

FREE KICK



Granville Waratah SFC Newsletter
2017 season - Vol. 09 - May 23, 2017



FROM THE PREZ

On Sunday we hosted ladies and girls day at Robin Thomas Reserve. The experience was once again very enjoyable and has renewed my commitment for our club to produce all-girl soccer teams!

The population of Parramatta is booming right now and will double in less than a decade. Many thousands of girls will soon be and are already living within walking distance of our ground. We, as a club, must encourage girls' soccer and produce all-girl teams. Let's start with one team for next season and grow from there.



Parklea under 13s

Girls' soccer is great!! Filled with respect, excitement, effort and fair-mindedness!! With every hard tackle the tackler would help the opposition off the ground and say sorry. Yes, they would apologise even when it was a legal tackle. It is cute and the game is truly played in the right spirit! Friendship and respect is the standard culture of girls' soccer and I love it! And watching the games frustrated me that we don't have any all-girl teams in our club. This has to change.

Currently we only have a handful of girls playing amongst the boys. There is absolutely nothing wrong with that but I ask everyone to support the growth of girls' soccer within our club. One of those girls is my daughter playing in the under 13s and she has a female teammate who together often remind me to stop saying, "OK boys..."! To fix that problem, I can't wait to coach an all-girl team and to teach them the game we all love! I am sure it will be filled with fun and a bunch of new challenges!



Newington under 13s

I understand that we are a diverse and culturally rich community and there might be some hurdles for some families and cultures to allow their girls to play team sports outside of school, however I ask that we all work together to achieve this wonderful goal in 2018. So, ask your daughters, your sisters and girlfriends, because next year we are making history! And don't forget your mums... because ladies soccer is just as great and we can accommodate all levels of talent.

FROM THE SECRETARY

The wet weather has passed, now for the catch-ups

Many in the club have now seen their first partial wash-out day. I hope you got the message before going to the fields! Most of our away teams did manage to play, but our home ground was closed as the northern goal mouth in field 1 was very muddy and slippery (due to those beautiful big trees blocking the sunlight). The other half of the field was also very wet in spots. We have to protect both the players (from slippery conditions) and the fields (from damage). Some of our away team coaches reported other fields getting chewed in the day, which is something we can't afford as it means less training later in the season. Fortunately the sun did come out quickly and the field was pretty dry by later afternoon, so we were able to play the ladies and girls days on Sunday.

Note that it is really important NOT to presume that wet weather leads to no game. One of our teams nearly got into trouble as the parent with the shirts didn't turn up, thinking the game was washed out. Fortunately things were sorted and our team got to play and won the game. Please remember: the game is on unless you are told otherwise - via messages from your coach/manager, or on the club website or club Facebook page.

So what happens now? Most of the games that were washed out have now been rescheduled: U6/Red (both teams), U6/Green, U10, U11, U12, U14 and U15. All will be played this coming Sunday 28th May. Scroll to the bottom of the draw and you will see the details, games are at the same time they were supposed to be played last Saturday. There is no game for U8 Green, the opposition couldn't make it!

Field Set-up Help Schedule

Many thanks to those parents who have come down early to help set up the field on Saturday mornings. The extra hands make it much more enjoyable for all.

This coming weekend, we are looking for parents from the **U8 Blue** (Saturday), and **U12** (Sunday) to help. The work takes about 1.5 hours, is somewhat physical but not that hard. We need at least two people from each team at about 7:45am, but a third (helping in the canteen, say an 8 to 8:30 start) would be great. Please let your coach know if you are willing. We are asking coaches or managers to organise this, but we are NOT asking the coach to do the work, they do enough already.

People coming down for the set up work should wear clothes and shoes they are happy to get a little dirty, and look for or ask for Tony, who is normally about the field from about 7:40am.

Club Photos

Like most sporting clubs, we set aside a day to take team photos. These are done in a similar way to school class photos: they are taken by a professional photographer and they can be ordered in advance. A team photo is always taken but you can order other combinations like single shots if you desire. **Our photo day this year will be the 24th of June.** A package will soon be given to managers containing details to be handed out to parents. We do ask the manager (or coach if there is no manager) to help us here by handing this out and later collecting orders.

Later on, a schedule for the day will be produced.

COACHES AND MANAGERS MEETING

Our next coaches and managers meeting will be after training on Wednesday this week (26th May). 7:35pm in the club house. Please come, this is your opportunity to ask questions, provide feedback and possibly get some ideas from other coaches on training techniques and game strategies.

ROUND 6 GRANVILLE WARATAH - CATCH UP

Please note that some (but not all) games that were washed out last Saturday will be played this Sunday! Please check the official draw available from the club website (iCompMan) or use this guide below:

Start	Age/Division	Home Team	Away Team
09:00	06 E Red	Granville Waratah WHT	Granville Waratah BLK
09:45	06 E Green	Granville Waratah	Sydney Dragons FC BLK
10:25	10 / 1	Dundas United	Granville Waratah
11:20	11 / 3	Granville Waratah	Dundas United
09:00	12 / 3	Granville Waratah	Pendle Hill
10:10	14 / 2	Granville Waratah	Ermington United
11:30	15 / 2	Granville Waratah	Toongabbie WHT

VACANT CLUB POSITIONS

The following positions are currently available and any help would be hugely appreciated. These positions are:

CANTEEN MANAGER: The role is exactly what it states. Our previous manager is studying for her HSC and can't commit to being there every week due to studies, but will help out when possible. The role includes organising food to sell, preparing and running the canteen on match days. The manager will work with Vince (our treasurer) and offers front row seats for all games on the main field.

EQUIPMENT MANAGER: The role is basically making sure that our teams receive all relevant equipment and that they return it at the end of the season. Equipment includes jerseys, balls, cones, ball bags and anything else necessary.

MINI-ROOS COORDINATOR: The role is to oversee what is happening with the Mini-Roos teams. These are U6's to U11's. The role is to be a contact person for anyone, preferably coaches and managers, to speak to in regards to any issues, suggestions or matters that have come up and report them to the committee.

WEB DESIGNER: the club must move to a new provider for our website by the end of the year and wants to have a fresh new look in the process. If we have any talented web designers within the Waratah family, here is your chance to make your mark.

For all positions you will receive the whole support of the committee as well as the satisfaction of knowing that you are helping your child/ren, their friends, team mates and your community. To volunteer, please speak to any committee member who will gladly explain more detail if necessary and/or get you started.

MATCH REPORTS

It is our intention to feature in every newsletter 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!

We have many less reports this week due to the home games all being washed out. We hope to have a bumper edition of the newsletter next week with some teams playing twice over the weekend!

The photo of the round goes to the under 7 Red team! Thanks to **Yulia** for sending it in.

Under 7 Red

We played **Parramatta City** on the weekend, thankfully a different outfit from the previous week, but we still came away with a loss despite some great team play, our usual defensive goal-saving tackles, and four goals of our own. There were lots of positives to take away from the match: we didn't need as many defensive tackles this week and we scored some great goals from runs from the wings.

Jordan scored a hat trick and came away with the game's player of the match but everyone had a good game, particularly **Veydant** who was playing his first match for the reds.

Our weakness continues to be our positioning, which is a difficult concept to teach to six year old players who are concentrating on getting the ball into the back of the net... it's hard to ignore where the ball is and be disciplined enough to concentrate on the big picture, but it will come with enough focus at training.

Our passing is also something we need to work on but we are starting to see encouraging signs that we are making progress.

Thanks to **Yulia** for the great photo!

See you all at training on Wednesday!

Coaches Andy, Carlos & Jorvan

Final score: 6-4 to Parramatta City



Jordan showing composure and focus as he watches his shot go into the net

Under 7 Blue

We were away to **Regents Park** on the weekend and suffered at 5-1 loss. We welcomed **Ethan** and **Riyana** from the now defunct Green team who made good contributions and fitted in well to their new team.

We held the opposition to 0-0 at half time but a lack of coordination in defence led to three rapid goals just after the restart. This really put us on the back foot but the team eventually regrouped and **Darsh** scored a goal towards the end with good teamwork from the players.

Match report by **Michael**

Final score: 5-1 to Regents Park



Under 8 Blue

The Blues played **Newington** on their home ground and were beaten 5-0.

Granville started really well, threatening the opposition goal in the first 5 minutes. **Dhyan** played his first game for the team and did a great job in goal during the first half. **Francis** was given the goal keeping duties in the second half and was able to clear Newington's defence on many occasions with some strong goal kicks. **Joshua** and **Frank** made some incisive runs down the flanks and were unlucky not to penetrate the opposition defence and score. **Vedant**, **Mewan** and **Rishit** tried hard throughout the game, attacking and defending. **Varish** is continuing to improve his skills.

Even though it was a loss, the team showed great determination, especially in defence.

Well done team!!

Mike (coach on the day)

Final score: 5-0 to Newington



Under 13 Div 2

After a disappointing loss the week before, we rebounded well to play a very good game against the team coming second, **Pendle Hill**, a game which almost never happened! The rain caused a bit of confusion with players uncertain if we were playing or not. With **Moey** arriving late, the playing shirts were not available for the start of the game! Fortunately, all our players except one were wearing their black training t-shirt with WARATAH SOCCER emblazoned on the front. After being given the approval from the referee, a forfeit was averted and we were given permission to play in our t-shirts. **Braha** had to wear my extra-large t-shirt as I stood around in my singlet for a few minutes. As coach, sometimes you just gotta do what you gotta do!

The game started and we were quickly on the scoreboard with two goals. This was entirely due to sticking to the game plan of playing wide and cutting the ball into the middle. **Hesam** and **Rohan** were having a field day out wide after receiving beautiful through balls from **Deniz**, **Shane**, **Braha** and **Kamail**. Our structured play was great to see and Pendle Hill really didn't have an answer... until we got sloppy for one brief moment let in the first half and they clawed back a goal from a poor clearance and sloppy marking making it 2-1 at half time.

The second half saw us dominate again and we were never really pressed. I felt comfortable they would not score again and they didn't. With **Kamail** back in the centre and **Nicholas** in the left back with **Sri**, we are just too fast as **Amalie** and **Sam** also showed their toughness in defence.

At the other end of the field we had multiple chances that were pushed and saved by their very good goalkeeper. The last 15 minutes it was save after save after save. The shots kept coming but so did the frustration. It is at these times that it is easy to start to lose focus... but it is at these times the team has to learn to be disciplined, to keep our shape and stick to our game plan... the goals will come.

Player of the Match was **Rohan** who swapped from the right to the left flank and continued to carve them up out wide.

Special mention goes to our keeper **Ali** who demonstrated great courage when making a diving save and took a kick to the



head for his efforts. After a little "holy water", he shook it off and continued the game!

After the game we celebrated by singing our new victory song, expect to hear it often... and it will get better as more of the players learn the words!!

Coach Noel

Final score: 1-2 to Granville Waratah

YOUTH 1 (Under 17 Div 1)

This game was a difficult result to accept. Pendle Hill is a very good and well-coached team. They are last year's grand champions, having lost just the one game all last year... which was to my team!

Assistant coach Cem and I gave the team a game plan and they played it to perfection for the first 35 minutes. We were proud to watch the boys play... the best we have seen from them in two years!

After Pendo scored first from a mis-hit free kick that could not be repeated in a million years, their coach was quick to cool down his team's joy when he shouted, "I don't know what your celebrating for, we haven't touched the ball for 10 minutes!"

Our team counter-attacked very quick and scored a wonderful team goal that was finished off by **Anaya** on the left wing and who was having a man of the match performance out wide!

It was in the middle that the damage was being done to Pendle Hill. It would be unfair to just single out any one player but **Ahmed** was at his very best as a distributor and **Rohith** was not a giraffe but a rhino. As good as we were with the ball, Pendo have the best defence and were hard to crack again... and in fact we couldn't get through. Pendo scrambled well and thwarted our every chance... their keeper was their man of the match! Our midfield chemistry is coming along very well but finishing our attacks still needs more work.

Defensively we were solid as the back four are finding their groove however it were the goals from set pieces that let us down... on 3 occasions! One against us is just dumb luck. Two is disappointing but three is depressing! Losing 4-1 was unfair and was not a true reflection of the game... I doubt the opposition would argue. Notwithstanding, we have work to do in this area!

The second half was a game of attrition as fatigue set in and the spark that burned in the first half was gone. Too many long balls and not enough team work were never going to claw us back into the game.

The gap between the top four teams is very small and we must take our chances to be considered a grand champion contender. Either way we look forward to meeting them again!

Coach Noel

Final score: 4-1 to Pendle Hill

We would like to thank our major sponsor:

