

FREE KICK



Granville Waratah SFC Newsletter
2019 season - Vol. 09 - May 28, 2019



FROM THE PREZ

I take the opportunity to announce a new initiative we would like to introduce for our club:

- **DROP AND SWAP.**

I am sure over the years many of you wonder what to do with old soccer boots as you or your child grow out of them. Do you keep them? Save them for hand-me-downs to give to your younger child or sibling? Or do you just throw them out? Throwing them out seems like just a big waste – I am sure you agree.

We are now asking everyone to please don't throw away your old boots but rather to please donate them to the club so that we can build a stock of boots in various sizes. Why?

Very often we get requests to help a player who has forgotten their boots, or they need financial assistance with new boots. Why throw them out if they can go to helping out the less fortunate? Yes!

Remembering we are a community club that helps each other, let's take this concept a step further.

If we have a decent size stock of old donated boots then early next season we will invite all players and parents to drop off their old boots and swap them for a larger pair. **DROP AND SWAP.** It's a win-win exercise!

Sure they may not be new boots but they will most likely be in reasonable condition, perhaps just one season old and you can now save yourself a few bucks swapping and dropping for a few years.

So please don't throw out your old boots, please donate them to your club! '

If you have any great ideas or suggestions for the club, please feel free to contact me either via email, phone or in person.

THANK YOU.



RESULTS FROM ROUND 7

What a great result from last weekend! This is our first round where we won more games that we lost. Great work Granville Waratah SFC!

Age Grp / Div	Home Team	Home Score	Away Score	Away Team
08 Koalas	ATTENDED THE GALA DAY			
08 Wombats	ATTENDED THE GALA DAY			
09 Dolphins	Granville Waratah SFC	1	1	Greystanes FC
09 Koalas	Silverwater Flamingos	9	0	Granville Waratah SFC
09 Wombats	Granville Waratah SFC	1	3	Holroyd Rangers
10 Dolphins	Granville Waratah SFC	1	2	Merrylands SFC
10 Koalas	Granville Waratah SFC	6	4	Guildford County
10 Possums	Granville Waratah SFC	3	0	Pendle Hill
11 Possums	Granville Waratah SFC	5	1	Newington Gunners
13/Combined	Granville Waratah SFC	1	0	Silverwater Flamingos
14/3	Granville Waratah SFC	2	4	Wentworthville Uniting
15/Combined	Granville Waratah SFC	1	1	Greystanes FC
U16/2	Granville Waratah SFC	3	0	Guildford McCredie
AAM/5 BLK	Ermington United	1	1	Granville Waratah SFC
AAM/5 WHT	Granville Waratah SFC	10	1	Pendle Hill

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 here](#).

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 Possums** for another great account of their MiniRoos game. Thanks to **Coach Michael** for sending it in!

The **Under 9 Dolphins** win the Photos of the Round (yet again) with some awesome action shots. Thanks to **Aloysius** for taking the photos and sending them in!



Under 7 Possums – Featured Match Report

What a day it was for soccer. The sun was surprisingly hot and we were away at **Guildford County** for the first time. Hopefully we all remembered to wear sunscreen!

The Possums tried their absolute best which is what I am looking for as a coach. Collectively, we are learning every week how to improve and play as a team.

Rose made a nice dribbling move in the second half which shows just what she is capable of when she has the ball at her feet.

Yash took a bump to the head in the first half but bravely came back on in the second half. Good job **Yash**!

Farhan played his little heart out as usual and is always one of the most enthusiastic players in the team. Thank you, **Farhan**, for always playing with a smile as it makes my job as coach very rewarding.

Tania and **Rania** showed just how brave they were playing against Guildford and not once stepped away from a challenge on the field.

Moksha pressured the opponents to win back possession several times during the game. Even though it was very hot he kept going. Nice work **Moksha**.



Finally, **Nicholas** was once again proud to represent our club on the field as the youngest and smallest player.

We will continue to learn every week at training and on game days but most importantly we will have lots of fun in the process (especially me as the coach!). Thank you kids and I look forward to seeing everyone at training ready to put in 100% effort!

Coach Michael



Under 7 Koalas WHT

It was another warm and sunny Saturday, with conditions perfect for playing soccer as we hosted the **Toongabbie Demons** at our home ground.

For the first time this season we decided to assign players to specific positions with instructions on how to perform a role for the team. This plan seemed to work from the get-go as the boys shifted the ball around without getting in each other's way, enjoying the bulk of the ball possession in the opening few minutes of the game.

Adriel, who's quickly becoming our midfield superstar, was full of energy and purpose running up and down the middle of the park. It wasn't long before his efforts were rewarded after he managed to break clear of Toongabbie's defence and gallop toward the goal to easily guide the ball into the back of the net.

A few minutes later it was **Arav's** chance to score a goal after some solid work from **Tristan** at fullback to turn defence into attack, with the help of **Liam** and **Ashutosh** to promote the ball up field allowing **Arav** to convert the move with a timely strike on goal.



Towards the end of the first half Toongabbie began to grow in confidence as they increased their touches on the ball and it was our defence that was called into action on several occasions. **Varish** and **Tristan** continued to deny the visitors with perfect timing and technique to intercept the ball, however we soon discovered that Toongabbie had a few weapons of their own with an impressive strike to open their account on the scoreboard.

The second half began much like the first, with Granville dominating possession by stringing together several passes between players which provided many opportunities to attack. **Sineth** found himself on the

end of such passing, slotting the ball into the goal after demonstrating a few of his trademark cutback moves to evade and confuse the defenders.

Varish was linking up well with **Aryan** down the left side of the field all game, particularly from our goal kicks, which allowed plenty of open space through the middle. **Adriel** was able to exploit this space with his speed and determination to charge at the goal and score for a second time in the match.

Again Toongabbie found some momentum the longer play went on and managed to peg back our lead with two goals in quick succession. There were a few nervous moments in the remaining few minutes as Toongabbie tried to snatch a draw with a couple of shots at goal just passing the outside of the posts. The final whistle came as a relief in the end and the team was notably excited by our first win since round one.



Each player contributed in this match and as a coach it was so pleasing to watch the boys start to think about their positions on the field and the role that they play in the team. It was for this reason that **Aryan** (pictured above) received our Player of the Week Award as I could see he was working hard to remain in position and to link up with the other players.

Great game U7 Koalas, your hard work at training is paying off!

Coach Anthony



Under 9 Dolphins

Compared with last weekend's outing against Merrylands, our home match against **Greystanes FC** proved to be a much sterner test for this promising Under 9 Dolphins team. I told the players as much before the game as both teams had very similar numbers for goals for and against leading into the match. So the emphasis was that defence was going to be key and for everyone to not neglect that aspect of the game.

Unfortunately for us, we were without one of our recognised defenders in **Harsh** and so other players were drafted in to help out **Ethan** in defence.



Lucas and Jamaar both intent on keeping the ball near the opposition goal, if not actually in it!

The game started cagily enough but it soon settled down into familiar patterns as we forced the play to be in the opposition half as much as possible and I would have said we edged the first half if it wasn't for Greystanes scoring the first goal of the match. They caught us on the counter and we simply didn't have enough players back to stop the goal, which **Nathan** had no hope of preventing.

Greystanes could have had two goals to their tally but for the heroics of **Nathan** who pushed a wicked shot heading for the top corner away to safety. I didn't initially realise how good a stop it was but during the break, one of the parents came over to me and said he was on the other side of the field in the perfect position to see and told the team just how good a save it was. Well done **Nathan**!



We regrouped at half time where I asked the team to make use of the fact we had three substitutes, the players were to not stop running and they would be substituted when they ran out of puff. This worked to keep Greystanes scoreless in the second half and so I was happy enough with that.

What stopped us from winning the game was fluffing our chances!! That we are going to practice one-on-ones at our next training session is a given because there's no point in creating chances to score if you don't put them away. After three such chances went begging, I thought it just wasn't going to be our day and that we would be consigned to a close 1-0 defeat. But then **Ishan** pops up with a 'worldie' of a goal that sent watching parents into raptures!!



The photo above was taken just after Ishan (to the left and half cut out of the shot) scored the equalizer!

It didn't look like anything was on when **Ishan** received the ball close to the half-way line but he obviously had other ideas as he lined up for a long range shot that went over everyone's head, including their goalie, with the ball dipping down just in time to sail under the crossbar!! What a goal!! It meant that the team is still undefeated at home, a statistic I dearly hope we hold onto.

The other pleasing aspect of the game was just how evenly spread out our match statistics read. We had five different players take shots at goal, and eight players making significant defensive tackles and blocks. And nearly every player recorded a good pass to a team mate, signs that the team is starting to play team football as opposed to seagull soccer! Note to the other teams: take stats!!

I think a draw was the deserved result as both teams had chances to score which they didn't take but the match result could really have gone either way and it just shows that in soccer, even the finest of margins (e.g. not shooting directly at the goalie in a one-on-one situation but to the side) is important enough to secure the victory, a lesson I hope the Dolphins take to heart.

Coach Andy

Final Score: a 1 – 1 draw



Under 9 Wombats

On the weekend what started as a very nice game against **Holroyd Rangers** became a tough battle. The referee had his hands full making sure the discipline was kept and players were safe. It wasn't easy as the game was full of contact between the players but he did a good job so many thanks to the referee.

Usually I name individual players for their achievements, but this time, as all the parents and spectators agreed, the whole team deserves a big bravo. We came up as a team, listened to the coach, followed the instructions and kept our formation. We followed everything that we have been training. We have been passing and running into the positions, we have been defending as a team.

The "Best Team Player of a Game" award this time went to the entire team. **Naitik** (Captain), **Cassie**, **Maahi**, **Tanmay**, **Arav**, **Matylda**, **Rutva** and **Mali** have worked so hard that they all deserved a trophy. And that was the main point made in the post-match debrief. I was proud, the parents were proud and even players from other age groups were proud of Wombats Under 9s!

An individual award went to a player that doesn't usually get rewarded with awards. This player is **Matylda**. She is the coach's daughter, and both her mum and dad never wanted her or the team to feel that she is somehow the favourite. But this time was different. It was other parents who suggested that she deserves "the Most Improved Player of the Game" award for her continuous desire to fight for the ball and space.

The team played well and **Aarav** scored a goal in a very last minute. It was a result of the entire team's pressure. We lost 1 - 3 but we played hard every minute of the game. **Rhithik**, **Tanmay** and **Maahi** did not fear to put their bodies on the line to save the team. There was physical contact from both teams. **Cassie** and **Mali** were directing their friends on the pitch while **Naitik** had a very good first half in a goal and second half on a field! **Rutva** didn't stop for a moment and the players would high five each other and have tactical chats during the stops in the game.

Everyone who was watching that game agreed that it was different to the others we have played. It was very physical, it was fast and close. Everyone was proud of the team.

After the game we had a little celebration with a cake, candles and a happy birthday song for **Matylda's** birthday!



Everybody had great time together. We are slowly growing to a Football Soccer family for sure!

Coach Mike

Final Score: 1 – 3 to Holroyd Rangers

Under 10 Dolphins

Potential to Be Met, An Oddity of a Game - 7:45am: parents are on the scene, setting up field, building the goals, and marking the lines... it is the Under 10 Dolphins taking their turn on the roster – part of a community – tending to their Robin Thomas home.

9am: and the whistle blows! An early goal off a corner from **Merrylands SFC** – the ball just walking its way in. It had aim, it had direction - but no power, no urgency. (It casually wandered by, whistling a tune, and simply sat itself down to rest, inside the goals!)



Merrylands owned the first half – making strong plays, consistently attacking our goals. **Ethan** evened the score – putting our one and only goal in, *with his face*. “With his face?” Yes, with his face. *With. His. Face.* One on one, after breaking away, he stared down the Merrylands’ goalie – a strong belt of the ball, which the goalie *belted back* – and **Ethan**, still at full speed, rebounded the ball into the goal – *with his face*. But by the end of the first half, Merrylands had raised the stakes, and the score line, to a 2 to 1 lead.

We owned the second half – attacking, attacking, attacking, but just unable to score. A pattern for our boys it seems – turning the tide of the game in the second half and dominating. Perhaps a lesson to be learnt: Hardest and Best, from the Start.

Frank gave it his all – unlucky not to score. **Deon** tackled them *all* – and his way into Player of the Match! (Well played, Deon!) **Hrrishi** – expert in goals. **Angus** covered every part of the field, running back and forth, and round and round. **Dhruv** played with heart, full focus, and gusto. **Saharsh** was fully committed in every engagement. **Aryan** – eager and reliable throughout. **Noah** – unyielding in defence. **Rayan** – a little *bullet*; and *ever-a-bottle of determination*.

An oddity of a game: Strengths on Display. Weaknesses all our own. Lessons to be Learned. Improvements to be Made. *Potential. Potential to be Met.*

Coach Steve

Coach’s Player of the Match: **Deon**

Report by **From the Sidelines**

Final Score: 1 – 2 to Merrylands SFC



Deon wins the Player of the Match award



Under 11 Possums

The team is on a roll with yet another win on the weekend, this time against **Newington Gunners**.

Aneishah scored two goals, **Parbhnor** scored one, as did **Shivvesh** and **Zach**.

Overall the team put in a great effort, showed lots of endurance, and played a good positional game.

Our Players of the Match trophies went to **Parbhnor** and **Shrey**, well done!

Coach Kumar

Final Score: 5 – 1 to Granville Waratah SFC



Under 15/Combined

It was a very frustrating game against **Greystanes FC** that we must learn from. Our pregame warm up was interrupted and distracted by players arriving late. The team was not truly “switched on” for kick off. Our performance on the field was ok without being at the level we should expect from ourselves. Greystanes weren’t really stretching and even though we were dominating, we found it difficult to find the back of the net and then **Hesam** went down with a very bad rolled right ankle. This was something else to rattle the team. We eventually took the lead with a nice goal from **Ahmed** but that would be our only goal as we missed chances and Greystanes defended and scrambled well for the rest of the game.



Greystanes had few chances but a long shot from the left floated high across the face of goal towards the right corner of the goal posts and was accidentally tapped into the back of the net by an off balanced **Rishabh** who reached as high as he could. Despite this goal, we had ample opportunities to win the game after that but failed to capitalise. The passing was not consistently sharp and our midfields need to control the ball more with a better first touch to control our attack going forward with structure.

Player of the Match was **Himanshu** who we borrowed from the Under 14’s really enjoyed being with his old team. The result was a 1-1 draw but it kind of felt like a loss, or at least certainly one that got away. To be top of the table we need to win these games.

Coach Noel

Final Score: a 1 – 1 draw

Under 15/Combined, Round 2 Knock Out Competition

We were up against **Merrylands SFC** and, even though we lost this game 0-5, it was to a division 1 team and I was very content with our performance. It was a far better performance than the day before against Greystanes it’s just unfortunate that the score did not reflect the closeness of the game. We were four goals down at half time but two of them were from set piece free kicks that **Rishabh** just couldn’t get to.



Their only goal in the second half was the same. One of their other two goals was a lapse in our defensive line, otherwise it would have been a simple offside which we were catching them on repeatedly throughout the game.

I felt the entire team played well against the opposition and had we played that way the day before we would have easily beaten Greystanes. I was very pleased with that we showed grit and determination to the last whistle despite the score line and felt the boys could be proud of and encouraged by their performance. All the team toiled hard across the park.

Coach Noel

Final Score: 0 – 5 to Merrylands 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 **Musawar Gafori**.

Musawar holds the distinction of being the current player who has been playing and serving the club for the longest period of time! He is 19 this year and joined the club in 2012, playing in the under 12's. The following year he captained his under 13's team to win a Grand Championship. He is currently a university student and plays his favoured central defender position with the All Age Division 5 White team. This week he takes on the 10 questions challenge.

1. Favourite football player?

Lionel Messi

2. Favourite breakfast cereal?

Nutri Grain ...iron man food

3. Indian cuisine – Butter chicken or Rogan Josh?

Butter Chicken

4. MacDonalds or KFC?

Maccas

5. Your favourite superhero?

Batman! Because he really doesn't have any superpowers but rather makes the most of his surroundings to have equal if not more powers than the other superheroes.

6. Your favourite animal?

The Killer Whale: the way they use their sonar to interact and communicate, making them one of the smartest animals, is really intriguing.

7. Favourite band?

Queen. They were way ahead of their time and were known to not limit themselves to a certain genre of music by fusing different styles to make magic.

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

Hitler, to see his motivations behind how a charismatic political leader becomes a fascist dictator orchestrating genocide.

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

Florence in the 1300's to see what sparked the Renaissance.

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

UEFA Champions League Final, ideally the 2013/14 final!

