

## Round 4 Shepparton

Gala Day Saturday 10th November

The fertile floodplains of the Goulburn Valley, abundant with fruit trees and wide-eyed dairy cows hosted 750 eager soccer players for a VCL regional gala weekend.

On a balmy Saturday morning, with a little help from navigational equipment (or passengers who have retained the art of map reading), the under 13 Loddon Mallee boys found their way to the Chas Johnson Reserve in leafy Shepparton.

Perhaps rising early and a long drive was responsible for our slow start but by the end of the first half and early in the second half we had fired up and were in with a chance after Flynn scored: only one goal difference at half time.

During the second half Rivers applied constant pressure, peppering our goal while the Loddon Mallee boys struggled to maintain their structure and make opportunities for passing. This was not our best display of football for the season and the game concluded with a score of 6 - 1 to Rivers. There had been moments of enthusiastic support from spectators at displays of good play from our boys and later, some reflection that every match has its learning opportunities.

It should also be mentioned that we had some "fashion on the field" from parents: Darren looked very dapper in his new brown corduroy cap and Dave wore his Bendigo Advertiser hat and photography equipment with aplomb. Make sure you check out the photos of our boys by Dave and Kerry on the LML website.