

FREE KICK



Granville Waratah SFC Newsletter
2019 season - Vol. 10 - June 04, 2019



FROM THE PREZ

Many of you will remember at our G-WOW (Granville Waratah Orientation and Welcome) Day back in February, under the fig trees in front of the club house. I said how enthusiastic everyone was with a beautiful 27 degree summer day. I welcomed such enthusiasm and also stated that it was necessary that same enthusiasm continue during June and July when it would be only 7 degrees. Well, WINTER HAS ARRIVED. You will recall that at the G-WOW day I stressed the importance of commitment and if you could not commit, then soccer was the wrong sport and Granville Waratah was the wrong club for you.



Last Wednesday night I noticed that many teams were down on player numbers attending training. I concede I was very disappointed to see that at the first sign of cold, many parents decided their child would not commit to the team. Again, this is very disappointing as the teammates who attended are left having a poor training session and it is difficult to have a positive vibe.

So parents I stress again, please support your club, coach, team and teammates and make every effort to attend training, especially when it is cold. And of course rather than just watch, try asking the coach how you can assist in the training session. This is the Waratah way! **YOUR CLUB IS ONLY AS GOOD AS YOU MAKE IT!**

I take this opportunity to advise that earlier this week the club's Management Committee (MC) met to discuss various items including the club's current harmony and well-being. I am pleased to say that the club continues to grow in player numbers and the general harmony seems very positive.

Later this year the MC will be drafting a strategic plan to help the club accommodate with our continued and expected growth. We are looking for fresh ideas and fresh energies to join the MC and help with this process. I stress again that good teams start with good coaches and supportive parents but good clubs start with good Management Committees. So I invite all parents, especially from our Indian community, (which is the largest demographic in our club) to contact me if you believe you can assist make YOUR club better! Please.

Thank you.

FROM THE SECRETARY

Club Photographs – Can everyone please keep a look out for when the club’s Photograph Day is happening, we will use all our communication networks (Email, Website, Facebook) to let you know the date, most likely to be early July before the school holidays start.

For those new to the club: like most team sport clubs, we run a team photo day each year. This is done much like the school photos many of you will be used to. A professional photographer will come in and take photos of each team as group - you might have seen some of these on the walls of club-house.



There is no obligation whatsoever to purchase photos but we do need all players to turn up for their photo session so the team photos are accurate and complete. We always book a date when we have a large amount of home games so as few teams as possible will be inconvenienced with regard to travel.

Un-financial Players – To all parents and members who have not yet paid their fees in full because you were put on a payment plan, or another arrangement (which isn't too many): please contact me to finalise your fees or to discuss your arrangement.

This is not to apply any undue pressure or to embarrass anyone but rather to be certain and organised as the Association is putting pressures on clubs to deregister un-financial players. We want to ensure you or your child continues playing uninterrupted but we need to work together on this.



Club Rosters – This is going reasonably well! A big thank you to all who have served time in the canteen, your help has been invaluable for making our busy home games a better experience for all who come to our home ground. However, please communicate to your team if you can’t make your roster spot and teams communicate this to me so I can organise replacements!

Club Equipment – Can everyone please help look after the club’s training equipment! **The storage door needs to be closed** and lights turned off after you or your team has removed the equipment needed. Also, **teams need to keep track of the balls in their kit bags!** Constantly buying new balls and training cones to replace lost ones is an unnecessary and unwanted expense that only ends up being reflected in the club’s registration fees.



RESULTS FROM ROUND 8

Another great result from the latest round of games. This is the second week running where the club's teams have won more games than were lost. Great work Granville Waratah SFC!

A special mention regarding the Under 9s age group: **all three teams won their games!** Well done to the coaches, managers, parents and players!

Age Grp / Div	Home Team	Home Score	Away Score	Away Team
08 Koalas	Wenty Waratah	4	2	Granville Waratah SFC
08 Wombats	Newington Gunners	4	3	Granville Waratah SFC
09 Dolphins	Granville Waratah SFC	3	2	Guildford County
09 Koalas	Granville Waratah SFC	3	2	Greystanes FC
09 Wombats	Greystanes FC WHT	0	1	Granville Waratah SFC
10 Dolphins	Greystanes FC	2	1	Granville Waratah SFC
10 Koalas	Greystanes FC	1	7	Granville Waratah SFC
10 Possums	Toongabbie Demons	8	0	Granville Waratah SFC
11 Possums	Auburn FC	1	0	Granville Waratah SFC
13 Combined	Guildford McCredie	0	1	Granville Waratah SFC
14 Div. 3	Granville Waratah SFC	5	0	Auburn FC
15 Combined	Granville Waratah SFC	4	0	Wenty Waratah
16 Div. 2	Greystanes FC	7	0	Granville Waratah SFC
AAM Div. 5 BLK	Granville Waratah SFC	3	4	Granville Waratah SFC WHT
AAM Div. 5 WHT	Granville Waratah SFC	4	3	Granville Waratah SFC BLK

MATCH REPORTS

It is our intention to feature in all newsletters, every match report we receive. Coaches, managers and parents, please organise among you to ensure someone is selected to write a report of the match!

Please remember to caption who is who in any photos your team submits to be included in this newsletter. Email reports and photos to: secretary@granvillewaratah.com.au

All previous newsletters are available from the club website via this link:

<http://granvillewaratah.com/wp/newsletters/>

Please Note: The final score will only be shown for U8s and up. For 6s and 7s we don't want to encourage parents to focus on the score but how much fun and enjoyment their kids are having.

Each week we choose the best report to be the **Featured Match Report**, this week it goes to the **Under 9 Dolphins** for a great account of their gripping game. Special mentions go to **Under 7 Koalas WHT** for a high quality report, as well as **Under 9 Wombats** with a great report of their first win of the season. Thanks to Coaches Anthony and Mike for sending them in!

The **Under 7 Koalas WHT** win the Photos of the Round with some awesome high quality action shots. Thanks to **Coach Anthony** for sending them in!

Under 9 Dolphins – Featured Match Report

If the feeling at the end of the game is anything to go by, last weekend's home match against **Guildford County** was the best game of the season! We knew the team was going to be up against it just from looking at the results-to-date for both teams. Going into the game, Guildford had scored 12 more goals and had let in one less goal than us, with the exact same win-draw-loss figures. The instructions were to not be complacent because it was going to be a tough match.

And it was! Despite probably edging the game in terms of possession, we entered the break two goals down and feeling a little sorry for ourselves. While team munched on half-time oranges, I urged the players to show more intensity in the second half. They had to play like their lives depended on it, as if it was a cup final, because this was what was needed if we wanted a better result. And our undefeated-at-home record was under threat... but, really, a draw wasn't enough, this coach wanted the win!



The coach barks out some half time instructions

The second half started and you could see the difference immediately. The players weren't letting Guildford have any time on the ball, winning it back straight after losing it. The chances started coming and we suddenly found ourselves even after **Siddhant** shrugged off the disappointment of last week's missed chances with two clinically taken goals. Great stuff **Siddhant!**

The excitement levels were through the roof not long afterwards when **Jamaar** bundled the ball into the back of the net with his knee to make the score 3-2 to Granville. Great goal, **Jamaar**, and what a great comeback! But could we hold on to the lead and seal the win?



Siddhant gets the team back on track with a well-taken goal.



Jamaar strides through midfield

It was one of those games where the referee took forever to blow the whistle for fulltime! It felt like forever because for most of the time after taking the lead, Granville were defending for their lives. It was very gripping and parents on the sideline were very enthusiastically urging their kids to keep at it until the

fulltime whistle went and the win was secured. Finally the whistle went and the wide grins weren't just on the player's faces, their parents had them on too!

Looking at the stats after the game, there was no clear stand out performer and so there was no Player of the Match awarded as the entire team deserved it.

Siddhant won the Assist of the Match award and our thanks went to **Joseph** who volunteered to go in goals for the second half, and who did a very good job with three goal-bound saves!

The team is still undefeated at home and we haven't lost a game since our match against current division leaders Regents Park in round 4. We are dearly looking forward to our rematch at home against them on July 6th; kick off at 9:50am.



Mark it down in your diaries and come down and watch what should be a match for the ages!

Coach Andy

Final Score: 3 – 2 to Granville Waratah SFC



Under 7 Koalas WHT

I have to admit I was a little intimidated arriving at Sydney Olympic Park for our away game against the **Silverwater Flamingos**. Walking up to the finely manicured ground seeing their players already warming up adjacent to the GWS Giants Headquarters, with an “AC Milan Training” vehicle in the car park, it was obvious this was a club that has pride in being well organised and professional.

It took a little while for our players to assemble just in time before kick-off, but after a brief reminder of their positions and some encouraging words to play as a team, the game soon got under way.



Ashutosh, Liam and Sineth in action against Silverwater

Expecting our opposition to dazzle us with their skills, I was pleasantly surprised to see our boys take it to the Flamingos right from the start. Without fear or hesitation each player was switched on and engaged in the contest. We enjoyed a good portion of the possession in the early exchanges and it was clear at the outset this was going to be an entertaining and close match for all to see.

Half-time came quickly after both teams had frantically wrestled to gain an advantage over the other, however the score line reflected how even things were as we went to the break all square at nil-nil. During the interval I expressed how impressed I was with each of our player's effort and how well we were playing as a unit. It was a case of “more of the same” and “keep up the good work” before sending them back out on the field.

Sineth tried hard to weave his dribbling magic and find a way through the tight Flamingos defence and was eventually rewarded for his persistence with a welcome goal to finally break the deadlock.

The excitement of taking the lead gave the team a lot of confidence and a number of half-chances began to come our way. Our left-footed legend **Sushanth** drilled a long-range shot narrowly missing the goal and **Adriel** and **Arav** worked well to get into good positions to put further pressure on the Flamingos defenders.

Tristan had another outstanding game for us at fullback, receiving praise for his efforts from supporters on both sides as he launched himself to distinguish every attacking play that Silverwater could throw at us.

Liam and **Ashutosh** were busy as always, getting back to defend for the team on our line, or trying to link up with other players in the middle of the park.

Ashutosh didn't stop all game, always looking to get involved in each play. He was chosen as our "Player of the Week" as his relentless pursuit of the ball was one of the reasons why Silverwater struggled to keep possession for any length of time during the match.

With 10 minutes to go the Flamingos levelled the score after catching our defence off guard and some individual brilliance from one of their players provided a second goal just before the final whistle.

It was a high quality display from both teams and another big leap forward for our players as they showed a new level of what they are capable of doing when they apply their training and look to play as a team.

You did yourselves, family, coach and club proud U7 Koalas!

Coach Anthony



The Flamingos try to get past the Waratahs



Ashutosh is awarded the Player of the Match!

Under 7 Possums

The Under 7s Possums had a full squad turn out for Saturday's match day against Lidcombe Waratah, who also share the Possums team name. This really was a match where both coaches had to carefully think before calling out a team name otherwise all players would respond!

Aditya, Yash, Moksha and **Ella** were first on the field to represent our club and as usual they played with their hearts on their sleeves and I am very proud of the way we played. **Moksha** paid extra attention to passing the ball with his teammates which is great to see. Thank you **Moksha** for putting into practice what we practice at training!

Ella focused on defending and made several strong and well timed tackles. **Yash** made several good dribbles into the opponents half and really tried his best to dribble the ball around the opponents. Nice dribbling **Yash!** **Aditya** made some nice dribbles too and tried really hard to give his teammates space. Good work **Aditya!**

Next up was **Farhan, Savya, Rose** and **Nicholas**. I am very proud of the way this team put in a mighty effort and really have grown as footballers this year. **Farhan** made great tackles as usual and helped the team by bringing the ball into the opponents half. **Savya** made a goal saving interception and cleared the ball well away from goal but also chased after it to put pressure on Lidcombe. Good effort **Savya!**



Savya wins the Biggest Effort award!

Tania and **Rania** teamed up with **Nicholas** and **Rose** and together they showed they can play well as a team. They all spread out for the goal kicks and gave each other options for receiving a pass. **Rose** chased and chased that ball around without tiring and got in the way to make some good tackles against bigger opponents. **Nicholas** made some valuable little dribbles in the second half.

Moksha earned the Player of the Match award thanks to his efforts and retaining possession and for making several good passes. **Savya** earned the Biggest Effort award for trying so hard.

Thank you once again to the parents who volunteered to help the canteen operations again. Together, we can all contribute something to help grow our club and improve the game day experience for home teams and visitors alike.



I would also like to thank Lidcombe Waratah for kindly suggesting a group photo which turned out really great. It was a very kind gesture and much appreciated.

Coach Michael

Under 8 Koalas

In a beautifully made-out field at Ted Burge Reserve on a lovely and mild Saturday morning, our away opponents, **Wenty Waratah**, proved too much for the Granville team, despite us leading 2-1 at half time after some excellent punts from **Jahia** and **Kaushik**.

Although we lost, this game was a big improvement for us – we are saying goodbye to the younger style of play where everyone simply follows the ball wherever it goes. We are starting to pass more, we are starting to think ahead more and we are starting to get in good positions so we can use our considerable skill and speed to great effect.

Unfortunately, Wenty got ahead of us by some clever cherry-picking – our boys were down the attacking end of the field and three or four times the ball was cleared by a Wenty defender to two of their forwards (one very quick) waiting at the halfway line. We found ourselves outnumbered in defence – our last man wasn't enough - and while we saved probably three or four other goals, two hit the net in the second half, with another coming from an absent-minded error from our champion goalie **Vivaan** – who jumped right back up and saved three or four hard ones straight after to make up for it – well done **Viv**!



It was a good team performance but we lost because they tactically outplayed us. Congratulations to them for it. We also missed out on great opportunities to use our speed from their goal kicks by being kept back to halfway by a local ref who didn't realise what the flags in the middle of each half were for. At least he applied the rule equally.

Overall, everyone improved in this game. **Ejaz** always seemed to be in the right place at the right time in the attacking half of the field and putting a lot of pressure on their defenders, **Kalden** and **Miles** defended really well and with more tenacity than I've seen, chasing down their forwards and combining with **Vivaan** to save at least three or four other goals. **Keith** showed a lot of hunger for the ball and courage in midfield and the pushes forward from **Gabby**, **Kaushik** and **Jahia** looked consistently threatening. Special mention to **Miles** for preventing the ball crossing the line with just his feet!

We still have a lot of work to do but our plans are working. I'm proud of all the players. Well done guys!

Coach Paul

Final Score: 4 – 2 to Wenty Waratah

Under 8 Wombats

Our match on the weekend was away to **Newington Gunners** at their Wilson Park home ground.

This was an interesting rematch of sorts because just one week back, Wombats had beaten the same Newington team 4-0 in the Gala match at Toongabbie.

However, this time around their team was better organized and much stronger. Newington fully dominated the first half where they scored one goal after another to quickly reach a tally of four goals up before the whistle of half time could be heard.

As he's one of our main defenders, **Francis'** absence was sorely felt in the first half. However, the second half truly belonged to Wombats as they clawed back into the game and after good passing by **Francis**, **Karma**, **Arya** and **Sai**, **Minu** was able to score three goals! Well done **Minu** and team!

Lexy played the role of an efficient goal keeper and she did an excellent job in saving several goals.

Varshith played the role of last defender so that **Francis** could take on the role of central forward. **Max** also jumped in from time to time to defend and steer the ball clear.

It was a nail-biting finish as Wombats got couple of chances in the last few minutes to score, however Newington's defence could not be breached.

All in all, it was a good match where both teams had put their best foot forward.

Coach Him

Final Score: 4 – 3 to Newington Gunners



Under 9 Wombats

After weeks of trying... success! A great away win on the weekend against **Greystanes FC WHT** for the Blue and Gold under 9 Wombats! Well done to all the players and parents involved.

In the last months we have been training regularly. We have been training hard. We have been focused. We have been passionate. We have enjoyed each other's company. We supported each other. Not only players but also their parents deserve a big thank you. You all made this project possible with your perfect attitude towards a game that some of us love and others adore or like.

What project was it? Project U9 Wombats for us as a club, Granville Waratah SFC, and for me personally as a coach, is making a group of children become a football team. Children who didn't know much about soccer, didn't know each other, sometimes couldn't kick the ball or run after it, a group of soccer rookies to turn up regularly, enjoy their time together, keep fit, learn to listen and express, learn how to be a part of a team, club, community, learn discipline and positive thinking.

This Project is going very well and a sign of it is our first ever win together! When we started training and playing together, we didn't have enough players. We had a 6 year old helping us to get the numbers right. We lost our first game 10 - 0. We didn't give up. We only got better and enjoyed the game more and more.



The Wombats building the play from the back!

The game was very good. The key to success was: being well trained, showing discipline and holding formation. We kept our positions. Not a first time, but this time defensive line with our pillar and defensive leader **Mali**, focused and fearless **Rutva** was supported by **Matylda's** strong sprints and **Tanmay's** very solid tackling in midfield.

Rhithik was serving passes like a pro playing as an attacking midfielder, **Cassie** started in attack and was a danger to the opposition then moved to protect the score and she was strong. **Aarav** scored a goal that Ronaldo would celebrate as a goal of a week. He ran with the ball from his own half all the way to the opposition penalty box and positioned himself perfectly to shoot and score. The whole team celebrated with **Aarav** and focused on protecting the goal.

We had under 6 **Klara** on our side who also did her best to focus on why she is on the pitch. **Klara** commented that playing with bigger children is a little harder than U6 because they are faster and stronger. We missed **Rohan**.

The Most Improved Player of the Game award went to **Maahi** (pictured right) who was our very active and smart player in the defence. She has shown some great ball control skills.



I asked who should be the player of the match, and kids shouted loud **Naitik!!!** Yes, **Naitik** deserved the award. He was unbeaten in the goal, diving and catching the ball like a future Socceroo. He wanted to play second half in outfield but agreed to stay in goals for the good of the team. It was a great decision!

Thanks to **Naitik** (pictured below right) we didn't concede a goal and there was a big applause for **Naitik** many times during the game. His mum and dad can be very proud of our goalkeeper. If **Naitik** continues to train as a goalkeeper I am sure that in the future we will see him in the A League. Great reactions, top physical built for the position and fantastic attitude!



Thank you to all the parents who supported us on that day and to **Mali's** mum for reading the game well and giving some top tips and hints not only to **Mali** but to me as a coach too.

The atmosphere at the game was very pleasant thanks to the hosts and referee who did a good job. Well done team and well done **Rutva** for leading, first win and you were the Captain!

Coach Mike

Final Score: 0 – 1 to Granville Waratah SFC



Under 10 Dolphins

Try, Try, Try as We Might – With no small effort, the under 10 Dolphins boys were met with defeat against **Greystanes FC**.

Play after play after play; attack after attack after attack – thwarted. The Waratahs strong in defence and strong in attack – and the final score line read 2 – 1 to Greystanes. Try, try, try as we might...

Frank was our nominated Player of the Match, forever trying to turn the boat around. Every move our team made, Greystanes had an equivalent response. **Hrrishi** was busy dancing in goals – saving left, right, and up and down. **Saharsh** was on top of every player, marking and pressuring every Greystanes player that came his way.

Rayan ran his little legs and breath out. **Ethan** and **Angus** were strong in support of many an attack in play – so many opportunities that came oh so close. **Deon** and **Dhruv** gritted their teeth and showed the opposition ceaseless opposition. All led by **Sarth** – towering over many a Greystanes player – a worthy opposition, who just would not quit.

Oh so close... But not to be our day... Always another day though.

Another day – another game – more fun – more opportunities – more play.

“Excellent display of on the ball skills; we were just unlucky not to put more goals away”, said Coach Steve.

Coach Steve

Coach’s Player of the Match: **Frank**

Report by **From the Sidelines**

Final Score: 2 – 1 to Greystanes FC



Under 11 Possums

After our great string of wins in recent weeks, we suffered a narrow defeat to **Auburn FC** in our away match on the weekend.

The Player of the Match was jointly won by **Sebastian** and **Nilay** for a great defensive effort against a skilful and well-organised Auburn side.

Zack, Taym, Shivvesh, Saksham, Deshaun, Shrey, and **Prabhnoor** were all outstanding in defence, while **Aneishah** and **Meya** did great job as a goal keeper and striker.

What the team needs is more training in passing, controlling the ball, and our goal kicks. This will eventually be achieved with more training sessions, but we need everyone to attend training!

Coach Kumar

Final Score: 1 – 0 to Auburn FC



Under 15/Combined

After last week's surprise and disappointing 1-1 draw, the boys were very keen to get into their groove and makes amends against **Wenty Waratah**, and it didn't take long.

We looked very good from the outset and within minutes from the kick off **Ahmed** had hit the back of the net and before half time he had hit it two more times for another hat trick. The build-up team play and dominance was a pleasure to watch.

The team was looking really good and moving the ball around the park with a fierce determination to be sharp and their play had a real maturity about it. Watching **Nicholas** run past the outside of **Moey** and then to receive the pass was beautiful.

Then to see Player of the Match **Aryan** on the right hand side make runs and feed the ball both on the inside and outside, was again a pleasure to watch. His chemistry with new player **Martin** was great to see. **Martin** played a solid first game and will find his feet fast.

Braha is starting to believe in his own ability as the general in the centre midfield role and is bridging the team together nicely. Just a little more first touch control on the ball and it will fall in place perfectly. With him improving in this role, the team will be a real force.

Our defence was typically strong and Wenty seldom caused the back four any trouble. Another clean sheet from **Rishabh** made a statement.

And after the win the choir sang the Victory Song with gusto.

Coach Noel

Final Score: 5 – 0 to Granville Waratah SFC



Hmmm, there's something very fishy going on in this photo!

Under 16 Div. 2, round 7, Saturday May 25th

For our match against **Guildford McCredie**, the defence really performed above and beyond the rest of the team, specifically **Namah** and **Brooklyn**, they kept the pressure on and always fought for the ball whilst keeping their composure in the tough parts of the match.

Sai did quite well as well but gets too angry with his team mates too easily and needs to keep this in check as this is not good for the team and is not how a team works. Our midfield did well considering the absence of **Bol**, especially **Deniz** as he was creating many of the plays and getting the ball up field whilst releasing the ball at just the right time.

Atila played well but still held the ball for much too long allowing the other team to easily take it away, he needs to be able to think faster and make more sharp passes. And as for our attack, the problem lies in not taking the ball up but the finishing, especially in instances where **Ali** and **Omid** were in front of the other team's goal and if they just did simpler or smarter touches the game's outcome would have been completely different.

Final Score: 3 – 0 to Granville Waratah SFC



TEN QUESTIONS

For every issue of Free Kick we select a member of the club and ask him or her 10 questions so that we can get to know this person.

This week we have selected **Brad Major**.

Brad is a first year member of the mighty Blue and Gold and is probably the only Canadian currently in our club. He is the captain of our senior most team the All Age division 5 Whites and plays centre mid field. Now that winter has arrived, we thought it appropriate that we ask Brad, a Canadian who thinks zero degrees is “only a cool day”, to take the 10 questions challenge!

1. Favourite football player?

Ronaldinho

2. Favourite breakfast cereal?

Reese Puffs

3. Burger cuisine – Big Mac or Whopper?

Big Mac

4. Wrap me up – Kebab or Burrito?

Kebab

5. Your favourite Cartoon character?

Ash Ketchum!! (The main character from the Pokémon anime)

6. Your favourite animal?

Snake

7. Favourite band?

Metallica

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

Steve Irwin

9. If you had a time machine, when and where would you go?

2011 Super Bowl, Arlington Texas

10. If you could get free tickets to any sporting event in the world, what would it be for?

2026 World Cup in Toronto!

