



The Dribble – 3/4 April 2013

The washout week



U7 Blues



CUCSC won 5-4. What a game: U7 blue played Appin and several goals were scored before I could even get my pen out to record them!! Each team member played their part and all the boys helped each other out and put into practice the skills they have been learning. Kurt had several good runs up the field. Nicholas and Oliver had some great passing skills, which resulted in a few 'high fives' after goals were scored, Ethan played a good game and Jack was great in his defence mode. We still need to work on opening up the field and not 'bunching', and knowing where the ball is at all times, but the boys are learning each week and developing all the time!

The final score was 5-4 (victory to CUCSC) after Nicholas scored a hair raising final goal with only a minute to spare! 'And the crowd goes wild!'

The 'Player of the Match' goes to Jack for his superb defence skills throughout the game. His defence saved a few opposition kicks for goal. Well done Jack!

U9 Whites – Round 3



With torrential rain leading up to the game, the team had limited preparation time with no training this week. Liam Croker and Zac Hurlstone were away on holidays leaving 8 little fish for the game.

The kids were very keen for the game, jumping in every puddle they could. These puddles provided some interesting moments throughout the game with the ball skidding or stopping completely, causing the kids to fall, mistime or slip over. Clearing the ball out of our half caused some problems in the first half, for both teams. This lead to Riley Wilson scoring 2 good goals but we also conceded one goal. We also struggled to play down the puddles, I mean sidelines, and with a wet ball, as control was not the best.

Jayden Cook was strong at the back providing some good passes to our wings and also performed some great tackles to stop the opposition.

Kane Osgood demonstrated his strong attacking ability providing some excellent balls to the middle and even backwards to keep possession of the ball. He was also very strong in the backline when called upon.

Ellie Hodges tackled anything that came near her, and executed some good passes to our strikers.

Riley Wilson played consistently up front but struggled to find players to offload as our wings got stuck in a kick chase mentality.

The half time talk reinforced space, and control which were hard to master due to the weather. Some positional changes and Uniting was off for the second half.

As it turned out, Gunners had a majority of the possession in the second half as Uniting struggled to play the ball out of our half. We elected to kick and chase down the middle again which lead to a half of defending.

Jacob Deering, Aaron Stonebridge and Ethan Ross defended effortlessly, never giving the Gunners a second opportunity to get by them. The team demonstrated they can defend strongly by holding Gunners scoreless in the second half.

An absolute cracker of a goal from Jayden, where he intercepted the ball at half way, took one dribble and unleashed a pearler of a shot to put the score at 3-1 where it would stay for the remainder of the match.

Ty Davis was everywhere. With the Gunners shooting from long range, Ty threw himself at everything, even venturing outside the box at times. Improving every week, Ty is developing into an excellent shot stopper.

Excellent contributions from Ellie Hodges and Riley Wilson allowed the team to keep their unbeaten streak alive.

We need to work on active defending (not ball watching), our one two passes and our ability to move the ball from our half into attack without turning it over for next week's game.

An impressive win considering the circumstances, well played team.

Coaches Points.

2- Jayden Cook

2- Ellie Hodges

2- Riley Wilson



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U9 Whites – Round 4

The holiday period has had some effect on the team's training periods and the team played accordingly. Church were in a tightly contested first half with both teams missing opportunities in front of the goals. There was a lot of excellent tackling from both sides which halted both teams attack. Some very good performances from the fullbacks Ellie Hodges, Jayden Cook and Ethan Ross throughout the game who came up with the money on most occasions.

The team were instructed to play in space and work on their passing which would of allowed better scoring opportunities.

This was not to be as the St Mary's stopped all our sideline movement and tackled any individual chances. We failed to mark up effectively from the St Mary's corners and they score twice from a bunched middle.

Uniting failed to make our opportunities count as the opposition keeper was not troubled. The team will need to make better choices and passes when playing against better oppositions if we are to improve in future weeks.

Well done to Jacob Deering that stepped up to fill the void as keeper for a short period and again to Ethan Ross and Ellie Hodges who demonstrated their excellent defensive skills throughout the game.

Coaches Points.

Ellie Hodges -3
Ethan Ross. -2
Jayden Cook -1

U10 Blues

United came up against Eschol Park at Lynwood last weekend after a win the prior week against Narellan Rangers. Being the school holidays a number of team member families took the opportunity to go away which left the side short. Luckily for the U10 Blues our U8 Blues were also playing at home but immediately after our match so we borrowed three of their lads and invited them to step up 2 years. Lachlan Steedman, Curtis Evans and Rhys Curtis all joined our team for the day to help us out.

The first 10 minutes of the match our lads stayed in formation and played well repelling all attacks but began to tire mid half. We lost our way a little with Eschol park slotting home its first goal after continued pressure. Our lads were disappointed and the body language indicated that they were feeling down. Two minutes later Eschol Park scored their second goal in again coming from continued pressure around the goal square. Eschol Park was not finished there, 5 minutes later just before the half time break United got a little tied up in the goal square and with no one communicating Eschol Park walked in their third.

Despite three goals being scored Kye Lawson performed well in goal with a number of saves and excellent clearances. Kye has the one of the best boots in the team and is able to clear the ball from a place kick better than most in the competition. It would be fair to say that whilst we were fielding three younger players it was not unexpected that we would be behind in the score.

The half time break allowed the lads to get their second wind and Damien Pattinson was swapped into goals to try and control the back field. In the second half the United boys came out fighting and motivated not to have any more goals put past them. The three U8 lads had really held their own with Rhys Curtis (a very small lad) in particular not taking a backward step despite the opposition being significantly taller than he was, he played like a terrier.

Lachlan Steedman though really stood out, again a small fellow, he did not let the situation get to him, he put his head down and set about controlling the mid field like an old pro. At the 11th minute of the second half Lachlan started a run through the mid field where he took on three opposition players running around them before taking a shot at goal landing United's first. The rest of the U10 lads were stunned that Lachlan was able to do. 3 minutes later Lachlan was at it again showing his **dribbling** skills confusing opposition players, he again got around two players before providing a through ball to Kyle Donovan who struck the ball into the back of Eschol Park's goal.

United were now back in the game with at 2 – 3, Eschol Park lifted and launched a number of attacks against United goal, great defence by Blake Steele, Riley Keogh and William Bartlett with the support of Kyle Donovan saw the attacks come to nothing. Two memorable saves by Damien in goals during the half meant that Eschol Park we to go goalless in the half. 30 seconds before the end of the match Rhys Abbott was in front of the Eschol Park goal and received the ball on the half volley which he kicked with everything he had, unfortunately it not only went over the keeper but it cleared the crossbar by 2-3 metres leaving the final score at 2 -3, Eschol Park taking the win.

Definitely a game of two halves and Eschol Park made the most of their opportunities. Our Player of the week was split between two lads being Lachlan Steedman from the U8s trio who played well above his years and virtually controlled the second half of the match and Kyle Donovan who continually steered the team around the park with his clearances from the back and mid field.

Again thankyou to the U8 Blue team for the loan of their players, it was greatly appreciated and these three lads are welcome in the U10 Blue team anytime.



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AAL/5

A tough game against the Rangers. Great game by all bar one. Sorry Jenna for taking you out. Working more as a team and getting into the positions assigned by Mick we are getting better and better every game. Vanessa – None of us believe you have never played before.

AA/5

Round 4 saw us vs Campbelltown Southern Districts at Fullwood Reserve. While we had a lot of the possession and chances we were only up 1 - 0 thanks to a perfect curved shot from Craig outside the box.

Second half we had some more opportunities and finished with a comfortable 5 - 0 win.

Goal Scorers: Alex S, Alex T, Craig, Matt H and an own goal from opposition

KT26 winner this week was Fletch for missing an open goal opportunity.

AA/2

The AA2 played their third match of the season in round 5 and registered their third win. Playing against a much younger team on a hard deck the AA2 took a deserved lead though an accomplished finish by Mark Eaton. This lead was cancelled out through a flukish free kick. The lead was restored after Mick Bee stabbed home after some good aerial work in the penalty area and that lead was added to late in the second half by Wes Ranson who flayed the ball inside the left hand post.

An excellent start to the season. We would like to welcome new players Steve, Jason, Michael, Adrian and Ryan to the club. They have already proven to be assets to the team.

ICU CUP & M-League

Away from home on a Saturday night saw us travel to Bensley rd sports complex to take on Gunners. Reserves had a somewhat difficult game with Gunners awarded two penalties in the first half. Trailing 2-0 at the half time interval the lads dug deep and started to play some good football in the second half with Vu Hoang finishing a great attacking move to get on the score sheet with a clever finish to the keepers left, the only goal in the game from open play. The lads created a few chances late on in the game and weren't far away from earning a point. Unfortunately gunners prevailed 2-1

M.O.T.M - Nathan Smith

With a slightly modified starting line-up in the first grade due to injuries, and shuffling of positions the lads started with a lot more intensity, which was good to see after being slow off the blocks last time around. We took the lead early in the first half after Ben Harrison was fouled inside the box. The penalty was calmly slotted inside the right hand post twice (had to retake the penalty) by Shane Deathe. with a 1-nil lead at half time and a few words from the sideline about a few little things we could work on. The second half went to plan with Shane Deathe hitting the second goal of the match with a driven shot from outside the box. Some great energy and persistence paid off for our third goal with Brendan Rashleigh forcing a mistake from the sweeper and pouncing on the ball knocking it around the keeper and producing a cute left footed finish from an acute angle. Running low on troops the lads battled hard with gunners getting back into the game with 2 late penalties but at the end of the night we held our nerve and finished the game off 3-2 a much deserved victory with the squad only having 20 players available on the night!

M.O.T.M - Shane Deathe