



THE WRAP

Round 2

Much better weather conditions for Round 2 saw some stunning results. Our U13 Comets remain undefeated in Division 1 after a thrilling one point win. Our U14 Comets, U15 Comets, U16 Comets and U17 Comets won by a collective 485 points which could be a club record. Regrading is likely for some of our teams.

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

Justin Spicer celebrating 100 games



Instagram
@AJAX_JFC

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Around the grounds





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Results

U8 Rockets

After a long and gruelling pre-season - lasting more than 7 years for most - the U8 Rockets were finally ready to strut their stuff on the big stage. And then the draw came out and they had the bye! Not deterred they went back for one more week of honing their skills and set plays, ready to unleash their fury upon the unsuspecting East Sandringham Zebs. And did they come to play? Yes they did. Almost all were up at the crack of dawn and at the ground not long after, with the excitement palpable. The same could not necessarily be said for the parents, although if it were possible for someone to design take-away coffee cups in Ajax colours, the supporter group would have looked well decked out. As for the game itself, there were the usual first game occurrences - forgotten mouth guards, wrong colour wristbands being worn, players not letting that pesky ball get in the way of tying ones shoelaces, a check side (banana) goal and most critically, smiles on all and sundry. The improvement of the team even over the course of the four quarters augers well for the season and no doubt the countdown has begun before we can get back out there again.

U8 Stars

The U8 Stars were looking to build on last week's fantastic performance but knew they were up against a tough opposition in East Brighton. The Vampires were well drilled and much bigger but that didn't worry the courageous Stars. The Stars crashed in and fought hard with the midfield and forward line getting on top early. After quarter time the Stars didn't come out with the same intensity and were made to pay, giving up several goals. Half time gave the team a chance to regroup and the third quarter was better as the Stars got themselves back into the game. Coach Tooty asked the boys for 100% effort in the final quarter and the boys responded by being harder at the contest and moving the ball quickly ultimately winning the quarter. Whilst today was not their best four quarter performance it was certainly a great learning experience and there were plenty of positives to come out of the game. The team showed some really exciting signs and the team work was very encouraging. The coaches and parents were very impressed and can't wait for next week.

U9 Rockets

The U9 Stars played away this morning against Port Melbourne. Leo and Joel were this week's captains and encouraged the team to attack the game and kick lots of goals. The team responded in the first quarter with the mid-field tackling hard and creating lots of opportunities for the forwards, with Lex and Levi turning up everywhere to kick it forward and also to tackle. The Banky boys were an intimidating presence up forward. Giddy got his first for the year and then everyone manning up set up a turnover to Jake and a goal from the goal square by Ethan. The second quarter saw more of the positive momentum with Eden collecting possessions at will, Jake on fire, Oren holding up the other team on countless occasions and Luca at one stage beating three opponents to the ball. Luka F used ball well as always, finding Josh B in space on a number of occasions. Hugo made space in traffic to kick his first goal for the team, Zac O kept pushing forward with snaps in traffic, and Noah got rewarded for attack on the ball to get another. Port had some good players and the third quarter saw them get back in the game with a string of unanswered goals, setting up a good contest for the last quarter. While Port got the first goal, Ajax returned to form, starting out of the middle of the ground where Zac B, Dylan, Jax and Nadav formed a mosquito fleet to create opportunities, in conjunction with Joel and Harley. Jack Sable got involved up forward while Josh patrolled the forward goal line gallantly against an opponent twice his height and even managed to out mark him on the siren. JJ had been running and tackling hard all day, and Port had no answer to him in the end, with a few long range goals on his trusty left. All up a great team effort showing what the team can do when everyone is switched on and plays their role.



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U10 Rockets

It was standing room only at Princes Park as a massive crowd of family, friends and footy lovers turned up to cheer the U10 Rockets play their first home game for the 2018 season and it was against their fierce rival Prahran. From the opening bounce, the trademark U10 Rockets footy was on display with their fierce attack on the ball, never allowing the opposition to get any easy possession. The entire team racked up the hardball gets, making space with smart hands and driving the ball with long kicking. The forwards continued the pressure and with great teamwork were rewarded with multiple goals. Each time a Prahran player got the ball, they were swarmed by two or more Rocket players and were rewarded with multiple turnovers. The game was played with great spirit. It was a privilege to watch how this team continues to grow with each game and play smart team football. The boys belted out the team song with great pride.

U10 Stars

After last week's complete performance, the Stars faced the might of Prahran. This was no cake walk. This was no Sunday kick-to-kick session. It was a tough battle against one of the best teams our boys have ever faced. The game was all about contested football, run and team work. It was a bruising encounter, but the Stars stood tall across four quarters and gave their opposition a run for their money. Big marks, huge tackles and breaking lines were the order of the day, and the coaches were thrilled that the team stuck to the game plan right to the end. It was a super effort, one that the boys, parents and coaches can all be proud of.



THE WRAP

Results

U11 Rockets

Ajax 19.6 (120) def St Pauls McKinnon 3.3 (21)

Goals: Lakman 6, Levy 3, Gunn Kagan, Rothfield 2, Cohen, Ickowicz, Mehl, Swiatlo

Best: Gunn, Ickowicz, Levy, Lakman, Rothfield, Rubin

Today's game was played in warm conditions on a massive ground. There was plenty of open space that we knew would test the boys fitness and ability to penetrate with long kicks and gut running. We were proudly led out onto the ground by our captains for the day Max Owide and Joel Cabelli. We had a nervous and slow start. St. Paul's scores the opening 2 goals and were doing all the running. The boys quickly realised that today was not going just happen and they had to give their best effort. They kicked into gear and didn't look back. It was a real team effort. Notable mentions must go to Nico Levy whose run and ball handling were magnificent. Bailey Rothfield who showed great composure and footy smarts to take a number of telling marks and great body work. Significant contributions from Toby Rubin, Joel Cabelli, Avi Goldwasser and Gabe Kagan gave us a glimpse into the real potential of these players. It was a pleasure to watch. 19 Goals on such a huge ground was superb. Keep up the hard work and the enthusiasm. Can't wait until next week.

U11 Stars

Ajax 8.11 (59) def South Melbourne 4.6 (30)

Goals: Zukerman 2, Alford, Katz, Micmacher, Pitt, Szwarc, Taubman

Best: Janover, Katz, Micmacher, Moalem, Zukerman

In glorious conditions, with the sun shining this was a perfect weather game for our first home game of the season. The first quarter began with ferocious tackling and we had the first five points on the board. With accurate kicking the game could have been over! We then kicked 2 goals and finished the quarter with 2 goals seven behinds. The second quarter continued with the same high quality tackling and we began to run more as we were breaking away from our opponents. We were more accurate in front of goal kicking 3 goals 1 behind. A special mention to Zev Taubman who kicked his first goal for Ajax after 3 years of football. Well done Zev! In the second half the team showed great skill level with all players contributing. As the conditions were heating up so was our level of intensity. There were great contributions from Dion Zukerman, Hayden Katz, Manny Micmacher, Phoenix Janover and Eiden Pitt. Great leadership by our captains today Jeremy Borsky and Zev Gordon. The boys are all in on the game plan and we have set our goals for the season. We aim to keep improving as individuals and as a team and you, as parents, can be proud of you children.



THE WRAP

Results

U12 Comets

St Bedes Mentone 8.5 (53) def Ajax 4.4 (28)

Goals: Baring, Haeata, Jacobs, Sormann

Best: Flinkier, Mohr, Newett, Rozenes, Sormann, Wrobel

After a great start to the year in round 1 in tough circumstances, today's weather looked like the perfect opportunity to put the pre-season play style into action. However, that was not to be the case as St Bede's Mentone came looking hungrier than ever. From the first bounce, the opposition ran in numbers, tackled hard and looked great overhead and unfortunately for our team there were too many players not wanting to do the hard work. By quarter time, the opposition had held 80% of play and were looking very good. The coaches made some changes to the play and how we would attack the game and ask the boys to be direct down the ground and tight on their opponents. It was great to see the boys respond and put in a solid second quarter with some standout performances. The third quarter was our best and several players began to put their body online, lay shepherds, smothers and run for each other. With some solid performances the team crept their way back to within 4 points at the last break. The last quarter required 100% effort from all, it required smart direct footy and a willingness to dig deep for a victory. Unfortunately, that's not what happened and the opposition continued to take uncontested marks and run for each other. We looked flat and St Bede's kicked away early to put the game to bed. It was a great effort by them and a well-deserved win.

U12 Jets

Ajax 9.7 (61) def Waverley Park 2.4 (16)

Goals: Chrapot 3, Gelbart 2, Gottlieb, Pacanowski, Reuben, Segal

Best: Benzur, Gelbart, Kranz, Moss, Pacanowski, Reuben

With coach Gelbart returning for Round 2, the heat was on the senior coach to maintain the Jets' winning start to the season. And the U11 coach of 2017 was feeling the pressure all week after his highly capable assistant coach Simon Feldman recorded a strong victory in Round 1 while Gelbart was in WA. But the U12 Jet boys ensured the coach earned a reprieve by turning on a fantastic all round performance in perfect sunny conditions against the Waverley Hawks. Led by new skipper Gavi Gottlieb, the Jet jumped out of the blocks early, led by Gottlieb who pumped the ball forward to Chrapot and Gelbart who converted opportunities immediately. Pacanowski and Benzur were unstoppable in the engine room all day and Kranz was all class on the wing with his ball winning ability and classy left foot delivery setting up many opportunities to score. With the game well in control before half time, the team was re-shuffled to give players opportunities in different positions and the boys responded well with goals to Reuben – his first for the club – and Moss across half back was also a dominant player in several key positions. Pitt rucked well late in the day, benefitting from a good pre-season, after Gross enjoyed a well-earned break after winning his position in the ruck earlier. Segal sealed the win with an impossible goal on the run on his wrong side which had the large Wheelers Hill crowd absolutely gobsmacked. Overall, a fantastic win for the Jets who are looking forward to chalking up more wins as the season progresses.



THE WRAP

Results

U13 Comets

Ajax 8.8 (56) def Port/South Melbourne 8.7 (55)

Goals: Faigen 2, Zielinski 2, Feder, Joseph, Krongold, Nirens

Best: Faigen, Graham, Nathan, Pike, Zielinski

Phew! The U13 Comets used their get-out-of-jail card to notch up a win by the narrowest of margins and maintain an unbeaten start to the season in Division 1. In perfect conditions at home we opened up an early lead thanks to midfield dominance and forward pressure. The lead was maintained until the last change, but then injuries to key players Pike and Zielinski saw the opposition gain the ascendancy and narrow the margin. Some desperate defending meant that we held on, with new player Liberman showing his smarts by leaving his man for a crucial intervention late in the game. Yet again Smithson proved his huge worth, skill and nerve at full back, and it was also pleasing seeing numerous other players stepping up when it mattered most, including Feder, Greenberg, Mitsel and Levy. Well done Comets. Today, was our day, but only just. There is plenty to like about this team, and plenty to still to work on so that the coaches and supporters don't have such a tense end to their Sunday!

U13 Jets

Ajax 7.6 (48) def East Sandringham JFC 4.5 (29)

Goals: Goldfarb 3, Gaspar 2, Appel, Boymal

Best: Appel, Gaspar, Goldfarb, Green, Worth

Today's win was a great reward for effort and a really promising start to the season. We started a little slow, as we started working out our game plan. However, a great second quarter, saw us take control of the game. From there we maintained our brand of football and didn't let it slip. The greatest element of today was simply seeing the willingness of the players to implement the team structure and rules into their game play. Notably, our tackling and toughness was immense. Team structure and game style isn't something that develops overnight. If we maintain our willingness to learn and grow, we will only improve on this performance. Which makes our round 1 victory all the more exciting. There's a lot to look forward to for the season to come!

U14 Girls

Brighton 3.5 (23) def Ajax 1.1 (7)

Goals: Cohen

Best: Arzouan, Baron, Cohen, Klooger, Werdiger

This week the girls stepped out on the field for their second round. While they fell short of the win it was clear that all girls showed commitment and the will to improve. Dahlia Cohen in her first appearance in the team and as one of our youngest players was a strong presence in the midfield snagging the teams first and only goal in the last quarter. Mina Baron proved that she wasn't going to leave without a fight as she played a strong defence in the last quarter, pushing until the final siren. Romy Amira and Romy Klooger were both unstoppable laying a-many ferocious tackles in the midfield with Freda Werdiger dominating the ruck. The girls left with their heads held high, bagging this result as motivation to come out strong next week in the hope of securing their first win.



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Results

U14 Comets

Ajax 13.14 (92) def St Pauls McKinnon 2.0 (12)

Goals: Sheezel H. 5, Potash 3, Lowe 2, Kaye, Rothfield, Wrobel

Best: Chrapot, Israel, Lowe, Potash, Sheezel

With 4 injured players returning, the Comets fielded their strongest team in years. Playing St.Paul's the Comets burst out of the blocks early with a 5 goal to 2 first quarter and were never headed. Led by the on-ball brigade, the Comets took control of the game in the second half and finished off strongly for a comfortable win on the back of an even team performance.

U14 Jets

Port/South Melbourne 14.10 (94) def Ajax 3.2 (20)

Goals: Alford, Peleg, Sunshine

Best: Alford, Edwards, Fell, Shaw, Thurston

As they say, a tough day at the office.... Port/South jumped us were up by 5 goals before we even realised which we were kicking. The opposition were a good outfit who ran hard, shared the ball and demonstrated some great skills. For the first 10 minutes of the match we seemed content to watch them pick up the ball. That was disappointing.

What the coaching team were delighted with was after that point. From then until the last 5 minutes of the match we really gave it a go. We tackled, chased, put our bodies in and never stopped trying to switch and play on when we were in possession. Despite losing this week we actually shared the ball and ran with the ball much better then last week. We also held our structure better (after the first 10min) then the previous week. All up, whilst we were soundly beaten the boys worked really hard after the initial onslaught, did not drop their heads and fought it out until 5min to go.

U15 Comets

Ajax 31.18 (204) def Beaumaris 0.4 (4)

Goals: Davis 5, Bergman 3, Ostilly 3, Kavallero 3, Rosenbaum 2, Shostak 2, Mitsel 2, Efron 2, Spark 2, Rajch, Jacobs, Peker, Tobias, Nissen, Carp, Flinkier

Best: Carp, Davis, Efron, Kavallero, Ostilly



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Results

U15 Jets

East Malvern 12.18 (90) def Ajax 1.4 (10)

Goals: Atzman

Best: Klooger, Kol, Mond, Reitberger, Schwarz

A challenging opposition promised for a challenging contest and so it proved. A stunning first quarter saw our boys play full of energy and confidence as we took to our respected opponents, East Malvern. Some beautiful passages of play out of the backline, unfortunately however did not result in the scoreboard pressure we required and this hurt us in the long run. The remainder of the encounter was a frustrating affair as the boys, led by the manic Jeremy Goldberg, a determined Maxy Kol and first gamer (can you believe it) Harley Reitberger, tackled with purpose all over the ground. Both Leigh and I very happy with that side of the game. Despite numerous ventures into the forward line we weren't able to break down the East Malvern defence, save for a mercurial mark and snap from the ever improving Jayme 'Pippi' Dzienciol. Special mention goes of course to our 50 gamer Levy Benzur whose bone crunching tackle in the first quarter was the best tackle I've seen from him, ever. Also well done to our team leaders Coby, Dion and 'DP' who's effort and commitment didn't go unnoticed.

U16 Comets

Ajax 9.8 (62) def St Peters 4.6 (30)

Goals: Sheezel 4, Chrapot 2, Deane, Erez, Fibishenko

Best: Brick, Grodski, Marabel-Whitburn, Sheezel, Smorgon

A warm and sunny day greeted the players who were challenged to make an early statement...and they did! A very strong midfield and defensive performance in the first quarter, together with unselfish teamwork and relentless running enabled the Comets to launch a number of attacks on goal, resulting in a 4 goal lead at ¼ time. The team continued to work very hard in trying conditions in the second quarter to lengthen their lead at ½ time. As the second half progressed, the heat began to have an impact and the game tightened up. Although never threatened, the Comets lost a little ground in the final quarter, but should still be very proud of their efforts. Overall, the players impressed with their preparedness to compete and support each other. The aim for next week is a full four quarter performance and particularly to instill some further grit and composure required to finish their good work inside 50 and later in quarters. A very good first up outing on our home deck.



THE WRAP

Results

U17 Comets

Ajax 27.18 (180) def Highett/Cheltenham 1.1 (7)

Goals: Gold 5, Michelson 3, Siegel 3, Zielinski 3, Lincoln 2, J. Nirens 2, Cowan, Efron, Hendel, Jacobs, Nankin, B. Nirens, Oberklaid, Smart, Spicer

Best: Bryer, Gold, Krongold, Lincoln, Smart

In perfect conditions in front of a boisterous home crowd, the U17s plundered their way to a 173 point defeat of Highett/Cheltenham Blue. From the first “bounce” of the ball, it was clear the boys were single-minded in their desire to compete. Going into the half-time break with a 13 goal lead, it would have been very easy to coast through to the end of the game; but the opposite was true. Each player kept his head down and supported his teammates magnificently to pile on 13 more goals, including 8 in the final quarter.

Frustration gave way to cheap shots by the opposition at various points during the game, but AJAX players weren't distracted. They continued to work together and remained focused on playing to the structure.

With the game secured early, players were shifted all over the ground and performed in each position. This flexibility will serve the team well throughout the season.

Congratulations to Justin Spicer on notching up 100 games in style. He was one of 15 separate goal kickers on the day.



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