



Thornleigh Sports & Recreation Club Inc.



SOCCER DIVISION

BLUE & GOLD NEWSLETTER

23rd July 2005

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

With the first week of play-offs / round-robin over, we are certainly in the home stretch of the soccer season. We have posted some good wins over the weekend. The best news is that our women's team secured the premiership on Sunday at Waterloo Oval. In what was a very exciting game, the Thornleigh team were just too strong for the North Epping Rangers who were pulling out all stops to get back into the game. However, the girls held strong in the back line and with some excellent goal tending, the opposition's fate was sealed. The women's team is our only team to win a premiership this year.

Our Premier League didn't play on the weekend as their opposition forfeited the match beforehand. The Premier league have their final match this weekend as they have narrowly missed out on gaining a place in the play-offs. Overall, both teams have had a pleasing season and I thank them for their commitment to the club. We look forward to seeing the boys back next year.

The end of year dinner scheduled for August 20 has been a runaway success. We are now expecting approximately 190 people to attend the evening at the Pennant Hills Bowling Club. Tickets sales have now closed. I apologise to those people who wanted tickets but have missed out. The organising committee did not foresee the huge interest in the event and have been caught somewhat unaware. Plans will be put in place for next year to ensure we can accommodate all interested parties.

The Junior Presentation Day is scheduled for August 28, Sunday at Oakleigh Oval. This includes all teams from Under 6 to Under 17. Could managers and coaches please ensure all players are aware of the day. Further details will be posted closer to the date.

The **Annual General Meeting** is on **August 1 (Monday)** at the **Pennant Hills Bowling Club at 7.30pm**. Please note that ALL POSITIONS in the club cease and are declared vacant on the night. Naturally, we hope many people who held positions in 2005 will renominate for positions. Everyone who is interested in a position should nominate regardless if the previous holder renominates. A bit of competition is a good sign the club is still healthy. In fact it is vital as all clubs must have 'new blood' if they are to continue to move forward. It is important that everyone attends the meeting. Even if you haven't attended a meeting previously, please attend this one!

Yours in commitment

Rob Roberts

2005 Committee Members

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Deadline for Blue & Gold: MONDAY 3pm

Email to kedrummond@optusnet.com.au

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 0 vs GLADESVILLE RAVENS 4**

Soccer is all about having fun and nearing the end of the season that's what the boys are doing. The Emus were down 3 nil after the first half so obviously they fought well in the second. Two great goalies, JOSH REIDY and RYAN CLARKE defended the goals extremely well both making plenty of saves. REUBEN SPARGO and LACHLAN HARRIS had plenty of ball pushing through the defence on many occasions. JOSH NATOLI and NATHAN POLLOCK kept the defence tight as their opponents continually attacked their goals. HARRISON DARGAN was welcomed back after a couple of weeks off working well with SAMUAL KALNINS in the mid field. The player of the game and our "Man of the Match" belonged to CHRISTOPHER WATT who did not stop trying and made some great breaks. Well done EMUS.

U6 MAGPIES**THORNLEIGH 2 vs NORMANHURST 6**

Despite the somewhat lopsided score, this was a very good performance by the Magpies against a very strong Normanhurst side. The game also featured one of the highlights of the season, a fine solo goal by JULIA MOKDSI, her first of the season, as well as a moment of madness which was enough to make the coach's few remaining hairs turn grey and then promptly fall out. This involved a fine, carefully constructed goal by the Magpies, the only problem with which was that it was scored at the wrong end of the field! A firm cross from the corner towards the goal was hit by HUGH FRASER and was deftly tapped into his own net by goalkeeper MARCUS GRANT! GOOAAALLLL!! But this was a minor blemish from these two players, who otherwise had good games, HUGH in particular deliberately passing the ball to his team mates on several occasions. In the meantime, RORY MADDEN was having an inspired game in defence, going for the ball everywhere and saving one otherwise certain goal. It was 3 – 1 to Normanhurst at half time, with JULIA'S great goal putting Thornleigh back in it. In the second half, the Magpies tried hard, with LACHLAN JONES and WILLIAM GRANT battling for the ball in midfield together with RORY and JULIA, ALEXANDER HORSPOOL doing well in goals, and TOM KENNEDY having another very good all round game in both attack and defence. But Normanhurst were just too good, with one of their players in particular possessing a kick that would have done an Under 8 or 9 player proud and they managed to score three more goals in the second half. TOM snatched a well deserved goal back just before full time to give the score some respectability. Player of the week went to JULIA, for her inspiring goal and hard running in both halves.

U6 PLATYPUS**THORNLEIGH 0 vs MACQUARIE COMBINED SPORTS CLUB 1**

A crisp sunny Saturday morning presented itself for the Platypuses second last match of the season. Our whole team played one of the best games of the year, with the final score not reflecting the match. DANIEL MERRICK played goal keeper for the first half and was terrific in both attack and defence during the second half. DOMINIC MANNELL had a great first half taking the ball forward and as goal keeper in the second half pulled off some great saves. The most noticeable improvement this week was in our tackling. CODY JERVIS, ROBERT BRADLEY and WILLEM OATES were three of our best, repeatedly taking possession of the ball for our team. JOSHUA DE SILVA again showed his skill at the kick and run, taking the ball up to the opposition many times. TOMMY JIANG gave a determined performance, never giving up in both attack and defence. This week's Player of The Match was WILLEM OATES for his outstanding attacking of the ball. The Thunder Platypuses should be proud of their performance and were very unlucky not to convert it into points

U7 EMUS**THORNLEIGH 2 vs WEST PENNANT HILLS B 6**

Perhaps the best display of the year in the first half, with plenty of crisp passing and teamwork shining through. The score was 2 all at half time. Our first goal came when AIDAN LANE broke through and laid off to LIAM KIRK who slammed the ball into the back of the net. MARK NEWLAND with a fine individual solo effort ran the length of the field to score the other goal. TESSA GIBBONS pulled off some fine saves in goal. The second half saw the Emus tire. Despite some strong defensive work by JACK NAYLOR and SEAN NOTLEY-RUBENS the individual brilliance of some of the West Pennant Hills team could not be contained. RHIANNA MALONE and MICHELLE KEZELLE put in a solid effort. There were still a few chances, with LIAM KIRK breaking away a few times but just missing the goal. MARK NEWLAND was man of the match for an all round performance that included defence, attack as well as goal keeping.

U7 ECHIDNAS**NO REPORT****U7 MAGPIES****THORNLEIGH 0 vs NORTH RYDE 4**

In a return match, the Magpies demonstrated how much they have improved over the season. RYAN HODGES (player of the week) defended well, clearing the ball with some strong kicking. ERIKA LOVE was busy in goals in the first half and showed how she could quickly get the ball back into play. Taking on a crowd of players, ISABEL SEAMAN (most improved player) pushed on up the field with some great tackling. Injured, NICKLAS RASSMUSSEN was straight back on the field to help with the attack. In the second half, BEN HURWOOD made several saves under pressure, even though facing directly into the sun. Meanwhile, AIMEE LOVE capped off a great game by having a shot at goals. Even with no substitutes this week, the team put in a huge energy input throughout the whole game.

U7 KOALA'S**NO REPORT**

U8 RED

THORNLEIGH 1 vs WEST RYDE ROVERS 1

An exiting action packed game. At the 10 minute mark a lovely string of passes led to an inspiring run and shot from JEREMY (Player of the Match) led to the first goal. Three minutes later ROVERS equalised with a high kick over our goalies head. The remainder of the match was a fairly equal game with both teams challenging and fighting for the ball. As well as JEREMY, we had several other notable performances from BEN SEPAROVICH and CALLUM TOOHEY. Well done team.

U8 WHITE

THORNLEIGH 2 vs ALL SAINTS HUNTERS HILL 0

A very close game with plenty of nail-biting action. The first half was characterised by some great runs by JONATHON MEIKLE and TOMMY SIMCOCK, and good work in goals by JAMES PATTERSON. At half time the score was nil all : the game could have gone either way. It was then that the magic really started. Some good team work by RYAN MALLETT, DANIEL FOWLER and CHRISTIAN FARRELL-DENINA kept the ball down near our goal, ready for a good pass from BEN WALLWOOD to JACK GREEN, who neatly out-maneuvred the opposition to score our first goal. Several other attempts followed, which were strongly encouraged by our very vocal supporters. Some long kicks down the field by CHRISTIAN, HAYDEN SIMONS and PETER WADDELL kept the opposition on their toes. BEN WALLWOOD, in the thick of play in front of our goal, neatly scored our second goal with a nicely placed kick over the goal-keeper. Our defence line of ANDREW HADDAD, ERIC JIANG and ROBERT JONES all put in a good effort and kept the opposition well away from their goal line in the second half. The Man of the Match was awarded to DANIEL FOWLER, for good tackling and some great all round play. (Reminder: Ruddock Park 10.30, and barbecue duty, next week.)

U9/2

THORNLEIGH 0 vs WEST PENNANT HILLS CHERRYBROOK 1

This was déjà vu all over again!!! Same teams as last week, same ground and now the same score. The boys once again played well but cannot get that horrible round thing over the stripe. A draw really would have been a fairer reflection of the match. The ball flowed from end to end, parry and thrust, to and fro; no one giving an inch and only one goal (where a player was left unmarked at the far post) being the difference. But we are starting to see positives to take into next year. There was more passing this week with WILL in particular setting the standard by running with his head up looking for someone to let loose. BRANDON was given more latitude to rove this week and showed some neat skills. TOM L once again covered more ground than Burke & Wills in attack and defence and stopped a couple of dangerous situations dead in their tracks. TOM D pushed attackers wide all day and NICK S ran hard both at the back and in midfield. MAX had a shot as he pushed further forward than normal. NICK C got the smell of his new car out of his nostrils long enough to play well in goal as well as up front while ADRIAN battled on with a bad toe yet still kept at it all morning. BLAKE played his best game of the season, staying in the forward line and giving us a target to aim for. Our champion two miler CAMPBELL galloped around the paddock in the first half and then kept well after the break. JOSH battled hard for the full 40 minutes. Next week sees the return of the AXE so look out Holy Cross. It is Judgement Day!!!!

U9/8

THORNLEIGH 2 vs NORMANHURST 0

U10/3

THORNLEIGH 0 vs WEST PENNANT HILLS 3

U10/7

THORNLEIGH 2 vs NORMANHURST 0

U11/5

THORNLEIGH 1 vs GLENHAVEN 0

A great result from a hard fought and physical game. The team started a little shaky, allowing Glenhaven to break free early for a clear shot at goal. XAVIER BOUCHER made an excellent diving save to keep the score even. After that our backs went to work, anchored by ANDREW CARDWELL, JEREMY TOOHEY, and MICHAEL CSOMORE. All three played tough defense throughout the game, hassling the opposing forwards into miscues. BEN PHILLIPS showed nice footwork pushing the ball up field to get a shot for MICHAEL GAMBLE, who just missed. TIMOTHY LOVE and HUW FISHER both had some nice defensive clears in the first half and LACHLAN DENCH played a tough physical game all over the field. The second half saw some nice kicks from ANDREW MEIKLE, and solid defensive work from NATHAN LEUNG. Forwards ANTHONY FINN and RAPHAEL HARVEY kept pushing the ball up across midfield. Thornleigh finally broke the tie midway through the second half on a corner kick put in play by BEN to LACHLAN, then tapped in quickly by ALEX CHARARA who was in perfect wing position. A good team effort against a tough opponent, and what a great start to the pennant run!

U12/1

THORNLEIGH 3 vs REDBACKS 0

Yes you read the score right. The underdogs turned out to be the top dogs as they overwhelmed their opposition from the first minute of the game. Goals were scored by MITCHELL, HARRY and PAT sealed the fate of their opposition. The whole team played one of their best games and the backs, midfielders, and forwards remained solid and in form for the entire game. CHRIS SMITH did a great job in nets once again with a well earned shutout. Let's keep it rolling against West Ryde next week.

U12/3 THORNLEIGH 2 vs NORTH RYDE 2

A Nth Ryde goal in the first five minutes woke our team up and things started to hot up. MATTHEW D. and DANYON in the midfield were made to work hard and some solid running action from TOM, JOSH and KEL resulted in a great goal by JOSH over the goalie's head to even the score. Some great defence by BRADLEY, SCOTT, SAAMID and KELSEY kept the ball away from NICK until the "big guy" TOM was taken out before half time. Some terrific shots on goal by MATTHEW W., SAAMID and KEL did not hit the mark but helped to pressure the opposition into some mistakes. NATHAN was settling into his new position on the field, but then a nice cross resulted in Nth Ryde scoring their second goal. The left wing worked well to keep the ball moving forward and set up a great cross to JOSH who tapped it in to even the score at two all. A great result! The reporter's choice was KEL and coach's player of the match was SAAMID.

U13/2 THORNLEIGH 0 vs CARLINGFORD REDBACKS 1

U13/5 THORNLEIGH 1 vs PACIFIC HILLS DURAL 1

U14/3 THORNLEIGH 0 vs PENNANT HILLS 5

The frosty early morning was not on our side and the ball seemed to have a mind of its own in our last game of the season. We slowly moved into gear and the last ten minutes of the first half belonged to us. However, by the second half we failed to find the fire we needed. It was pleasing to see everyone continue to fight on to the end of the game but we failed to find form against a better opposition on the day. Despite having novice players, half the team eligible to play in the under thirteens, and only under twelve players to use as reserves, we certainly put up a hell of a fight. I am very proud to be associated with this team as they battled against the odds each week with determination that few other teams could match under similar circumstances. Thank you!

U15/1 THORNLEIGH 0 vs WPH BLUE 5

Its not that we played badly. We just got beaten by a very good young side, who showed why they won the Premiership this year. They played simple, attractive football, with constant two touch passing flowing like a wave down the field every time they had possession. STEPHEN SMITH, ANDREW GAMBLE and MICHAEL BROWN all had strong games and everyone tried right to the end, but we were genuinely outplayed on the day. Well done WPH.

U17/2 THORNLEIGH 4 vs HILLS HAWKS 1

For the Thunders getting to the pennant final is going to be a tough task. With five teams in the group and three matches in the round robin, three teams are getting byes handing them 3-nil wins without even playing. But Thornleigh is not one of them, and has to do it the hard way. Not only did we have to beat the Hawks today, we had to score enough goals to beat the system in case the final placements depend on goal differences. The boys knew what they had to do and to their credit they did it – even with our two regular strikers away with the flu. Thanks goodness for STEVE SMITH and MICHAEL BROWN who kindly filled in from the 15/1s. In the first 45 minutes the Thunders unleashed a torrent of aggression onto the hapless Hawks, with 4 goals to strikers STEVE SMITH and JACK PACKHAM feeding off great teamwork. One resulted from a copybook DHESHEN GOVENDER pass up field and another from an equally terrific DAVID PHILLIPS cross. In the second half the Hawks found their feet, the Thunders found their tanks running dry, and it was a more even affair but played with plenty of feeling. The Hawks got back an early goal but we made it to the whistle with a 3-goal lead and the boys have every reason to be proud of themselves. Outstanding players on the day were SAFA ZOWGHI with great ball control and aggression in the mids, DHESHEN GOVENDER with some astounding breaks and the talented STEVE SMITH. Well done guys, you're on target!

AA/1 FORFEIT BY THORNLEIGH

AA/3 THORNLEIGH 1 vs PUTNEY RANGERS 2

AA/6 WOMEN NO REPORT

AA/7 THORNLEIGH 1 vs ROSELEA SOCCER CLUB 0

AA/15 FORFEIT BY PUTNEY

O35/1 THORNLEIGH 1 vs BEECROFT 2

O35/4 THORNLEIGH 2 vs PACIFIC HILLS - DURAL 4

PL1/Res NO GAME

PL1/1sts NO GAME