



THE WRAP

Round 3

After three rounds, we have the U11 Comets and U12 Comets both sitting undefeated at the top of their respecting ladders, whilst the U17 Comets have strung two wins in a row with some strong competitive footy. This coming Sunday's Round 4 matches will complete the grading period. Read on to see this week's results and an interview with U16 Comets 100 game player **Sammy Guttmann**.

Be sure to check out the club's [website](#) for our leading goalkickers and upcoming [milestones](#).

We've found some passion!

Last week we called on submissions to our Instagram passion competition. We had some great entries. Be sure to check them out @AJAX_JFC. Keep them coming.

#AJFCPASSION

U12 Comets enjoying their win.



Follow us @AJAX_JFC

If you would like to share any photos, celebrations or stories in future editions of The Wrap, please email publicity@ajfc.com.au

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Milestones

Jake Okun - U12 Comets



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Milestones

Coby Felbel - U14 Comets



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Milestones

Jonah Micmacher - U15 Comets





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Milestones

Sammy Guttman - U16 Comets





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Around the grounds

U15 Comets



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Around the grounds

U17 Comets





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Player Profile

Sammy Guttmann – U16 Comets

Interview by Rod Nirens



RN: What has been your career highlight?

SG: Despite all my awards, achievements and highlights, running through my banner on Sunday was definitely my highlight of my career. Regardless of the end result my 100th game was something I will never forget.

RN: What's the best thing about playing for Ajax?

SG: It's the bond with each other. We are all connected through our community and many of us go to school together. If somebody was to get knocked down there is always someone there to help you back up.

RN: Which AFL player do you model yourself on?

SG: Definitely Jack Viney. So much so, this is my fourth year that I have worn number 7 for Ajax.

RN: Favourite food?

SG: Spaghetti Bolognese

RN: What do you like to do when not playing footy?

SG: I like to relax and see my friends. With them I enjoy doing variety of things both in and outdoors.

RN: Do you have a particular pre game routine?

SG: Before every game I have a bowl of cereal, stretch my legs via leg swings, foam roll my legs and watch some TV to relax me.



THE WRAP

Results

U8 Rockets

Two weeks in a row now, the boys have had a really tight tussle, this week against the Dingley Dingoes. Led out by our captains Ami and Zac Feldman, the boys wanted to continue our focus on the defensive aspects of the game. It was great to see the boys listening to instructions and kicking the ball wide into the pockets and flanks out of defence. There was no way we were kicking it into the “danger zone”! Aside from the great team defence, there were lots of other highlights. There were some terrific examples of teamwork as the ball moved nicely through the centre and then into the forward line. Suss, Kave, Oliver and C Majman linked up nicely. It was great to also see Miles Rubin get into the play and the team’s determination in the 3rd quarter to get us back into the match was a credit to the whole team.

U8 Stars

Another strong effort from the U8 Stars against Brighton today. Their improvement is clear from week to week now especially with regard to team structures, looking for teammates with the ball, and tackling the opposition. Nadav and Dean were joint captains this week and led by example. They also gave inspirational speeches at half time and after the game reinforcing the focus on tackling and sharing the ball. It showed, with our best all round performance for the year and good contributions from everyone who played.

U9 Rockets

Perfect football conditions greeted the mighty Under 9 Rockets this morning at Albert Park. The boys played hard until the final siren and can be extremely proud of how they conducted themselves. The improvement of this side continues to amaze the coaches, team administration and parents.

Across the team there were some wonderful efforts, including high flying marks, in and under work at the stoppages, hunting in packs and fantastic passing to team mates. We are starting to see some disposals on the non-preferred side and we even had a lost tooth!

Our midfielders worked tirelessly through the morning, our backline stood firm and played great rebound football and our forward line made the most of the chances they had.

It was a courageous display of hard football with great skills being demonstrated in good conditions.

The Rockets trademark tackling was on display for all and sundry today.

The team was captained by a determined Jacob Kempler and a very busy Ben Karliner.

We look forward to the returning home next round and enjoying the support of the wonderful mums, dads, siblings and grandparents that are following this side throughout the season.

Well done boys.

U9 Stars

The match today was simply an awesome display of all of the skills the boys have been working on at training. The kicking out of full back was really well executed, and the ruck work and centre clearances had improved so much in only one week. The coaches are really excited by what we saw today, we have a great team, who play hard, ferocious strong football, and if we can train hard this season we will see some more amazing improvements.

Today’s game was a superb example of what we can do if we play as a team and try to execute the skills we learn and practice at training. We will keep getting better, and the harder we train, it seems the better we play. Great stuff today, all 25 players contributed, see you at training.



THE WRAP

Results

U10 Rockets

From the moment the boys walked in to the room, they looked focused and switched on. The coaches fired the boys up with the challenge to play in front and work hard to get the ball at all costs.

Led by the captains Jason Brott and Gideon Swiatlo, the boys were faced with a few tall and larger competitors in Mordi Braeside. It didn't take them long to work out the bigger opposition were nowhere as skilful as the AJAX outfit and that the instructions of being first to the ball and working as a team would win them the battle. It was a team effort from the first bounce. The boys followed the team rules and worked hard. The defensive tackling, helping each other out, strong marks and long kicks give the kids confidence they could work together to overcome the competition. It was clear that the improvement and focus at training mid-week paid off. The teamwork displayed today was outstanding and as parents it was very encouraging to see each and every kid play so well today. The boys will be going to school tomorrow with their heads held very high. 3.

U10 Stars

Boys, Great performance today! The way all of you gave it your best effort was admirable. The one thing that I'm really pleased with is our run & our ability to win the one on ones and setting up 'the wall'. Overall, we need to tighten up in the 4th quarter but it was a fantastic win and good to see everyone enjoy it. Big special mention to Benji on his first win and see you boys on Wednesday.

U11 Comets

Ajax 9.9 (63) def East Brighton 4.4 (28)

Goals: Chrapot 2, Jacobs 2, Nussbaum 2, Casper, Haeata, Sormann

Best: Casper, Fell, Rozenes, Sormann, Wrobel

The first quarter was extremely impressive and with the wind favouring us, you quickly showed with effort comes rewards as you jumped to a strong first quarter lead. The focus today was to share the ball via handball, switch the ball where appropriate and work hard from the first bounce, which we felt you all did. In the second quarter there some subtle changes made and we asked you to lower your eyes coming into the forward line and aim at targets as opposed to bombing it long. From the boundary line it was a pleasure to watch you implement these instructions whilst continuing to push yourselves and share the ball where possible. Great team play.

U11 Jets

Dingley 8.7 (55) def Ajax 2.0 (12)

Goals: Aladjem, Segal

Best: Aladjem, Gottlieb, Kranz, Lewin, Segal

The U11 Jets had a reality check today against a 18 man Dingley side that included 2 Ajax Jets who volunteered to play for the opposition so that everyone could get more game time. Firstly, a huge thank you to Ari Farkas and Isaac Weinstein for being great team men and putting their hands up to play for Dingley. If we could have put you guys in our coaches votes, we would have...

But today, the Jets started lethargically and allowed Dingley to score early by allowing them to get their hands on the ball first and also allowing them to get quick long kicks away. We also found ourselves out of position often on a huge Dingley ground which meant there were loose opposition players everywhere all game.

After a bit of a half time rev up, the Jets woke up in the third quarter and won the quarter but the damage was already done and then Dingley ran away with the game in the last quarter.

We need to be better prepared and more alert at unusual away venues and most importantly, come to play with better intent to win the ball and kick long quickly especially in wet conditions



THE WRAP

Results

U12 Comets

Ajax 19.21 (135) def Murrumbeena JFC 3.1 (19)

Goals: Smorgon 4, Zielinski 4, Graham 2, Michelson 2, Becker, Faigen, Gaspar, Grodski, Joseph, Kister, Pike

Best: Faigen, Graham, Michelson, Pike, Zielinski

It was a bright start to the game, with the usual midfield brigade (Pike, Nirens, Faigen, Graham) unbeatable and linking up in waves through the centre, and the forward line rampant and routinely plucking the ball out of packs. But early dominance was not being converted on the scoreboard and the team had to find a better route to goal. They found it, by centering the ball unselfishly from wide positions on the flanks and in the pockets, to a spot in the "hot zone" in front of goal where Becker, Kister and Joseph were presenting strongly. From then on the opposition could not cope, despite all their numbers getting back, and the goals rained down as the sky had threatened to do. Not content with winning easily, the coaches moved the team around and challenged some other players to take responsibility on the ball and in front of goal. It was pleasing to see what happened next. Okun celebrated his 50th by hitting packs hard in his customary style, as did Rockman when finally let loose on the ball. Gaspar was a constant threat up forward, as was Feder on the ball (having already led the way with those damaging, centering passes when up forward). Michaelson and Zielinski were immense all day, and they continued to torment the opposition when thrown forward, with their relentless attack on the ball and supremacy in the air. It was party time in the last quarter with the two Toby's in particular peppering the goals: Smorgon bagging 3 in rapid succession and always dangerous when close to goal, and Grodski snaffling his first ever major (which saw his teammates erupt in jubilation).

U12 Jets

Bentleigh JFC 15.13 (103) def Ajax 1.1 (7)

Goals: Goldfarb

Best: Goldfarb, Green, Harris, Jacobs, Schenk

The scoreboard wasn't reflective of the effort today as the boys strung together their most competitive 4 quarter effort of the season. Despite playing against another talented opposition, the team's attack and intensity at the contest was much improved on previous weeks. Our tackling and defensive accountability still let us down, but the boys can be happy with fighting out the match until the end.

U13 Comets

Mordialloc-Braeside 4.7 (31) def Ajax 2.11 (23)

Goals: Aladjem, Green

Best: Alter, Aladjem, Eliau, Green, Spicer

The Under 13 Comets lost their first game for the season by eight points after leading all day at home against Mordialloc-Braeside. Despite their early dominance around the ground the team struggled in front of goals in the first half but held a two goal lead at the main break. The wasted opportunities came home to roost when Mordi took the momentum in the final quarter with more direct football and greater desperation when the ball hit the ground. The reality of the new season in Under 13s is that every game is hard to win and all players will have to be at the top of their game and follow coach's instructions for the full four quarters if they want to succeed at this level.



THE WRAP

Results

U13 Jets

Beaumaris FC 6.7 (43) def Ajax 1.1 (7)

Goals: Maidenberg

Best: Alford, Carrick, Edwards, Gaddie, Shaw

It was a tough day at the office! We came in expecting a tight hard game, and that is what we got. Whenever we went near it, they were there with some great hard tackles. Sometimes 2 or 3 in a row until they were able to get possession. Again as a team we hit the first quarter hard doing everything right and splitting the play around the ground 50/50, but it was not reflected on the scoreboard. Second quarter we fell a way a little. We became second to the ball and seemed happy to chase.

Third and fourth the challenge was to make the contest and not wait for them to get hands on it. The boys rose to occasion and fought out the match in a tough, strong uncompromising manner. That is something to be proud of.

U14 Comets

Bentleigh JFC 12.8 (80) def Ajax 3.14 (32)

Goals: Nissen, Rajch, Spark

Best: Berman, Efron, Jacobs, Kanat, Schwarz

Despite a strong start by our boys, and the ball spent the majority of time in our forward half, we didn't manage to capitalise on our early dominance with some bad kicking and late goals we went in to the quarter time break down by 15 points. Again in the second quarter, we felt we had many opportunities but couldn't finish off our good work and could only manage 1.4 to Bentleigh's 2.3. The second half was similar but Bentleigh kicked away late proving that good kicking is good football. A score line of 3.14 by Ajax is not good enough to win games of football and despite hitting the post 4 times – we will need to focus on goal kicking and kicking under pressure. In general, the boys effort was still very positive and a several players actually played their best games for the year. The switching of play continues to improve and there was good run and handball receive particularly in the second half.

U14 Jets

East Brighton Vampires 10.13 (73) def Ajax 2.1 (13)

Goals: Gestetner, Katz

Best: Goldberg, Katz, Kol, Paluch, Zielinski

Tough day at the office for our boys against our nemesis of last year the East Brighton Vampires. We were scoreless at ¾ time even after some glimpses of aggression and hardness at the ball by Loki Zielinski and Joel Paluch in the previous 3 quarters. At the last break, missing key position players Spencer Braby and Dylan Hershan, after game ending injuries we as coaches appealed for the boys to find something for the last quarter. We asked the team to get a score on the board and also to win the quarter. Well we did just that Mendy Gestetner popped up for his first goal for the club and Aden Katz kicked a goal after moving up forward for the first time in the year and we won the last quarter both on the score board but more importantly around the ground.. Max Kol and Jeremy Goldberg made some massive hard tackles that opened up our running players to get the ball into our forward 50. After the game we told the group to be patient that we had many players in the team that had never played the game before this year and were learning and improving and that is all we can ask of the group.



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Results

U15 Comets

Prahran 9.4 (58) def Ajax 7.3 (45)

Goals: Carp 2, Deane 2, Fibishenko 2, Herskope

Best: Brick, Fibishenko, Grodski, Micmacher, Mitsel

Round 3 saw us take on our old foe in Prahran down at Toorak Park. In a tight contest all day, Prahran eventually ran out winners by 13 points. We know Prahran is a very good team and to beat them we know we must play our best football for the full 80 minutes. The boys may have had a few lapses today, but we are extremely proud of the way our boys continued to fight hard and stay with Prahran. We have a resilient group of players as was clearly evidenced in Round 1 against Oakleigh and again today.

To our 100 gamer in Jonah 'Skivvy' Micmacher, we say congratulations on 100 super games. Jonah puts his heart and soul into every minute of every game and is a terrific role model for us all. We want to make special mention to Harry Carp who played the second half today under duress with an injured hand. Harry was our most dangerous forward, kicking 2 goals in that half with just one fully functioning hand. Boys, really good effort today. We may not have got the points, but we were in there fighting until the very end and that makes us extremely proud of you all.

U15 Jets

East Sandringham Rovers 12.6.78 def Ajax (6.5.41)

Goals: Yaffe 2, Meyerowitz, Paneth, Rosen, Zuker

Best: Franks, Gelfand, Meyerowitz, S. Morris, Paneth, Rosen

The boys fought the game strongly and had opportunities to make the margin smaller. The theme of the day was smart football and we were treated to some very intelligent plays from Amir Meyerowitz and Sam Rosen, who were welcome additions to the team. Miles Gelfand was fantastic the whole day with his 2nd and 3rd efforts, chasing and work ethic. Ben Braverman showed his excellent athleticism and that he will be an asset for the team. Sonny Morris was a rock down back intercepting anything that came his way and was supported by Ash Morris and Josh Kessell. Benji Goldberg showed some patches of brilliance including a vital tackle to stop an almost certain opposition goal. Kivi Franks and Sammy Paneth showed line breaking speed and game breaking potential. Kai Yaffe also saw the rewards of continuing to hunt the ball in finishing with 2 goals for the match.

With the team still gelling and learning the right way to play football the improvement is coming as will the wins.



THE WRAP

Results

U16 Comets

East Brighton 31.9 (195) def Ajax 1.1 (7)

Goals: Cowan

Best: Bryer, Cowan, Elbaum, Gordon, Nirens

The final match of the grading period saw the U16 Comets come up against one of the strongest sides in Div. 1 – East Brighton Vampires. The boys put in a hard fought and gutsy first quarter and went into the break only 2 goals down. After that, East Brighton stepped on the gas and powered away to a hugely lopsided victory. Natan Cowan and Jason Nirens continued their great form and were well supported by Dean Gordon, Liam Elbaum and the “never say die”, Aaron Bryer. A well-earned week off for the Bye and the start of the season proper in Div. 2.

U17 Comets

Ajax 18.14 (122) def Oakleigh 4.10. (34)

Goals: Lincoln 3, Williams 3, Brott 2, Hendel 2, Hymans 2, Michelson 2, Nirens, Spicer, Zielinski

Best: Brott, Spicer, Velleman, Williams, Wise, Zielinski

This was always going to be a challenge for the Comets against a lesser opposition but the result showed we played 3 good quarters of footy and went to sleep in the last quarter. Even though the game was over on the scoreboard by quarter time, we still had to maintain the standard against the statistics in place and the team’s game plan - which we did for 3 quarters. Overall a great team effort with special mention to Gid Wise for rising to the challenge, and Sass Brott for an outstanding 1st game in the Comets. Best wishes to Brody Velleman for a bad nose break in the last quarter.

U17 Jets

Murrumbeena 25.13 (163) def Ajax 1.7 (13)

Goals: Oberklaid

Best: Hurwitz, Shulman, Procel, Slonim, Roth

The U17 Jetss faced a much taller and stronger team in Murrumbeena, and with the wind strong, faced difficulties keeping the opposition from scoring. There were a number of positives on the day, with players tackling harder and running for second efforts. There were some good passages of play when our boys combined well to show their strengths.



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