

# FREE KICK



**Granville Waratah SFC Newsletter**  
**2019 season - Vol. 12 - June 18, 2019**



## FROM THE PREZ

In the cold of last Saturday's winter morning I was reminded why I do this (and enjoy it so much) by two things that happened at Robin Thomas. Each had its own special reward.

Firstly, a new player had joined the club in the under 9's and he was playing his first game. He and his father were buying their shorts and socks from the canteen. His enthusiasm was very obvious to see, and as he dressed into his uniform you can see he and his father were bursting with excitement. They could not get onto the field fast enough. I felt very happy for them that we, as a club, were providing such a positive experience for them.

Secondly, whilst walking around the fields watching the games, I stopped to watch the under 11's. I was behind the Auburn goal hoping that our team would score a goal and that I would capture it on video. Whilst waiting behind goals the Auburn team scored an equalizer at the other end of the field. As their team celebrated at the other end, their goal keeper right in front of me started to celebrate and giggle and become very animated in his own way all by himself. He was in his own little space without a care in the world. I continued to watch this young boy for a few more minutes and I could tell that he was truly enjoying being a part of this match. He rode and celebrated every kick, tackle and run. He was just happy to be out there win, lose or draw. Such innocence and sportsmanship was beautiful to watch and experience. To him the match result was important but not critical, he was doing his best and just enjoying every second of it! A valuable lesson and I was happy for him being so happy. PS. the team drew 1-1.

As our club continues to grow, we want to start making future plans now. I have a vision that we will have more parents playing.... BOTH MUMS AND DADS!

I want to see more of our fathers playing, and I'd like to see an over 35's team next season. Sure we would like to be a good team, but we don't have to be at first... let's just start playing socially and we can aim to get better as we go along.

I *especially* would like to see an All Age Ladies team – YES WHY NOT??!! Every Wednesday night I see plenty of mums at training. We have the mums, so let's aim to start playing, even if just for fun!! Other clubs support ladies soccer, why can't we?!? So please mums, especially the Indian community, if any of you have any interest for next season, please contact me and just remember that little 11 year old boy who played without a care in the world and had the time of his life – you too can be just like him!

## FROM THE SECRETARY

We have set the following date to be the day we take photographs of all the teams: **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> of July** – please try not to go on holidays until after your game that day so you/your child can be in your team's photo!

## RESULTS FROM ROUND 9

Age Grp / Div	Home Team	Home Score	Away Score	Away Team
08 Koalas	Merrylands SFC RED	4	1	Granville Waratah SFC
08 Wombats	Greystanes FC WHT	1	3	Granville Waratah SFC
09 Dolphins	Wenty Waratah	2	5	Granville Waratah SFC
09 Koalas	Auburn FC	3	3	Granville Waratah SFC
09 Wombats	Toongabbie Demons	11	0	Granville Waratah SFC
10 Dolphins	Granville Waratah SFC	2	2	Auburn District
10 Koalas	Wenty Waratah	11	1	Granville Waratah SFC
10 Possums	Holroyd Rangers	7	0	Granville Waratah SFC
11 Possums	Granville Waratah SFC	1	1	Auburn District
13 Combined	Granville Waratah SFC	0	1	Greystanes FC
14 Div. 3	Wenty Waratah	2	3	Granville Waratah SFC
15 Combined	Toongabbie Demons	0	11	Granville Waratah SFC
16 Div. 2	Granville Waratah SFC	3	1	Ermington United
AAM Div. 5 BLK	Granville Waratah SFC	2	2	Ermington United
AAM Div. 5 WHT	Pendle Hill SC	1	1	Granville Waratah SFC

## 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](mailto: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 7 Koalas WHT** for a great account of the development of the team and the emphasis on teamwork. Thanks to **Coach Anthony** for sending it in!

The **Under 7 Koalas WHT** also win the Photos of the Round for fantastic shots of their happy players! Thanks to **Coach Anthony** for sending them in!

## Under 7 Koalas WHT – Featured Match Report

An 8:30am kick-off at an away venue on a cold winter morning would truly test the commitment level of any player, parent, or coach. I was therefore impressed to see our team not only arrive early for a warm up, but to see their obvious excitement and eagerness at the prospect of another chance to play together.

We were up against a team from **Rydalmere FC** for the second week in a row and my instructions to the players was simple - More than scoring goals, or the end result, I want to see everyone having fun and working as a team. We've focussed our training sessions in recent weeks on looking for our teammates when we have the ball and to pass to each other into space. I was hoping to see some of their hard work mid-week to show itself during the game.



It didn't take long before I was able to witness a bit more sideways movement in our play compared to the usual, with players stringing passes together cleverly to advance the ball down the field. Despite this, it was Rydalmere who managed score the first goal after 5 minutes from an impressive long-range strike against the run of play.

Not to be outdone, **Sineth** once again showed his skills on the ball, turning sharply to the left and right to avoid defenders. He also showed this week he can be a team player as he made several timely passes to teammates in better positions and saved a certain goal by getting back to cover in defence when our fullback **Varish** ventured forward.

**Adriel** was full of energy and has really claimed the middle of the field as his zone. It was great to hear him calling for the ball and utilising his speed and positional play to create many attacking opportunities for us. It was only a matter of time before one of these opportunities resulted in a goal for himself and to the joy of his team.

**Varish** was rock solid at fullback, timing his interventions perfectly to snuff out the opposition attack, giving the team much confidence. **Liam** tackled bravely and demonstrated his new ability to dribble sideways to get around players and into space.

In recent games I've observed that our set plays have become a real strength. From goal kicks and sideline kicks we have come a long way since our early matches where we'd kick the ball anywhere, across our goals, backwards, or straight to the opposition, which more often than not would result in an easy goal against us. **Ashutosh** took several kicks from the sideline throughout the game and **Varish** and **Liam** kicked from the goal line. Each time I would admire their accuracy, as they found their target with a solid and confident boot.



*Adriel celebrating a fine goal*

From what I have come to know, **Arav** is a very kind, considerate and unselfish boy and these characteristics translate to how he thinks and applies himself on the soccer field. He's always thinking about how he can help and support others and he made some fantastic passes throughout the game, which is exactly what I was looking for at the start. It's no surprise that **Arav** was our Player of the Match this week - Well done **Arav**, for being a great team player, you well and truly deserved it!

Despite Granville controlling much of the possession, we just couldn't manage to find another goal. **Sushanth** and **Adriel** looked most likely to score as they took turns at shooting several times only to see the ball fly agonisingly wide of the net.



*Arav is a popular recipient of the Player of the Match award*

Rydalme on the other hand, didn't have as many chances, but were able to make the most of what they had by scoring once more to win the game by a goal. I reminded players during the post-match wrap up that I wanted to see them having fun and playing as a team and that was exactly what happened.

Well done U7 Koala's, you're teamwork is growing stronger each week!

**Coach Anthony**

## Under 6 Wombats BLK

For our match against **Dundas United**, our team had a great turn out with six players and every one was quite excited to play the match.

Our opponents were excelling in passing the ball and coordinating with each other, scoring lots of goals.

Although we did not win the match, we had a great time on the field.

Our star players: **Manish** put in a great effort to defend our goal several times. He did extremely well to save at least four goals, while **Heer** was good at attacking the ball from the opponent and getting it to the other side.

All in all, a great match!

**Coach Raj**



## Under 7 Possums

The Under 7's Possums had a bye this week but that was not going to stop these keen kids from kicking a ball! We organised our own mini training session and enjoyed a mini match as a reward. It was Possum vs Possum for the first time this season!

**Farhan** teamed up with **Rose** and **Nicholas** and we had **Tania**, **Rania**, **Savya** and **Ella** on the other team. It was lots of fun for everyone and the coach had a few cheeky kicks of the ball to spice things up.

**Rose** made several outstanding dribbles and made one all the way to goal. It shows what she can do when her confidence is high. Good job **Rose!** **Nicholas** made very good passes and **Farhan** was always in a good position to receive the ball. **Farhan** focused on spreading out from his teammates and making himself available to receive the ball.

**Savya** was once again flying all around the field and was super energetic. **Tania** and **Rania** are improving every week. There was some good tackling from the young girls. **Ella** was once again very strong in defence but also made an excellent dribble towards goal.

It was a great game and thank you to the parents for turning up even though we had no game scheduled.

### Coach Michael



## Under 9 Dolphins

Another week another trip into the unknown, this time to the Ted Burge Sportsground in South Wentworthville where the warriors of **Wenty Waratah** ply their trade and hone their skills. This was supposed to be the second time we were to face them this season but this was the game that was washed out way back in round one. Wenty are a similar sized club to ours and - like a Waratah club should do - pride themselves on being competitive but will always play a fair game.



Wenty's Under 9 Dolphins team is having a fair season with roughly equal wins, draws and losses but they did have a positive goal difference leading into our match so there was no room for complacency, which our team was reminded about of course. We enjoyed a full roster of players to draw upon, including **Lucas** who suffered a game-ending knee injury last week (there was only a minute left on the clock so the ref blew early for full-time) so it was great news to see he'd fully recovered. A full roster means a harder juggle with substitutions but, thankfully, the players are content enough with our rule that everyone gets equal playing time, where possible.



The whistle blew and immediately we were on the front foot. Wenty struggled to get out of their half and our dominance paid up well-deserved dividends with our first two goals - one each to **Jamaar** and **Ishan**. The confidence in our team play was palpable and quite exciting to watch. With the team on a five match

undefeated streak, confidence was very high and the player that most highlights this is **Lucas** as he's always confident he can beat the player in front of him but will keep possession and invariably find a pass to a team mate at the end. Confidence is such an important attribute to have as long as it is harnessed in the correct manner. There's not much point having a highly skilled individual playing if the teamwork is not there. Soccer is a team sport and most of the magic of dominant teams comes from the intricate play between players, even if it is the shots and goals we remember the most. All the Dolphins players are gaining confidence in their abilities and this outcome is very rewarding as a coach.



Wenty picked up their play after about 10 minutes and finally started to show some fight. They pulled a goal back and could have scored more but for some poor finishing and a shot that rattled the post. All this did was cause Granville to show some fight of our own and we soon restored our two goal buffer with a fine goal by **Nathan** who showed quickness of foot to get to the ball first before their goalie.



**Jamaar** added our fourth and his second and **Siddhant** scored one too to make it five goals to Granville. The match result was never really in doubt but both sides played well, an assessment which the Wenty referee agreed with -- he congratulated us all on a good quality game played in the correct spirit of fair play.

The win now means the team is on a six match undefeated streak and there's only Regents Park in our upcoming fixtures that should have any hope of halting this streak. I can't emphasise this enough, if you are keen to see a Match For The Ages then you should come down to Robin Thomas Reserve on Saturday 6th of July for a 9:50 kick-off to watch our side go up against a team that was won every game to-date. We'd love the support! Let's go Granville Waratah Soccer Football Club!

**Coach Andy**

**Final Score: 2 – 5 to Granville Waratah SFC**

## Under 9 Wombats

In our match against **Toongabbie Demons**, the day didn't start right for us. With only five players ready to play on time the children were unhappy.

We delayed kick-off for a bit and we finally had enough players to play the game. But the pre-game atmosphere of chasing numbers had its effect.

Our goalkeeper and defensive line couldn't stop much bigger and stronger players who have better skills gained over a longer period of playing football together.

We conceded nine goals in the first half. We were down on the scoreboard and in our spirits too.

But! The second half was a completely different story. We were a team of 5 girls and 2 boys against a team of boys. Does it matter? It does but only physically. Our girls have shown so much heart and courage that it lifted our boys to a real battle.

We had a new goalkeeper in a second half and a big bravo to **Mali** (pictured right) for her keeping skills. Her mum gave **Mali** some decent training. We will repeat this!

The Matildas don't have to worry about the future. We have some decent talent in **Mali, Maahi, Cassie, Klara** and **Matylda**.

**Tanmay** and **Rhithik** were doing their best to support the girls and **Naitik** was trying to run as much as he could when he got on a field.

We lost but we are learning from our losses.

The Player of the Game award went to **Klara** (pictured right) who is an Under 6 player and has step up again to help us with the dropping numbers. Well done **Klara**! Being so little against big boys isn't easy and you have stopped some of their attacks putting your body on the line.

But well done team for a great second half performance!

**Coach Mike**

**Final Score: 11 – 0 to Toongabbie Demons**



## Under 10 Dolphins

**My Better Halves** - With an ominous beginning to the proceedings, “I’m feeling nervous. I’m worried. These first halves scare me...”, Coach Steve was just responding to the many previous weeks’ games, where our Under 10 Dolphins had consistently been slow to warm into themselves during the first half...

It is always a little nail-biting as they take their places on the field in preparation for the starting whistle’s blow... This time though, these Waratah Dolphins thankfully put the pedal to the metal from first touch of the ball. The boys were on fire! **Auburn District** were met with our best, straight out of the gate.



An early goal, comfortably converted by **Adee**, neatly set up and assisted by **Angus**. Strong consistent defence from **Sarth** and **Rayan** kept us in good stead, and ahead, for that first half. **Hrrishi** always had an answer in goals for any Auburn assault and **Saharsh** was persistent and diligent in providing vigorous defence and attack.

Unfortunately, during a moment of distraction and disorientation, Auburn’s number 9 found himself happy as his shaky shot at goals trickled its way in... And we levelled out at that point 1 to 1.

Then, in a moment of pure inspiration and impulse, our supersonic **Frank** ‘hit the red button’ and went ALL THE WAY! from one end of the field to the other – and BANG! 2 to 1 to the Waratahs in that moment. A reason to celebrate. And celebrate he – we! – did! **Frank** danced himself silly. Nice moves young man – in dance and soccer. Keep it up!



*Frank going all the way!*

“He had his two-tone Duo Milo this morning!” reported Mike, **Frank’s** father – with another of his hot tips to a hot game on the field.

**Aryan** plunged himself into a first-rate effort in defence (and scored himself Player of the Match for it). We Waratahs walked off the field at half time holding the 2 to 1 lead.

The second half saw Auburn kick into another gear – relentless in attempting shots on our goals – and they were always met with a forceful defence that echoed a cry of “GET OUTTA MY HOUSE!” Deservedly so though, one of Auburn’s many charges on our team’s goals eventually made its way in – and things were levelled out for an ultimate score of two apiece.

Two good halves; two better halves. Keep it up Waratahs. You’ve put in the hard work and climbed that tricky mountain of symmetry – time to stay on top.



**Sai’s** return after an injury saw no change in his bravery and take-no-prisoners attitude when tackling. **Tom** and **Dhruv** alternating in mid-filed alternated just the same in dedication and grit against their Auburn foes – never giving up; never giving up ground.

#### **Coach Steve**

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

Report by **From the Sidelines**

**Final Score: a 2 – 2 draw**



#### **Under 15 Combined**

Going by the final score, our match against **Toongabbie Demons** was obviously too easy. The boys were terrific and sure we could have racked up another half dozen goals but it was an opportunity for the bench players to play lots of minutes. Player of the Match was **Tommy** who played some excellent through balls that lead to a couple of goals. The team was happy for him and so were we for **Maz** who played some good minutes and was very active.

The goals came thick, fast and furiously. **Ahmed** scored 6 maybe 7 - we lost count, **Braha** scored two cracking goals, **Moey** was unstoppable out on the left setting up plenty and may have scored one as did **Omar** from a corner and **Martin** looking the goods out wide on the right.

The ball movement around the park was very good and sharp and we played with lots of maturity... and had loads of fun splashing water and singing our Victory Song!

#### **Coach Noel**

**Final Score: 11 – 0 to Granville Waratah SFC**

## Under 10 Possums

Our match against **Holroyd Rangers** was better than the week before as we only lost 7-0!

Congratulations to **Leo** (on the left) who defended well and **Janai** (on the right) who were our Players of the Match.

Coach Cetin

**Final Score: 7 – 0 to Holroyd Rangers**



## Under 11 Possums

In our match against **Auburn District**, we secured a great result with a 1-1 draw.

Once again **Zach** scored a goal while **Meya** did a great job keeping goal. The team's midfield showed off a great defensive effort to keep the team in the game.

However, we do need to work on our defence at the back as our positioning let us down which resulted in a goal to Auburn.

We enjoyed having four reserves which we used to our advantage.



The players **Aryan, Aneishah, Ali, Shivvesh, Saksham, Shrey, Mia, Guled, Sebastian, Taym, Prabhnoor,** and **Nilay** showed great endurance during the match, but we need to work on our passing and control of the ball.

Overall great team effort despite the Auburn team fielding 10 players at one stage of the match instead of the usual 9! Auburn actually scored another goal during this period which it was agreed to chalk off at the end because it was the fair thing to do!

**Coach Kumar**

**Final Score: a 1 – 1 draw**



## Under 16 Div. 2

For our match against Ermington United, what impressed me was the great team work, we were so impressive for the entire match!

First and foremost the most important thing we did today was play like a proper team, it was a significant difference from today's game compared to our last game against Greystanes as well as our first game with Ermington and for that we have really improved.

The best players today we're easily **Ali** and **Jonathan**. **Ali** has really improved his pace, shooting and striking, while **Jonathan** finally showed his true colours and performed with confidence and diligence making him more than worthy of our Player of the Match.

The midfield did really well as well, especially **Deniz** and **Samarth**, as they both put pressure on the ball and made very constructive passes whilst doing so. **Omid** and **Rishabh** also did really well although **Rishabh** could have shown more confidence when taking the ball in one on ones, **Omid** on the other hand showed massive improvement as he made many constructive passes and as instructed he kept the ball low which made it much easier for us to score.

Finally, our defence played amazingly well as only a few times did they get dribbled past, **Namah** and **Brooklyn** really took control of both halves and showed their strength, while **Stefan** showed a lot of improvement from first to second half and he made very good clearances allowing our strikers to get the ball. **Sai** played well as well but he needs to be more aggressive!

The boys they getting their confidence back and it is showing in their play.

### Coach Stephen

**Final Score: 3 – 1 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 **Dr Kumar Kappala**.

Kumar is a first year coach of the under 11's. He is one on the many new coaches who believed their child was worth it and decided to put up his hand and volunteer and coach. We love his enthusiasm and wanted to know more about him so this week he takes the 10 questions challenge.

1. Favourite football player?

*Lionel Messi*

2. Favourite breakfast cereal?

*Weekbix*

3. Wrap me up – Kebab or Burrito?

*Kebab*

4. Indian Cuisine – Butter chicken or Rogan Josh?

*Rogan Josh*

5. Your favourite Cartoon character?

*Tom and Jerry*

6. Your favourite animal?

*Possum*

7. Favourite all time movie?

*Troy*

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

*Charlie Chaplin*

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

*Childhood in my village*

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

*The World Cup!*

