the kick off there were a few frustrating attempts as the players had to settle down to concentrate on team playing. DANYON'S boot kept the play towards midfield and away from the Redback's goal. Once the team began passing well, TOM (No.1) cleaned up and put away BRAD's almost goal. The backs were put under pressure and KELSEY did a great job at turning the ball back up field. It wasn't long before MATT D.(No 2) (first for the season) followed with another goal with some great timing and a well placed kick. BRAD (No3) (his first for the season) scored a sensational goal up and over the pack from a quarter up the field. JORDAN having made a good save as goalie in the first half, was keen to get on to the pitch to have his shot at goal, unfortunately when the time came the goalie was ready. LEROY had control of the ball and passed it to KEL (No 4) who put it away. Shortly after LEROY had another chance, it wasn't to be. MATT D. (No.5) (second goal for the season), following BRAD's earlier example, kicked the ball over the heads of everyone and into the back of the net. MATT W. made a good pass to LEROY (No.6) who was perfectly positioned to score, good to see after so many attempts. Joint Man of the Match: KELSEY and TOM. It was great to see the boys start on a high and play well to end off the premiership round on a strong note.

#### THORNLEIGH 2 vs GLENHAVEN 1 (Report 3 July 2004)

Dust flying everywhere and plenty of running as we had no subs. Scoring attempts by DANYON and KEL early on with great midfield and sweeping work with MICHAEL, TOM, LEROY and MATTHEW W. SAAMID (Joint Man of Match) played a brilliant game in defense as did KELSEY and MARCUS. MATT D (Joint Man of Match) did some extraordinary saves in goals to keep a zero score at half time. KEL and LEROY had some fantastic teamwork to score our two goals in second half. Thornleigh worked the field very hard, pushing until the final whistle for a great game.

Unfortunately for our boys they played with only 8 players on the field due to a few of the team being away and with no reserves and no one could help out from other teams. Our boys came on with such a determined attitude and scored 2 goals within the first 10 minutes! The Ravens fought back though but without the man power on the field our guys started to tire. The whole team played fantastically: Brent Rogers played a beautiful mid field game with strong, direction. Nick Georgiou was excellent in attack and was able to score a goal just after half time. Lachlan Beenie was a veritable dynamo and seemed to be covering the field! He scored the initial two goals so was justifiably a very happy boy! Daniel Tompkins and James Eaton came in with some strong tackling that certainly sorted out the Ravens! Max Bartsch was phenomenal. Joel Carter was sore and not too well on the day but played a great, determined game in defence. Simon Kristenthal was once again put to the test and managed to deflect many a hit at goal. I must make mention of our guys terrific attitude - not once have I heard them sound despondent and defeatist. They have a wonderful determination and great spirit. All of us parents on the side line are just so proud of them for getting out there and giving it their best week after week - always with a smile at the end of the game and an enthusiasm for the up-coming matches. They congratulate their opponents and show us always what team spirit is all about. They really are a great bunch of winners to us! Finally, to the Ravens player, who unfortunately won't be reading this, who felt it so fitting to sledge and name call our team: 'Good on you, I hope you feel great about yourself' (...just had to put that in!)



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

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Presentation Night,  
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Another second half WOW performance from this team of committed young soccer players. In the past 4 weeks the top three teams have not been able to match them on the field for a full 50 minutes. Each game we have been under pressure for the first half, whilst displaying good soccer skills and being in the game. Before the second half SURGE! The boys and our super girl Keely, possess far better qualities than ball skills. They have heaps of commitment, a sense of urgency when necessary, confidence and will to go all the way. Forget about Division 1 ball skills this is a team that possesses qualities they can carry forward in life. And that is the great satisfaction with these guys they are relentless with their efforts and as we all have seen on the sidelines that "attitude of mind" produces exceptional skills not seen before. It's a very strange happening because over the past 4 weeks of training we have played cricket with a soccer ball. Not really a good preparation for finals. Maybe it's the red frogs! The game well, another well placed goal from Jordan Sant after a crunching tackle from John Christie saw a quick pass from Ryan Doyle to Jordan. Half time 1 -1. Second half goals from Brendan Deller and Ryan Pysar. The second half saw the Hills keeper under pressure with great long range shots from Jackson S, Alex Grant and Keely. Warwick S has become a legend with his "aerial acrobats". His heading of the ball is "spooky", because no one is prepared to confess teaching him this spectacular behaviour. His team mates have also been infected. These guys are at the top of the peak, the challenge for us all is to help them stay on top so they can be rewarded during the final rounds for the entry to the big one. They have rewarded us on the sideline with their efforts particularly the past three weeks and you can see they are proud. Bring on the finals, get the frogs the night before and swallow an hour before game time. The cricket resumes at training on Thursday guys after bad light last week. Keels and I are still batting. The rest of you can't bowl, can't bat, and can't catch!

U13/4

THORNLEIGH 4 vs HILLS HAWKS 0

U14/1

THORNLEIGH 6 vs PENNANT HILLS 0



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U16/1

THORNLEIGH 1 vs EEW 4

U16/3

THORNLEIGH 1 vs EPPING YMCA 1

The boys knew they had a fight on their hands because last time they played YMCA they were down nil-3 at half time, clawing back to a 3-all draw. Today the boys started in a much more positive fashion with our defence holding well and mid-fielders KEYVAN AZMI, CHRIS BROWN and ANDREW SPARKES releasing some excellently timed balls to the strikers. MATT ELDRIDGE played a very aggressive striker's game, hunting down everything that moved. And NATHAN CARDWELL was particularly effective in defence. DEREK HAMBRETT put his speed to great effect making some impressive breaks from mid-field defence, which were unlucky not to result in a goal. At the 11-minute mark KEYVAN followed one through and had a chance for a shot at goal, which he executed beautifully. We were on top in the first half and went to the break one up. Unfortunately the successful formula went AWOL in the second half, as we squandered possession in the mid-field on too many occasions. After 15 minutes YMCA fired a high one into our net, which even LUIS couldn't fend off. If the boys played both halves like they played the first it would be difficult for any team in the draw to roll them. Anyway their mission of coming in the top four has certainly been accomplished as they finished up in a solid third position overall. Good luck in the championship rounds now, guys!

U16 GIRLS

No Report

The character of the Thornleigh side shone through in this closing match of the regular season. Starting the game in a relaxed yet determined frame of mind, they stuck to their assigned tasks and played a team style of football. Two Holy Cross goals, more due to temporary lapses of attention than anything else, spoiled an otherwise entertaining first half and, along with a deserved third goal by the visitors, left the Thunder with a daunting prospect for the final 45 minutes. Apparently unperturbed, the lads set about quietly turning the game around by scoring three goals over a thirty-minute period, while effectively neutralising the Holy Cross attacking line. BEVAN CALVERT got things underway seven minutes into the half when he spotted MATT THOMSETT well up field and put a long ball at his feet. THOMSETT needed little invitation in sidestepping the keeper and putting the ball safely away. A further seven minutes saw JOSH CLARK providing a well-weighted pass to TONY LAING, the latter beating the keeper at close range. CLARK figured in Thornleigh's next goal when he deftly put the ball into the net from a corner kick to level the score at 3 all with eight minutes left in regulation time. The script having been written, the stage was set for a dramatic come from behind victory. However, try as they might, the fairytale ending was not to be and as time ran out, play was bogged down in the Thunder half of the pitch. Nevertheless, it was a game effort from all in the blue and gold. Other standout players on the day were JAMES MANNING, STEVEN PAVITT, TRISTAN PETERS, JASON BURT, TIMOTHY SOWDEN and TIM FREDRICKSON.

AA/3

THORNLEIGH 0 vs KENTHURST 5

AA/7

THORNLEIGH 0 vs MACQUARIE COMBINED SPORTS 2

Whilst skill is an obvious prerequisite upon which a quality football side is built there are also less quantifiable attributes needed if a team is to succeed. These include such characteristics as determination, commitment, passion, the mutual support and respect of your peers and the most mysterious and perhaps least understood of all, Thunder-Power. Thunder-Power is an all encompassing force which, when harnessed appropriately can become the most powerful ally of any Thornleigh player, not just in soccer, but in all aspects of life. To apply Thunder-Power in any given confrontational situation is to place one's opponent in a detrimental position from the outset. The AA/7 team showed signs of an emergent understanding of this great force during a game marred by a terribly rain-affected field. Two early goals from Macquarie did the damage but we walked off the field with our heads held high. With a mass of adoring fans cheering us on, despite the conditions, we toiled diligently for the remainder of the game and were unlucky to not attain some sort of result. LUKE was at his best and went very close off a fantastic cross from JAMES. PAUL was finally back in goals and showed little signs of illness, or indeed concern for his hair whilst making several vital saves in the quagmire penalty box. DAVE G put a fantastic chance just wide and several other chances went disappointingly unconverted. CRAIG's big moment, the corner from heaven was snatched from under his left foot as he collapsed in an embarrassing, muddy heap. In conclusion, as many a loser has said before 'soccer was the winner today', however buried away in our performance was a glimmer of promise. Promise that Thunder-Power will be adopted, the passion it invokes bridled, hope will shine through, for there are better days ahead for us.

AA/10

THORNLEIGH 2 vs KENTHURST 4

AAWOMEN

No Report



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Over 35/2

**THORNLEIGH 3 vs BYE 0**

In another faultless display the Thornleigh 35/2's were emphatic winners over the bye by 3 goals to nil. Credit for the goals will be awarded to the highest bidder so please submit all bids to the Thornleigh Soccer Club treasurer as soon as possible (Special note to Jim - I suggest you capitalise on this opportunity to be credited with a goal this millennium as it may be your last chance)!

We have been approached by many people for the secrets to our success so for the benefit of the many kiddies within the Thornleigh Soccer Club who are striving to emulate this team here they are:

- 1) A strict training policy. We insist that any player caught training receives an automatic one week suspension and allocated the job of bringing the beer to the next game.
- 2) At least two beers after each game. Contrary to the common belief that we do this to re-hydrate our bodies, it is actually to remove the inevitable aches and pains that we suffer at the end of a game. The trick is to drink enough beer until all the aches and pains totally go away – even if this requires significant treatment.
- 3) No sex the week before a game. This is not really a team policy but merely a symptom of our age – we rarely find that the opportunity and the inclination present themselves simultaneously.
- 4) Use any tactics, irrespective of their moral credibility, to avoid promotion to a higher division. In this regard we suggest bribery, blackmail, vote rigging and lots of tears.

For those who doubt the above secrets, I quote an actual endorsement from one of those people who have used our success secrets:

“I was sceptical about the success of these secrets until I tried them here at Arsenal. I can truly say that we owe our recent success to the secrets that we have learnt from the Thornleigh 35/2's and we will continue to strive to emulate their achievements next season” – Arsene Wenger.

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to address the recent claims of inappropriate sexual behaviour involving a number of our players. It is now apparent that it has become common for members of the public to lay unfounded sexual allegations against elite athletes and we fear that we are victims of this recent trend. A spokesman for the team has issued a statement saying that “We do not deny that a number of our players were sexually involved with the Parramatta Eels cheerleaders however this was against the wishes of our players who only submitted after sustained pressure and seduction by these cheerleaders. The important thing is that we do not allow this controversy to distract us from the important task of winning next week's semi-final match – it would be a travesty for our huge number of supporters”.

Over 35/4

**THORNLEIGH 0 vs GLENHAVEN 2**

Over 35/6

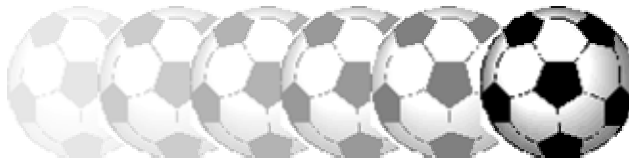
**THORNLEIGH 9 vs EASTWOOD ST ANDREWS 3**

The opening line in the past few match reports has been the same “Thunder needed to win this game to stay in touch with the teams battling for 4<sup>th</sup> spot”. Normanhurst were ahead of Thunder on the table and looking to post another victory over their local rivals. Thunder had the better of play in the first 20 minutes and were unlucky not to score when a MATTHEW BARBER header was just wide of the mark. STEVE JACK, like he has been doing all year, was causing havoc down the right side using his blistering pace to get around defenders but his final pass always found the boots of a Normo player. Then as that critical time just before half time approached, Normo scored when a well directed cross found the head of one of their attackers, 1:0. The second half was a see saw affair and Thunder had a number of chances to force a draw. The best chance came with minutes remaining when a STEVE JACK cross fell at the feet of an unmarked CHRIS WOOD, who unfortunately shot over the bar. Guy’s I would like to begin next week’s report with a new opening line .....something like “Thunder scored an upset victory.....” so its over to you. Thank you to Tim, Jason and James from the AA7’s for sitting on the bench.



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The scene was set for this local derby - a Thundershower was approaching from the North, Macca (past local legend) had arrived from Qld, there were plenty of sausages on the BBQ, and a vocal crowd had gathered. Thunder supporters hardly had time to pour their first glass of Chardonnay, when a 20 metre shot from AVAN YOUNG hit the cross bar. Norm responded quickly to this shockwave and were denied a goal when MATTHEW FRENCH cleared the ball off the line and shortly later when keeper GILL MACLEAN made one of his copybook saves. Normo always seemed to have players unmarked in the midfield and this constant pressure on our defence led to Normo scoring just before half time. The game was being played at a fast pace and Norm’s second half game plan became clear - slow down play with injuries and replacements. This worked and Thunder’s creative midfield players were unable to get into rhythm. Normo sealed victory and a spot in the finals with a second goal just before full time. The promising thundershower at the start of the game had turned into a drizzle at fulltime, however there were many positives our younger players can take from their first Oakleigh Oval local derby. Thank you to Macca and his team of vocal Chardonnay sipping supporters for their incisive sideline commentary. MATTHEW FRENCH was again Thunder’s standout player.