



THE WRAP

Round 13

As we near the completion of the home and away series, Round 13 was played out with some excellent team performances. Three wins in a row for the U11 Comets and U16 Comets, and back to back wins by the U13 Comets. The U12 Comets returned to good form with a solid win. Good luck to our U8s and U9s in this Sunday's Lightning Carnival.

A big thank you to all club supporters who donated to the [RCD Foundation](http://rcdfoundation.org/) fundraising campaign. Though your generous donations we contributed to a very worthy cause. Further information can be found at: <http://rcdfoundation.org/>

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

U16 Comets receiving their quarter time instructions





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Milestones

Dean Jacobs – U11 Comets





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Milestones

Bailey Lewin – U11 Jets





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Milestones

Riley Dahan – U12 Jets





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Around the grounds

U12 Comets



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Around the grounds

U13 Comets





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Results

U8 Rockets

The U8 Rockets were led out in perfect conditions by our captains, the Majman cousins against one of the best teams on the competition. The Hampton Rovers jumped out of the blocks with 3 quick goals in 5 minutes and it looked like the Rockets were in for a long day! But in one of their best games for the year, the Rockets turned things around by focusing on tackling, hard running and kicking the ball long and outscored Hampton for the remainder of the game. The boys were ferocious at the ball, making sure they got to every contest and laid tackle after tackle. Gelfand was everywhere and Feldman and Mordy chased hard. Cooper Majman displayed some silky skills to kick a nice goal that was the result of some amazing team pressure in the forward line. Ami and Gillis, who have threatened all year, also ended up on the end of some nice teamwork to kick a goal each. In his last game for the year, B. Majman lived up to his nickname "the Bulldog" and harassed Hampton into making mistakes and Smorgon and Lakman consistently cleared the ball out of packs. Rosenberg played a great last quarter full of courage. The boys showed just how well they can play when they bring real commitment and effort and it was a great warm up for next week's lightning premiership! Well done boys.

U9 Stars

With the season drawing to an end, this week the coaches wanted to see the players showing off the skills that we have been working so hard on at training. Ferocious bone crushing tackling, long penetrating kicks, marks- both gutsy chest marks and out in front grabs, and most importantly working and showing more great team work. Today all the boys really delivered and put on a team display full of the skills we want to see. Really well done to everyone today.

U10 Rockets

Today the U10 Rockets came of age. All year we have been looking for the complete 4 quarter effort and today it finally arrived. If the boys bring the effort and application from today's 48 minutes of football to the lightning premiership – we cannot be beaten. Paul Naphtali took them for their usual warm up and he came back knowing the boys were switched on. They were asked to tackle hard, play on and keep to the team structures with one man a kick behind play. It has been a focus for the past two games to sort themselves out on the field and use their voice to ensure they are all in the right position. This has really been embraced by all 25 boys on the list. The tackling pressure was fantastic with Ickowicz, Owide, Krasnostein, Sormann and Swart keeping the ball in their zone and the whole forward line were finally rewarded for their hard work. This now sets the standard for the U10 Rockets as a team and each individual's effort. We hope this continues next week into our last home and away game before the lightning premiership.

U10 Stars

Today we came up against a side that showed a lot of fight. From the get go we could see that our players weren't breaking away from packs with ease like they're used to. South Melbourne made us really fight for our possession. The first quarter saw us dominate the inside 50s, but great opposition pressure meant we were barely able to hit the scoreboard. The second and fourth quarters were a great test for our backline as we came up against a blistering wind, but we held our own and stuck to our structures back there to ensure the other team didn't kick away. Ultimately, we put to our players to stand up at half time knowing we were with the wind in the premiership quarter. The boys responded perfectly and this was by far our best quarter of the day. We won every clearance and hit the scoreboard every time it went inside 50, which was really pleasing. Once again we've shown the competition why we're the hot favourite to take out the lightning premiership. Carn the Jackas



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Results

U11 Comets

Ajax 4.6 (30) def East Bentleigh 4.3 (27)

Goals: Flinkier, Heata, Jacobs, Mimeran

Best: Baring, Flinkier, Gunn, Newett, Rozenes, Wrobel

Wow, what a game of football. Dean and I had been watching the fixture for a number of weeks, and were really looking forward to the challenge with Bentleigh, we were not disappointed in any way. The match was fiercely contested from the outset, and continued right to the final siren. We spent the week at training with a focus on tackling, running in straight lines, running in numbers, and second and third efforts. You executed this perfectly throughout the match. You got off to a flyer, as we started the game with a very strong line up, and with a discipline and determination that had been missing at times during the past month. Before the opposition had realised you had slammed on 4 goals into the wind, and looked like running away with the game. To the credit of Bentleigh, they regrouped and were able to claw their way back into the match. By the start of the last quarter both teams had kicked 4 goals and were only separated by a couple of points. It was a standout performance to hold on and not concede in the last. A couple of things might have made a 3 point win a bit bigger, but very happy to take the 4 points and move on to next week. 2 more games until finals.

U11 Jets

East Malvern 8.13 (61) def Ajax 4.2 (26)

Goals: Aladjem, Apel, Farkas, Segal

Best: Aladjem, Balter, Gottlieb, Gross, Weller

The U11 Jets had a good day today versus an undefeated East Malvern who also boasted a percentage of 300. But the Jets were going to be no easy pushover after recent disappointing results and some very hard work out on the training track and on game day before the game. We also used some clever tactics to nullify the opposition's scoring frequency which worked well but it was the boys out on the field that deserved all of the credit today. Right from the opening bounce today it was Benji Cohen who set the tone for the day with his attack on the ball and willingness to commit his whole body to winning possession. His teammates soon followed his lead and East Malvern quickly realised that this was going to be a tough day at the office. Brad Shostak was really important early on in the back pocket where he stopped the opposition on the last line of defence by winning possession and clearing the ball. Sunny Aladjem was brilliant all day in his new role on the ball playing on probably the best player in the competition. Sunny eventually overpowered his man through sheer will and commitment to his team and scored for us as well in the last quarter. Juzi Gross was at his usual best rucking all day and controlled the ruck & marking contests all over the ground and even forced the ball forward for us when the ball was on the ground too. JJ Balter and Gavi Gottlieb were awesome all day in mainly on ball roles and were always on the bottom of the packs winning possession. Gavi has become one of the cleanest ball winners in the league and when he gets on a run with the ball the opposition better watch out!!! Doron Segal had a breakout game today scoring an incredible goal in the second quarter. Doron is one of our best breakaway players and used his pace and kicking skills to perfection today. Eli Paca was another 4 quarter performer today who never stopped running and giving us drive on the outer wing all day. But it was our round 1-4 skipper Jesse Weller who really hurt the opposition today with his undying desire to tackle. It was a real masterclass display from Jesse today in the centre as he racked up the possessions and never stopped running, chasing and driving the ball forward for us. Other players who had impact huge impact for us in defence were JJ Paneth, Zac Harris, Gabe Houseman & our skipper Bailey Lewin in his 50th game for the club. Overall a fantastic performance by the Jets today and we look forward to more of the same next week in our last game of the season.



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Results

U12 Comets

Ajax 4.14 (38) def St Bedes/Mentone 2.1 (13)

Goals: Joseph, Kister, Marabel-Whitburn, Zielinski

Best: Grodski, Marabel-Whitburn, Mitsel, Nathan, Pike

It was important to register the win today, to keep alive the hope of finals in Division 1 and to show how far we have come as a group in all areas of our game. A measure of the improvement in this team was the way the forwards regrouped, when early dominance in possession was not being rewarded on the scoreboard and a more patient and uncluttered set up was implemented to good effect. The midfield worked hard all game to earn the forwards those repeat chances and the backs were always accountable and focused when called upon. Special mentions today to Grodski who was immense all game across half back and Ossip who grows in confidence each game and made telling contributions when the opposition threatened to break through. Cohen used his pace to good effect and Mitsel set the tone for the team with his usual tough contested work. But there were important contributions across the board today, with the load shared by many, and it is this aspect which is most pleasing and which stands this team in such good stead.

U12 Jets

Ormond 18.18 (126) def Ajax 2.1 (13)

Goals: Goldfarb, Jacobs

Best: Carracher, Gaspar, Harris, Jacobs, Nathan

The side went into the match with Ormond knowing that victory was crucial for our finals chances this season. Despite some impressive ball movement that resulted in 2 goals during the first quarter, it was clear that our defensive efforts weren't up to the standard required, putting us 2 goals down at quarter time due to poor goal kicking by the opposition. Unfortunately Ormond found their kicking boots, and the Jets were too often second to the ball. The defence found out the risks of playing too far off their opponents. Jacob and Noah C both put in competitive performances, while Elliot, Zak and Max H looked dangerous when moving the ball forward.

U13 Comets

Ajax 6.8 (44) def St. Peters 4.10 (33)

Goals: Chrapot 2, Light, H.Sheezel, Wasbutzki, Zohar

Best: Herman, Lowe, C. Sheezel, H.Sheezel, Spicer

The U13 Division 1 competition is so tight that one false step could prove fatal to the chances of the teams in contention for the finals. The U13 Comets knew the task was always going to be difficult against a fast running side which also had a few tall, strong marking players with the result that they felt the pain early when St Peters kicked the first two goals of the match. After that it was a case of sticking to the game plan, running and tackling hard and taking a positive approach to the goals. The Jackers gradually reeled in their opponents and then broke the game open in the third quarter and established a match winning lead by the early stages of the final quarter. To their credit, our visitors never gave in and provided a great contest to the very end. The pleasing aspect of the game from our point of view was the evenness of the team and the willingness of the players to back up their teammates at all times. This is what makes the difference between good football sides and great teams. Although the finals have not officially started, the next two must win games are against other teams in the top four and it is vital that Ajax wins both and wins them well to be assured of finals action.



THE WRAP

Results

U13 Jets

East Sandringham 4.3 (27) def Ajax 3.3 (21)

Goals: Maidenberg, Schauder, Star

Best: Alford, Barazani, Davis, Edwards, Peleg

Today was a disappointing result. Complacency got the better of us and we simply didn't provide the effort that was required. We started strong, scoring all 3 of our goals within the first 10 minutes, but we quickly lost our knack. Injuries and head knocks to several key players left us wounded, and we slowly let East Sandringham back into the game. The oppositions ability to take contested marks was brilliant and we struggled to compete with their aerial dominance. They set up very well in the backline and their wall, as a result we struggled to get the ball inside 50 and to keep it there. At times this was a result of not quite working hard enough to cover the ground. This loss certainly harms our finals chances, but it's our job to bounce back in the coming weeks and finish the season strongly.

U14 Comets

Dingley 14.5 (89) def Ajax 3.9 (27)

Goals: Rosenbaum 2, Rajch

Best: Davis, Kanat, Kras, Rosenbaum, Tobias

U14 Jets

East Malvern 9.12 (66) def Ajax 5.2 (32)

Goals: Katz 2, Baron, Benzur, Braby

Best: Baron, Chabat, Katz, Kol, Mattatia

U15 Comets

Bentleigh 14.14 (98) def Ajax 8.10 (58)

Goals: Fibishenko 3, Carp, Meltzer, Schauder, Taranto, Weeden

Best: Brick, Fibishenko, Grodski, Marks, Mills, Taranto

In what was a really big game for us today, unfortunately we were soundly beaten by a better team. Bentleigh came to the contest prepared to do the things that matter and were too good in many areas of the game. We play our best football when we are committed to tackling, pressuring and manning up etc and this type of attitude to a game is a non-negotiable if you want to win. We have done it before, for example against Oakleigh in round 1 and St Bedes in round 8, which tells us when fully committed to the task we play a really good brand of football. Unfortunately today was not our day but hopefully we learn from it and improve on it. The approach pre game was about wanting the boys to set themselves goals/aims. Simple things like; Are you tackling enough? Are you going as hard as you can at every contest? Are you talking enough on the field? Are you a leader or follower? These are the questions we asked the boys before the game. The reason for this is that we want the boys to strive to achieve something for themselves individually each game, which in turn helps the team if they achieve these goals. With anything in life, you must have goals no matter how big or small, and this is something we want to instil in all the boys. We had some boys out there today who gave their all for the team and special mention goes to Nic Taranto, Elijah Mills, Riley Brick and Jarred Fibishenko. Guys, you were terrific today in a soundly beaten team. You maintained your focus despite the one sided scoreboard and never gave up. Quite simply, you ticked many of those boxes above which is a great effort. We look forward to you continuing that form for the remaining two home and away games. Well done boys! So we move on to East Brighton Vampires next week in another crucial game for us. We will hit the training track on Wednesday night and have a great session as we prepare for next week. The crucial thing for us is that the boys learn from each game they play and improve and develop as footballers and people.



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Results

U15 Jets

Cheltenham 20.21 (141) def Ajax 2.2 (14)

Goals: Davis, Lewin

Best: Anidam, Braverman, Davis, Gelfand, Port

It was another tough day for the boys as we trekked to Cheltenham. With only 18 players compared to the opposition who had 5 substitutes it was always going to be a tough ask to compete. However, for the first time for a while the boys didn't drop off from siren to siren constantly trying and toughing out the game. Despite going down to 16 on the field the boys spirit and heart could not be deterred and they and their parents should be very proud of the performance and attitude. Zac Davis and Ben Braverman in the backline were clear standouts mopping up as many kicks as they could and also setting up the game from half-back. They both showed dash and made it difficult for the opposition to break through. Miles Gelfand worked as hard as ever chasing, harassing, and using the ball to a high standard. Lochie Port was a rock in defence and not only was his spoiling a feature but countless tackling and second and third efforts took its toll as he injured his wrist going for another spoil. In addition Litai played an outstanding game using his size and attack on the ball to really have a massive impact. However, it was his work rate that stood out most and we hope that Litai can carry this form until the end of the season. Our tackling efforts and attack on the ball was a real highlight and whilst there were individuals who stood out the whole team really showed a high level of maturity in their physicality and contested game.

U16 Comets

Ajax 14.13 (97) def. Dingley 5.4 (34)

Goals: Robenstone 3, Chrapot 2, Krongold 2, Sharp 2, Siegel 2, Bryer, Micmacher, Garson

Best: Bryer, Chrapot, Cowan, Krongold, Sharp

In unseasonably warm and windless conditions, Ajax kept their finals hopes alive with a 63 point win over Dingley. Although convincing on the scoreboard, the U16 Comets will need to play more consistent 4-quarter footy when taking on the top two sides in the final rounds of the season.

U17 Comets

BYE

U17 Jets

Waverley Park 18.19 (127) def Ajax 3.3 (21)

Goals: Gradman, Lowinger, Mochkin

Best: Davis, Friede, Gradman, Klooger, Lowinger

The Jets started well in the first half defending strongly but ran out of legs in the second half not having anyone on the bench.



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