



Thornleigh Sports & Recreation Club Inc.



SOCCER DIVISION

BLUE & GOLD NEWSLETTER

6th May 2006

Deadline for Blue & Gold: MONDAY 3pm

Email to kedrummond@optusnet.com.au

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



It was another week of mixed results with the Club struggling in a number of divisions to get points on the board. We are continuing to look competitive overall which is very encouraging and hopefully any week soon everything will fall into place.

If there are teams that are looking for additional support, please let me know. We are always happy to provide some extra training support and Craig Denyer, the coaching coordinator is readily available to assist. The Premier League goalies, and there are four of them, will be running several training sessions later this month for junior goalies or aspiring goalies. Further information will be forth coming.

Yours in commitment,

Rob Roberts

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Match Reports

U6 ECHIDNA NO REPORT

U6 EMU NO REPORT

U6 KOOKABURRA THORNLEIGH 4 vs PACIFIC HILLS DURAL 2 - 29th April

In a see-sawing match Thornleigh were initially on the defensive but strong defence by JARED DE VRIES held the line until ALEXANDER WALSH was able to bring the ball up out of Thornleigh's goalposts then a strong kick by MATTHEW BUTLER took the play into Dural's half. A Dural break away saw ALEXANDER and JARED accelerating to defend our half. The next memorable moment was a strong kick by DANIEL DRAPER from half way that took the momentum towards the Dural goal posts. Play then came back to the Thornleigh half and our goalie HANSEL JI made a great save. His goal kick was capitalised on by JARED, MATTHEW, and ALEXANDER for another Thornleigh goal by ALEXANDER. A lucky bounce off the Thornleigh goal posts let JARED take the ball up to Dural's half again. MATTHEW made some great tackles and took a hard knock around the halfway mark but then took the ball up to the Dural goal posts regardless. The game swung again and Dural No. 5 made an intrusion onto the Thornleigh half until stopped by JARED and BRADLEY HOWARD. The Thornleigh defences were tested again and turned once by OLIVER DEWEY and shortly afterwards by JOSHUA BENNETT. A subsequent intrusion spearheaded by the Dural No. 4 resulted in a goal despite some great saves before that by DANIEL. The tide soon turned back Thornleigh's way however as good teamwork saw JARED set up ALEXANDER for another goal to Thornleigh. An intrusion by two attackers was stopped by JARED and shortly afterwards ALEXANDER was able to score his fourth and final goal. Merit Award this week went to MATTHEW BUTLER and Man of the Match was ALEXANDER WALSH. We missed the enthusiastic play and good sportsmanship of DANIEL PATTERSON from this match.

U6 KOOKABURRA THORNLEIGH 3 vs GLENHAVEN 4

BRADLEY HOWARD (Player of the Week), despite being one of the youngest players, is one of the most reliable, diligent and improved players on the team. At this match he managed to take control of the ball on a few occasions always wearing a beautiful smile. Early in the match OLIVER DEWEY, DANIEL DRAPER and MATTHEW BUTLER demonstrated great teamwork passing the ball beautifully to each other. Always keen HANSEL JI also made his presence known on the field. ALEXANDER WALSH took goalkeeper position in the 1st half. After our opponents scored their 1st goal ALEX managed to fend off any further goals occasionally extending the boundaries somewhat! After some great footwork from MATTHEW, JARED DE VRIES took control of the ball and scored our 1st goal of the game. In the 2nd half JARED used his kicking power to score another goal and ALEX also managed a goal. DANIEL PATTERSON was our 2nd half goalkeeper and, unlike Putney, Glenhaven kept him very busy. The opposition was relentless but DANIEL managed to hold his own. Glenhaven managed to score another 3 goals to win the match. JOSH BENNETT's efforts during the match earned him the Merit Award. Despite enduring our first defeat, our enjoyment of the game is still going strong.

U6 MAGPIES NO REPORT

U6 PLATYPUS THORNLEIGH 3 vs GLADESVILLE RAVENS 1

Well, the kids were talking about 'thundering' the Ravens at training on Tuesday night, and the story of this game is a bit like a storm. After arriving at Morrison Bay and warming up by the seaside, the mighty Platypus team took to the field with purpose and determination. The opening 10 minutes of the first half was a bit like a light shower, with both teams juggling for possession, with CODY JERVIS making some good saves in goal as the Ravens threatened to attack. There were sprinkles of great play from both teams. Throughout the half JORDAN TAYLOR was continuously chasing around the park and QUINN CAMPBELL continued where he left off last week, with another 'never say never' effort. With only a few minutes to go in the first half, the Ravens took a shot from nowhere, and like a bolt of lightning, it flew past our keeper. Thunder 0-1. After the usual half-time 'psych-up', combined with some liquid replenishment, the Thunder upped the pace and like a heavy storm, took control of the MATCH, covering their opponents. DANIEL MERRICK turned on his batteries and made some good runs while ROBBIE BRADLEY made the first of several great saves in goal. CODY JERVIS scored two quick goals, the first a determined finish inside the goal box and the second from a great throw in down the sideline, combined with a 25 metre run and 'lightning bolt' shot into the goal. YASMINE ZEID starting chasing well around the park and very soon the 'Energiser battery', JOSHUA DE SILVA, finished off a fine piece of passing to score our third goal with a finish that wouldn't have been out of place in the FA Cup! It was only the final whistle that stopped RHORDAN STEPHENS from running non-stop around the field as he had continuously chased and tackled the Ravens, showing skill and determination way beyond his years. For his 'non-stop' effort RHORDAN was named 'player of the week', an honour that was thoroughly deserved. Well done Platypus U6 for a fun-filled match! Let's keep the 'thundering' happening again next week.

U6 KOALA NO REPORT

U6 WALLABY NO REPORT

U7 ECHIDNA NO REPORT

U7 EMUS THORNLEIGH 9 vs GLADESVILLE 1

The emus had a ripper of a game with more goals than they have had all season. CHRIS WATT and RYAN CLARKE obviously did a superb job in goals and also on the field with solid tackling and defense. TOM KENNEDY and NATHAN POLLOCK both scored 2 goals with some great passing as well. SAM KALNINS and REUBEN SPARGO were outstanding making some great tackles and beating their opponent for the ball on most occasions. The "Man of the Match" this week went to JOSH NATOLI who had one of his best, all over the field and scoring a massive 5 goals. Well done emus.

U7 KOALAS NO REPORT

U8 GOLD THORNLEIGH 0 vs. NORMAHURST 4

It was a great game by all in gold 8's this week. Solid defence was seen by BEN, NICHOLAS, ISABELLE & ERIKA. This performance from ERIKA awarded her player of the week. JACK T & JACK supported the mid field with great kicks and throw ins and calling for the ball. AIMEE's saves in goals in the first half were outstanding with JULIAN backing up in goals second half. RYAN, LIAM and ADAM were great in mid field with good runs which gave ADAM the most improved player award this week. It was a great run from ADAM 2 (no12) which saw him free to score a goal except for the one player on the opposition that thought he was playing rugby league instead of soccer and was solidly tackled in which we thought would almost certainly have been a goal. We can see improving skills in all players from week to week, keep up the good work gold 8's and remember always to have fun.

U8 ORANGE NO REPORT

U8 RED NO REPORT

U9/2 THORNLEIGH 1 vs WEST RYDE ROVERS 1

U9/5 THORNLEIGH 1 vs DURAL 4

U10/6 THORNLEIGH 2 vs PACIFIC HILLS DURAL 1

Today the "Sixers" met a very committed and good Dural team and it was a struggle to subdue them. They breed them tough out there in the back blocks!! There were plenty of bruised and battered bodies at the end from both teams with both BLAKE and MITCH hitting the deck hard and having to come off for short spells. Happily both returned to the battle and played outstandingly well with BLAKE getting both our goals, the second of which was as good as you can expect to see; a weaving run from deep past a thousand defenders and then a clinical finish at the near post. TOM D played forward for parts of the game and was Mr Everywhere Man darting into the fray at every opportunity. TESS played her best game of the season and was rock solid in defence. TOM L played the second half in goals and came out a long way to meet the ball a couple of times to defuse difficult situations. We welcomed JULIAN back today and he played strongly in the midfield as did JOSH B. The work on the training paddock is starting to pay off with some great passing through the midfield. We even saw some one and two touch football a couple of times which opened up space for other players. This was a very pleasing result as it shows the "Sixers" can win hard as well as easily. Well played again team.

U11/3 THORNLEIGH 0 vs HOLY CROSS 4

Not sure if it was the early start or the depleted numbers in the ranks that saw the team struggle today. The team did however put up a good fight right through the match. Some great goal keeping by CAMERON SHARIFI (1st half) and XAVIER BOUCHER (2nd half) withstood the constant barrage of goal attempts by the opposition – and all this with no gloves! Our one big chance of scoring came when TRISATAN ZEID initiated some good forward play, passing to JACK ANGEL at just the right time for him to attempt a kick at goals. The midfielders, TIMOTHY FORD, REBEKA FIELD and DARREN JOOSTEN were constantly pushing forward and then dropping back to help with the defence while the last line of defence was left in the capable hands of DALE EDWARDS and JAY STEPHENS. Last but not least was SAMUEL LANE who, although a forward, was always there to help out the backs! Thanks to JAY STEPHENS from U10/6's for helping is out today!

U11/6

THORNLEIGH 1 vs ALL SAINTS HUNTERS HILL 2

The first half saw All Saints a bit more organised and down our goal end as we struggled to cope. JOSH COOPER took goal for the first half and CALLUM MOSES the second. Both were kept pretty busy. DOMINIC BORG, ANDY LEE and CLAUDIA BOURIS had some great breaks but we were just so unlucky not to have scored. Some great running and defence by LYDIA WADDELL, KATHERINE MEIKLE, DANIEL CHRISTIE and FERGUS BARRY-CORDOROY. Our opponents were too much for us and scored twice in this half. The second half saw Thornleigh more organised, OLIVER JUDSON setting up the pass for DOMINIC to pass to CLAUDIA who scored our only goal! HAABID ZIKRIA and JOSH COOPER played a great game and I can't help thinking in the dying minutes the team were "warming up". Had there been another 10 minutes on the clock I am sure we would have scored again!! Man of the match FERGUS, Reporter's Choice HAABID.

U12/5

THORNLEIGH 2 vs RYDE DISTRICT PANTHERS 1

Today we were playing the undefeated team at the top of the table. Thornleigh started the game willing to make big passes and the thunderous through kicks over the oppositions head from ANDREW CARDWELL allowed our strikers to trouble their defence. The team continued to open up the oppositions defence with excellent passing from JEREMY TOOHEY and WILLIAM SOWDEN allowing MICHAEL GAMBLE to score our first goal. This goal sparked a mini comeback from Ryde District which put pressure on our defence. Our goal keeper HUW FISHER had to make some tough saves and it wasn't long before Ryde District equalised. The THUNDERS were determined to go home with a win today and continued to push into the oppositions half and were rewarded with another goal just before half time scored by MICHAEL GAMBLE. The second half was all attack from Ryde District with the THUNDERS defending their goal and without one brilliant save from their keeper HUW FISHER the game would have ended in a draw. A fantastic win today THUNDERS, keep training hard and many more wins will come your way.

U13/1

THORNLEIGH 1 vs WEST PENNANT HILLS/CHERRYBROOK (Red) 4

A few players and spectators to the game on Dural Park were asked for their comments "How do you think the game went?"

The responses were something like: "They played better than last week; the second half they picked up speed; CHRIS G had a brilliant game, he did a good job at defence; DAMO said we did better; CHRIS G deserved player of the match he kept running onto the ball and getting into the tackles; it was a tough game; all our attempts were close, but they (WPC) blocked and stopped them; we are still crowding, some are standing back waiting for others; LACHY had a good game, (but he has a good game every week, he keeps using his pace at every opposition); MITCHELL never loses the ball; WPC got a red card for a hand ball in the box and MITCHELL put away the penalty, he kicked it in as far away and as low as you possibly could and the keeper didn't even move; all the backs were really tackling hard and they were the best at getting the ball; the WPC goalie was definitely behind the line inside the goal box when he took KEL's rebounded ball from the cross bar, it should have been a goal - if we'd got that it would have lifted our game; the throw-ins were much better; CHRIS S made some good saves; we only had 11 players; we were probably the better team but they just got their shots in." Players of the match: CHRIS G and TOM D. No Reporters Choice: This reporter wasn't there. So while the boys are all enjoying their soccer games and doing their best, a win around now would be sweet.

U13/1

THORNEIGH 1 vs WEST PENNANT HILLS/CHERRYBROOK (Red) 4

We started out in a strong convincing manner and put the pressure on the West Pennant Hills team. However, a couple of lapses in concentration saw the opposition hit the lead and where they maintained it for the rest of the game. We certainly had our opportunities to level the score but an uncooperative ball kept that from happening. None the less the players kept trying and remained a danger until the end of the game. THOMAS DUNN played a strong mid field game and instigated many attacks into the opposition's end earning him man of the match. CHRIS GEORGIOU played an outstanding game in defence and repeatedly shut down numerous West Pennant Hills attacks to also earn a man of the match award. TIM and DAMIEN were pleased with the progress the team has made overall.

U13/3

THORNLEIGH 1 vs NORTH RYDE 2

The boys with a full complement of players got off to a great start. LEE, JOSH and KHAN tried hard to break NRYde's defence with the ball in NRYde's half most of the time. Most of the first half was a well matched tussle. JORDAN, DANYON, SAAMID, BRAD and SCOTT all did a great job defending and pushing forward, keeping NRYde on the defensive. MATT, STEFAN, THOMAS and CHARBEL worked hard at levelling the score. NATHAN put in a great performance with some good strong kicks. NICK, as usual, captured the ball on the few occasions that NRYde did make a break. All in all the boys tried hard and definitely deserved a few more goals. I am sure the coach's strategy will come to fruition in the weeks ahead. None the less with a score of 2-1 against us, the boys should go into the next part of the season confidently. The reporter's player of the match was JORDAN.

U14/1

THORNLEIGH 1 vs EPPING YMCA 2

In a very close game Epping scored early in the first half with WARWICK in goals making some great saves. Thornleigh came back stronger in the second half with a great goal by LACHLAN equalling the scores. MATTHEW and NICHOLAS as always strong and reliable players. MELISSA in goals in the second half also had some great saves however an unlucky goal saw Epping come through on top. Great passing guys, you're all really working as a team.

U14/2 Girls

THORNLEIGH 0 vs WEST PENNANT HILLS 2

We struck a very good team today which was justifiably second on the competition table. With only 9 players for most of the match, WPH gave us a lesson in ball skills and positional play, particularly by a couple of their girls who rumour had it were rep players. The Girl Thunders did start off slower than usual and despite the advantage in player numbers looked a bit vulnerable. After 10 minutes of play WPH were one up after we had difficulty getting the ball away our penalty area. But no worries, we'd been there before and finished up on top... After a half time chat from coach Craig our girls came out with gusto for a much better second half performance. PHOEBE KIEL displayed great ball control in mid-field and LUCY JONES had a fantastic game at striker with some good breaks and a couple of towering shots - one going just wide of the goal-mouth. Unfortunately WPH got through our defence all too easily just three minutes from the whistle and that was the ball game. Many thanks to Mike Irwin who brought hyped-up NEMO (Lucy) IRWIN and DANIELLE CHARARA back early from Mudgee, complete with hand-painted Thunder T shirts! And to Phil Smith who reffed the first half.

U14/4

THORNLEIGH 4 vs HOLY CROSS 1

Another win for this TERRIFIC team. They started solidly with an early goal from RYAN PYSAR. They were unlucky not to score from several other opportunities, but that's the way it goes. I thought we were going to be 2 up after a great corner from RYAN found JOSH ZADRO'S head, it was long and high and hard (it must have hurt) but as it was heading for the goals it hit a defenders head and bounced out, again another missed opportunity. So we went to the break 1up, but soon after the break the momentum changed and HOLY CROSS scored a well-deserved goal. With ten minutes to go the tide turned once again and ALEX "HARRY KEWELL" HOUSE scored a goal with a perfectly timed lob almost from halfway. It sailed into the top of the net over the goalies head, such a sweet hit. You could feel the boys were getting a bit tense (well it felt that way on the sideline) as they should have been a couple of goals in front, and were elated as all 13 of them ended in a huddle dancing from one end of the field to the other. From there the boys played hard and scored a couple more goals, one for RYAN and another on the full time bell to JORDAN SANT. Further commendations JOHN CHRISTIE – persistent never say die attitude. HARRY BROWN – continued to threaten all over the park. BRENDAN MEW – so dependable in the middle of the park. JOSH ZADRO – for his usual aggressive game. MICHAEL DENNETT – great in goals and brilliant in defense. GAME AWARD POINTS – ALEX HOUSE 3, JOSH ZADRO 2, HARRY BROWN 1. TEAM TRAINING POINTS – JOSH ZADRO 3, PETER CHRISTIE 2, LUKE MESSINA 1. A great team effort, well done boys.

U16/1

THORNLEIGH 1 vs HILLS HAWKS 9

The boys played a highly-skilled team today. After 20 minutes they had already scored 4 goals. We unfortunately had 5 boys not playing today which weakened our team considerably. Thankyou to BRENT ROGERS and NICK GEORGIOU from the U14/1s for helping us out. You both had great games! The boys, however, did soldier on attempting to enjoy and make the most of the game. The Hawks were too often 1st to the ball. When we did get control we too often booted it straight back to them. OSCAR MARONEY was quick and worked tirelessly up front and MICHAEL BROWN defended strongly (a brilliant tackle!) throughout the game. ANDREW GAMBLE scored our one magnificent goal today.

AA2

THORNLEIGH 4 vs MACQUARIE COMBINED 0

AA/3

THORNLEIGH 2 vs HILLS HAWKS 2

AA/5 WOMEN

THORNLEIGH 1 vs GLADESVILLE SHARKS 3

A good start to the game with a nice goal being scored by Lee (her first for the season) in the first 10 mins, but was returned by the Gladesville sharks in the following 10 mins, which made the scores even. A direct penalty shot for us, a good try from Mel, so close but not quite there. A run in with the shark's goalie saw Mel injured and a miss at goals from a combination shot by us. Lucky Mel continued playing, as we didn't have a sub to give her a break. The last 10 mins of first half saw good tries at the goals from Jackie, Lucy and a great corner kick from Mel but with no luck again. The second half we saw a great kick off from Thornleigh producing a near miss from Mel. Worth mentioning, during the whole game we saw great kick offs and nice ball skills from Thornleigh. Pretty soon into the second half saw another goal scored to the sharks. The wind & sun being against us made conditions hard for our girls. Sharks goalie had a massive return kick, which made extra work for our girls. The end of the second half saw more misses at goals by Lucy & Lee, a penalty kick to the sharks and another goal to sharks from a corner kick. At the end of the game a good save at goals by Rhian from a sharks corner shot. A great game but the results don't reflect the persistent effort by the entire team.

AA/8 THORNLEIGH 0 vs WEST PENNANT HILLS 1

AA/8 WOMEN THORNLEIGH 2 vs EPPING YMCA 2

AA / 15 THORNLEIGH 0 VS HILLS HAWKS 5

Reading this score line you would think that we were completely out played on the day, and after being down by 4 goals after 10 mins you would be right and a massacre was on the cards. The boys however do not know the meaning of giving up and in true Thunder spirit stood up to a bigger, faster and better team who gave us a lesson in football and played to the final whistle. The hawks team are currently in first place and are far too good for this division (they came 3rd in aa 12 last year and this is their 5th season together) came at us like a whirlwind scoring 2 freak goals in the first 5 mins. Coach Bruce Eldridge worked overtime repositioning and juggling the backs to try to stop the awesome hawks attack, and slowly the boys regained momentum and started turning the opposition around. With some great play, we went into the break 4 goals down. At half time the boys had a well deserved breather and Bruce changed the formation to attack the hawks defence and we played a great second half. Hawks were held for 40 mins with out scoring before they banged in their 5th goal, a fantastic effort by our young team. At the back our keeper BRYAN, had an outstanding game saving so many that we lost count while our backs MATT T, MATT E, LIAM, EDWARD, LEIGH and TOM bore the brunt of the attacks (EDWARD had his best game for the team) and tackled their hearts out, in the mids PAUL, TERENCE, DAVID K and CHRIS played with determination and commitment while up front the forwards PETER, DAVID P and HAYDEN attacked at every opportunity. Hold your heads up guys, you played well and received the respect of the opposition coach who was full of praise for your efforts. we are a young team and we are improving with every game. A big thank you to RAKESH GIANANEY from our team who played with the AA / 3 side. And a sad farwell to ANDREW SPARKES who has broken his collar bone (not from soccer)and will not play again this season.

O35/1 THORNLEIGH 0 vs GLADESVILLE RAVENS 9

Dear faithful readers...you both will be happy to see "Mr X " return to print. After recovering from the disappointment of staying in division 1 again, our our fragile "special needs" team swept all before them in pre season -ie. we thrashed Normo!

As always, we took this good form into the season proper, experiencing four of the unluckiest losses the club has ever experienced. After some "chardonnay soul searching" we have established the reasons why

- other teams cheat - they train
- other teams cheat - they have supporters - our supporter moved interstate
- other teams cheat - they have reserves
- other teams cheat - they have players under 45

Far from making excuses, we are just putting the facts in front of our juniors who we know still idolise their ageing heroes.

Finally, the goal (singular) we have scored this year was exceptional...just ask Alex ..he is available most weekdays/weekends at the club/ Westleigh shops to discuss it with anyone silly enough to walk within 50 metres of him...

Stay tuned...we are switching back to Carlton Cold this Saturday in a bid to recapture the glory years....if it's good enough for Sherbet at the Logies..... "MR X "

O35/4 BYE

PL/1 THORNLEIGH 2 vs PENNANT HILLS 4

If the coach did not have grey hair before the game he surely would have at the end. Pennant Hills converted a soft penalty after five minutes of play and scored another goal mid way through the first half. The stats showed that we only had one shot on goal in the first half that was pushed over the bar by the Pennant Hills keeper. The second half was much the same with Pennant Hills scoring after 7 minutes of play and again 3 minutes later. The only positive from this game was a late revival with goals from AVAN YOUNG and STEVE LANSLEY. Players Best & Fairest was STEVE LANSLEY. Thunder's next game is against Normanhurst on May 13 at Oakleigh Oval.

PL/Res THORNLEIGH 2 vs PENNANT HILLS 3

This game was a must win for Thunder. On paper we started with our strongest team for some weeks. Unfortunately, as with previous games, the opposition scored first and we were always on the back foot. A CHRIS WOOD goal leveled the score at half time. Pennant Hills scored 2 quick goals just after the break that made it difficult for Thunder to come back from. LINTON ISTEED scored a cracker of a goal 5 minutes before full time to add some respectability to the score. Player's Best & Fairest was STEVE JACK.