



Thornleigh Sports & Recreation Club Inc.



SOCCER DIVISION

BLUE & GOLD NEWSLETTER

9th July 2005

*Premier League Division 1 Games - All Reserve Grade games at 1.15pm, All 1st Grade Games at 3.15pm
16/7/05 - Thornleigh vs Gladesville Rangers - Home Game at Oakleigh Oval - Support Your Premier League!*

Deadline for Blue & Gold: MONDAY 3pm

Email to kedrummond@optusnet.com.au

ANNUAL CLUB DINNER ENTERTAINMENT NIGHT

7.30pm SATURDAY 20 AUGUST

Celebrate the end of soccer year by arranging a table for your team and enjoy a sumptuous seafood buffet at Pennant Hills Bowling Club.

The seafood buffet consists of King Prawns, Oysters, Calamari, Fish, Prawn Cutlets and other delicacies. Including deserts tea and coffee.

Free drinks from 7.30pm on arrival. Tickets are \$35 per head.

Talk to your managers about arranging a table and organise those sitters.

Tickets will be limited to 140 sold on payment and cannot be reserved.

Tickets can be obtained from Craig Millard at the next JULY monthly meeting or by arrangement through Rob Roberts (0400 448 291) or Bruce Roff (0419 415 070).

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Thornleigh Soccer Club Sponsors - 2005 Season

T.S.C. relies on the financial support of it's sponsors to provide the necessary gear and equipment and supplement the various running costs of the club. Therefore, we gratefully acknowledge the support of the following sponsors for the 2005 season and encourage everyone associated with T.S.C. to support these local businesses.

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U6 EMUS**THORNLEIGH 2 vs WEST PENNANT HILLS 4**

The Emus first half was pretty intense, but the opposition only scored two goals from dozens of chances. This was all due to the excellent work of JOSH NATOLI in goals and the team desperately defending. The second half was equalised for a short time with two great goals one from NATHAN POLLOCK and one from JOSH NATOLI. The goals were a result of some excellent skills from CHRISTOPHER WATT and JOSHUA REIDY pushing the ball through for the attack. RYAN CLARKE and SAMUAL KALNINS did some great work stealing the ball from their opponents and clearing the ball to safety. REUBEN SPARGO had a great first half demonstrating his “flick back” and “quick turn” skills and then with some great saves in goals in the second half. The stand out performer for the game which earned him the “MAN OF THE MATCH” trophy was LACHLAN HARRIS who once again knew what he had to do and did not stop doing it for the entire game. Well done Emus!

U6 MAGPIES**THORNLEIGH 2 vs KENTHURST 10**

They definitely put something in the water up Kenthurst way! This week, the mainly mismatched Magpies went down to a team of kids one of whom looked at least 9 years old, but possibly wasn't, and the smallest of whom was bigger than our biggest player. Kenthurst were pretty awesome, with lots of big, fast players who were (deliberately) passing the ball. We had understood that passing was strictly prohibited in the under sixes and barely tolerated in the under sevens, but a quick check of the rule book showed it ain't so. What is also permitted, but is actually fairly dodgy, is the practice of a team putting one or two players near the opponent's goals for the entire game in what would otherwise be a hugely offside position (but isn't in the under sixes), which was the tactic adopted by Kenthurst. This isn't meant to sound (too much) like sour grapes – they were clearly the better team and would have one whatever formation they played – but it did leave a somewhat sour taste in the mouth. But, on a happier note, the Magpies tried their very hardest, never gave up and came off the field smiling, and only 4 late goals in the last few minutes blew the score out to double figures. There was some tenacious defence by JULIA MOKDSI and RORY MADDEN in both halves, LACHLAN JONES and ALEXANDER HORSPOOL did well in goals in the first and second halves respectively, and MARCUS and WILLIAM GRANT tried their hardest throughout. TOM KENNEDY had an awesome game in both attack and defence, scoring two great goals and stopping plenty at the other end with some fine defence. Player of the week went to a deserving WILLIAM GRANT, for bouncing back from the adversity of injury to finish the game smiling, having fulfilled his full quota of three kicks for the second half! Well done WILLIAM.

U6 PLATYPUS**THORNLEIGH 0 vs GLENHAVEN 6 ish!!**

After a weeks rest due to rain cancellations Thornleigh Thunder were ready to burn up some rainy school holiday energy. Energy certainly was the name of the day. A very fast start saw both teams attacking and defending. The goalies, LACHLAN DAWES in the first half, and ROBERT BRADLEY, in the second half, threw their bodies on the line to save several attacks from the opposition. TOMMY JIANG and CODY JERVIS both made attempts at goal early on but were all unsuccessful. JOSH DESILVA made several kick and run charges through the defence and was unlucky not to score. DOMINIC MANNELL ran hard all match chasing the ball in attack and defence. DANIEL MERRICK ran strongly and showed great skill in defense of tough opposition. He was awarded Player of the Match for his performance. The Mighty Monotremes enjoyed another first year match in good spirits.

U7 EMUS**THORNLEIGH 0 vs MACQUARIE COMBINED SPORTS 9**

With no reserves, this was always going to be a tough one for the Emus. The score was kept reasonably close for a long time. Eventually however despite some very good saves from TESSA GIBBONS and JACK NAYLOR in goal, the Emus tired and the score did blowout. There was some fine defensive work from AIDEN LANE whose slide tackling is a major obstacle for any opposition. LIAM KIRK who was awarded Man of the Match worked very hard in both defence and attack.. LIAM KIRK and RHIANNA MALONE despite being injured during the game came back on to help the team out. This exemplified the fighting spirit that the team has shown throughout the year. There were very few attacking raids. One of the best was by SEAN NOTLEY-RUMBENS who just missed scoring a goal when he was neatly passed the ball by RHIANNA MALONE. However his shot just went wide. The whole team tried right to the end and the score did not reflect the effort that the team made.

U7 ECHIDNAS**NO REPORT****U7 MAGPIES****THORNLEIGH 0 vs NORTH EPPING RANGERS 7**

An exciting game to watch this week and a disappointing result considering how well the whole team worked together. The team have improved so much thanks to Steve's great coaching skills and the encouragement of all the parents. RYAN HODGES had a fantastic game; some fancy footwork he kept turning the ball back in our favour and a great attempt for goal which he was unlucky to miss. JACK TOWNEND and AIMEE LOVE were also unlucky not to score this week. JACK showed us his understanding of playing positions and had some great runs down the field and a few huge kicks - one sent the ball well down the field and JACK off his feet! Our young pocket rocket AIMEE is always in the thick of play. She and ISABEL SEAMAN had some great runs down the field together. Great team work girls! SOPHIA TOWNEND gave some strong kicks this week and worked in well with the team. ERICA LOVE started in goals for the first half and was defending well until an unfortunate hit to the head which sent BENJAMIN HURWOOD into goals for the rest of the game. A short break and Erica was back out on the field and straight into attack - some great tackling and overall great soccer skills earned her our Player of The Week. BENJAMIN worked hard in goals, saving a number of balls and was named our Most Improved for the week.

U7 KOALA'S

THORNLEIGH 8 vs CARLINGFORD REDBACKS 0

We only had 6 and asked GABE from the ECHIDNAS to join us for the sub position and Super sub he turned out to be! Dribbling, controlling and scoring 2 himself to help elevate the team. I saw HARRISON make some great chases, stop and turn the play around. JACOB came from out of goal in the first half to play with great vigour. His goal kicks are HUGE! I saw CALLUM almost score one and ALEX made some great kicks. BRYON has the great "knack" of scoring goals, an excellent trait to include in one's soccer repertoire. If hadn't been for our awful coach (me) who put BEN in goals for the second half, he probably would of gone on to score 10! BEN 4, GABE 2, BYRON 2. We also look forward to seeing HAYDEN back next week, which is at OAKLEIGH 10.45. It's Magic.

U8 RED

THORNLEIGH 1 vs ROSELEA 0

Returning from a week off THORNLEIGH recommenced the season on a high. THORNLEIGH had the edge for most of the first half, and within three minutes of starting ROSLEA opened up the scoring but fortunately, for our boys, an own goal. Whilst the team looked like increasing the lead none of the attempts were converted. The second half was different. ROSELEA appeared to have awoken from their slumber and the competition was on. Both teams slogged away until the final whistle. Our Player of the Match was JORDAN DAVIS who after coming off injured recovered his breath and his resolve to get back on the field to have a strong game in defence, both tackling and clearing the ball. Our goalies, MARK RICHARDS and NATHAN BIRREL also had great games keeping a clean sheet. Well done team.

U8 WHITE

THORNLEIGH 0 vs NORTH EPPING RANGERS 6

After a long break, our team was rusty, but keen to take to the field again. A very fit JAMES PATTERSON easily earned the Man of the Match award this week, showing some very well honed tackling and manouevring skills, which neatly finished off his great performance at the Australian Institute of Sport earlier this week. (Congratulations James!) Our goalees, RYAN MALLET and HAYDEN SIMONS made a number of courageous saves, and when not in goal both players contributed strongly to play. JONATHON MEIKLE and ROBERT JONES also performed admirably in defence, as did ANDREW HADDAD, with an outstanding game as sweeper. Our game was not all defence, with BEN WALLWOOD and CHRISTIAN FARRELL-DENINA both making numerous attacking forays and a couple of close shots at goal. TOMMY SIMCOCK again showed superb running skills to assist in both attack and defence.

U9/2

THORNLEIGH 0 vs EASTWOOD ST ANDREWS 4

Unfortunately reality came back to the team after their last up win against the competition leaders. The new competition leaders gave us a bit of a touch up!! The boys played really well in patches but the patches were like crochet; the stitching was too far apart. Our best player today was MITCHELL who tackled hard and played well in the open, laying the ball off to team mates in better positions. BRANDON also showed glimpses of real potential in the centre back position by taking the ball forward after beating an opposition player rather than just kicking it away. JOSH made some telling tackles and got really involved all over the park. Thanks to our two goalies, BLAKE and TOM L, neither of whom like the position and are not regulars but took their turn in the firing line anyway. NICK S played in an unfamiliar position up front and did really well chasing hard and generally being a pest to the defenders. MAX played strongly to show his grandfather visiting from Germany what Thunder soccer is all about. With a little bit of improvement we should give the WPH Lions a good run for their money in our last regular season game next week on the Dural cow paddock.

U9/8

THORNLEIGH 0 vs HILLS HAWKS 3

U10/3

FORFEIT BY THORNLEIGH

U10/7

FORFEIT BY HILLS HAWKS

U11/5

THORNLEIGH 0 vs PUTNEY 0

U12/1

THORNLEIGH 1 vs WEST RYDE ROVERS 3

Firstly, let me thank the many boys who fronted up to games for the 13/2, 13/5, 14/3 thus ensuring those teams were able to field eleven players on the field. Those boys played their hearts out against the bigger opposition and did their team and their club proud. Reports back were of high praise for their efforts. An extra thank you is extended to LACHLAN ROE who played three games in a row (no pun intended). Thanks also goes to: MITCHELL SMITH, JARRYD ROBERTS, TIM CLEASBY, CHRIS SMITH, CHRIS GEORGIU, HARRY ANGEL and CONNOR MILLIGAN for taking up the challenge. Thanks also to BEN PHILLIPS who backed us up in our game. Despite the exhaustion of previous games and the fact we were down two players the whole team played a great game from beginning to end. PAT POWER scored a text book perfect goal to put us in the lead. The boys refused to give up hope to the very end in what was a very thrilling game. Well done, you are more than worthy of your Division One status.

U12/3

THORNLEIGH 1 vs HILLS HAWKS 7

The game started with strong kicks by DANYON and early pressure from Hills Hawks in a fast flowing game. DANYON and BRAD were great in defence and there was good attacking play by KEL. Then, good defence by KELSEY and SCOTT saving a goal. Again good defence by SCOTT and NICK saved two attempts on goal. DANYON was solid in defence again. There was pressure play by Hills Hawks and good defensive skills by all players. Then a great save by NICK in goals and again great defence by SCOTT. Continuing pressure from Hills Hawks, almost a goal to Hills Hawks which bounced off the goal posts, then Hills Hawks scored their first goal 0-1. There was great attacking play by MATTHEW W followed by a corner to Hills Hawks and good defence by SAAMID and MATTHEW D. saved another goal. TOM and JORDAN were trying hard and there was good ballwork by NATHAN. Then an unlucky handball by BRAD with a free kick to Hills Hawks which resulted in their second goal 0-2. There was good defence by SAAMID and then two corners by Hills Hawks which both resulted in Hills Hawks goals 0-4. NICK made a nice save and BRAD also showed his defensive skills. The Thorns were trying hard when the half time whistle blew. In the second half there was better passing by Thornleigh and two successive corners by MATTHEW W almost resulted in two goals..... bad luck Thorns. Then KEL scored a goal from a pass from MATTHEW W 1-4..... great work by all. This was followed by good attacking play by KEL and TOM and a good save by BRAD. Then a great attack by KEL almost resulted in a goal. TOM almost scored then there was another great attack by Thornleigh giving TOM and KEL scoring opportunities. SCOTT was great in defence but then Hills Hawks scored another goal 1-5. A penalty shot to Hills resulted in another goal 1-6. BRAD was trying hard, a handball by KELSEY gave Hills Hawks a free kick resulting in a goal to Hills Hawks 1-7. There was great defence by TOM and KELSEY and all the Thorns were playing well. Then a great save by NICK and pressure by Thornleigh almost resulted in a goal.... Bad luck. Full time. The score does not reflect the fast flowing game. The reporter's choice was DANYON and coach's player of the match was KEL.

U13/2

THORNLEIGH 0 vs WEST PENNANT HILLS (Blue) 3

This was not quite the result we had been waiting for. It was never going to be an easy task with so many of the teams key players away but with thanks to those from the U12s that really helped out. On the day the opponents were just too disciplined for us and it was only a matter of time before the inevitable on the day. Not to say that our boys did not try - they did for the full 50 minutes - but it was not to be. The Thunder had its chances but luck was not with us on the day. Next week will see a certain reversal of results - let's get a good practice session and look toward the finals. Next encounter with this team WILL be different!

U13/5

THORNLEIGH 2 vs PACIFIC HILLS DURAL 2

With the programmed 8.15 start (and the rain) the team played as expected, slow on the ball and brain switched to slumber mode. Thank Christ the remaining games are at a more respectable time. But slumber mode was enough to get them over the line today, with some great defensive work from JAMES FOWLER and MICHAEL DENNETT and a hat trick of goals from JORDAN SANT who with his (3/4 slumber) speed was able to get behind the Holy Cross defenders. BRENDAN MEW was once again threatening in the front line. The win today consolidated the team's position near the top of the table and so the remaining weeks will be used to prepare for the semi finals. Special mention needs to go to JOHN CHRISTIE who found the back of the net to score the first goal of the day, a well deserved goal after showing some grit and determination. ALEX HOUSE once again played a consolidating role in the mid field and clearly was able to control the middle of the park and regularly fed the ball to the forwards. With our regular goalie off sick thanks need to go to ALEX GRANT and PETER CHRISTIE who both must be looking to oust (?) our regular goalie by playing well in goals, Oops.

U14/3

THORNLEIGH 1 vs HILLS HAWKS 3

In what had to be their best game of the season, everyone played like champions. Our team was relentless in attack, kept possession of the ball for much of the game and outshot their opposition. Everyone played with confidence and determination. Our excellent passing and impressive ball skills kept the opposition scampering in their end for much of the game. The Hills Hawks manager and coach both acknowledge how much the Thornleigh side had improved. What else can I say that hasn't been said. Well done, everyone is proud of your efforts.

U15/1

THORNLEIGH 0 vs HILLS HAWKS 4

Playing against one of the competition front-runners is hard enough, but when you are missing one main defender and one main striker, it is even harder. So try as they might, Thunder could not hold out on the day. The first half was competitive and finished nil all, but Hawks did show some early signs of being likely to breach our defence. But the Thunder lads also displayed some lovely one-touch play at times. In the second half, a few decisions by the Ref seemed to rattle our players and the team lost the plot and hence the game. A more satisfactory score-line might have been held to if the players had not lost heart toward the end. STEVE SMITH and DESHAN JEGASTHESWARAN deserve special mention for having never stopped trying during the game.

The dams might not be full but the drought well and truly broke at Oakleigh Oval today! Our first win of the season was a pleasure to watch and put smiles on the dials of all the boys and coach Craig Denyer. A well-deserved victory it was too, with Thornleigh having the bulk of possession and threatening the Hawks defence for probably 60 of the 90 minutes of play. RAKESH GIANANEY had a couple of shots, hitting the cross bar on one occasion, PAT KIM had some shots, JACK PACKHAM had a host of shots, CHRIS BROWN had a couple of long range shots, ANDREW SPARKES had a shot, TOM KRISENTHAL had a shot (for his Mum) and the list goes on. Even LUIS REDFEARN looked like he was going to have a shot at one stage, venturing so far out of his box that he needed a packed lunch for the return journey. With all these chances we were only able to convert one, but that was enough thank goodness. Whilst it is difficult singling out star performers today, it must be said that LIAM RAYNER had a cracker of a game showing true grit and determination in defence. And JAMIE SEACH was ever dependable in sweeper, along with MATT ELDRIDGE and RICHARD GAMBLE in full back and mids. Today was the confidence boost the boys needed – congratulations to all of you! And it was terrific to see so much support for the boys from families and friends on the sideline.

AA/1 THORNLEIGH 1 vs HILLS HAWKS 4
 AA/3 THORNLEIGH 3 vs REDFIELD LIONS 1
 AA/6 WOMEN NO REPORT
 AA/7 THORNLEIGH 1 vs EASTWOOD ST ANDREWS 3
 AA/15 THORNLEIGH 0 vs PACIFIC HILLS DURAL 9

This was a disappointing result as the first half was one of the best that our team has played this year, against the team running second in the comp and have yet to be defeated. The boys were determined to start the game on a positive note and we attacked Pacific Hills from the start and had them on the back foot. We strung together some great passes and continued to play down their end of the park for the first 15 mins and we were unlucky not to score. But the opposition turned us around with lightning quick passing plays and scored 3 times before half time (2 against the run of play) Dural are an extremely energetic and skilful side and play a very quick brand of soccer and pounce on any defensive mistake. We came out in the second half full of fight and continued to pressure Dural without scoring, but due to injuries in the first half to two of our players we were unable to sustain the momentum without subs, and the opposition wore us down and started to score freely posting 5 unanswered goals in the second half. In goals BARNABY tried hard to stem the flow of goals, while in the backs REECE, MATT, LEIGH, CARL and ANGUS battled all game to stop the Dural attack, in the mid field TIM, JOHN, ROSS JAMES and NICK had fine games in attack while up front JOSH and KARTHICK constantly probed the Dural defence. Keep your heads up guys your commitment to each other and to the club is to be commended.

O35/1 THORNLEIGH 0 vs WEST RYDE ROVERS 1
 O35/4 THORNLEIGH 0 vs GLADESVILLE SHARKS 1
 O35/4 THORNLEIGH 1 vs GLENHAVEN (b) 1 - Make up game
 PL1/Res THORNLEIGH 1 vs ST ANDREWS 0

With Thunder out of the running for a top four spot they were intent on knocking off the competition leaders. Coach Doig reminded the players that in the corresponding game last year they defeated St Andrews and put them out of the top four finals. Thunder started with its strongest line up of the season and had the luxury of 3 fit players on the bench. MATTHEW "FITZY" FITZGERALD was unlucky not to score in the first half with 2 shots that went over the cross bar. At the other end a revitalized JAMES "JIMMY" RUSHTON made a number of vital saves. 0:0 at half time was a great score line for Thunder - but the best was still to come. St Andrews had a number of chances in the second half but were kept at bay by our scrambling defence, while at the other end LINTON ISTED and CHRIS WOOD kept St Andrew's defence on their toes. FITZY, making up for his two first half misses, was on hand to score the winning goal with a silky touch that left their keeper stranded. There is probably not enough space here to tell exactly how the goal was scored, but if you are interested I'm sure Fitzzy will tell you. Keeper JAMES made an excellent last minute save with a one on one with their striker. Best & Fairest points went to: JAMES RUSHTON 3 points, JASON HOWELL 2 points and ANDREW MASCARI 1 point.

PL1/1sts THORNLEIGH 1 vs ST ANDREWS 8

This was a must win for Thunder in their quest to finish in the top four. Thunder started well and were unlucky not to take an early lead when a shot from Luke Smithers was pushed over the bar by the St Andrew's keeper. This early escape sparked St Andrews into action. They opened the scoring at the 5 minute mark following a mix up in our defence. This was followed by 3 other first half goals. Unfortunately for Thunder St Andrews repeated their first half efforts with another 4 second half goals. Thunder's only goal came from a header from LUKE DAWSON. While an 8:1 score line is a resounding defeat St Andrews were top of the table and had already inflicted similar defeats on a number of other teams this season. Next week Thunder takes on GLADESVILLE RAVENS at Oakleigh Oval.