

U14 Boys Shepparton – Saturday 10/11/12 - Rivers v Loddon

A short trip to Shepparton was on the menu for the Loddon Mallee Boys Under 14's with their first game of the gala round up against the locals in Rivers. Not all club teams were playing at the same venue so the usual catch ups would have to wait another week. Slight hiccup with the Team Managers travel plans but he eventually arrived, better late than never, as his is a very important role. Mums and dads gathered to gossip about their weekend off, and the boys shook hands with their coaches who had them seated under the shade of a tree for their pre match discussion.

Time to take the field and within minutes of starting the boys forced the ball forward and immediately created their first scoring opportunity. They didn't have to wait long before the ball fell nicely to Milos outside the box. He picked his spot well for the ball to hit the top right corner and the team was off the mark. Soon the number 10 was in on the act and found a way to keep the team ahead with two goals of his own. At half time it was 3 – 0 to Loddon.

The second half was underway and play became a bit scrappy throughout. Patches of good work by the boys saw them continue to practice their training movement from previous sessions, with lots of crosses coming from out wide and into dangerous scoring areas. Rivers found their feet midway through, and some pressure to the back four saw a couple of opportunities slip wide of the goals.

Loddon boys re grouped and some changes in team positions saw a determined Will Broad almost get on the scorers sheet but denied by the post. Likewise, for Matt Sporle', a determined run at the defence and then some persistence in the box saw his first goal of the season. A hatrick goal to the number 10, Marziano, to finish and the final score read - Loddon 5 Rivers 0.

Shepparton – Sunday 11/11/12 - Loddon v Central City

Off to a different field for Remembrance Day and the boys match followed a spirited showing by the Under 13 girls who were unfortunate not to get something from their game.

The coaching staff had a full team to choose from with some players returning from injury. The game started with a fine save from our keeper before the boys generated some chances of their own. The Central City keeper was to have an excellent first half with a number of good saves to prevent Loddon from opening their score. With the wind at their backs the boys couldn't really get any flow into their game and the half time score saw it even at 0-0.

The second half was a little more dramatic, Central had found their passing game and with the All Star Denis Genreau having an influence in midfield the signs were there for the Loddon boys to lift. Sure enough a mistimed tackle by the Loddon centre back saw Genreau slot home a penalty to give Central the lead. The subs bench got busy but Central were soon to go 2 up with some more fine work. Last fifteen minutes saw Loddon put some pressure on the opposition and with a one of our better players on the day, Bluey, finishing a nice run into the box and slotting the ball past the keeper, the boys gave themselves a chance of getting a point. A last ditch effort by Matt Sporle, (hit beautifully with his left foot mind you) saw the ball curve wide of the post. At the final whistle the boys tasted their first defeat of the season going down 2-1. With some work on this track this week and seven days to wait, the boys will get their chance again next week. See you all at Echuca.