FREE KICK

Granville Waratah SFC Newsletter
2017 season - Vol. 07 - May 9, 2017

FROM THE PREZ

As a passionate Western Sydney Wanderers fan and proud member of the active supporter's group the RBB, it was hard to watch Sydney FC win the A-League Grand Final. I guess I will take comfort in knowing we spoilt their perfect season as WSW were the only team to beat them all season. Seeing our rivals celebrate was frustrating but it allowed me to let my mind wander to the victories I have been involved in and the pain and elation I felt at those times.

I have been coaching since 1997 and the President since 2000. During this time I have had the great pleasure of watching many of our teams win, but also lose, Grand Finals. As a coach I have been fortunate enough to reach nine GFs but of those nine we lost five and I can honestly tell you that two of those losses were very painful heart-breaks!

The four Grand Championships we won, however, were heart-warming memories for life! Not just because of the victory but because of what it meant to the players. To see the expressions on their faces, their families and friends, but mostly to see how we all came together to play our part, some large and for others very small, but for all it was to achieve a common goal that was deserved.

As a coach I don't just aim to develop my players into better players but to also develop them into better people. To teach them life skills in discipline, humility, respect and to have a good attitude... or to put it differently, to not have a bad attitude. Soccer is a wonderful vehicle to teach our children these values. Sometimes a little tough love is required but when the rewards come, it really is a grand championship to last a life time.

In 2013, at his first attempt at (assistant) coaching, Cem was a Grand Champion too! This is a special photo as I coached Cem to a Grand Championship five years earlier and he has stayed with the club to give back and help.

2013 Under 13s Div 3 Grand Champions

Celebrating afterwards at MacDonalds!

FROM THE SECRETARY

All associated with the club need to know that the club faces being fined for having to forfeit a game last Saturday.

Everyone, you have to get this right: the "kick-off" time listed for a game is the time the whistle is to be blown to start a game. It is very important that players are at the field well before kick-off time.

Last Saturday we had at least two cases where most of the team turned up late. Most games can't start late as there are more games starting immediately after. In one case, the game was called off as a result - we had to "forfeit" the game. All players from both teams missed out on a game and this could cost the club a $200 fine! This is money we would prefer to spend on other things. Our association can kick a team out if it forfeits three games - and we can't afford the fines, so this team is now on probation. In the case of the second team, we were lucky, it was the last game on the field and we were able to delay the kick off until enough players arrived - and they ended up having a lot of fun (and we avoided a fine).

There are plenty of other very good reasons to turn to up early:

1. For away games, you need to find the field and parking at a spot you may not know (and parking can be hard to find!)

2. The coach needs to know which players they have and arrange the team properly around them.

3. The players need to warm up. Whilst at U6 this is not a safely issue, by about U12 it becomes to be one so players need to warm up gently before stresses such as a fast sprint or a hard kick, otherwise they may hurt themselves. But even for the U6, some ball work before the game results in much better play, and it is best they learn early that exercise requires proper warm up.

4. The coach needs to talk through the game strategy with the players, tell the players their positions and explain how it will work.

5. The coach also needs time to ensure the team sheet is organised, a ref is organised and get players in their team shirts.

6. This is a great time for the kids to get to know each other and become friends. A team works best if the players are working well together, they need more time together then just the game. (Letting them stay together for a while after the game is also a good idea.)

We know that sometimes people will get caught out and won't get there on time, but that shouldn't be three quarters of a team! Please put the effort in to get there early. The absolute minimum time to aim for is 20 minutes before kick-off, but coaches may want you their earlier, particularly the older teams which need a very good warm up. Check with your coach at training!

It should also be noted that it is perfectly reasonable for a coach to delay putting a late arrival on the field, particularly for the older teams. The late arrival has not warmed up properly and the coach was forced to plan a game based on not having them. Normally they will still get a good game, but it is not fair to expect the coach to change their plans immediately. Additionally, team discipline requires those who turn up on time get a better deal than late arrivals.

PLEASE STAND BACK A METRE

It is exciting to be on the sidelines during a game. Many of the clubs rope up fields to prevent people getting too close, but we try to avoid that, since it is a lot of work and can cause other issues. So, could everyone please make sure they stand at least a metre back from the sideline.

Why a metre? It seems like a lot! There are three reasons:

First, kids chasing balls don't pay attention to what is on the sideline, they just chase the ball. So for safety reasons we need to give them some space.

Secondly, they need space to execute a throw-in.

The third reason is that the field is actually bigger then it seems. This is because the ball is not out until "the entire ball has crossed the entire line". The picture on the right shows this - if any part of the ball is over any part of the line, the ball is still in! The same approach applies to "when a goal is scored" - if the vertical line in the figure is the goal line, then only right most position is considered a goal.

Also - things like strollers, prams and bicycles needs to be further back - again kids chasing balls won't see them. Whilst our field layout is a little tight in spots, there is at least 5 metres in most places. So please - stand back.

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Everyone please note that round 10 will be played on the Queen's Birthday public holiday which is Monday, 12th of June. This is a catch up for the washed out first round. The second catch up is round one on Saturday the 8th of July, which had been scheduled as a spare weekend

HELP SETTING UP THE FIELD

Everyone doing work around the club, from coaches to the club president, are volunteers doing the job in their spare time. Many hands make light work, and we really need extra hands on Saturday mornings. As a result, we set up a help schedule in a format we have used successfully for many years.

We ask and require each team to provide help setting up and run the field on 1 or 2 days in the season. Teams have been allocated to days on which they are playing at home. For younger teams, we are looking for 2 or 3 parents to help. For older teams (13s up), the players can do it. We are talking about 2 to 3 hours total during the season - not much.

The schedule for the next few weeks is shown below. It is also on the web where it will be updated as the season goes on.

Round	Date	Team
5	13-May	U10
6	20-May	U12
7	27-May	U8 Blue
8	3-June	U15

Help can be in the form of help setting up (7:40 to about 9:30), Help in the canteen, and helping to referee games. About two hours in total per person. We need at least two people, three is preferred from the nominated team for setup (please arrive about 7:40 and look for Tony, Charles or Noel). For those willing to help in the canteen or refereeing games, please let Tony know by Thursday of the week and he will schedule people.

Coaches are not expected to do this - they have plenty of work already. But we are asking them to prompt their parents/players to nominate themselves and ensure we have the numbers we need. If everyone pitches in for a bit - then it is all a lot more fun for everyone.

Those coming down should wear clothes and shoes they are willing to get a little dirty (with dust/mud etc), but it will all wash off.

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!

The photo(s) of the round goes to Under 7 Red, thanks to Yulia for sending them in!

Under 6 Red WHT

On Saturday, the mighty U6 Red-Whites faced an organised **Ermington United** team at their home ground, George Kendall in lovely May Sydney sunshine. This was the first game of the season that I had been able to see (and that my son Miles had been able to play) after we returned home from a holiday overseas. I was delighted at how each of our players put in strong efforts and that we operated so well as a team. It was also great that we had a full complement of six players show up, which allowed each player to have breaks during the game and kept the overall energy level on the field very high.

Unfortunately we lost 6-4 to Ermington but in my view, we were better than them. Their goals were lucky (and we also scored two of their goals for them by accident) but overall, I think we dominated the game more than they did.

Everyone was so keen for the ball, willing to make an effort and showed the skills that they had learned in training. Coach Sandeep looked after the gang while Miles and I were away and he has obviously done a fantastic job.

Special mentions at the game go to:

Rohan for sticking at it and running free in space to score one spectacular goal and backing up when it mattered;

Rana for almost exactly the same thing – scoring a goal but paying particular attention to our end of the field as our very conscientious defender who has the speed and determination to get back when we needed it;

Miles for two fantastic goals and a third that almost went in, except the Ermington guys literally lay on the ground to stop it. Miles also beat a couple of defenders in an excellent dribbling display in the lead-up to that third (almost) goal;

Troy is our secret weapon who shows great determination to get the ball and put pressure on the opposition – Troy was in basically every contest for the ball when he was on the field; and

Ejaz and **Wafi** who are still learning the ropes a bit but their skills are emerging fast and they'll improve in weeks to come. Their grins during the game are testament to how much they enjoyed it.

I reckon if we had just two more weeks' training, we would have beaten Ermington on Saturday. I look forward to a really exciting season and I'm delighted to be back!

Coach Paul

Final score: 6-4 to Ermington United

Under 7 Red

Every game of soccer has lessons that can be drawn from it and our game against **Regents Park** taught us that silly mistakes can cost us the match! Two of their three goals came from avoidable errors of judgement where we gifted the opposition the chance to shoot into an open net. At our level, without goalkeepers to save the blushes of the rest of the team, mistakes will be ruthlessly punished.

To be fair, when your players are receiving instructions from parents at half-time, castigating them for not knowing the basics of how to kick the ball in from the sideline, it's then that you realise you might have neglected to cover this at training and that it's an oversight that needs to be rectified at the next possible opportunity!

On the plus side, after failing to score in our previous game, this time we put two into the back of the net with good goals from **Jordan** and **Nathan**. Please see the pictures below for two very good reasons to remember to take photos!

We also learned the strength of **Eilam's** kick (he's easily the most powerful striker of the ball in the team), and that **Troy** and **Gaby's** pace will prevent lots of goals this season as **Gaby** pulled off yet another great goal-saving tackle on Saturday.

The most improved player award for this week goes to **Dhruv** Patel who showed a great keenness to get stuck in to try to win the ball back. He showed more desire than the rest of the team put together! He narrowly beat his cousin **Harsh** Patel to the award who pulled off the game's other goal-saving tackle. Great work, Patels!

Thanks to **Troy's** mum **Yulia** for the great photos!

Coach Andy

Final score: 2-3 to Regents Park

Under 8 Green

We were up for a tough game against **Parramatta City**, we remembered them from last year. This was the third straight full turn out for our U8 Green players and opponents were just four at the start. Despite our good work throughout the game, we still ended up losing 3-0 and if we're being honest is was that our kids gave easy chances to the opponents. Parramatta didn't need to work hard as they took most of their chances compared to our mini-roos.

At Newington FC last week our attack was very professional but on the weekend we couldn't replicate that effort. **Sarth** & **Ryan** had a very good game in defence.

Our strikers tried hard to score with close misses by **Adee**, **Angus** and **Jonathan**. Everyone, including **Hirishi** and **Harsh**, managed at least one successful pass, up to a high of four good passes.

Sarth was named the player of the match.

Thanks to all parents for attending the home game as it was really nice to see kids playing with good family support.

Match Report by **Rashid**

Coaches Steve & Lucia

Final score: 0-3 to Parramatta City

Under 9 Red

In the game against **Auburn District**, we narrowly lost the game 2-1.

Final score: 1-2 to Auburn District

Under 11 Div 3

In the game against **Rydalmere FC**, our team showed a lot of spirit and put up a big fight. After losing last week by six goals, we were a much better team on Saturday only to be pipped at the post, losing 3-2.

I'd like to thank all of the parents for helping out with oranges, and also volunteering to take on the role as manager. A more in-depth report will appear next week as we all get to know each other better (I only took up the role during the week).

Thanks to the U12s coach, Goran, who had previously been the team coach, for making a dash over to the game to help me out where necessary.

I look forward to reporting a win next week!

Coach Charles (Chuck)

Final score: 3-2 to Rydalmere FC

Under 12 Div 3

Our third game of the season against Wenty Waratah did not begin well at all. After a sluggish start to the game by our team, we conceded an early goal! Fortunately, the goal woke the team up and we started to attack more and ended up playing within the opponent's half. We had numerous shots at goal in the first half and it seemed like it was going to be one of those games where the ball just wouldn't go in. Finally we got our break and managed to sneak one pass the keeper before half-time to make it 1-1.

The second half saw a better performance by the team where we dominated and managed to put away three more goals. One special moment in the game where **Rudra** made a huge sprint within our half to get past four of his opponents and had a sprint to goal only to have his final touch pushed too far in front of him to just miss the goal. **Ali Kashif's** cart wheel attempt was quite funny after scoring a goal.

The most outstanding players chosen this week were **Adan** & **Ibrahim**.

Our next game will test the team as it will be the top of the table clash!

Coach Goran

Final score: 4-1 to Granville Waratah

Under 13 Div 2

I can only have praise for the performance of the players in our game against **Wenty Waratah** on the weekend. Every week it is our team objective to improve a little and get better but this time we improved substantially and our level of play has taken a giant leap forward. The team can see why the hard work at training focusing on fitness is really starting to pay off and I was proud of how the team played - with skill and endurance. Wenty never really troubled us and I was confident we would keep a clean sheet.

The game started well with a goal after just one minute. Our first attacking raid down the right saw **Rohan** cross the ball into the box which collected a hand ball to give us a penalty. **Omar** was keen to step up and he calmly slotted the ball past the goalkeeper into the net.

After that our midfielders controlled the game with fine efforts from **Mohammed**, **Braha** and **Deniz** who all fed **Rohan** down the right and **Hesam** on the left with beautiful wide passes and through balls. They were very dangerous and troubled Wenty all game. Our ball movement was simply fantastic.

The second half was much the same as the first and **Omar** scored his second with a clever and unstoppable strike high into the goal. He and his teammates should have had a few more but they will need to get working on their finishing as we only scored one more from many chances.

Defensively, whenever Wenty threatened to cause us trouble, the speed of **Kamail** and Man of the Match **Nicholas** in the fullback positions shut the attacks down very quickly as our boys had too much speed for Wenty to handle.

The team work is really coming together and I really can't wait till next week... to sing our victory song yet again!

Coach Noel

Final score: 0-3 to Granville Waratah

Under 15 Div 2

The match was started with just ten players who displayed great skills to contain the full **Wenty Waratah** team. I was impressed by the way the under 15s are able to control the ball and try to make the next pass.

Yasin managed the midfield well, **Mitchell** putting in crosses of the ball, **Nick** scored our one goal and the boys missed quite a few chances too. The defence line worked hard to stop the opponents from penetrating our defence - thanks to **Gano**, **James** and **Brookyln**.

In summary the boys are improving with every game played. It's obvious that playing 10 against 11 caused our loss. I therefore urge parents who's children have registered to please make the effort to bring them down for the match games too.

Coach John

Final Score: 1-4 to Wenty Waratah

YOUTH 1 (Under 17 Div 1)

After last week's low energy and very disappointing performance, our effort against **Auburn District** was totally different. We played with heart, commitment, tenacity and pride!

Ahmed was the spark we missed in the middle and was all the difference to inspire the team as they fed off his creativity and commitment. Auburn were strong, aggressive and fast, but so were we! I was proud of the player's efforts and the way we moved the ball around the park.

Franklin scored a goal in each half after some very good build up team play. Our defence held strong and in the second half truly gave Auburn nothing as they could only manage desperate long range shots at goal that usually ended up in the trees.

Each week our chemistry is improving and giving assistant coach **Cem** and I confidence we are on the right track. It was fun singing our victory song after this game... and it was well deserved.

Coach Noel

Final score: 0-2 to Granville Waratah

Full Results:

Age Group / Div	Home Team	Home Score	Away Score	Away Team
06 E Blue	Granville Waratah	1	9	Ermington United
06 E Green	Granville Waratah	1	8	Lidcombe Waratah
06 E Red-WHT	Ermington United	6	4	Granville Waratah
06 E Red-BLK	Granville Waratah	1	5	Lidcombe Waratah
07 E Blue	Ermington United	4	0	Granville Waratah
07 E Green	Lidcombe Waratah	3	0	Granville Waratah
07 E Red	Granville Waratah	2	3	Regents Park
08 E Blue	Rydalmere FC	6	0	Granville Waratah
08 E Green	Granville Waratah	0	3	Parramatta City
08 E Red	Auburn District	12	0	Granville Waratah
09 E Red	Granville Waratah	1	2	Auburn District
10 E 1	Parramatta City	13	1	Granville Waratah
11/3	Rydalmere FC	3	2	Granville Waratah
12/3	Granville Waratah	4	1	Ermington United
13/2	Wenty Waratah	0	3	Granville Waratah
14/2	Granville Waratah	2	0	Pendle Hill
15/2	Granville Waratah	1	4	Wenty Waratah
YOUTH/1	Auburn District	0	2	Granville Waratah

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 have youth team player **Rohith Gajangi**.

Rohith started playing with us as an 12 year old. As an under 13 he won a well-earned Grand Championship starring in the centre fullback position. After 3 years playing with other clubs he has returned to play a pivotal role as a 17 year old in the Youth 1 team. At 6 feet 3 inches or 192 cm, he holds the distinction of being the tallest player in the club. We want to know what makes him tick, so we are asking him 10 questions!

1. Favourite A League player?
   Dimas Delgado
2. Favourite International Player?
   Zlatan Ibrahimovic
3. Favourite breakfast cereal?
   Crunchy Nut
4. Kebab or pizza?
   Chicken Pizza topped off with peri peri sauce!
5. Favourite superhero?
   Deadshot – he might not have a super ability but his precise shot could take out any enemy.
6. If you could have dinner with anyone in the world, who would it be with?
   Casey Neistat – a very influential videographer/Youtuber.
7. If you were an animal what would you be?
   A snake – would like to know how it feels like to slither on the ground
8. Favourite song on the radio right now:
   Shape of You- Ed Sheeran
9. If you had only 24 hours to live, what would you do?
   I'd try my best to invite all my family and friends in my life to a get together and spend time with the al one last time.
10. Your favourite Granville Waratah moment?
   Playing in the grand final for the under 13's back in 2013 and winning the grand championship against a team who beat us 2-1 in golden goal just 2 weeks earlier!!

We would like to thank our major sponsor:

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