

FREE KICK



Granville Waratah SFC Newsletter
2017 season - Vol. 06 - May 2, 2017



FROM THE PREZ

This week I would like to address the issue of Zero Tolerance. Sadly this year the Association has already had two abandoned games due to on-field violence. Fortunately our club was not involved. Typically these types of incidents happen amongst the adult teams and start occurring around the age of 16 as puberty and testosterone can take over young men. I have personally spoken to our under 15s and my under 17s teams about the **ZERO Tolerance policy** and that breaching the policy and can lead to a team being kicked out of the Competition and the club being fined \$2,000. I am confident that that won't happen with our teams.

I take the opportunity to advise that the ZERO tolerance policy just doesn't apply to the players on the field, it also applies to the coaches, managers, bench players and ALL SPECTATORS. Each team is responsible for their spectators, for this reason each team uniform kit bag has a fluoro lime green vest for its TEAM OFFICIAL. The Team Official has the task of keeping all the team's spectators in check and controlling any over-zealous cheering. Of course it doesn't help when it's the Team Official that is the one behaving with, well.... extra enthusiasm! Notwithstanding, there is no reason why parents can't say a friendly word to their own team supporters to keep the game in a good harmony.

Last Saturday we had a minor incident at our ground with our under 17s game. Let make it clear, it did not involve any of my players and in fact I was very proud of the way my team conducted itself. The incident happened between the opposition team their coach and the referee AFTER the game. AND to put it into perspective, the opposition team had just won 5-0! Unfortunately the opposition team and the referee had some unsavoury words to say to each other after the game. My team were in a huddle away from the "hot spot" when from out of the kerfuffle we hear some very loud vile swearing. At this time I made my way over to the hot spot to voice my concern to the opposition coach and how disgusted I was. The coach claimed he didn't hear it, when I said it was in Arabic, he tried to play it down. I insisted the foul mouthed young man be identified and be held accountable for his abuse. The player in question confessed his guilt and apologised. I accepted his apology and highlighted to him and his teammates that swearing in any language was unacceptable – it doesn't make you cool and a bigger man. I especially highlighted the fact that if he wasn't prepared to swear in front of his mother, then it is unacceptable anywhere. The message was accepted without too much resistance.

I hope this young man will learn a valuable life lesson about respect for himself and for the values of his club and family. It is a reminder to us all that in order to enjoy our game day experiences, sometimes incidents must be respectfully brought to the attention of all, and lessons need to be taught.

CELEBRATING 52 YEARS OF SERVICE

Make no mistake, the patriarch of our club is our Treasurer and club stalwart **Vince Wyatt**. He has been with our club longer than most of the clubs in the Association have existed! Lets take a stroll back in time to put into perspective his contribution to our club and the game in our community....

1965 was the year the first hydrofoil commenced service in Sydney Harbour. Australia was still using the pound, pence and pennies as our currency, 12 months out from introducing dollars and cents.



Colour television was still 9 years away. St George had just won the 10th of its 11 consecutive Rugby League grand finals. The Beatles released Help. Bill Gates was only 10 years old and founding Microsoft was still 10 years away.

Star Trek had not yet premiered on TV, though Lost in Space had. Australia's tallest building was the AMP building with just 26 levels and the Sydney Opera House was 8 years from its controversial opening.

And, our Association was only 63 years young. Back in those days under 6 soccer football in our Association was played on the full 100m field!



Having said that...

At the age of 14 Vince started playing soccer for Granville Kewpies, literally the club on the other side of the tracks. At the end of the 1965 season he left the black and white of the Kewpies... or as they were called then, "the Housos" and at the age of 23 he joined the club on this side of the tracks, the blue and gold of the oldest club in Western Sydney, the mighty Granville Waratah Soccer Football Club, both as a player and on the club's committee.

Whilst his playing days ended in the 1970s, he has remained on the committee for 52 consecutive years... and to this day is still on the committee of my club! Whilst on the committee he has fulfilled every position including President for 4 years and for the past 20 plus years our club's Treasurer.

As a player he was a part of our club's golden era from 1966 to 1973, playing left fullback for the division 1 premier team that won 8 consecutive Cottam Cups and 7 Challenge Shields in 8 years, only losing the grand final in 1969 to Baulkham Hills.

In 1973 his team won everything! The Challenge Shield, Cottam Cup, State Cups, Round Robin competitions... everything they entered, they emerged victorious. They were the undefeated Invincibles!



For a couple of years Vince played for a different club but he always remained on the Club's committee.

With this much experience, as you would expect, Vince was also a coach. He started coaching when he received a desperate plea from a parent (sound familiar?) to please take over a losing U10 div/3 team mid-season. He described the team as playing with nine centre forwards and had just lost 6-0. In his first week as coach he won his first game 6-0 and coached them for the next 13 years. In 1980 and now an under 18 div 1 team, he coached them to win the prestigious State Champion of Champions.



And for every Saturday winter morning for the past the past 52 years you would have found him at Robin Thomas Reserve doing what he loves... setting up the parks, marking lines, clearing rubbish, putting up nets and serving behind the counter in the canteen.

His wisdom is always appreciated and his contributions invaluable.

If the past season was to have portrayed his life in a TV Reality show...it would have been called the The Lovable Grumpy Old Man, where you would have heard him say such classic zingers like; "that was the most boring game I have ever seen in my life" and "that was the worse referee I have ever seen in my life".

Aside from our mighty Waratah club, he proudly supports the Manly Warringah Rugby League team and the mighty West Ham United in the English Premier League.

When it comes to our proud history, it is very hard hard to look past Vince Wyatt.



Vince Wyatt (seated) surrounded by some of his former players and some Committee members when the Association honoured him for 50 years of service.

MATCH REPORTS

It is our intention to feature in every newsletter every match report we receive so, coaches (and managers and parents), please organise among yourselves to ensure someone is selected to write a report of the match! Photo of the round goes to Under 6 Blues, thanks to Tom for sending it in!

Under 6 Blue

It was another tough game for the U6 Blues but being under 6s, the team is still trying to figure out the rules of the game. This was the second game for Mason and Souad out and the first game for players Ellie and Cecily, who both only registered last week.

The toll our rain disrupted season was on show in our game against **Newington** as we have players who are learning the rules of the game on the run instead of having had sufficient practice on training days. Simple concepts like being aware of which goal they should be kicking the ball towards, is something we want to catch up on quickly but I believe they have the ability to perform better once they actually understand the purpose.

To the delight of the whole team, Mason scored the first goal of the season, and the defence was strong from Ellie and Souad, however keeping concentration for their age is a challenge and there were quite a few missed opportunities resulting in the defeat, score 1-9. However, I was super proud of each of their efforts, as last week's nerves got the better of them. So, this is great progress!

It was a great effort by the team and with a bit more practice I am positive we will have a win soon!

Tom (Coach)

Final score: 9-1 to Newington



Under 6 Green

A terrific performance by the team in their second game of the year. Although we couldn't come away with the win against **Sydney Dragons FC** with a 3-6 result, the team played their hearts out.

The team showed great courage and are growing as a team week by week.

Shreyas, Nabhya, Dhruv, Dontae and **Yash** were relentless throughout the game and never gave up.

It was a superhero performance from **Parsa** who scored a goal and showed great commitment and determination during training and the game and thus was awarded the superstar of the week award.

It was a little disappointing to see that the opposition was blocking the goals throughout the whole game but our team persisted and found a few cracks in the "great wall" and walked away with a few cracking goals.

The parents and families were out in full force, cheering and supporting the team. So a big THANK YOU to all!

Daniel (coach)

Final score: 3-6 to Sydney Dragons FC



Under 6 Red WHT

We had a great game against the **Lidcombe Waratah** under 6 side full of players who seemed to be playing at a level above their age. They were absolute pros with their big kicks, slides and power passing, the skill level was quite unbelievable.

Once again our U6 team was barely able to field a full team as we only had four players to draw upon so it was **Rana, Troy, Ejaz & Rohan** who took to the field. **Rana, Troy & Rohan** scored a goal each but then the kids were quite burnt out with no one to sub them.

So I would still request parents and kids to participate or we need to merge a couple of teams together.

The best part of the game was that kids were having a lot of fun and although they looked sad every time Lidcombe scored, our little champions shook it off and returned to charging up the field. I feel that lots of kicking, dribbling & passing will be key in our training.

Sandeep (Assistant Coach)

Final score: 10-3 to Lidcombe

Under 7 Red

I knew we were up for a tough game against **Auburn FC** when it became apparent that one of our players still had memories of our defeats to them last year fresh in his mind. Auburn don't muck around and we found it tough going from the first whistle.

We ended up losing 6-0 as far as our records showed (thanks to **Gaby's** dad **Sam** for noting down the statistics for the game) but the opposition thought it was 7-0 and as it didn't really change the result in any way I've let the discrepancy stand.

Whereas last week we saw our attacking prowess in action, this week it was mainly about defence as we did well to stop the score from blowing out to double figures.

Eilam, Gaby, Nathan, Jordan, and Troy all stopped certain goals, with most players stopping at least three goals each. **Gaby** wins the defender of the match award with six tackles in the game, with **Eilam** a close second with five good tackles.

Another encouraging team development is our passing stats for the game. Everyone, including **Dhruv** and **Harsh**, managed at least one successful pass with **Nathan** picking up the passer of the match award with four good passes.

Thanks to **Troy's** parents for the half-time oranges and for jersey duty this week.

I really recommend all coaches employ a parent to take statistics of the game!

Andy (Coach)

Final score: 7-0 to Auburn FC

Under 12 Div 3

Our game against **Dundas United** saw another great performance by our 12s who followed on from an excellent game last week by putting four past our opponents, all while dominating the game. The players are really starting to click with precise passes and using the flanks.

This week the team had reserves which contributed to our dominance. The mid-field really performed well with **Aaron, Kenan, Ibrahim, Mak** and **Ricky** doing an outstanding job.

The defenders did their job very well in an outstanding effort in keeping another clean sheet. Great work from **Aavash, Dean, Adnan & Dev** while **Reyaj** was between sticks this week.

The goal scorers this week were **Wisam, Aaron, Sandeep** and **Reyaj**.

The most outstanding players chosen by the parents were **Aaron** and **Ricky**.

Well done team!

Goran (Coach)

Final score: 4-0 to Granville Waratah

Under 13 Div 2

Our game versus **Rydalmere FC** highlighted so many lessons for the team to learn. Firstly that good structured team play should be rewarded and that unstructured disorganised "team" play will not be.

The players are getting their fitness to where it should be and this is improving their general play but if they lose their focus we make easy games very hard for ourselves.

At no stage did I feel Rydalmere threatened our goal. Our defenders are looking very good – **Sam** and **Amalie** are strong and the pace of **Sree** and **Nicholas** is proving very difficult for the opposition teams to break down.

We had many chances in front of goal but missed all of them until the 5 midfielders were changed all at once in the second half... this quickly produced a very good team goal from Man of the Match, **Rohan** coming in from out wide on the right. This was the only goal in the game but it was enough to win it. Once the midfield combinations start to improve I am certain the goals will come. There is plenty of talent and with the right team attitude to training and games, we expect to win a lot more.

Noel (Coach)

Final score: 1-0 to Granville Waratah



YOUTH 1 (Under 17 Div 1)

Our game against **Wenty Waratahs** highlighted the fact that despite all the talent of our individual players, if we are not working as a team unit, we will fail.

Omid confesses he had a terrible game in goal. Of the five goals scored against us, two were very good field goals... the others were terrible and silly mistakes by keeper and defenders. We did not play smart. We did not look sharp or energetic. It is obvious that we are not training enough...which is difficult for players in the HSC years.

Truly this game is best forgotten about and we move on to the next. The team agreed there was no Man of the Match.

Noel (Coach)

Final score: 0-5 to Wenty Waratahs

Under 15 Div 2

The boys came on for the game in high spirits in our match against **Dundas United**.

Maybe our opponents felt a little intimidated as the Granville Waratah team warmed up with the coach and doing passing drills in an organised fashion, as 15 minutes into the game after several attempts **Om** got Granville the first goal. It was a great effort built on passing the ball right from **Gano** to the midfield then a through-ball to the strikers.

We looked better and all departments on the field functioned well, **Harsh** closed out the right flank as **Jack** too closed down the Left. **Tryon** saved us a lot in goal and was brilliant given the fact that he was a first timer in that role. **Om**, again through a counter attack, scored our second.

Our hold up become more challenging as Dundas kept on substituting with fresh players and we found the going hard with only 11 players and no reserves to call upon. The players became tired and Dundas ended up scoring 4 unanswered goals to win the match.

Thanks to the boys for a great game, parents for the support and especially **Charles** for transporting some of the players. Thanks to **Gano's** Mum for jersey duty.

John B (Coach)

Final Score: 4-2 to Dundas United



Other Results:

U6 Red BLK	Granville Waratah	2	6	Newington
U7 Blue	Granville Waratah	6	3	Rydalmere FC
U7 Green	Granville Waratah	2	3	Auburn FC
U8 Green	Newington	3	2	Granville Waratah
U8 Red	Granville Waratah	0	2	Regents Park
11/3	Granville Waratah	2	8	Merrylands
14/2	Auburn District	5	1	Granville Waratah

PARKING AT ROBIN THOMAS RESERVE

Even if you have been a member of the club for a while, please read the following do's and don'ts about parking at our home ground on training days and on Saturdays:

- Please do not park on the left hand side of the field as you drive in. This area is used for warming up so we need that space and we also want to protect the surface, so for both reasons we ask you not to park your car there.
- Please do not park in front of the inner gate to the field (normally closed) in case we need to let an ambulance on to the fields.
- Please do use common sense when parking: always allow room for cars to get out and try to form rows of cars with a wide gap between rows.
- Please do leave a clear space along the fence parallel to George Street, wide enough to allow cars to get through. We will then be able to use the entire right hand side of the grassy area for parking.
- Please do be careful entering and leaving, especially at night. Drive slowly as there's children about.



TEN QUESTIONS

A regular feature of our newsletters, this is where we ask totally random (but coincidentally prominent) people some questions to see what they make of the world... this week we've got Club Secretary Tony Farrell...

Tony became involved with the club in 2005 when his twin boys joined the U6s. In 2006 he started coaching the U7s. By 2008 he was club registrar. He also took on the secretary's role in 2015, but was very glad to release the registrar's role to Andy this year. Last year Tony was awarded life membership of the club! Let's see what makes him tick...

1. Favourite A League player?

Besart Berisha

2. Your boys last played in 2014, why are you still volunteering with us?

Watching the kids learn new skills and find strengths they didn't realise they had is great, and when my boys wanted to play - other volunteers were the reason they had their chance.

3. Favourite breakfast cereal?

Wheat-Bix

4. Kebab or pizza?

Pizza.

5. Favourite superhero?

Mr Incredible.

6. Favourite saying?

People who work together will win, whether it be against complex football defenses, or the problems of modern society (Vince Lombardi)

7. If you were an animal what would you be?

A Bonobo (Pygmy Chimpanzee) - they seem to know how to have fun!

8. If you could have dinner with anyone in the world, who would it be with?

A scientist who was part of discovering something really surprising - different from what was expected, and who managed to convince their peers that they were right. (Editor's Note: He's actually done this - Tony shared a dinner table with Brian Schmidt, Noble prize winner in physics!)

9. If you had only 24 hours to live, what would you do?

Spend it with my family.

10. Your favourite Granville Waratah moment?

In 2009, U11 played full field competition football, and my U11/6 team had scraped into the finals by one measly competition point. In an experimental round-robin finals series, to make the Grand Final, we had to get at least two wins against three teams only one of whom we had previously beaten. In the first match we went up against the undefeated minor premiers, who had scored 20 goes in the previous 14 days. My team stepped up, particularly my defenders who were rock solid, their determination and bravery was amazing. We went to half time still nil-all. Just after half time, a high ball dropped in front of my fast forward, the offside trap failed big-time and he scored. Five minutes later, the other team failed to "play the whistle" when one of their players hand-balled, and another ball was dropped in from of my fast forward, we were up 2-nil. The other team couldn't believe what was happening, and whilst they did up the pressure, my boys now believed they could win it. We won the match and a few weeks later, won the Grand Final. But this match was the better memory for me.

