

Granville Waratah Soccer Football Club
Season 2002
Monthly Magazine
Presentation Issue

FREE

KICK



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 2002

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

Noel Dona
Rick Paye
Ken Betts (resigned)
Beau Worthington
Cheryl Thomson
Vince Wyatt
Colin Kehoe

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Mary Fox John Moses

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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

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President's Report

This is my second year as President of the Granville Waratah and let me tell you that I am AGAIN very proud of our club and the way we all have conducted ourselves this year, despite a couple of mid season hiccups in discipline.

The club again has managed to let all the other clubs in the Association – especially the larger clubs – stand up and take notice of our performances. **With three Grand Champions this season we have managed to outperform most of the Association again!** Let us all congratulate the efforts of our Grand Champions, with special mention to consecutive Grand Champions the Under 14's and Senior 2's!

Our results are due largely to the efforts of the players themselves but let me take this opportunity to thank the coaches and managers who volunteer their time and efforts to assist in the development of our players in particular for guiding them in the principles of fair play and good sportsmanship. Our results are a direct result of their contribution.

Speaking of contribution let me take this opportunity to thank our major **Mortgage House of Australia**, whom have kindly and proudly supported our club by purchasing all the new uniforms, including the shorts. They look great and have given the Association and other club's another reason why they should stand up and take note of the Mighty Granville Waratah Soccer Football Club. Let us not forget to thank our other sponsors too.

A big thank you to the parents who support their children...you should be proud of them.

Off the field I must thank the tireless efforts of the clubs committee. Whereas in previous years the club was run by 7 or 8 individuals, this year that number was consistently 4 or 5. Special mention firstly to **Cheryl Thomson** who will need your assistance at the commencement of next season when she starts the registration process again. Secretary **Rick Paye** who is the back bone of the clubs administration – I would hate to think where would be without his and **his wife's (Anne)** assistance. Finally to **Vince Wyatt**. Where Cheryl and Rick have children playing within teams of the club - as do I - Vince does not and yet he is at the ground bright and early every Saturday. His hours of effort and experience is priceless!

Whilst I can report to you that the club is in a healthy position, **the club does need your assistance in its operation**. It is unreasonable and unfair to expect a few to do it all. We need your help and I ask that you consider assisting the current committee. Better still I would encourage you to take up a position on the committee. Please understand that whilst there would be no club without the players, also note that there would be no club without the committee! The committee needs more new members to carry the flame....we need you!

I hope you are all here next season...I know I will be!!!

NOEL DONA

YOUR CLUB NEEDS YOU!

56TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**MONDAY, 21 OCTOBER 2002
AT THE CLUB HOUSE
ROBIN THOMAS RESERVE
HARRIS STREET PARRAMATTA
COMMENCING 7.30 PM**

Next General Meeting,
Tomorrow, Monday 30 September at the Club House,
commencing 7.45pm

Secretary's Report

MEETINGS

During season 2002 there were 8 General Committee meetings, and 11 Executive Committee meeting held.

Team Representatives attended the General Committee meetings as follows:

Under 10	8
Under 11	3
Under 14	8
Under 15	8
Under 17	1
Over 35	7

JUDICIAL

The club record for 2002 is summarised as follows:

TEAM	CAUTIONS	SEND OFFS
Under 10	1	
Under 11	2	
Under 14	8	3
Under 15	9	
Under 17	9	3
AA2	19	4
AA8	2	2
AA9	4	
35/5	5	
<hr/>		
TOTAL	59	12
2001	56	6
2000	58	9

PERPETUAL TROPHIES

The club's perpetual trophies were awarded as follows:

U/7	Mary Fox Shield	Most Outstanding	Jayden Case
U/10	J & B Borg Shield	Most Improved	Dylan Worthington
U/11	Paul Black Trophy	Most Consistent	Masoud Nasir
U/12	Bryan Guy Trophy	Best & Fairest	Aziz Karkour
U/14	Vince Wyatt Trophy	Most Consistent	Mladen Licanin
U/15	Beau Worthington Trophy	Most Consistent	Russell De Leon
U/17	D & L Painters Award	Most Consistent	Reggie Lal
AA2	John Haines OAM Trophy	Most Consistent	Grant Davies

Thanks to all the supporters, coaches and managers of the teams, and to the Executive Committee who put in a mountain of work. Thanks also to all the players, and well done to all teams in another highly successful year.

Rick Paye

Registrar's Report

Registrations for 2002

	Teams	Players
2002	11	183
2001	12	200
2000	13	184
1999	10	150

	Minor Premiers	Semi Finalists	Finalists	Grand Finalists	GRAND CHAMPIONS
2002	0	7	3	1	3
2001	3	6	0	1	4
2000	2	5	4	4	2
1999	0	3	3	0	0

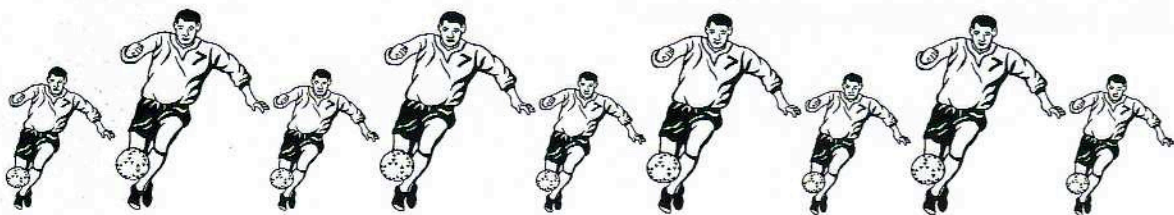
Cheryl Thomson

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TEAM OF THE YEAR

This year the Executive Committee has introduced a new Award that has each team of the club in competition against the other teams within the club. 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
U/10's	39			3			2		40
U/11's	32						4		28
U/12's	31				5				36
U/14's	40					7	16	15	16
U/15's	30			3			18		15
U/17's	42					7	18	15	26
Sr 2's	33					7	38	20	-18
Sr 8's	13						4		9
Sr 9's	17						8		9
O/35's	33						10		23

Recently Mr Frank Jacobs, a life member of the club, passed away. He was a tireless volunteer for the club who will be sadly missed. He acted as the clubs Treasurer for 32 years! We are please to announce that the Team of the Year Award is named in his memory – **the FRANK JACOBS MEMORIAL TROPHY.**

The Executive Committee is pleased to announce for the inaugural recipients of the FRANK FACOBS MEMORIAL TROPHY...

And the winners are..... **U/10's Div. 4 team**

CONGRATULATIONS!!

Final Round: Round 18 – 10th August 2002

7 Green Bye

10/4 Bye

11/3 v Guildford 0 – 1

This was incredibly a 7 second game, for in the first 7 seconds from kickoff the opposition scored. Our boys just watched as one player took it from the middle straight to our goal. After that huge lapse in concentration we played very well, and Guildford never looked like scoring again for a long time. We penetrated the circle over 10 times in the first half, but could not capitalise on our position. The second half continued as the first with many goal attempts but no score on the board. All the boys played with everything they had, as they knew it could be for a place in the finals, but it wasn't enough and our season ended early.

Man of the match went to Masoud who was playing at the back and whose defence was outstanding the entire match.

M. Adams-Smith

12/4 v Merrylands SFC 5 – 0

14/3 v Kellyville 3 – 0

A game that was both good and bad – good because we won relatively easy, bad because we had a couple of players needlessly sent off, this will surely haunt us come semi finals.

Putting the bad aside, it was a good performance all round, with strong games in particular from Navid, and man of the match Mladen. Anthony, given a rare opportunity up front, scored a great goal to get us going, his first for the club. Well done, Anthony. Other goal scorers on the day were Mladen and Shane. Good effort guys – now it's on to the semi finals, it won't be easy but we'll be giving it a go.

R. Paye

15/3 v North Rocks 4 – 3

This was just the game we needed before the finals. We dominated the team coming second – the team who has beaten twice before but arguably were not the better team – and showed them we are a team to be reckoned with. The entire team lifted and played to their potentials with 3 excellent goals by Man of the Match David Gee who was running rings around North Rocks. His ball and foot skills also allowed got a penalty – the goal that won us the match – that David Hansell converted. It was a tense game played hard and fair. I was concerned by some players were more concerned with arguing with the referee's decisions than in the playing of the game – they need more discipline. Despite our domination we let in 3 goals – 2 of these were soft. We let them back into the game but the lessons learnt should be useful.... Well done boys, you did yourselves proud.

N. Dona

17/2 v St Johns Auburn 10 – 4

AA2 v Parramatta City 5 – 1

The boys out played the opposition. The future looks good if they concentrate on soccer... only!

AA8 v Wenty Waratahs 2 – 6
AA9 v Kellyville LOF
35/5 v Lidcombe Waratah 3 – 3

A fair result for our efforts today, thanks to Mark (Marksman) Dodds for refereeing. Adam 2 goals (1 ping pong penalty), Kenny 1 goal. Now for the semis. Thanks fellows.

K. Betts

Semi Finals – 17th August 2002

10/4 v Kellyville 2 – 2 (lost on corners)
12/4 v Merrylands SFC 4 – 0

Through to Final

We played a sudden death semi-final against Merrylands. We had played them 7 days earlier and won easily, but this time we didn't have new recruit Martin and Eden. However the game went the same way. Aziz and Aous totally controlled the centre of the park and the perpetual through balls meant something had to give. Eventually a perfect through ball from Aziz gave Mitchell and excellent opportunity which he took. Minutes later a beautiful cross which Bradley picked up on the half volley. 2-0 at half time. We were searching for the 3rd goal to finish them. That came through Daniel, who received a beautiful pass which he finished. Finally a little flick pass the marking player gave Daniel a runaway which he converted comfortable. Daniel won the player of the match, but it could have gone to numerous others.

J. Pears

14/3 v Castle Hill RSL 4 - 2

Through to Final

A good, tough game this one, real semi final stuff. Missing key players through suspension, and others on the bench injured, we were down 2 – 0 early and in trouble, but battled hard for the win. In a great game all round – easily the best of the season - Sam was the star of the day with 2 goals, first to equalise, then put us ahead, and a great through ball for the final goal, taken in grand fashion by Mladen. The other goal, the one that got us rolling, was scored by Jack. Special mention to Navid, who had his typical strong game, despite struggling with a back injury which sidelined him for a brief period.

Well done guys – we're still alive.

R. Paye

15/3 v Wenty Waratahs 1 – 3

Oh the pain! The loss is even harder to take knowing that if the boys played their best we are undefeatable. This was typical finals football. Our task was made much harder with 2 strike players unable to play anywhere near their best – Daniel Hansell with a crook back making him unable to run and control the middle, and with our right wing Marwan Hassan with the flu. Nonetheless the boys dug in and stuck it to Wenty but they recognized our weaknesses and played smart. They

scrambled well in defence and made it virtually impossible for our only forward, David Gee, to have any effect – at one stage they triple marked him out of the game. But David did manage to score a great equalizing goal immediately after Wenty's first midway in the first half. Territorially there was little in the game but we simply could not convert without strike effective strike power. Defensively we got caught napping to let in a late goal and then they got away a third when we pushed up to try to send the game into extra time. The boys gave their best but in the end were victims of their own lack of discipline.....Until next year.

N. Dona

17/2 v St Josephs

3 – 0

Through to Grand Final

We had beaten them twice already convincingly 7-nil in the first round and 7 nil in the second round. They were a good footballing side who knocked the ball around and tried to create an opening. A side with maybe a few quicker players could have caused us a real problem. They game was excellent to watch and was one of our outstanding performance of the year especially from a defensive point of view. We did not give them a real clear chance at goal throughout the whole game. We were three up at half time and did not want the lads to relax as I knew that they were going to come at us hard and fast and if that they got one goal they could have come back and put the pressure back on us especially as they had nothing to lose being 3 -nil down a half time. Credit to the lads in the second half as the did exactly what I had asked them to do. They soaked up a lot of pressure and we defending superbly and did not let them score. We also did not score in the second half but we created a lot of chances. We suddenly found out how to defend as a team and that coming into the Grand final meant more to me than scoring goals.

R. Mehta

AA2 v Winston Hills

1 – 2

Through to Final

35/5 v North Rocks

1-3

End of the road.

Finals – 24th August 2002

12/4 v Ermington United

3 – 0

Through to Grand Final

Last Saturday we played Ermington in a sudden death final. Almost immediately Ermington were on the back foot. Aziz and Aous were passing ball after ball through to the strikers. Ermington had fast fullbacks and managed defend their goal for so long, but eventually the pressure tolled on them, when after 20 minutes, Daniel was on the spot to break the deadlock. Mitchell was doing alot of running up the wing, but the virus he was suffering from, got the better of him and he had to come off. We maintained the pressure and Nevruz was there this time to finish it off. 2-0 at half time. The half time instruction was to keep going and that's what we did and Nevruz wrapped the game up early in the second after another brilliant through ball. We had excellent chances to go 4-0, but we

were too excited and no one cared because we were into the grand final. It was very hard to pick a player of the match because it was such a team effort, which is a good sign for the grand final.

J.Pears

14/3 v Lidcombe Waratah

3 - 2

Through to Grand Final

Another great game, where the guys all stepped up and put in a great effort. Through some creative midfield play, and great finishing from Mladen, we went two nil up early, then relaxed a tiny bit to allow Lidcombe two soft goals to equalise.

Throughout a tense second half the score remained 2 all, until a great golden goal winner from Navid secured us the win in extra time. Great effort all round – special praise to Mladen and Navid, some inspired work from Mousa in goal to keep us in the match, and some good, tough work in defence, especially from Pravineel, Ashleey and Asfand. Well done guys – you can all be happy with your game – one more to go! Man of the match was Mladen (2 goals), just in front of Navid (1).

R. Paye

AA2 v Parramatta City

4 - 3

Through to Grand Final

GRAND FINAL DAY - 30th August 2002

12/4 v Parramatta City

0 - 3

The 12/4's played Parramatta City in the Grand Final, There was a lot of fan fare and excitement. We were confident of winning, since we beat Parramatta City easily on our last encounter, but that wasn't too be. From the whistle they attacked our flanks and on the rare occasion we counter-attacked they had good covering defence. The pressure eventually tolled and we were down 3-0. At that stage we had a late recovery through Daniel Kamali, where we dominated play and we had good opportunities to score, however their defence held and we went down 3-0. All players kept trying to the end, we were just outplayed on the day.

J Pears

14/3 v Ermington

3 - 0

GRAND CHAMPIONS!

As players, this match relied heavily on who *wanted* to win, and did we ever want the victory today. In previous encounters, Ermington emerged the victor, but they never expected lowly Granville Waratah's to be any competition whatsoever. Today, looking back, it seems quite an easy win, but the whole team played great soccer and deserved to win. 1 nil at half time it was an even match, but the longer the game went the stronger we were and never relaxed for a moment. Mladen, Best and Fairest Player of the year, scored two goals, Navid scored the third. YAY! WE ROOL! 2 IN A ROW!

By: Andrew Paye and Anthony Fragna

17/2 v Guildford

2 - 1

GRAND CHAMPIONS!

If there was one team that was going to beat us on Grand Final Day it was Guildford. On the pitch our lads hated them and they hated us. In the first round they match between us two had been abandoned due to an all in brawl. In the second round it was 4-4 after we had been down 4-2 with five minute to go. The tension in them teams was waiting to explode.

Their strengths were the ability to play on hype, be able to defend in numbers and to play hard. Their style was to play long ball every time they got it.

Our weaknesses were that we could be rattled by noisy opposition, lack of discipline against them. And being to cocky in our approach especially with our defense.

Our strengths and our style were our individual skills, our passing ability and to keep possession.

Two total contrasting styles of football. Anything could happen.

First half we had nearly all of the possession and created lots of chances, we hit the cross bar shaved the upright but could not make the telling break through. Until five minute from half time we had a penalty. Up stepped our leading goal scorer. Penalty saved. Was this not going to be our day. 3 minutes to half time we mad a beautiful opening down the right hand side and the cross came in for our striker to fire in from close range. 2 minute to go to half time they get a free kick two meters outside our box right in front. The kick is taken and it is saved comfortably by our goalkeeper. Hold on the linesman has got his flag up, somebody from our team moved inside the ten yards before the kick was taken. It was asked to be retaken. From that they scored. They were back in the game. 1-1 at half time and everything to play for.

In the second half we again had bulk of the possession but could not make that final break through. The good thing is that we did not panic and we carried on playing the style of football that we had played all season. It would have been so easy for the lads to play kick and rush football. Our lads were too cultured in their style and finally we were rewarded for our style of play. With ten minutes to go and yet another good passing movement to create an opening down the left side, our man was fouled inside the box. We had another penalty. This time there was no mistake from the spot kick. We had won the Grand Final and deservedly so. Good Footballing style triumphs against evil Footballing style.

R. Mehta

AA2 v Winston Hills
(Replay 4th September 2002)

3 - 3
2 - 1

GRAND CHAMPIONS!

(see back page article from the Mortgage House Magazine)

Annual Reports

Under 10/4

Coach: Beau Worthington

2002! Coming off such a season like 2001... high expectations followed the team. Losing a few key players, we looked upon certain players to rise a level and they did!! **Anuj Verma** showed interest in goals and proved he could do the job at Kellyville with a marvelous penalty save.

Dylan Bass had his eye on the ball and made many one-on-one tackles in defence. Newcomer **Bradley De Leon** showed with practice and effort rewards will come with solid defence on the left side. **Mark Raffoul** learnt a lesson in scoring goals this year who can forget his goal at Castle Hill. Little **Lima**, although only around for half the season showed size and age doesn't matter specially when you have talent. **Chiran** one word – ROCK – put him anywhere in any circumstances and he'll rise and overcome any task - this was proven in the finals. **Zac** enthusiasm and cheerfulness goes a long way. Zac has proven himself to be one of the players you just have to smile upon. Speaking of smiles, **Siar Omary**, Mr Impression and an marvel to watch his skills on the ball outstand all that see him. **Alfred Mohan** is Mr Consistency every game he plays 100% for the sheer love of the game – a coach's dream his dedication was shown when although sick with high temps still came to the game and took the field as goal keeper.

Mujtaba took a while but we found a position for this man. Once in left midfield he excelled in every game tormenting the defence with skill and power.

Nathan a hair puller leaving any coach bald when this boy clicked he clicked big as shown at Kellyville with a marvelous goal (even ask his mum).

Mouhamed missed half the season on a holiday but shoed a lot of determination literally running himself out at training and games - very much appreciated.

Now **Dylan Worthington** coming from not only a coaches point of view but a brothers as well, its difficult to judge a player such as Dylan: probably a little hard on him this year as he upped a level: new position with a lot of responsibility and he met them with flying colours. Not much beat Dylan especially when teamed up with Marc at the back. His highlight of he season would have to be his goal from the centre of the circle ...need I say more.

Jim Raffoul One word Thanks! I was unable to make a couple of games. Jim took the boys and came up with 4 points – not a bad start at all.

The fans and family out in numbers screaming in my ear as the balls hit he back of the net gotta ;love you all and I'm sure the boys appreciated you as well.

Beau Worthington ...well what can I say IU enjoyed every minute of it and hope to see you all next season!

Under 11/4

Coach: Danny Vallely
Manager: Melanie Adams-Smith

The under 11's did not reach the finals, but that does not mean we didn't come a long way. Of course we did!! At the beginning of the season we were a team with not enough numbers to make a full side. We were a team full of young boys, many of whom had never played club soccer before. Slowly and steadily the boys worked hard to become a side that was never out of the top four except when it really mattered - at the end.

I am very proud of what these boys achieved. They participated in two weekly training sessions and most never missed. They always played in good spirits and showed themselves to be good sports winning and losing.

I would like to thank our coach Danny Vallely, who made this team his life during the soccer season. He gave his time willingly as always. I would also like to thank the families of all the boys - the parents and brothers and sisters who supported us throughout the year and who always were a great cheer squad on the side line. Without your time and effort, whether it was driving children here

and there or helping at training, or washing uniforms or crying out the occasional "come on Tahs" we could not have done it without you. I hope for your continued support and friendship next year
M. Adams-Smith

Under 12/4

Coach: Johnathon Pears
Manager: Stephanie Holmes

The 12/4's had a successful year after a shaky start. After round 3 we were coming last. The problem was lack of players. Once we had a influx of children such as Martin and Shaher, the season turned around and the only match we lost from that point was the Grand Final. It is too simplistic to say that's what turned our season around. We combined Aziz and Aous in the midfield and they created a deadly combination. They gave great balls for Nevruz, Daniel and Mitchell to run onto and rarely were passed. On the odd occasion they were backed brilliantly by Robby. The regular and compliant attitude of players such as Chris and Shaher helped create a well rounded team. Numerous players have not been mentioned and it was also there less spectacular, but just as important contribution that helped us go from the depths of the cellar to the heights of the Grand Final.

Under 14/3 Grand Champions 2002

Coach/Manager: Rick Paye

Players (Stars): Ashleey Ashokkumar, Edris Azizi, Anthony Fragna, Farbod Ghorbani-Seisan, Sam Ghorbani-Seisan, Steven Hutchen, Asfand Khan, Shane Khan, Pravineel Krishna, Jack Li, Mladen Licanin, Omar Omary, Andrew Paye, Navid Rasouli, Mousa Saeed, Kevin Safary, Chad Tuhi

Games: 21. Won 14, Drew 1, Lost 4, Bye 2

Goals: 68 For, 26 Against

Scorers: Mladen 16, Navid 11, Shane 11, Chad 9, Sam 6, Edris 5, Jack 4, Farbod 2, Omar 1, Anthony 1

Best & Fairest: Mladen Licanin

Players Player: Pravineel Krishna

Most Improved: Anthony Fragna

Season 2002 started the way season 2001 ended, with a win. However this year proved to be a tougher year than last year, with an unaccustomed loss in our second game. After going through last season undefeated, we lost 4 games this year, being unable to beat either Lidcombe or Ermington throughout the competition rounds, however we were fortunate enough and committed enough to beat them both during the final series.

Once again the players can all be proud of their efforts this year, throughout the ups and downs of the season the guys remained focused and committed, and were once again able to rise to the occasion. As individuals and as a team they are smart enough, and mature enough, to know when to relax and have a joke, and when to be serious and work hard. Winning a tough semi final and final, then convincingly winning the grand final was a result of both their skill and their attitude.

In a season with many highlights, the one that stands out most was the effort by everyone in the final against Lidcombe, and in particular the extra time golden goal scored by Navid.

A great season guys – another deserved win which was a direct result of your efforts. Hope to see you all next year, when we'll have a go at the "threepeat".

Rick Paye

Under 15/3

Coach: Noel Dona
Most Consistent: Russell De Leon **Most Improved:** Ramin Ebadi

Well what a year! Up and Down took on a new meaning for me as a coach this season. The one thing I was not prepared for from these 15 year olds was – Attitude. When the boys were in control and disciplined, we played soccer that was quite frankly, unbeatable and beautiful to watch – I was proud. I was flattered to hear 2 coaches of teams that finished higher than us say we were the most talented team in the competition. Unfortunately the boys knew this too and let a string of mid season victories get to their heads – this was very very frustrating!. We had some great talent and I am convinced we scored some of the best goals in the competition. But lack of discipline was our final undoing. I was pleased to see all the players mature - well mostly - and watch them develop as soccer players. I must remember that I have been coach for 4 years and this team this year made our own history; the most goals in a game – 13, the most consecutive wins – 5; and made the semi finals for the first time!!! We will learn and come back bigger and better next year

Under 17/2

Coach: Raja Mehta
Manager: Farid Ayubi

It's not if you win or lose, but it's how you play the game that counts, but if you keep on winning then that's a bonus. As the football coach of the great Brazilian side of the 1980's said Football Art is what we are here to show. And this is what this team was all about, being able to match individual flare with good cohesive team work. The emphasis from my point was to play attractive football and to play as a team. This was achieved more often than not. There were some outstanding performance especially in the first round against Castle Hill RSL where we won 9-1 where the passing was fluent, the shooting was excellent and the movement off the ball was exceptional. Also another highlight was the 12 -1 thrashing of Pendle Hill in cold wet condition. The pace and speed with a high level of control under trying circumstance was outstanding. Another real highlight was the 4 - 4 draw against Guilford in the second round. A real grudge match where both teams on the park hated each other. We were 2-4 down with less than 5 minutes to go. This showed our true commitment and resolve to pull it back at not accept defeat. In any season there are ups and downs with differing form and you can't have it all your way. We went through the season unbeaten, but a couple of bad points were our all in brawl against Guildford with two minutes left in the game. A real lack of discipline, especially when you have a 6-3 lead. The match got abandoned, two of our player got sent off, and one other player was reported for ungentlemanly behavior after the game. We lost the points for that game and the next one as punishment. On top of that two of our player just a week before the game were reported with inappropriate behavior with the club and were banned from playing home games. If that wasn't enough the next two results were draws, which meant that were going to finish second in the ladder come the finals. Hard to swallow when you go through the season scoring 78 goals and only conceding 23. Anyway that's how soccer goes.

Anyhow I think the players will come away having learnt something new for their soccer playing future and that is the important thing. As far as individual are concerned, there are some great talents waiting to be released into the English Premier league or the Seria A. All that is required from these guys is that they do not forget the lessons they learnt this year, have more discipline and have someone there to push them on. As far as I am concerned these lads have tremendous skill. All we need now is the right people to teach theses individual skills to be developed and blended into the team game and show them Football Art.

MHA SPORTS SPONSORSHIP

WONDERFUL WARATAHS

The Waratahs are in full bloom".

That was the cry of the Granville Waratah Soccer Club president Noel Dona, after the Club snared 3 grand final victories in late August.

The club, which is one of the oldest (and smallest) in the Granville and Districts Soccer Football Association, has had another successful season.

"I am really proud of the club and the way it has performed on the field this season" said Noel. "We are a small inner city Parramatta club with only 11 teams but we managed to make 4 grand finals and secure 3 Grand Champions. We can stake another serious claim to being the Association's most successful club...yet again."

"Last year we had 4 Grand Champions from 14 teams and we rightly claimed to be the most successful club (per capita) in the Association. I believe we have at least equalled last years record because we now have less teams", he said. "Mortgage House can be proud to have its green roofed logo displayed across the chests of our players."

Mortgage House is the proud sponsor of the Waratahs - another blue and gold coloured team. Whilst the other blue and gold team (the Eels) have stumbled, the mighty Waratahs have triumphed, and managed to do it by staying under the salary cap!

The Waratahs Grand Champions for the 2002 season included the under 14's who won 3-0, the under 17's who won 2-1 and the Senior 2's who won 2-1 in a Grand Final replay.

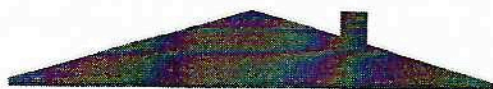
The Senior 2's played Winston Hills in what eventually turned out to be a titanic struggle. Granville scored 3 goals but then let in 3 to finish regulation time 3-3.

Two periods of extra time under golden goal rules failed to split the teams.

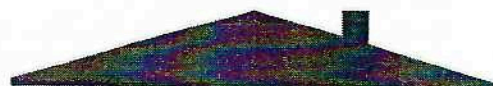
Under the Association rules, the victor is then determined by corner count-back.

Amazingly both teams were equal at 7 corners all! Granville "scored" their seventh corner with just 30 seconds remaining - it was a very tense game. Because the game was all locked up a replay was scheduled mid week.

This game turned out to be of the highest quality. After 90 minutes in another tight game where players from both teams gave away little, Granville scored the winner with 10 minutes to go to eventually claim the Senior 2 title 2-1 and add another trophy to the ever burgeoning cabinet of the mighty **Granville Waratahs**.



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