



Thornleigh Sports & Recreation Club Inc.

# SOCCKER DIVISION

## Blue & Gold Newsletter



23-24 June 2007

Deadline for Blue & Gold: **MONDAY 3pm**

Email to [kedrummond@optusnet.com.au](mailto:kedrummond@optusnet.com.au)

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT



It was a very welcome return to football this week even though some of the fields were a little soggy. I imagine the remainder of the season will be a little busy as the associations attempt to catch up on missed games and avoid further cancellations. Please double check any changes to games and venues.

Our girls' and women's teams overall had a good weekend with some very solid wins. There were also some outstanding results by our GHFA teams, in particular our 13/4 team who steamrolled their opposition seven goals to nil.

The poor weather forced the cancellation of our Under Seven Gala Day. Peter, Craig and Graeme have rescheduled this day for 4th August which is the first available day for securing the ground. Thank you for your patience in this matter.

The Premier League had mixed results on the weekend. They put up a brilliant fight on Saturday to stage a come back but were unable to hold on. Sunday was a different story as they stormed home 3-1 and 8-1 against the Ravens. Thank you to Mitchell who scored a hat trick in the first game and Ryan who scored a double hat trick in the second game. Evidently these boys had an early night on Saturday.

Martin Dargan has organised some very stylish Thornleigh Thunder caps for club players and supporters. They can be purchased in the canteen for the low cost of \$10.

Yours in commitment,

**Rob Roberts**

### THUNDER PREMIER LEAGUE

#### Injured Player Fund – Raffle Tickets

**\$2 each or three for \$5.00**

1st Prize - NEC 43cm Flat Screen Colour TV NLT-17C - RRP \$699

2nd Prize - Seiko Gold/Silver Watch SKJ022P - RRP \$595

3rd Prize – Seiko Gold Watch SHH184P - RRP \$550

4th Prize - NEC DVD Player & VCR Combo NDT-43 – RRP \$299

Raffle drawn - Saturday 28th July 2007 at 7.00pm  
at Pennant Hills Bowling Club.

Hopefully every team will sell a book a 25 tickets. If any team requires tickets they can ring me on my mobile 0419415070. Tickets can also be purchased at Oakleigh Oval Canteen next Saturday.

## RESULTS

### GHFA Competition - 23.6.2007

Grade/Div	Opposition	For	Against
U9/2	Eastwood Epping	1	0
U9/4	Normanhurst	0	0
U9/7	West Pennant Hills	1	3
U10/3	BYE		
U11/5	North Epping Rangers	11	0
U12/4	BYE		
U13/4	Gladesville Ravens	7	0
U14/1	Epping YMCA	2	3
U14/4	Pennant Hills	3	2
U15/2	West Pennant Hills Red	2	0
U15/4	Putney	3	1
AA/2	Oakhill College	3	2
AA/6	Carlingford Redbacks	4	2
AA/9	Putney	0	3
AA/11	Kenthurst	1	1
AA/17	West Pennant Hills	1	2
AA/19	BYE		
O35/2	Ravens	5	2
O35/5	BYE		
PL/Res	Pennant Hills	1	2
PL/1st	Pennant Hills	2	5
PL/Res	Ravens (24.6.07)	3	1
PL 1st	Ravens (24.6.07)	8	1

### NWSWS Competition - 24.6.2007

Grade/Div	Opposition	For	Against
U12/1 Gold	Gladesville Ravens	0	9
U12/1 Blue	Kenthurst	1	0
U14/1	Kenthurst	1	4
U15/1	Pennant Hills	3	0
U15/2	BYE		
AA/5	Kenthurst	2	0
AA/9	Roselea	2	1
AA/10	West Ryde Rovers	2	2



# Thunder FC Sponsors - 2007 Season

Thunder FC relies on the financial support of its 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 2007 season and encourage everyone associated with Thunder FC to support these local businesses.

## MAJOR SPONSOR

Pennant Hills Bowling Club,  
52 Yarrara Road, Pennant Hills

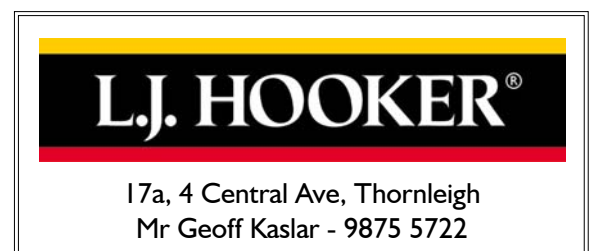
Pennant Hills  
Bowling Club



## Silver Sponsors



## Bronze Sponsors



# UNDER 6 EMU



## THORNLEIGH 6 vs BEECROFT 4

With 2 games and 3 training sessions washed out it was welcoming to see some sunshine and know the Emus were going to play. First up were team photos at Oakleigh and the team was looking sensational, then off to Epping for an 11.30am start. The team arrived with plenty of time only to find Beecroft was down a few players. ISAAC kindly offered to play on their team leaving us with only 6 players, so we knew this was going to be a tough match. TYRESE was out with a broken collarbone but came along to cheer his team on. First half saw JOSHUA sporting a funky new short haircut in goals where he managed a few saves for the Emus. The Emus were on fire where SAMUEL played well with strong kicking and running, although ISAAC showed plenty of great defence for his team. JONATHON was playing really well with great defensive kicks and stops. TAJ and AIMEE were also showing impressive tackling and kicking skills and helped SAMUEL ensure a few goals for the Emus. A bit out of practice this week JORDAN was a little preoccupied with the sunshine but nonetheless enjoying his time on the field. One high ball from Beecroft went over JOSHUA's head that he had no chance of saving. The team played well and ended the first half on 3-1.

Second half saw TAJ in goals and now JOSHUA was able to show his new tackling techniques as he went in after the ball. SAMUEL had plenty of energy and did a long run up to goals where he scored again. ISAAC was impressive with his tackling and also managed to score for Beecroft. JORDAN showed us his kick off from centre line which tricked Beecroft as it didn't go as far as they had anticipated. Beecroft quickly recovered and moved in on the ball, which spurred on JONATHON who ran in for a few saves of the ball and helped the Emus snare the ball. AIMEE showed her strength with some more kicking and defence skills and SAMUEL then managed to score twice more. Beecroft managed to score a few more times and TAJ showed us some impressive kicks from the goals. The Emus ended the game ahead and all played very well. ISAAC played fantastically for Beecroft, well done ISAAC. This weeks "Player of the Match" went to JORDAN for his enthusiasm!

# UNDER 6 KANGAROO



## THORNLEIGH 8 vs NORMANHURST 2

The sun finally came out and the boys were eager to get started. Normanhurst kicked off the first half, with our boys rushing to touch the ball. BEN COLLEY made a great run towards the goal and fired a great shot into the back of the net to open our account, this was the first of his 5 goals for the half. JAMES RICKWOOD was eagerly pacing in the goal mouth, waiting to touch the ball. JAKE DARGAN had a couple of strong runs towards goal. DANIEL BIDWELL played the game of his life, he was in the thick of the action, culminating in a big run up the centre of the field. DOMINIC MATHIOUDAKIS produced a number of his trademark big kicks from the centre of the pack.

AIDEN ELLIOTT and WILLIAM SPARGO were supporting well both unlucky not to put the ball in the net. NICK COLLEY played a very good defensive role in the first half, making a couple of strong breaks. Normanhurst made one good break and managed to find the back of the net. At half time we lead 5 - 1. BEN COLLEY started the second half in goal and was unable to keep his slate clean, letting in a solitary goal. The boys were playing well following the break. NICK COLLEY attacked the ball with renewed determination that payed off with a good goal. WILLIAM SPARGO was running hard all half and combining well with AIDEN ELLIOTT and DOMINIC MATHIOUDAKIS. DANIEL BIDWELL was kicking strongly and had a number of good breaks. JAKE DARGAN was unlucky to finish with only 1 goal for the half after numerous attacking runs saw him deprived by the goal keeper or shots narrowly missing their target. JAMES RICKWOOD had a couple of strong attacks the first stopped by the keeper and the second finished off by NICK COLLEY. The player of the match was DANIEL BIDWELL with great midfield play, strong attacking runs and commitment for the whole game.

### Thornleigh Thunder 'Encouragement Award' Winner: Under 6 Kangaroo - 23 June 2007

*Congratulations to the U6 Kangaroo, for being the winner of this weekend's 2007 McDonalds 'Encouragement Award'.*



Proudly sponsored by  
McDonalds Thornleigh.



Would the Team Manager please contact the vice president by Wednesday of this week to pick up the certificates for a free burger, fries and Coke and free entry for Thunder players into various Sydney Attractions. Club contact details can be found on the website at [www.thornleighsports.org.au](http://www.thornleighsports.org.au)

# UNDER 6 MAGPIES



## MATCH REPORT

We were finally back on the park this week after the downpour of rain over the past few weeks and didn't the boys show how much they've missed their soccer and put in a brilliant effort against a team which looked a lot bigger and older than ours. BRADLEY HOWARD was simply superb in goal and made brilliant saves, he was backed up by JORDAN-LEE BACON, EDWARD JIANG, OLIVER DEWEY and JARET WILSON in defence. In attack we were strong with JOSHUA BENNETT making some great attacking runs but it was MORGAN HUGHES and DANIAL PATTERSON who's attacking runs proved successful and both scored the goals for the team which won 3 nil. It was great to see the boys back on the paddock and simply having fun.

# UNDER 6 PLATYPUS



## MATCH REPORT

Despite having had a 3 week spell, the Platypus team continued to improve their game during this week's match. Of special note is this week's player of the match, BRYNN, who wowed us with her running with the play and enthusiasm to get to the ball. ETHAN also stood out this week with his persistent tackling of the ball and some spectacular runs towards goal - a great performance. LUKE and THEA worked hard in goals with some great saves against a skilled attack. OLIVER had a great stop in the second half to save us from another opposing goal. LACHLAN and MATTHEW played hard in defence with some fantastic tackles and kicks from MATTHEW to keep the score down.

# UNDER 7 ECHIDNA



## THORNLEIGH 4 vs NORTH EPPING RANGERS 0

Our second win of the season!! RHIANON CRANE was a superb goalie in first half and did some good saves although most of the action was at the other end of the field with LACHLAN NEWLAND, making a great goal attempt and really getting the ball away from NER, including a snazzy backward kick. ELANI WILD made a great defense doing some mighty kicks up the field when she wasn't dancing in goal with RHIANON. LOUISA LAWRENCE was in fine form with two goal attempt before she scored our first goal and half time was called. In the second half CHLOE CAIRNS came into her own with a great attempt and goal and she really thinks and places herself in good positions to be passed to. JEMMA LEWIS, did some amazing runs and footwork with her own goal attempt too. JEMMA and CHLOE are shaping into really good soccer players. ELANI was our goalie in the second half and did two good saves, whilst LOUISA scored a brilliant second goal. We'd have been lost without DYLAN DONOVAN who was always in the thick of things getting the ball for us. TIMOTHY REYNOLDS was in amazing form as usual and got the ball right up the field to the goal box with one mighty kick and then went on to score two more goals for us as well. All in all a great game with some good teamwork for a change.

# UNDER 7 PLATYPUS



## THORNLEIGH 4 vs ALL SAINTS 1

This was a morning where the old saying 'never say never' was in play from the start of the game. After practising our techniques for staying warm at the team photos, we all loaded

up with petrol and snacks for the trip down to Morrison Bay. As we arrived, there were a few nervous twitches as a couple of the team members were prone to little injuries (fingers, knees etc) before the match. Combined with the cool breeze across the Parramatta River, it was the perfect scenario for the mighty Platypus Alumni to keep their prestigious run on the move! Just minutes before the whistle, Coach Merrick was unsure if he would take the field to ref after a missed warm up tackle by one platypus (Cody Jervis) almost took his shin off, managing to miss the ball totally. Luckily it happened off the field rather than in the match! More akin to Premier League.

From the outset there were all sorts of dance moves on the floor as we chased and tackled hard and before long CODY JERVIS scored the first of his two goals, breaking through the defence and adding to his goal collection from several weeks ago! 1-0 which soon became 2-0. Like always, RHORDAN STEPHENS played with the composure of a Socceroo, teasing the attackers with his arsenal of kicks, chases and fantastic tackles. DANIEL MERRICK played his heart out in goals, thwarting most of the ALL SAINTS Strikers as they made many attempts on goal and really showed a high level of focus. ALL SAINTS managed to squeeze a goal in to make it 2-1 with a few minutes left but THUNDER composed themselves like a politician on the election trail, and with about 1 minute to go in the first half, the 'pocket rocket' ROBBIE BRADLEY, launched a lob wedge that would have been very useful in the US Golf Open last week, clearing the ALL SAINTS keeper and then landing perfectly in the goal to take us to the break at 3-1. As we only had our bare 6 players today with 2 of the normal 8 on the mend, there wasn't much more to say in the half-time team talk other than the old Rolf Harris line 'keep on keeping on', as the boys sucked in oxygen and rehydrated. THUNDER controlled the opening of the 2nd half, continuing to smother any chances that ALL SAINTS tried to create. OLIVER GORDON was terrific in the middle of the park, taking it up to the opposition with some really great tackles, dribbling and passes while the rest of the team never stopped running. With about 5 minutes left, ROB picked up a ball in our goalmouth and ran the length of the PARRAMATTA river, dribbling the ball with both feet and passing the whole team. When he reached the ALL SAINTS goal, it was 'all over red rover' as they say in the classics, 4-1. (This goal will become folklore in the Bradley household!) QUINN CAMPBELL carried on from a tenacious first half on the field with a series of simply superb saves in the goals 2nd half, keeping ALL SAINTS at bay and leaving the supporters wanting more! For his consistency and great team spirit he was awarded 'Player of the Week'. What a week, what a game! It only keeps on getting better. Well done lads.

### Thornleigh Thunder 'Encouragement Award' Winner: Under 7 Platypus - 23 June 2007

*Congratulations to the U7 Platypus, for being the winner of this weekend's 2007 McDonalds 'Encouragement Award'.*



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# UNDER 7 WALLABY



## THORNLEIGH 0 vs KENTHURST 5

It was good to be playing again after the much needed rain. A few of the boys were a bit rusty and took a while to warm up however not ROWAN WOOD, player of the week, who nearly scored in the first opening minutes of the match. The first half was rather one sided with much of the time spent in the Kenthurst goal area. LACHLAN HARRIS, the first half goalkeeper, stopped many shots at goal by the opposition and defended the goal area with long and strong kicks. Our team had many near misses at scoring with a particularly impressive run started by ROWAN WOOD who passed to NICHOLAS WENSLEY, the Skills Award recipient for the week, who then passed to MATTHEW BUTLER who just missed scoring with the ball scraping the wrong side of the goal post. DANIEL DRAPER again was not afraid of getting into the mix and was ably assisted by JAMES YOUNG who received the Merit Award this week. Many thanks must go to BEN LANG who played for us in ALEXANDER WALSH absence. He mixed it with the big boys and his speed is amazing. Hopefully the team will notch up some moral boosting goals next week!

# UNDER 8 WHITE

2 June 2007

## THORNLEIGH 1 vs PUTNEY RANGERS 4

The early stages of the game were promising, with great play from the whole team. ZOE MATHIOUDAKIS's big kicks helped CAMERON CHOI to take the ball forward, supported by an attacking JOSH BATCHHELDER. ADAM WALKER's intercepts were an additional highlight and JEMMA CAMPBELL-PARRY aided the attack in the mid-field. NICHOLAS BASSETT's reliable goal keeping only let one through in the first half. The second half started with a change in line-up with VEERAN MUDALIAR and JAYDEN PAK leading the attack supported by BIANCA TOOHEY and ELLY RICKWOOD with the others midfield. NICHOLAS ROSE and JORDANN VAN WYK performed capably in defence when it really mattered. Defensive skills were called upon early with "the wall" proving successful and keeping the score at 0-1. Following a further goal to their opponents, a phenomenal effort from VEERAN MUDALIAR, with timely support from ANDREW WADDELL resulted in the Whites goal to make it 1-3. The team was unlucky to have a further goal scored against them towards the end of the match.

# UNDER 8 GREEN

## THORNLEIGH 2 vs WEST RYDE ROVERS 3

After two wet weeks the boys were wrapped to be back on the field letting out 3 weeks of energy. The game started at a very fast rate with the West Ryde Rovers determined to make their mark. Solid defence was the name of the game initially with our backs working their butts off. REUBEN SPARGO, WILLEM OATES, RORY MADDEN and RYAN CLARKE all put in a huge effort tirelessly defending their goal and getting the ball back where it should be. JOSH NATOLI had a tough job marking their number seven who was lightening fast but JOSH kept him under wraps exceptionally well mowing him down plenty of times. YASHAR ELLIIN and ALEX HORSEPOOL both had great games in the midfield with YASH bagging a nice goal and ALEX playing out of his skin with some awesome attacking and defence. In goals for the first half HARRISON DARGAN made a heap of great saves under some heavy pressure and backed it up second half helping the mid field. TOM McDOWELL up front had a ripper as well attacking perfectly, having some great shots and passing and receiving some great balls. Man of the Match this week went to NATHAN POLLOCK who also played exceptionally well in attack and netting one of the two goals. A special mention this week to RYAN SMART although sick with the chicken pox still came to watch his team put on a great show. Well done boys and thanks to the families, friends and the many grandparents who all came to support our team this week.

# UNDER 9/2

## THORNLEIGH 1 vs EPPING EASTWOOD 0

After 2 weeks off weekend soccer and no training the boys were itching to get back on the field. The day got off to a brisk start with the 7:30am photo shoot where the boys spirit and excitement for the game ahead was clearly on display. The PARENTS survived the morning cold even without the requested coffee orders being filled! The victory was very well deserved with the boys gaining momentum over the past few games and feeling more comfortable in there allocated positions. What a first half - full of attacking raids and 3 of our boys being felled in the space of minutes. CAI started the day in sensational form with allusive runs showing speed, deviation and fine ball skills. ADAM was very strong in the middle taking on the bigger guys with his never say die attitude. MARC, one of the three to fall, jumped to his feet when told that he had earned a penalty in the box. As cool as a cucumber with an amazing strike he landed the ball in the top right of the goal to secure the only goal for the game. BEN HAYWOOD was true to form once he came onto the field with inspirational attacking flair. COHEN was watchful on the wing and heavily involved in the action stealing the ball on a number of occasions, taking it upfield and linking with the centre forwards. HAYDEN was in goal in the first half with limited action and was ready to go in the second half. He showed off his ball skills, mesmerizing the opposition and was extremely unlucky not to be able to get the final shot away in the second half. AIDAN was extremely alert, showing determined marking, strong kicking and great defence. Man of the Match - COHEN MURRAY - for great tackling and running with the ball; HAYDEN TODOROSKI - for mesmerizing footwork and attacking

## UNDER 9/4

### THORNLEIGH 0 vs NORMANHURST 0

There was dancing on the sidelines this week when the 9/4s came out firing and managed to hold out 2nd placed Normanhurst, to come away with their very first point of the season. ALEX B was on fire, taking the ball up, bamboozling the opposition, and producing some soccer moves that would make much older players proud. CARLY, MILES and THOMAS all made exciting forays into the opposition's half, while JACK T played the best game so far this season, showing real commitment in getting the ball through to the forwards. ALEX W and JONATHON both had very strong defending games, sharing the goalie role, and supporting each other really well in the backs with superb tackling and kicking. CALLUM and TESSA were solid as always, making some great tackles and clearing kicks without missing a beat, while HARRISON and ISABEL produced some great supporting work up the middle, and were really keen for the ball. Well done kids! I believe it's pizzas all round at training this week. Player of the Match: ALEX BORG. Most improved: ISABEL SEAMAN

## UNDER 9/7

### THORNLEIGH 1 vs WEST PENNANT HILLS 3

Our Under 9 Division 7 team recorded an improved performance in their 2nd round match against West Pennant Hills Cherrybrook. In the 1st round we lost to this team 6-0. Our whole team played a high standard of football, and each player gave their full commitment on a cold 1st up Saturday morning game. Our backs NICHOLAS YUAN, MATTHEW ALLEN, and ALEX SHIELDS were tireless and constantly up to the task of repelling their attackers. The coach has been encouraging MATTHEW ALLEN to make a run down his wing and pass directly to the forwards throughout the season, this week he did it like a pro. Well done MATTHEW! Forward RYAN LEE scored a great goal mid-way through the 1st half after siezing on a wayward clearance kick. Our other forward ANTHONY DANG worked hard to create opportunities throughout the match. Attacking mid-fielder MARK NEWLAND supported our two forwards well. The 2nd half saw us really rattle the opposition with good passing and defence. MICHELLE COOPER had a great game back after a broken arm. JOSEPH NGUYEN, LUKE SPYER, DYLAN McGILL, SUSY SOWDEN and LACHLAN ALLAN all had good performances in the mid-field. Just before the final whistle the opposition scored their final goal. While there were some questions over whether or not it was a genuine goal, our team displayed good sportsmanship in accepting the referees decision. We really gave the opposition "a run for their money". All the children are enjoying themselves and improving all the time. We're all hoping for more blue sky on the remaining Saturday mornings of the season. This is what it is all about.



## UNDER 11/5

### THORNLEIGH 11 vs NORTH EPPING RANGERS 0

Cold. It was so cold not even the brass monkeys were venturing out of their beds. But while sensible people were still under the doona the mighty Thunder Fives were running around in their shorts for a 7.30am photo shoot and then braving Morrison Bay for an early game. With the breeze whipping in off the water and, with the wind chill factor approaching freezing, enthusiasm was not evident amongst the spectators. One unnamed parent hoped it would be warmer at Meadowbank so went there instead. Luckily ADRIAN took charge and sanity prevailed. Happily the chill in the air was more than offset by the blistering performance off the Thunder Fives. They were simply exceptional!! As Coach BOB said at the end of the game....."You did everything right, took the right options and should be proud of yourselves". Goal scorers today were CAMERON (3), BLAKE (2), ANDRE (2), MITCHELL (2), JAY (1) and JOSH (1). However while these players got on the score sheet they would not have been given the opportunity without the exceptional work of their team mates. ADRIAN and WILL smothered Rangers in the midfield and set up many attacking raids. MAX, TOM D and DANIELLE let nothing through at the back. HOLLY had an absolute screamer of a game and was everywhere until pushed back to defence where she gave a rhythmic gymnastics display with a discarded streamer. JULIAN ran with enthusiasm and fire winning plenty of ball. Special thanks to our goalies today MITCHELL and IZAACK, who each had to be thawed out after their lack of action. Some of today's goals were top drawer. The pick of the bunch was a three way special of one touch football. ANDRE won the ball and sent a quick pass to CAMERON who laid it off to BLAKE who hit it first time and left the goalie inspecting his chilblains. Other memorable moments included the accurate crossing of TOM L which set up three of the goals. At one stage Coach BOB told TOM to put a corner on to JAY's head. Well the corner missed his head but hit his foot at the far post and in went the goal. JOSH hit a nice chip shot which cleared the goalie, CAMERON hit a real blaster which rattled the back of the net still going up and MITCHELL got on the end off another TOM L cross and at full stretch pushed a left foot shot home. We saw another piece of ANDRE magic with a trademark weaving run which left the defenders with whip lash as he turned them one way then the other before finishing clinically. So while the spectators froze it was worth it to see a really good team effort with everyone playing for each other. Good stuff Thunder Fives!!

## UNDER 12/1 GIRLS

### THORNLEIGH (Blue) 1 vs KENTHURST 0

Before the game had even kicked off, our girls were going down like flies with injury and illness. So, with the bare 11 - many of whom were sick or injured - the U12 blue team displayed true Thunderette spirit and got out there and gave it their all. And how good were they! Positions were kept, passing was executed with amazing precision, and there was even some fantastic calling for the ball. MADDY gave the fans something serious to cheer about when she potted a beautiful goal brilliantly set up by REBEKA in the opening minutes, and she continued to pressure the Kenthurst backs throughout

the game, making some amazing breaks and being totally tenacious. TAYLA, JAS, JOEY, HANNAH T and HANNAH C were all keen for a piece of the action, and kept getting the ball down near the goals and were unlucky not to score on many occasions. REBEKA was absolutely outstanding, and tirelessly worked the ball forwards with a combination of some beautifully placed passes and booming kicks over the heads of the backs to give the forwards something to run onto. The backs had a very quiet first half, with a few bursts of pressure which they handled magnificently. In the second half, LYDIA went into goals, and made a fabulous save, while KATHERINE, RACHEL, DANNI and TAYLA keep clearing the ball out and thwarting the Kenthurst attack. We were unlucky not to end up with a second goal just on full time, when HANNAH T made contact with the ball right on the whistle and it flew into the back of the net. All in all, Coach Jaye was a happy man, the spectators were loving it, and the girls were absolutely stoked! Player of the Match: REBEKA FIELD

a David & Goliath battle with several full backs twice her weight and showed her resilience. LISA PHILLIPS had her second debut this season and held her own with surprising level of co-ordination. SAM TRENAMAN had a great half in goals. Drum roll maestro...now for the awards: the Player's Player was a close victory for EMILIE LOWE. The Team First award goes to ASHLEIGH who should have been in bed recuperating from Flu and a big thanks to LISAJANE EDMONDS for helping out as acting manager and report author for the last game. Well done girls!



## UNDER 14/4

### THORNLEIGH 3 vs PENNANT HILLS 2

It was a cold winter's morning with the temperature measuring a mere one degree Celsius! A slick of ice dominated the middle of the field! After a mid-season rest due to continuous wet weather, our boys left their warm beds to meet their opponents Pennant Hills at North Ryde Oval... and what an exciting match it was! With only 10 players to Pennant Hills 14, it was a challenge indeed that our boys were determined to meet. Cheered on by a handful of shivering parents and one of their injured teammates BRADLEY TUCKNOTT, our team pressed on to score 3 goals to Pennant Hills 2! It took our boys a while to get into the groove, however 5 minutes into the match, LEE had scored our first goal taking Pennant Hills by surprise. SAAMID swung into action and was unstoppable for the rest of the game, his next goal was equalised by Pennant Hills before half-time. The second half was fast-paced and our boys were working hard to keep possession of the ball against the four fresh subs that Pennant Hills had waiting on the sidelines. Then the highlight of the match occurred....it was a case of "bend it like SAAMID"- he booted the ball from a corner, which miraculously curved straight into the goal, scoring our third goal.....the crowd went wild! JOSH P played tirelessly and was unlucky not to score a goal, as did THOMAS D and TOM B. Our defense worked hard with ALEX blocking the way at just the right moment and some great kicks from DANYON and NATHAN. Player(s) of the match: SAAMID

## UNDER 13/4

### THORNLEIGH 7 vs GLADESVILLE RAVENS 0

Another great game! With only the bare 11, Thunder's great team work resulted in a win against Ravens. Our passing, attack and defence couldn't be faulted. WILL SOWDEN scored his first goal for the season. He'd come close in a number of games and finally cracked it today. MICHAEL BRADLEY scored the first goal for the day with MICHAEL BROWN also scoring a great goal, finally, after hitting the post twice before making sure of it. Special mention must be made of MICHAEL GAMBLE who scored 4 of our 7 goals....congratulations. All our players worked hard and again proved with team work they're a team to be reckoned with. Well done all of you: WILL, MICHAEL BRADLEY, MICHAEL BROWN, MICHAEL G, ANDREW C, ANDREW M, DOMINIC, JEREMY, JONATHON, TIM AND HUW.

## UNDER 14/1 GIRLS

### THORNLEIGH 1 vs KENTHURST 4

Thank goodness it stopped raining... well it slowed down for the game. But despite the cold and wet the girls enjoyed returning to the pitch and whilst it took ten minutes for the girls to get back into the swing of things they started to engage. KENTHURST unfortunately scored 2 goals midway through the 1st half. The second half became a closer contest but fatigue took its toll and KENTHURST, who had a squad of 17 against our 11, scored another two goals. THORNLEIGH dug deep and showed dignity to increase the pressure on KENTHURST that led to several near goals. Eventually an error was forced and THORNLEIGH was awarded a free kick where ALISSIA ODDI drove the ball to the top corner of the net to make it 1:4. Three Moral goals were awarded to EMILIE LOWE for running the ball up the wing to a spit distance from the goals. TAYLOR LANGHAM also scored a Moral for a similar run. This made it 5:4 Moral victory to THORNLEIGH. GEORGIA DAVIS had

## UNDER 15/1 GIRLS

### THORNLEIGH 3 vs PENNANT HILLS 0

After 2 washed out weekends the girls turned up to play. They warmed up in the rain while the opposition sheltered under umbrellas. This was a sign of things to come. Switched on from the start, the girls took control. Defense was the key to this game and our girls were solid throughout. Across the backline BECK, RANI, DANI and PHOEBE directed the game. Strong kicks and room to run out wide for BECK and PHOEBE, helped the mids and forwards receive plenty of ball. Midfield players - ELLIE, CHLOE, EMMA and MADI pushed the ball forward, harassed the attackers and set the forwards up many times. ANNALESE and LUCY J had a field day, even with the defense

blocking and pushing hard to unsettle them. Three beautiful goals and many more attempts reflected the attitude and skill of our team. A powerful penalty goal attempt by LUCY J found the goalie's tummy and we were denied. Every player on the field was on their game today. MADY's strike that nearly knocked the posts down was a highlight, PHOEBE 's trap and control of the ball stood out and again. MADY' s powerful running and field position set up a great win. FIONA didn't see much ball but did turn the opposition around time after time with clearing kicks from the box, ensuring plenty of ball for our girls. 3-Nil. A great team effort girls. You are still - TOO HOT TO HANDLE !!!

## UNDER 15/2

### THORNLEIGH 2 vs WEST PENNANT HILLS RED 0

At long last after 'the big wet', the form team of the competition hit the paddock expecting an easier game against a team lower than us on the table. This was not too be as WPH used an unstructured,spoiling game which was not akin to our flowing, measured and precise team game,and it was not till the later part of of the 1st half and a few positional changes that Thornleigh took command of the game. With a move commencing from the back with a JOHN CAVILL punt out of the box to RYAN, who then deftly placed the ball infield to NICK to guide to a fast forward moving BRENT to hit a shot from the right of WPH's box area into goal in the 33rd minute(fewww,that was a mouthful). With the first one in the box the team came to life with WARWICK, MATTHEW A, BEN, JON, MEL, STEVE, ALEX, DARRYL and JOSH now playing constructive football and combining with the two strikers, MATTHEW L. and LACHLAN, for LACHLAN to caress the ball into the net on the stroke of 35 mins and 69 seconds. The second half produced some entertaining football from Thornleigh with an abundance of difficult, but scorable opportunities arising, but that scoring move and next goal just wouldn't come. After such a long break this game allowed the team to rid itself of the cob webs and they will only benefit for this difficult match, ensuring that the next few games will be something worthy of a Grand Final winning finale.

## WOMEN'S AA/5

### THORNLEIGH 2 vs KENTHURST 0

A steady even start developed into the Thorns constantly returning the ball to the Kenthurst goal. Many good attempts & constant pressure at the goal face. Great goal keeping & early pickup by MEL in the first half saw very little threat to our goal. Unfortunately ADELAIDE was out early in first half due to an injured knee. Things were tense and fairly even with no side scoring by the end of the first half. Team effort saw MEL continually attacking the Kenthurst goal early in the second half. With both teams more determined it wasn't long before we saw the Thorns with a combined team effort, convert a corner to our first goal being kicked in by JESS. JACKIE did a great job of being goalie in second half and consistent great play by RHIAN, AMY D and ALYCE. With our confidence & determination up it was wonderful to see MEL score our second goal close to the end of the game. We hope the injury LAURA sustained when she was kicked in the foot attempting a fine run and ADELAIDE'S knee injury, recover for our next

match. Well done to all the girls. Lastly, we wish AMY DODD and JESS FALLON all the best for their overseas trip and see you both ready to play when you return. Also we hope KELLI DOIG is enjoying her USA trip and ready to return soon.

## AA/6

### THORNLEIGH 4 vs CARLINGFORD REDBACKS 2

After a two week hiatus everyone was obviously ready to play as the weekend's performance was probably the best of the season so far for the Thunder. A great, cohesive team performance reaped rewards for the boys over the much disliked Redbacks side. Don't know what it is but we don't like those guys. Could it be because they're mostly a bunch of as... (snip... Thunder FC Lawyers). It was a bit of a shaky start as we went behind early. A shot popping out of the normally vice like grip of keeper MARK DENNIS for an easy tap in. But credit to everyone for keeping their heads up as we soon dominated possession, using the acres of space down both flanks and passing with pin-point accuracy. After what seemed like an age in their half, with many penetrating balls into the box, ahem, a trademark jostling run and low cross from MURRAY GRAVES saw a result as TIM MORISON was left with an easy tap in and thus opening the floodgates for the venerable striker. The crowd (thankyou Gibbo & Britney) had only just ceased cheering when TIM got a second moments later. The shot from the by-line on the edge of the box, which in no way was a mis-hit cross that got a lucky deflection off a post, went in off the far post as TIM had planned all along, completely fooling the keeper. However the lead was short lived as a very fluky, over the head, back towards goal, ...um goal was scored by the Redbacks. Not a lot we could do. Sometimes it's better to be lucky than good, and that was indeed the case this time. So it was honours even at the half but still with the Thunder with the upper hand. After a couple of handbags at half time things threatened to self-destruct but everyone showed true grit and character and the second half went much the way of the first... minus the Redback goals. Again we dominated possession and only a few lucky, reflex saves kept them in the match. That was until BRAD RUSTON took charge of the situation and fired one in after a bit of a scrap in the box off a corner, getting off the mark for the season. Victory and TIM'S hat-trick was sealed not long after fighting off cramp and beating the keeper in a one-on-one (I think that's how it happened, there were so many goals I can't exactly remember them all). There could have been another but this time the cramp got the better of him. And there indeed could have been several more for the Thunder if not for the previously mentioned saves and a little bit of reckless shooting. Something Nigerian footballers know all about... too soon? Fantastic games from everyone. Mark Dennis in goal, who had a very quiet second half with about 2 touches. JAMES RODGER, BENTON JOHNSON, ANDREW WAGG, ANDREW LISCOE and the returning from a long injury PLAYDO at the back. RICHARD HULOWATYI, MURRAY GRAVES, BRAD RUSTON and ROSS EDWARDS for owning the middle of that park and AARON BOOTH and TIM MORISON up front. And of course outstanding performances from ROBERT ZWARTZKA and SIMON WATERHOUSE, our impact players coming off the bench. Everyone deserved a goal but unfortunately not everyone got one (TIM was hogging them all) but hopefully a hug and a beer after the match compensated. And of course plaudits too for current incumbent manager Dave Power, the mink overcoat from the Jose Mourinho collection is on it's way to replace the inside out jumper. Oh and lads, the official Thunder FC headbands (thanks to Hills Hawks for the inspiration) are on their way, imagine how good we'll play (and look) with those strapped on to our noggins.

# WOMEN'S AA/10

## THORNLEIGH 2 vs WEST RYDE ROVERS 2

Another great game for the "I never say die attitude" with the All Age Women's division 10 team. We only had 11 girls and no subs, but our girls just get in there and play with their hearts. From kick off we held the ball for most of the first ten minutes near our goals and we tried to make opportunities but unfortunately we did not kick strongly enough to get it past the goalie. But as the score was 1 nil West Ryde Rovers way, the girls upfront JO G, ANGIE, LISA, DIANA, MEL and AMANDA were trying to make opportunities. From confusion in front DIANA got the ball and hit it right into the back of the net, her first goal for the season (congratulations). Second half saw West Ryde Rovers take more control of the ball the first 10 minutes and were able to slip a ball past our defence and score. But true to this team, we didn't give up hope. Our defence line worked so hard with LOZ our sweeper ensuring that we all marked our players. FRANCES, ANNEMARIE and ANNA continued to take the ball and kicking it up the field to our forwards. But in the last ten minutes the mid fielders were in the box waiting for an opportunity to score, JO G kick the ball and unfortunately for West Ryde Rovers their own player scored a goal for us. ANNA was on corner kicks this game but unfortunately she didn't get the balls on the field as she did prior to the game starting. KATHY H our goalkeeper was more in control the second half and we thank her every week for her hard efforts in stopping all the balls that come her way. Thanks also to WARRICK (ANGIE's Dad) in assisting us on the side line and refereeing the first half. Great effort Thunder Chicks.

# PREMIER LEAGUE FIRST GRADE

## THORNLEIGH 2 vs PENNANT HILLS 5

While Pennant Hills took an early 2 goal lead AVAN YOUNG scored just before half time to keep us in the game. Just after half time RYAN ROFF scored from a header that leveled the scores. In the second half Thunder were caught out on the counter attack and paid the price with Pennant Hills scoring three unanswered goals. You've heard it all before but I believe we were the better team and the losing margin was not a true reflection of the game. Next Saturday we take on competition leaders North Epping Rangers at North Epping Oval.

Coach's Best & Fairest points: STEPHEN LANSLEY 3, AVAN YOUNG/RYAN ROFF 2, TRISTAN TULLOCH/TIM HILL 1.

24 June 2007

## THORNLEIGH 8 vs GLADESVILLE RAVENS 1

The manager was scurrying through the record books after the game to find another score line of this magnitude. Not only was the score line a record of recent times RYAN ROFF managed to score a double hat-trick of goals. RYAN opened the scoring after 5 minutes with a well taken penalty then booted home five consecutive goals. LAYN MELLISH and ANDREW ZVIRBLIS chipped in with second half goals. It was a well deserved team victory following the disappointing loss to Pennant Hills the previous day and keeps alive our final four hopes. I'm wondering whether we can transfer all of our home games to Thornleigh Oval and play them on a Sunday....

Coach's Best & Fairest points: RYAN ROFF 3, WILL JENKE/TIM HILL 2 AND JASON HOWELL 1.

# PREMIER LEAGUE RESERVES

## THORNLEIGH 1 vs PENNANT HILLS 2

Thunder were looking to revenge their first round loss to Pennant Hills. The first half was a tight affair with neither team dominating play. It wasn't until mid way through the second half that PIP BINGEMANN scored his first goal of the season and a Thunder victory looked likely. Unfortunately Pennant Hills had other ideas and waited until the 35th minutes of the second half to score the equalizer. Then 5 minutes later they scored again to dash our hopes of making this year's play offs.

Coach's Best & Fairest points were: PIP BINGEMANN 3, NICK IOANNIDES 2 and JAMIE CLENINING/OWEN LANSLEY 1.

24 June 2007

## THORNLEIGH 3 vs GLADESVILLE RAVENS 1

At last a victory for our reserves. Captain MITCH BINGEMANN set the standard of the afternoon scoring a hat-trick of first half goals. While Thunder were always on top Gladesville scored an early second half goal to keep us on our toes. Our defence line led by JAMIE CLENINING and STEPHEN LEE kept Gladesville at bay for the rest of the game.

Coach's Best & Fairest points: Were shared by MITCH BINGEMANN 3, ANDREW GAMBLE 2 and JAMIE CLENINING 1.

