



Thornleigh Sports & Recreation Club Inc.

# SOCCKER DIVISION

## Blue & Gold Newsletter

12-13 July 2008



Deadline for Blue & Gold: MONDAY 3pm

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

## SEASON SOCIAL NIGHT

### NEW DATE

*Players, Parents, Family and Friends  
of Thunder*

START ORGANISING YOUR GROUP TABLE.  
TEAMS FROM UNDER 6 – 35,  
ALL AGE & GIRLS TEAMS.

**Saturday 27 September 2008  
at 7.30pm**

at  
Thornleigh West Public School Hall

#### *What to expect:*

- Gourmet food provided by Crown Catering (BYOG)
- Heaps of fun
- Sporting attire or Olympic Nation Theme - Optional
- Heaps of laughs
- Table Trivia, Celebrities, Auctions, Prizes
- Heaps of activity
- Annual Thornleigh Soccer Club Awards
- A kid-free night and walk home
- Live Band, Live Compere, Live Wires.
- Tickets to sell quickly. Book early for 1 or more.

*More details to come via Blue and Gold every week!*

#### *Pre Book Tickets:*

**Graeme 0419 416 628 Seniors**  
**Craig 0425 336 560 Under 9 – 17.**  
**Neil 0408 992835 Mini 6 – 8.**

## RESULTS

GHFA Competition – 12 July 2008			
Grade/Div	Opposition	For	Against
U9/3	Macquarie Combined	1	1
U9/7	Normanhurst	0	3
U10/2	Normanhurst	3	1
U10/6	West Pennant Hills	0	0
U11/3	All Saints	0	3
U12/3	West Ryde Rovers	1	2
U13/3	Hills Hawks	1	2
U14/4	Glenhaven	2	1
U15/1	Pennant Hills	2	2
U16/2	Epping Eastwood	4	0
U16/3	Hills Hawks Blue	1	12
AA/6	Beecroft	2	2
AA/9	Putney	2	5
AA/12	Normanhurst	1	0
AA/14	Ryde District	2	2
AA/18	BYE		
AA/19	West Pennant Hills	5	0
AA/22	All Saints	0	1
O35/2	All Saints	0	8
O35/5	West Pennant Hills	5	1
PL/Res	Epping Eastwood	1	1
PL/Res	St Andrews (13/7)	1	0
PL/1 <sup>st</sup>	Epping Eastwood	3	0
PL/1 <sup>st</sup>	St Andrews (13/7)	0	2

NWSWS Competition – 13 July 2008			
Grade/Div	Opposition	For	Against
U13/2 (6)	Putney	0	1
U13/2 (7)	Gladesville Ravens	0	4
U14/2	Macquarie Combined	3	0
U16/1	Pennant Hills	1	0
U17/1	North Epping Rangers	3	2
AA/4	Putney	4	1
AA/10	BYE		



# Thunder FC Sponsors – 2008 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 2008 season and encourage everyone associated with Thunder FC to support these local businesses.

## MAJOR SPONSOR

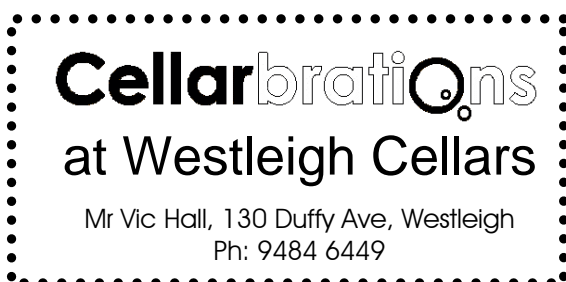
Pennant Hills Bowling Club  
52 Yarrara Rd, Pennant Hills



## SILVER SPONSORS



## BRONZE SPONSOR



17a, 4 Central Ave, Thornleigh  
Mr Geoff Kaslar – 9875 5722

## UNDER 11/3

### THORNLEIGH 0 vs ALL SAINTS 3

Sometimes the end score line of a game does not give a proper indication of how close the game actually was. On a freezing morning the U11/3's played a fantastic game.

The first half was dominated by the Thunder, with quite a few attempts, one of which hit the goal post and bounced back into the field of play. BEN M, SLADE and ANDREW were stringing together great passes up front, with great support from RYAN and MAX. MITCH wasn't troubled in goals due to our great defence. After an enthralling half, we went to the break nil all.

In the second half for just a few minutes we weren't totally awake and All Saint's slipped three goals past us. CALLUM was having a great game in defence and turned it into attack many times. RYAN, DANIEL and BEN S had the ball on a string today and owned the centre area. They were always in the right position to advance the ball, and the whole team had great field presence to help support each other.

Special thanks to NICHOLAS Yuan and GABRIEL Fraser from the U10/6 team who each played a half for us. They more than matched it with the older boys.

Another great team effort for the U11/3's... one in which we learnt that we need to play for the whole game. Well-done Team!!

## UNDER 12/3

### THORNLEIGH 1 vs WEST RYDE ROVERS 2

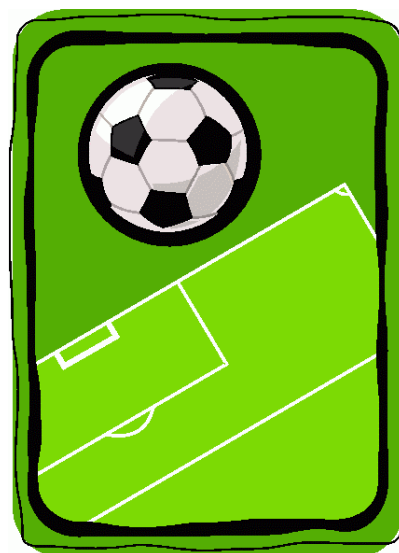
The Thunder Threes have really good close games against Rovers. This season we have the full house of a win, a loss and a draw. Unfortunately today was the loss and it probably means the Premiership is now but a pipedream. If only we could play hard for the first five minutes of each half we would do a lot better. Both Rovers goals today were scored during these periods when we were asleep. Our first half was really good after the early Rovers goal got everyone moving. TOM L and CAMERON were working well together on the right side with CAM putting through some sweet balls to exploit TOM's speed. WILL was winning the midfield and holding position. Finally the reward came when an ANDRE corner lobbed in to the goal mouth and TOM L's pressure caused the goalie to push the ball into his own net. We had a number of other good chances to get another goal before half time with NICK nearly getting his foot in the right spot a couple of times. We dominated the rest of the half but just could not score. The second half started with a scrappy Rovers goal. Unfortunately we never came back from it. JOSH was solid at the back and took the ball forward cleverly a number of times. TOM D was his regular never say die self at centre back, chasing down dangerous situations and clearing the ball. MITCHELL was safe in goal and his prodigious punt kicking set up numerous attacks. Where we probably lost the game today was through our inability to win the midfield in the second half. Positional play disappeared and structure disintegrated allowing Rovers far too much possession. Our midfield must remember to hold position and chase back hard when the ball is lost. Good teams punish lack of structure. Today was a good game and everyone put in maximum effort. The other team just got the result on the day.

## UNDER 13/2 GIRLS (6)

### THORNLEIGH 0 vs PUTNEY RANGERS 1

The day started a little chaotically - a few players were away, a few sick, and a few had slept in. Standing at the allocated field we were a little alarmed to find our opposition absent, but did enjoy a quick catch up with the other Thornleigh team. Investigations as to the missing nets and Putney team had us pointed all over the shop, until we finally discovered the field had been moved at the last moment and no one had told us. Great. With just 15 minutes to spare we all hopped into cars and floored it (safely of course, and never really exceeding the speed limit), to a different location, where we found Putney but no ref. It was reassuring then, that the ref turned up 10 minutes late, giving us adequate time to get our breathing sorted, the card filled out, and some form of a line up - or as a much as you can make with 8 players (plus one lost in transit somewhere).

Putney seemed to be expecting a walk over, and their initial treatment of us could be described as slightly arrogant... which sort of made it all the sweeter when our backs of RACHEL, KATHERINE and BETH blasted through their attack, then our midfielders - JOEY, JAS and ELISE - drove the ball through to our lone forward SOPHIE, who was able to outpace the backs and put the keeper under pressure... and this happened time and again. Relief came in the form of a racing ALANA, who had finally made it to the ground, and slotted into the forward line to give us some extra fire-power up front and was unlucky not to score after hitting the post and everything around the goals on several occasions. Our backs continued to ruthlessly clear up any balls that even looked like they might squeak over the half way line, while the mids were outstanding. And then the unthinkable happened... Putney went on the attack, and despite valiant attempts to clear the ball they powered a ball at the goals. The ever-reliable BEK put her body on the line and stopped the ball, but it unfortunately bounced loose... and disappeared through her legs, dribbling over the line.... not really a convincing goal to Putney, but they were on the board. Deciding to increase the firepower further RACHEL moved to the forwards while SOPHIE dropped to defence, then goals in the second half. The Thunderettes continued to thwart Putney, while ELISE, RACHEL, BEK, JAS and ALANA all had lovely forays into attack.... but in the end the Putney second half strategy of "everyone defend the goals" left us unable to break through. Still, it was a fabulous game to watch - and every player deserved points at the end of the game. Player of the Match: Players' choice - SOPHIE MAHN.



## UNDER 13/3

### THORNLEIGH 1 vs HILLS HAWKS 2

This deferred match from Round 3 found an under strength team of ten players defending persistently and making some good opportunities to score. The whole team deserves considerable credit for the way they kept at a difficult job.

As usual the goalkeeping duties were shared, with SAM LANE called on often and making a number of good saves in the first half and ALASDAIR BELLING making some spectacular saves in the second half. They both did a great job but the season would have been different with a permanent goalkeeper.

The defence of CALLUM MOSES, DOM BORG and DALE EDWARDS were busy initially, with FERGUS BARRY CORDEROY assisting from midfield and the period was weathered and followed by a fine goal, with passes involving OLIVER JUDSON, JACK ANGEL, and ALASDAIR BELLING with excellent finishing by JACOB KOWALSKI. However just at the end of the first half Hills Hawks scored after a goal mouth scramble.

The second half followed the pattern of the first with HAABID ZIKRIA and the midfield showing some good touches, the forward line now lead by SAM LANE creating opportunities and the defence all doing well.

In the end the numbers reflected the final score with Hills Hawks scoring a good goal. But the effort displayed throughout was a credit to all.

## UNDER 14/2 GIRLS

### MACQUARIE COMBINED 0 vs THORNLEIGH 3



We not only scored..... We won! Woo Hoo! The only disappointment was that we missed Chris Lowe's victory lap. MCC could only field 10 players but having been in that position before, we were not about to complain. Our goals were mostly run-aways with EMILIE LOWE scoring the first 2 goals and GEORGIA DAVIS scoring the 3<sup>rd</sup>. The best thing though was to see the girls' skills come to surface. On several occasions we even

saw the girls stringing 3 to 4 passes together using the angles to push through the mid-field. Our defence was impenetrable where LAUREN BONNER seemed to be perfectly positioned to clear the ball when MCC tried to break through the middle. However some of THORNLEIGH attacks came from our back-line where LISA PHILLIPS made several  $\frac{3}{4}$  field runs up the left beating about 3 players in the process. ALYCE TOMPKINS also had a vigorous game making several robust challenges and winning the ball. However most of our attacking stemmed from the mid-field with EMILIE LOWE having a sensational game of running right up the middle beating loads of players. SHELBY COLLEY had several shots on goals and showed us how she can now rake the ball backwards. Up front we saw GEORGIA DAVIS showing us how she can skin players with the step-over. The Player's Player was awarded to EMILIE LOWE. Well done team – your persistence has paid off.

## UNDER 16/1 GIRLS

### THORNLEIGH 1 vs PENNANT HILLS 0

The Girl Thunders maintained their unbeaten record against their Penno High sisters, and in the process cemented a spot in Division 1 semi finals!!! What an awesome achievement, Girls, and one you should be so proud of, as should your super coaches Craig and Mel!!!! From here on you can relax and really enjoy your soccer!

Beating Penno was no easy feat however, as their defence was really solid. Even LUCY and ANNALESE had trouble breaking through the Penno defence – most unusual. In fact this was a match characterised by good defence from both teams. Rarely was either keeper put under pressure, despite the match looking like the Girl Thunders had the upper hand for the bulk of the 70 minutes.

MADELEINE BROWN played one of her best matches where from mid-field she defended well, fed the ball well and made some of those legendary Brown throw-ins. Whilst the score line was tight the Thunders definitely had the better of play, with Penno using the defensive strategy of booting the ball into touch (which worked). On many occasions the Thunders found themselves taking corner kicks but weren't able to convert them. Then after one corner a shot on goal, rebounded from their keeper, was instinctively grabbed by a Penno defender before it could be fired back in. The resulting LUCY JONES penalty went straight to the keeper but was voided as the keeper had moved too early. The second attempt shook the net thank goodness – the only goal of the match.

On the few occasions a Penno striker got between our back line and keeper, our defensive line-up of (variously) BEC WICKHAM, COURTNEY BLANCH, DANI CHARARA, RANI PAII and ARI O'NEILL used their speed to run down and snuff out the threat.

Great headers were also taken by ARI O'NEILL and DANI CHARARA, and GEORGIE DINAN made some lovely through-balls from mid-field. The other two DANI's – WALSH and COOK - also had strong games, as did CHLOE BERESFORD and ELLIE CHIRGWIN, and this mid-field strength really was the key in the Thunders' domination of play today.

Next week the girls play the very strong Normo in a washout make-up game, the last of the premierships rounds. And who's to say the Thunderettes can't come out on top?



## UNDER 16/2

### THORNLEIGH 4 vs EPPING EASTWOOD 0

We won 4-Nil for the second week in a row. We dominated the ball throughout the entire game and I lost count of the number of times our shots just missed the goal. It was extremely frustrating for the parents on the sidelines and exhausting for the boys as we had no reserves. At half time CRAIG told the boys to start "stroking the ball". This advice appeared to work as we got 3 goals in the second half.

We had a change of positions in that RYAN took over JOHN's usual spot in goals, and performed brilliantly as evidenced by the final score. JOHN went into defence and performed extremely well. Our defence held the entire game under the guidance of MIKE. ANDREW had a great game and was a rock solid defender as usual. STEVE played well despite having quad problems from Craig Denyer's training session.

The first goal was a combination of our midfield players with the ball being lobbed over the defensive line by PITCHER for MATT to slot the ball into the back of the net. PITCH had some great individual breaks in the first half and was very unlucky not to score. WAZ played brilliantly as has come to be the norm lately and almost scored twice and was rewarded for his efforts later in the game with our second goal. JORDAN played some great crosses in from the wings and we were unlucky for none of them to be converted. JORDAN however was on the receiving end of an individual run from DAVE and was able to "stroke" the ball past the keeper for our 3rd goal. HARRY was also unlucky on a few occasions not to score as was PITCH with a few long shots. MATT was lucky enough to "stroke" our 4th goal past the keeper into the opposition's net.

## LADIES 17/1

### THORNLEIGH 3 vs NORTH EPPING 2

Another great win today girls. After a great goal kick from STEPH, FRAN chased the ball down the field to score a fantastic goal for our first goal. FRAN also scored another goal from a long range. HAYLEY also scored a great goal. The girls had a hard fought game and were unlucky to have a penalty scored against them in the box. We are now in fourth position so keep up the good work girls.

## ALL AGE/6

### THORNLEIGH 2 vs BEECROFT 2

Billed as perhaps our toughest test to date the Thunder very nearly pulled off a dramatic victory over league leaders Beecroft. It's crunch time for the Thunder and the boys didn't disappoint with a gritty and determined display that if 3 points were awarded for such things we would have got 6. ANDREW BOUGHTON opened the scoring in the 12th minute in what went on to be a man of the match performance from the greyhound like midfielder. An unfortunate communication mix up cost us conceding an own goal 15 minutes later. The returning TIM MORISON soon put things right, timing his run perfectly to stay onside\* from BRAD RUSTON'S perfect through ball leaving Timi-Goal with only the keeper to beat. The second half became quite a stalemate. We couldn't build on our lead despite peppering the Beecroft goal and they could not wear down our defences for much of the half. Sadly for the Thunder they managed to equalise with 10 minutes to go and the game was to end in a draw. Despite the disappointing climax (something the Thunder W.A.GS are used to) it was a top effort

by the Thunder and just the confidence booster we needed after a lacklustre few matches. Top performances from MARK KENNEDY and RICHARD HULOWATYI in the midfield and also DAVID POWER up front were just a few highlights. High in the tackle count were defensive generals JAMES RODGER and GREG RUSTON. Special mention must also go to stand in keeper CHRIS "GOPHER" GRAVES who pulled off some fine saves towards the end to ensure at least a point went our way. Next weekend is a double header against Epping Eastwood. The 6 points are a must if we are to have the impact we desire in this competition. The form is returning at just the right time perhaps.

\* He wasn't called offside so, therefore, he must have been on.

## ALL AGE/19

### THORNLEIGH 5 vs WEST PENNANT HILLS 0

This was an outstanding win by our young All Age team. We played the team that was running third and we totally outplayed a West Penno team that had the best defensive record in our competition. Along the way we played some of our best football all season.

We came into this game with a healthy respect for our opposition as we had drawn with them in the first round and they have the best backline in the competition. We knew that to beat them we would have to play them off the park, and that is what we did.

We started the game with a few changes to player's positions to improve the style of the way we play and from the opening whistle it became apparent that we controlled the mid field and with that we controlled the game. We started to run West Penno around the park with a pin point passing game and it was only a matter of time before we would score. The first one came from a great cross from PAUL to find a flying MARC to bang it home. Soon after, a scorcher from MARC hit the cross bar to bounce back and find PAUL trailing behind to head it past a diving keeper. We continued our pressure and soon after NICK scored a beauty from a DAVE cross.

West Penno tried hard to get back into the game but our back line was superb led by PETER in goals with LIAM, CHRIS, EDDY, MATT and DESHAN. They snuffed out any serious raids into our half, turning the opposition around for our mid field of TERENCE, NICK, DAVE and ROLY to play havoc and attack through our strikers PAUL and MARC.

Our fourth goal came from a piece of ROLY magic as he took the ball around 30 metres out and ran around or through 5 players, toying with the defenders off his left and right foot before banging home what could be the goal of the season.

The boys came in at half time pumped if a little tired as we only had one sub. We went back out determined to keep a clean sheet and deny the opposition any chance of getting back into the game. West Penno came at us with everything that they had and we had to scramble in defence to hold them. The second half developed into a battle as we were still dominating the game but it was becoming harder to break through for another goal. It finally came when MATT had a great run from the back and put through a nice ball for MARC to bang it home for our fifth.

Every one in the team had a great game, in particular EDDY and MATT played their best games this season. Well done boys to all and we look forward to next week's game against co-competition leaders Glenhaven.

#### Match Points

Roland Leech 2 points  
Matthew Eldridge 1 point  
Deshan Govender 1 point

Marc Tingle 1 point  
Chris Brown 1 point

## OVER 35/5

### THORNLEIGH 5 vs WEST PENNANT HILLS 1

Thornleigh continued on its winning Sunday form with a convincing win against cellar dwellers West Penno.

After a slow start and a 1-1 half time score line, three quick goals early in the second half set up our best win of the season

Thanks again to Super Chef, Charlie Zarb for another superb Sunday Roast and an excellent selection of beers from Andrew M-B.

#### Scorers

Bradford Pete, Brian Flack, Tim Hayward, Blanchy, and.....finally.....  
Kaaaaaaaaaaaar! Daaaaaaaaaaaavies

*The Guv'na*

## ALL AGE/22

### THORNLEIGH 0 vs ALL SAINTS 1

If football games could be measured on the star rating system then our performance would be a 2 from 5, which saw an ill disciplined effort and the team losing by a goal.

The opposition appeared to be a much different unit from the team we cruised past a couple of weeks ago and this was self-evident when we started on the back foot. In saying this though our forwards BRETT "the boy" McINNES and BRENDON "che" MULLENS were holding up the ball well and our flanks were skirting on the peripheries and playing some quality ball into the middle. One such piece was finished by Ado "nimble" MATHEWS hitting the intersection of the post and cross bar, and the ball luckily rebounded into the keeper's hands.

Tempers mid way through the half began to fray as the opposition were flying in with some late tackles and this appeared to unsettle us, which led to a unfortunate incident between 2 of our players and a free kick to the opposition. We paid for this indiscretion and the opposition scored a cracker from about 31 metres out and the crowd from the sideline said it was going into the goal the minute it left his boot.

Again to our credit we rallied as a team and finished the half well.

The second half was an unusual affair because we started well and looked threatening with the ball and PHIL "Mr Football" HULL and ADRIAN "Call me Cronin" CRONIN started to drive the midfield and it looked as if we would draw level at any moment.

Having only 1 substitute mid way through the half began to hurt us as the opposition had 5 and this definitely was a factor in the game as the fresh legs began to wear us down and it was becoming harder to penetrate in the middle. After yet again another effort that hit the post we were then left with 10 players because of a very Marradona type of incident which saw one of the most blatant handballs ever (I think the player thought he was playing AFL), and to be honest it will be a highlight that sticks in my brain.

As a team I cannot undermine our commitment as being 1 player down spurred us on to play some good football and again we hit the post from distance. Unfortunately another incident occurred which saw us only have 9 and this is how the game ended. It was a disappointing performance and this was a feeling shared by everyone and having only 1 reserve really did hurt us.

## PREMIER LEAGUE / 1<sup>ST</sup> GRADE

### THORNLEIGH 3 vs EPPING EASTWOOD 0 - 12 July

Our commitment and effort in this game was a 100% improvement on the previous week. Our first goal was scored by AVAN YOUNG after his free kick hit the cross bar and rebounded off their keeper into the back of the net. Our next goal was scored by the flying MATHEW WALKER when he edged a shoot past their keeper. The game was wrapped up mid way through the second half with a goal from BEN PIKE. MATEJ SLAVICEK played well at the back, while AVAN YOUNG and TIM HILL were tireless in the mid field. Coach's Best & Fairest was captain AVAN YOUNG.

### THORNLEIGH 0 vs ST ANDREWS 2 - 13 July

The standard of football was outstanding from both teams. While Thunder had the best of play for most of the game the score line was not a true indication of the closeness of the contest. St Andrews' first goal was scored 8 minutes from full time when we were caught out at the back. They wrapped up the game a few minutes later with a rather lucky goal when the last player in our defensive line tripped over. While the loss keeps us in the top four we must win the three remaining games to be assured of making the finals. AVAN YOUNG and TIM HILL were again tireless in the mid field, while MATEJ SLAVICEK was best on field. Next weekend's game is against North Epping Rangers at Oakleigh Oval.

Pos	Team	Points
1	Pennant Hills	32
2	Normanhurst	30
3	Eastwood St Andrews	29
4	Thornleigh	26
5	West Pennant Hills/Cherrybrook	21

## PREMIER LEAGUE RESERVES

### THORNLEIGH 1 vs EPPING EASTWOOD 1 - 12 July

What a great result from our resses against third placed Epping Eastwood. After taking the lead from a good goal from ANDREW GAMBLE the team fought hard to keep Epping Eastwood scoreless until mid way through the second half. EEW finally got on the score sheet via a penalty. Our defensive line was outstanding led by CHRIS MOXHAM, MARCUS BINGEMANN, STEPHEN LEE, and OWEN LANSLEY. The Coach's Best & Fairest went to CHRIS MOXHAM.

### THORNLEIGH 1 vs ST ANDREWS 0 - 13 July

A great win by our resses. Playing against the competition leaders St Andrews after backing up against third placed EEW on Saturday was a tough ask for our injury depleted squad. With only 10 fit regular players plus PAUL GOODE from the AA19s and KEL GIBBONS from the 15/1s team I thought we had no hope of taking any points from this game. The players dug deep and found the Thunder Spirit to produce one of their best games of the season. The winning and only goal was scored by MITCH BINGEMANN from a perfectly taken free kick. SIMON GAY, CHRIS WOOD and ANDREW GAMBLE played well while OWEN LANSLEY played one of his best games of the season. PAUL GOODE was amongst best on field and KEL GIBBONS was impressive in his cameo role. The Coach's Best & Fairest went to MITCH BINGEMANN.