

Granville Waratah Soccer Football Club Club Magazine - Season 2009

Presentation Issue 27 September 2009

FREE

KICK



Executive Committee for 2009

President
Secretary
Senior Vice President
Junior Vice President
Registrar/Assistant Secretary
Treasurer
Equipment Officer

Noel Dona
Hector Guajardo
Rick Paye
Vikash Solanki
Tony Farrell
Vince Wyatt
Noel Dona

TRUSTEES

Mary Fox Teresa Dona

LIFE MEMBERS

L. Walker (dec.)
R. Burnett (dec.)
V. Wyatt
G. Kell
Mrs M. Fox

H. F Jacobs (dec)
D. Sutherland
J. Borg
J. Marsh

A. Saggus (dec.)
I. Tye (dec.)
D. Shipton
Mrs B. Borg

YOUR CLUB NEEDS YOU!

63rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, 6 October 2009

At the club house

ROBIN THOMAS RESERVE

Harris Street Parramatta

COMMENCING 7.30 PM

We have positions to fill in the Executive Committee.

Have a say in how your club is run, make your club better for your children.

President's Report



After failing last year to win a grand championship in 2008, this year we managed to restore a long rich tradition of success at our club of at least one of our teams (every year) winning a grand championship. Well done to everyone involved in the under 16's and under 11's.

I concede that at the beginning of the year I did not expect much from the 2 teams. The under 16's were a team that did not exist last year. But this is why I love being apart of this club!

After a number of boys approached the club to play soccer, club secretary Hector Guajardo committed his time to mashing together the boys to form a team. Noting that more than half the team were under age did not prevent Hector from saying to me back in March that "these are a good bunch of boys, there is some good potential, I think I will coach them." And coach them HE DID!!

Club Registrar Tony Farrell's under 11's was also a mash of correct age and under age boys just keen to play. All year they were under the pressure of struggling to have enough numbers to field a team. Then with 3 or 4 games left in the season, the calculators came out to do the maths to see if the boys could still make the finals – AND THEY DID! Every game was effectively an elimination grand final and they played it that way. I really enjoy that sort of soccer where players, coaches and even parents have to dig deep to see how bad – or how desperate – they want to be victors!

I was especially happy for Tony as he has been with us for 4 or 5 years now and is truly the technological backbone of the club – we thank him for our website updates! I was very pleased for him to win his first Grand championship as a coach – how can now testify that is truly is a great feeling.!

But of course winning (under expected) grand championships (or pennants) is not the only thing that makes being part of our family club a great experience. The journey can be as great as the destination, which is why I am very proud to say that I am the President of the mighty Granville Waratah Soccer Football Club.



Last season it was arranging a private clinic with the Socceroos – and being the envy of every club in the Association – this season it was being chosen by the FFA to host the announcement of the Inaugural Australian Football Awards. Having Socceroo Captain

ALL ROADS LEAD TO PARRAMATTA

Socceroos join Waratahs for awards launch Club scores stars

 See more pictures
More photographs available at www.parramattaadvertiser.com.au

GRANVILLE Waratah Club struck the jackpot when it was chosen to host a visit from two Socceroos as part of a Football Federation Australia announcement on Saturday.

The players who turned up at Robin Thomas Reserve were Socceroo captain Lucas Neill and superstar attacker Harry Kewell.

The Aussies have been staying in Parramatta for the past week in preparation for tonight's World Cup qualifier against Uzbekistan at ANZ Stadium.

The visit to Granville Waratah, one of Australia's oldest soccer clubs, was arranged by FFA to launch the Australian Football Awards, which will comprise professional and non-professional awards.

The professional category will include Footballer of the Year and Under-20 Footballer of the Year awards for both men and women.

The non-professional category includes team, volunteer, coach and referee awards.

■ SOCCEROO fans last week packed into Parramatta Westfield for a chance to get a photo and an autograph from their favourites.



Socceroo captain Lucas Neill checks out the skills of Billy Osborne. Insets: Harry Kewell signs an autograph at Robin Thomas Reserve and (right) Tim Cahill at training for the World Cup qualifier.

Pictures: DANNY AARONS, BRENT MCGILVARY - PP200577, - PP200679, - PP200680

Lucas Neil and Harry Kewell together with FFA's CEO Ben Buckley, at Robin Thomas Reserve, together with a media scrum was very special for the players and parents of Granville Waratah who kept this secret to ourselves! The FFA could have chosen any club in Australia...but they chose Granville Waratah SFC!!!

Every year I get at least someone asking me, "Noel, how do you find the time?" Simple answer is that I make the time – and having a VERY supportive family helps a bit too. But every year I discover another reason why I enjoy making the time.

This year for the first time since 1983, our club has fielded an under 21's team. I started training this team as under 14's - they are now young men and MY FRIENDS. This is something I did not expect 6 years ago when I first started to coach the lads. I have found their (adult) friendship a bonus and unexpected, and I am proud that they are giving back to the club.

At the other end of the scale, coaching the under 9's has been a new and fantastic experience! This is a real challenge but one that I want and perhaps need as the idea of making a positive contribution in the lives of these young boys and girls is very rewarding!

Of course to all the coaches and managers, thank you, the donations of your personal time which is being invested in all the players in the club is acknowledged as very special.!



To all the players...THANK YOU...I hope to see you next year!!!

To all the committee members: when we shook hands and said "well done" to each other around 5.30 pm on grand final day, it was a for another good season filled with challenges, heartaches, frustrations, glory, excitement, anger, passion, passion, and more passion... and that is why we will be back for more next year... BUT WANT MORE PARENTS TO JOIN AND HELP US! The club cannot exist without a committee and I urge parents to find the time be apart of your club! Like me, please ensure you thank each committee member.

Finally, thanks to our sponsors, we were able to go back to the traditional blue and gold stripes that our club proudly wore for decades. The uniform looks great and I must say it was indeed a good feeling to be wearing the stripes again. The blue and gold stripes is a symbol of a club that has been a cornerstone in the community for generations, having played a contribution in the lives of thousands of families.

On 25 September 2000, on the night Kathy Freeman won her Sydney Olympic gold medal, there was an AGM at our club house. One of the agenda items was the name of the club. I had proposed to change our name to Parramatta Waratah. Given we were on the fringe of Parramatta CBD, it seemed only logical. With only 7 people attending that night, the vote was 3-3. I had the casting vote. I guess half the room felt I would vote for the change given it was my proposal. I surprised everyone when I voted against the name change!!

It is only in the last couple of season that I have truly realised what it truly means to be known as the GRANVILLE WARATAH SOCCER FOOTBALL CLUB and why I voted back in 2000 not to change our name, or more correctly, why I decided to keep it!!!! It is very special and I am proud to declare who we are, what we do, what is our history, and where we are going!

So please tells your friends and family and join us all again next year.



NOEL DONA

The mission of The Investors Club is:



"To help the maximum number of people achieve financial freedom in the shortest time with minimal cash outlay."

www.tic.com.au

Secretary's Report



The 2009 season saw Granville Waratah grow in team numbers from last year's 10 to 12 teams this season. Our junior base stayed quite similar to last year, with the addition of two senior teams. This season, our junior teams ranged in age from 6 to 11 years, only missing an U/10's side. We also fielded two U/14 teams, U/16, and a 21's side. All our teams played well this year, considering the many stoppages due to bad weather resulting in field unavailability. It's very hard to keep players motivated, fit and focused when there are so many interruptions.

However, we managed to play catch up games this season and took advantage of that opportunity. A new competition was trailed this season made up of 14 rounds and a round robin finals series. It's success is being evaluated and will determine whether or not the competition will be played the same way again next season. Most players' preference leans towards the previous 18 round competition.

This year we were fortunate to have a number of Socceroos pay us a visit and hold a media release for the FFA at our home ground. It was a magic day with international players Harry Kewell and Lucas Neil there to lift everybody's spirits and create excitement throughout the crowd. Many thanks to Noel for his networking skills in organizing this opportunity for our Club – we all enjoyed the experience. This year we also played host to a traveling U/16's team from Austin Texas in the USA. We played a friendly between them and our U/16's – losing 5-1 to a very strong team that was well trained and disciplined. Afterwards, we enjoyed meeting these overseas players and sharing football experiences. The day finished with a BBQ, an opportunity for players, family and friends to socialize and learn a little about their country in the process.

This year we fielded three senior teams – Over 35's, Senior 4's and Senior 7's, all teams playing strong throughout the season. The players did very well to considering a number of players were carrying injuries. Our Over 35's had to play a number of mid-week games, sometimes playing two games on the weekends to catch up on cancelled games due to bad weather. This certainly took it's toll on overall fitness, but we managed to finish the season well.

I would like to finish by congratulating our players, coaches and supporters connected to both our U/11-6's and U/16-3's. Both these teams played their way through to the grand finals this year and won. They represented our Club with great skill and sportsmanship on finals day and did our Club proud. U/11-6



was coached by Tony Farrell and started the season without a full team, but managed to win many of their games and grew stronger throughout the final series as well as in numbers. They played hard and with a lot of commitment all season and they were well rewarded for their effort. Congratulations to all the players, supporters and Tony for a job well done.

Our U/16-3's also fought their way to a grand finals win this year. This team played well all season – the boys' understanding of the game and the way it should be played showed on grand final day with our team dominating in what was a very exciting game. Congratulations boys, you trained and played with commitment and it paid off.

I would like to thank all those involved at our Club – the Committee, coaches, players and supporters. We all come together to make Granville Waratah the great club that it is.

Many thanks,

Hector Guajardo

PERPETUAL TROPHY WINNERS

The club's Perpetual Trophies were awarded as follows:

U/6	K & B Perpetual	Best & Fairest	Jack Buttenshaw
	H. Bremmell Shield	Most Improved	Bernard Kniepp
U/7	Mary Fox Shield	Most Outstanding	Jarrood Ya Li
U/8	T Mangion Shield	Most Outstanding	Deepakamal Bihnder
U/9	Frank Jacob Shield	Most Improved	Milad Saaedi
U/11	Paul Black Trophy	Most Consistent	Nathan Syah
U/14 div 2	Vince Wyatt Trophy	Most Consistent	Darryl Watson
U/14 div 4	Vince Wyatt Trophy	Most Consistent	Shakeeb Chekeri
U/16	Noel Dona Trophy	Most Valuable Player	Nicolas Gonzales
U/21	Brian Jenkinson Trophy	Most Consistent	Sobhi Jamal

JUDICIARY RECORD

The club record for season 2009 is summarised as follows:

TEAM	CAUTIONS (yellow)	SEND OFFS (red)
14/ 2	3	
16/3	5	2
21/1	5	
Sr 4	5	4
Sr 7	4	4
35/4	2	

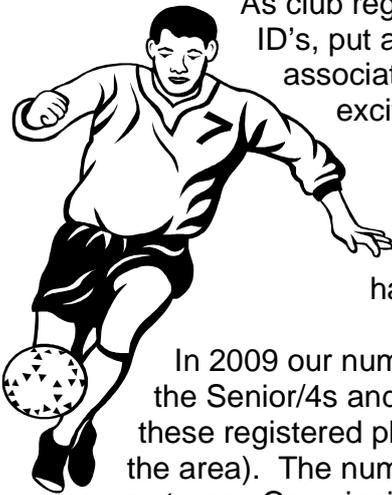


Remember that our club is a proud supporter of Zero Tolerance and we aim to set the standard for other clubs to follow!



Thank you Nando's Parramatta for the great end of season meal

Registrar's Report



As club registrar it was my role to collect the paper work and money, check the ID's, put all the details into the computer system and send it off to the association so we can get the ID cards so we could play. NOT the most exciting job! But I do get a good look at the make up of the club:

In 2007, we had about 165 players registered at the end of the season in 11 teams. Only one girl was included. In 2008, we had about 132 players registered at the end of the season in 10 teams, half of the players were new to the club, only two girls.

In 2009 our numbers jumped back up, largely due to getting two new Adult teams – the Senior/4s and O35/4s. We had 165 registered players in 12 teams. Not all of these registered players were actually playing at the end of the season (some had left the area). The number of girls is up to 5, a 500% increase in two years, but still a long way to go. One significant characteristic of our community is that it experiences a lot of change and this is reflected in our club, causing the large turnover: The table below shows the teams and number of registered players, and how many of these were new to the club.

Team	Players	New to Club
U6 (SSG)	6	3
U7 (SSG)	9	6
U8 (Rooball)	11	3
U9/4	17	6
U11/6	13	5
U14/2	14	2
U14/4	16	7
U16/3	15	7
U21/1	16	4
Senior/4	15	13*
Senior/7	16	13
O35/4	17	17*
Total	165	86 (52%)

* Some of the Senior/4 and O35/4 teams have histories with or club, but were not playing with us last year and are shown as new to the club in this table.

Another characteristic of the club is the dramatic diversity in the apparent background of the players. As club registrar I have to check all the passports, birth certificates and other documents provided to prove the age of players, and we do come from a lot of different places. It is interesting to have a look and here is what I found this year:

A few notes on this table – I only have information for players who are new to the club this year. Most players provided either a birth certificate or a passport, both of which have some information that often indicates the player’s background, or a driver’s licence (which provides nothing). This will not always be right – there are some players might consider themselves to be of a different background then on the documentation. FFA forms also have some information. And of course, some players have parents of different backgrounds, apparent on birth certificates – hence the .5’s in that column.

So the new players seem to represent at least 26 different backgrounds, with 13 new countries on the list compared to last year. Lebanon and Australia were the two big movers this year, reflecting the dominant backgrounds of the new Adult teams. But the club continues to be a fantastic mix.

Country	Player Birthplace/ Citizenship	Apparent Background
Not Clear	6	5
Australia	53	19.5
Afghanistan	7	12
Lebanon	5	12
India	3	9
England	1	2
Zimbabwe	1	2
Bangladesh	1	1
Chile	1	1
Colombia	1	1
Gabon	1	1
Germany	1	1
Japan	1	1
Peru	1	1
Sierra Leone	1	1
Singapore	1	1
Thailand	1	1
Turkey		4
Iran		3
New Zealand		2.5
China		1
Jordan		1
Malaysia		1
Malta		1
Myanmar		1
Totals	86	86

Club Teams and Results History



Year	Teams	Players	Rooball/ SSG	Minor Premiers	Semi- Finalist	Finalist	Grand Finalists	Grand Champs
2009	12	165	3	0	2*	N/A*	0	2
2008	10	132	3	0	3	1	1	0
2007	11	165	3	1	0	0	3	1
2006	11	180	2	3	0	0	1	3
2005	11	178	1	0	1	0	0	1
2004	11	156	?	1	0	3	0	1
2003	9	139	?	1	0	0	4	2
2002	11	?	?	0	3	0	1	3

- Round robin rather than traditional final series.

Tony Farrell – Registrar



PLAYER OF THE YEAR



The **Bill Henderson Player of the Year Award** – in honor of a great man, a true gentleman, who played for our club as a junior between 1944-47 and then went on to become a Socceroo in 1954 and an Olyroo in 1956. He may be our club's only Socceroo! (But we are investigating the possibility that our little club may have produced another – stay tuned)

So how to decide the winner?

Is it the club's best and most talented player? Not necessarily.

Is it the player who tries the hardest? Not necessarily.

Is it the club's fairest player? Not necessarily, though the committee decided that a player who has received a red card, whilst it does not disqualify that player from winning the award, it would make it extremely difficult.

After much discussion within the committee, we determined the award is designed to recognize 3 very important characteristics we look for in all our players. Three characteristics that Bill Henderson himself has endorsed. The winner must consistently display;

1. **Sportsmanship**
2. **Effort and commitment - to game day, training, team and club**
3. **Leadership - by word and actions**

Each coach was asked to nominate a player or players who they believe meet these characteristics. The discussion was very healthy and vigorous and after almost 1 hour of deliberation, we had a winner of **THE HIGHEST HONOR WITHIN OUR CLUB**.

The winner of the inaugural Bill Henderson Player of the Year Award goes to;

\

“Khalid Allybokus”

From under 21's division 1

CONGRATULATIONS!!!!



TEAM OF THE YEAR



In season 2002 the Executive Committee introduced this new Award in honour of a life member of the club, the late Mr Frank Jacob. This Award has each team within the club in competition against the other. The Award is based on a points system recognising a team's achievement and most important of all, their fair play.

The points system is as follows;

- 1 point for every point earned from the regular competition.
- 3 points for minor premiers
- 5 points if undefeated
- 3 points for making semi finals*
- 5 points for Grand finalists*
- 7 points for Grand Champions*
- 2 points deducted for every yellow card
- 5 points deducted for every red card

Team	Comp. Points	Minor Prem.	Undef.	Semi Final	Grand Finalist	Grand Champ	Yellow	Red	Total
U9/4	23			3					26
U11/6	21					7			28
U14/2	23						6		17
U14/4	30			3					33
U16/3	26					7	10	10	13
U21/1	30			3			10		23
Sr 4's	9						10	25	-24
Sr 7's	10						8	20	-18
35/4	23						4		19

This Award has each team within the club in competition against the other. The Award is based on a points system recognising a team's achievement and most important of all, their fair play.

Whilst we do not have the exact number of penalties for us to determine the exact margin of victory ...it was victory by a country mile to ...

u/14 div 4's
'Congratulations!!!'

End Of Season Reports

U/6

This was my first year involved with the small sided game and I had just as much fun as the players. This team was a mix of really good players, children that were new to the game and some that already had some playing experience. The team progressed very well throughout the season and finished it off playing some fantastic games of football. For the last few games of the season, my coaching wasn't needed on field as the players all had a sound understanding of the game and the way it should be played. It was fantastic to hear them organize and move themselves whilst calling for the ball on the field.

I hope the parents enjoyed their time with our Club. It would be great to see this team come together again next year – all the children bonded and formed good friendships. Hopefully they will all be keen to play for Granville Waratah next season.

Cheers,

Hector Guajardo – Coach



U/7

This year we fielded a 7's side, some players returning from last season and others coming to the team for the first time. The players trained well throughout the season and many thanks to Nick Apostolou who ran the team on game day in my absence, with the team showing solid improvement from the beginning. Most under 7 sides from other clubs had already played a season of football -- our team was a new side, but nevertheless played some very good football with pleasing results. There were some very talented players in this team and hopefully all the children enjoyed their season.

I would like to thank all the parents for their support and assistance during the season. It was rewarding for me to see all the children understanding the game and having a go each week.

Cheers,

Hector Guajardo – Coach

U/8

A great season for our almighty under 8's. Let's not forget that the majority of players in the team have only turned seven this year and two of our players only turned six and played against teams with older and more experienced players. You guys are real champions. To lose only two games in the whole season is really outstanding. We know that we worked you guys hard and expected a lot from you but all this hard work has paid off. We now have a reputation of being a really strong team.

We are very proud of how hard you all worked throughout this season and the results the team obtained. Mark our words if you guys stick together and play the way you have been playing we will have great success next year.
Well done guys

Gab and Maurice

U/9 Division 4.

This year, the first on a full field, has been both a learning experience for myself, assistant coach Khalid and all the players. All year we improved and I really enjoyed telling the team I was proud of their efforts. We played a truly mighty effort in the final series and missed out on a place in the grand final by just a few minutes.

The season really started to take off around mid season, once I finalized our defensive 3 – Leroy, Taha and Milad. These 3 were the rocks we built our victories and successes on. The best teams found it very difficult to get passed them, and if they did, it took a good strike to beat my tiger in goals – Nikshep! Dean was my roving bull terrier in the middle who started our season with a great set of goals in game 1. Hussein added attacking strength upon his return and kept the other side honest. As did Romen, Qasiem and Youssef with commitment . Anthony toiled hard and I really enjoyed his only goal...but not as much as he did!! Rayan was more than just a token girl, she played as well as the boys. Cimba, Joseph and Naveen kept the oppositions busy when they got the ball. Finally Ali was good up front and how can we forget the wonderful nail biting, nerve wrecking goal he scored against Castle Hill in the finals! That game and that goal had our supporters totally understanding why they came to support the team! That game was perhaps the most enjoyable and satisfying game of soccer I have ever coached !!! I was very proud of the team that day...thank you team!!

Next year we will go one better and be 100% better!!! I can't wait!

U/11 Division 6

A season with some big ups and downs, but fortunately the big ups came at the end of the season. Our 11/6 team was formed from a combination of players from last years 9/4 squad (6), last years 11/4 squad (2) and 5 new players, some of whom had not played before. Whilst playing U11, only four players would turn 11 this year, the rest were 10 year olds. Coaches were myself (Tony) and Danny, who had watched the boys playing in round 1 and decided he was willing to help - bringing much experience with him. The season opened with a win, against an under strength Castle Hill RSL side, so whilst a good start it didn't mean much. The next two games set a pattern for much of the season; we struggled to get enough players to the away games and lost them when the boys got tied after dominated for much of the game. A few more wins kept us in touch, but things got difficult as flu swept through the team. Then defender Adrian rolled his ankle in training and we were down another player, with a double header coming up.

The first of these was against Wenty Waratah. With both Hamzah and Hamid on the sick list, we were down to only two defenders. Yama, who had been making his mark in the defensive mid agreed to help Tawanda in the fullbacks, but without our great defender Hamzah it still felt like keeper Nathan was very exposed. Our boys opened with style, with Bahes, Peter, Aidan, and Neda all hammering at their goal until Neda got one went in. But



then Wenty's striker showed he could neatly slip by Yama and Tawanda. A great performance by Nathan in goal let only two by in the first half - at one point he was hit in the face by a hard ball and still picked it up. The boys again went out hard in the second half with Bahes quickly scoring - he seemed to be everywhere. But Nathan's determination was not enough to keep Wenty out and we were 2-3 down. Hearts really sank when Bahes had to be carried off the field. But Wenty only scored once more.

The next day we were at Robin Thomas with the same 8 for a catch up against Castle Hill RSL. Castle Hill were at full strength and were tougher than Wenty. Our weakened squad could not get past them, but our defense was fantastic with Tawanda and Yama now working well together. Both these boys have great kicks, so when they got the ball, we would immediately put Castle Hill on the defensive, with great runs by Neda and Bahes ensuring they had to keep their defenders well back from our goal. Again Nathan in goal who was the standout, at one point bouncing off the post and still turning around and knocking the ball out. After the game I think every Castle Hill RSL parent congratulated him on his performance. We finished that game with seven players, one of whom (Bahes) was clearly hurt, but Castle Hill only got 3 goals from the game.

The boys who played these two games worked their guts out, and most of them enjoyed the experience, since they knew the other teams had only squeezed a few goals out when they should have won easily. So it was a great leaning exercise that set the team up well for the rest of the season, if only we could get the full squad on the field. But we now needed to drag ourselves up from 7th on the ladder. The one player who didn't enjoy these two games was Neda, who had to be taken off in the final minutes of the second game. But when he recovered from this, he came out a much better player, and set up a lot of the goals we scored in the rest of the season, as well as scoring a few himself.

The squad slowly started to recover from the flu. But to make the finals we had to win our last three games - two against Norwest and a grudge match against Guildford. At this point, Plynish joined us, pushing the squad back up to 12. He scored the only goal in the first game against Norwest - a great way to open his season. In our second game against them, Norwest got the first goal after a mistake by Taufiq, but all was quickly forgiven when on the restart Taufiq set up Bahes for the equalizer. It was everyone forward in the last five minutes as we searched for a winning goal. It was Yama who pounced on a cross and got us the win.



Then round 14 against Guildford. Our boys dominated the first half, Bahes putting the ball in the net twice, but only the second one was allowed. In the second half Guildford picked up, but some great teamwork saw Plynish and Bahes set up Neda for goal 2. Peter was having a great game. And then a little later the mighty Taufiq summoned everything he had left in a run and kick that set up Bahes for the third goal, and we were into the top four round robin.

For round robin #1, we faced minor premiers Kellyville. They must have been feeling confident, having scored twenty goals in three games. But they had not faced us with 11 on the field and our boys had other ideas. It turned out Kellyville had probably scored their twenty goals with a classic two player fast strike team - sucking out the defenders and then

crossing for the goal. But with help coming from Yama and Hamid in the defensive mid - pushing them off to one side of the goal, Tawanda and Hamzah repeatedly teamed up to deal with them. At half time it was still nil-all. Just after half time, a clearing kick drops the ball in front of Bahes, Kellyville's offside trap failed and Bahes scored. A few minutes later, a great run by Hamzah, sees another ball dropped in front of Bahes and he repeats the trick. Kellyville couldn't believe it. Desperation sees their striker try to intimidate Nathan in goal, chasing in too hard on a ball. Wrong player to intimidate! Nathan grabbed the ball, rolled him self up on the ground and striker went over the top and came down very hard. They get one back, but we take the win and with it a good chance to make the grand final.

Round Robin two was against Dundas - not as exciting as against Kellyville, but we leave another team that we had not previously beaten rather shocked when we walked away with a 3-1 win. Bahes scored the first two and Ahmed made a great run to score number 3 in the final seconds. Great work by Neda setting up two of these.

Round Robin three was against Castle Hill RSL. We only needed a draw. Aidan put in a great first 15 minutes, mistaken for Bahes at one point. We scored first (Bahes), but then Castle Hill get a penalty and even it up. Wasn't our greatest game, but it didn't matter in the end.



The grand final was against Dundas. We knew they would not underestimate us this time, and they didn't. Bahes and Plynesch were the main strikers for the day - both holding there positions well and launching many attacks, but it proved hard to get them both up there at the same time. There were corners both ways, but our corners from Yama's great kicks were always more dangerous to Dundas then theirs were to us. Fullbacks Hamzah and

Tawanda were working together in style, if Hamzah didn't get them, he would push them out of danger and into Tawanda who would, Nathan in goal was having an easy game. On the side lines the Dundas supporters tried encourage their team with chants, but each was meet with a deafening counter from the large group of Waratah supporters. We went to halftime at nil-all and getting more of the ball, but worried about the heat sapping the boys' strength. The second half saw no easing up. Hamid and Ahmad were making the throw-ins work well, getting them right every time and doing it quickly. Another corner came our way; the ball was delivered well by Yama. Things quickly became frantic in the Dundas box. Neda popped the ball up high and a Dundas player tried to head it out, but it tumbled back in over their keeper's fingertips and into the goal. We were on the board! The game then continued in similar pattern, Yama a standout in the defensive mid and Tawanda was having a great day. Finally the time check came from the ref - three minutes to go. Our boys were tiring but most were still putting everything into it.

As Dundas pushed hard forwards Bahes and Plynesh were pulled back to help defend as excitement and nerves combined in the Waratah supporters group. Then, for the first time in the match, Dundas got a player by both Hamzah and Tawanda. Nathan picked his move well and forced him to kick it out. But Nathan had fallen and the boy who had taken so much through the season and always got up, didn't. When I went out I found tears running down his face, I knew this brave boy was really hurt. The ref said we had 20 seconds left and as I looked for who to replace him with, Nathan said "I will play the last 20 seconds". And he did! The goal kick sent it out to the side where it was then pushed out. Dundas had the throw but the final whistle blew just after. Nathan collapsed back on the ground as the rest started celebrating. After a few minutes Nathan did get up and by the time the medals were being handed out, he was able to enjoy it.

***Main Season – 7 Wins, 7 Losses. Goals Scored 20, against 27. Final Position 4th.
Round Robin – 2 Wins, 1 draw. Goals Scored 6, against 3, Final Position 1st.
Grand Final – WON!!! 1-nil.***

U/14 Division 2

Players: Moqsid Almi, Cuan Ellis, Mustafa Ghiasy, James Goldsmith, Mahmoud Kameh, Pablo Lara, Parth Nathani, Billy Osborne, Hamid Rasoli, Panah Rawi, Andrew Taha, Darren Watson, Darryl Watson, Dillon Watson

Coach: Rick Paye

Manager: Ernest Luthard

Played 17, won 10, lost 5, drew 2

Goals for 46, (Darryl 12, Moqsid 11, Pablo 8, Mahmoud 5, Hamid 4, Parth 3, Andrew 2, Darren 1), against 29

Although we finished the year a little bit short of where we wanted to be, in the end it was only 1 point between us and the third placed team – a point that we could have easily have picked up, twice coming away with a draw against higher placed teams where we were clearly the better team.

Although the same can be said for everyone, it was a very disruptive year due to the weather, with many training sessions cancelled – this meant that we never really got into a good rhythm with training and it impacted on our performances. We also missed the

services of Cuan for most of the year, who was only able to play a couple of games due to injuries – he is someone who definitely would have made a difference.

On a brighter note, we played some good, attractive soccer, and were a match for any of the teams in our division, finishing the season well and winning the ‘pennant’ – we also picked up two new players in Billy & Moqsid, who fitted in well and strengthened the team.

Overall I was happy with the level of commitment and skill that was shown throughout the year, and am sure that we will reap the benefits next year with an improved result.

Thanks to firstly all the players, and to the family and friends who turn up every week and give much appreciated support to the team, and of course to team manager, Ernest.

Rick

U/14 Division 4

It was a big season effort, but we just fell a little short!

U/16 Division 3

This year our U/16-3's were a mixed team of 15 year old boys playing a year up as we didn't have enough 16 year olds to form a team. These boys were truly committed, even coming to training when the grounds were closed. We would go on road runs, running up and down stairs – the boys clocked up a lot of km's just to stay fit throughout the season. It all paid off as towards the end of the season and as the finals approached, we found ourselves in a good position on the points table. The players' commitment towards the end of the season was excellent, with 100% attendance at training and games. We made the finals this year and were focused all the way. Our improvement in defense made us feel more secure in the back and it gave our forwards a chance to do their job. We took this approach into the grand final and came away with a fantastic 2-1 win over Castle Hill United, a great game played to the final whistle. All of the hard work over the season saw our boys come home with the trophy and title of Grand Champions 16-3 2009. An incredible effort, given that half of the team only started playing football last year at the age of 14. It just goes to show that commitment + hard work = Grand Champions!

I would like to thank Joe Kobboura for all his help – he wore our green vest and helped transport players around to various grounds all season. Thanks also to Eddie for helping me coach the last few rounds of the season – his knowledge of the game was a great asset to the team.

Cheers,

Hector Guajardo – Coach

**Do you have
a hand injury?**

**SYDNEYHAND
SURGERYCLINIC**
1300 4 HANDS

U/21 Division 1

The story of this season is that when we needed to score we didn't.

Our defence was pretty good, but the lads realised that scoring is a science that they have not yet mastered and will need to learn, or recruit a genuine scorer to do better next year!

We had some good moments and scored the occasional good goal...but we missed way too many.

The team core is very strong we will do better next year as some players understand the type of team game required to win a senior grade championship.

I enjoyed the coaching challenge and the mateship of the boys ...so I will be back again to complete some unfinished business!

Noel Dona



2010 Registration

First 2 Saturdays after the school holidays.

30 January - 6 February 2010

10.00am- 1.00pm

Robin Thomas Reserve Club House

This year, we are hoping to have credit card facilities for payment of registration fees. All the details will appear on the club Web site in January.

***Start recruiting...Tell your friends to join the
Mighty Blue and Gold Granville Waratah Soccer Club***

***Always check our website for all the latest news
and updates. www.granvillewaratah.com.au***

SEE YOU ALL NEXT YEAR!!...