



# THE WRAP

## Round 4

A remarkable Round 4 saw 10 out of 12 teams playing for premiership points registering a win. We might have broken another club record. After some impressive performances during the grading period, we have had multiple teams promoted to Division 1 and one team promoted to Division 2. This is an outstanding result. What an exciting time to be involved at the club.

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

**Noah Goldenberg celebrating 50 games and a fantastic win by the U13 Jets**



Instagram

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# THE WRAP

## Around the grounds

Melbourne's Jake Lever and Alex Neal-Bullen training with the U11 Rockets







# THE WRAP

## Around the grounds





# THE WRAP

## Results

### U8 Rockets

The jokes had been flying all week about how to slay a Vampire (between the parents at least) as the Rockets prepared to take on an outfit from East Brighton. As it turns out the answer was by getting the footy first, pumping it forward and putting it through the big (and unfortunately more often on Saturday, the little) sticks. Our adorable little whippersnappers turned up to play again this week. Perhaps it was training in cyclonic conditions during the week that had us well prepared for the sunny, not a breath of wind, day that awaited us on the weekend. Certainly it was evident that some of the drills we have been doing are sinking in. With the players now developing so quickly and effectively coaching themselves, there will be a few worried parents waiting for a tap on the shoulder from the President being relieved of their titles. The other notable highlight from the weekend, was the attendance and cheering on of their teammates by this week's rostered off players. With this kind of camaraderie and support, it is clear that the group is developing into a terrific unit, perhaps with years of success and friendship to come.

### U8 Stars

A home game was always going to bring out the best in the U8 Stars. A chance to shine in front of a home crowd is what many of the boys had dreamt of. Boy did they shine!!! With the emphasis of the day being to move and attack the contest, the Stars shone brightest. Each line followed instruction to the letter. The back men manned up beautifully with a game of tiggy proving the right vehicle in teaching them how to man up. The mids took the theme of attack to the next level time and time again pumping the ball into the forwards and repelling from defence when required. Not to be forgotten, the wonderful forwards showed all who watched what a powerful combination they could be, ensuring that the score board continued to tick over. What a game! The continued improvement for all to see. Yet again, leading from the front, the Stars captains showed the way. Great work Stars - another Stirling performance!

### U9 Rockets

It was another glorious day for football as the U9 Rockets ran out at home to play against Prahran. The boys were led out by their captains Factor and Cooper Majman and the message before the game from the coaches was one word....EFFORT. The heat was on early as both teams were ferocious at the ball and it was a real arm wrestle. Theo and Gelfand attacked the contest hard in the middle and the back line stood up superbly under pressure, led by Krasnostein and Schimmel. Our first goal came through great linking play through the midfield with Raleigh and Maller involved before Smorgon finished off nicely. Kave was in everything all day with the highlight being a great, courageous mark. The coaches asked the team for extra effort heading into the last quarter and boy did they deliver! Feldman in the midfield didn't let a ball past him and Hyams was unstoppable up forward providing a leading option and kicking 2 goals for his efforts. Sacks was dangerous all day and Ami snagged a goal from a smart bit of play. The boys finished the game full of run and proved to themselves how important EFFORT and concentration is in order to play your best footy. Well done U9 Rockets.



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## Results

### U9 Stars

The U9 Stars faced up against the East Brighton Vampires on Sunday. Dylan and Guy were Captains and got the team fired up early. It was a fast flowing game on a small ground, with East Brighton playing good end-to-end footy but the Jackas making the most of their opportunities with three first quarter goals, including a great roving effort by Dylan and two long bombs by JJ. The second quarter was a bit disappointing, with the kids out-worked and to be fair, some excellent football by the opposition. The focus for the second half was purely on manning up and the coaches were thrilled with the effort that followed. With the Vampires unable to find space and getting tackled every time they went near the ball their scoring dried up and the Stars were able to get a few goals of their own. Giddy got one, and not to be out-done Dean followed up shortly after to leave the Banky household goal-kicking competition tied up at 2-2 for the season. Levi added to his tally. Defensively, great tackling efforts came from a number of the players, with special mentions to Jordan, Josh Beebe, Lex and Nadav. All up, it was three very good quarters for the day and a good effort for the boys. The second half should be the benchmark for coming weeks.

### U10 Rockets

After hearing the buzz around the community about a young Ajax team playing scintillating football, on this glorious Autumn Day, family, friends and footy lovers turned up from everywhere to witness, for themselves, the mighty u10 Rockets play. They were not disappointed and were treated to another powerful display of Trademark u10 Rockets Football. Round 4 saw the Rockets return to Princes Park and play against a team we have never faced before, Oakleigh JFC. From the moment the u10 Rockets walked into the change rooms, you could feel the energy as every player was switched on and ready to play. For the opening 3 games, this team has jumped all over ever opponent from the opening bounce and today was no exception. The u10 Rockets work hard as a team to win possession and move the ball quickly to players making space. The play with a team focus, always trying to help each other and pass to a teammate in better position. The midfield continually presses to keep the ball moving forward and then set up the wall to keep it there. The forward line keeps the space in front of goal open and centre the ball to create easier shots at goal. The backline is playing beautiful intercept footy. They play disciplined man on man then run off to help their teammates and create the extra numbers around the ball, win possession and drive it long. This team plays a quality of football that belies their age and it is truly joy to watch. We are looking forward to working hard as a team, to continually improve our footy IQ and most importantly have fun which is evident each week when the u10 Rockets belt out “Who are we... where are we.... We’re the boys of Ajax Football Club “

### U10 Stars

The U10 Stars were back in blistering form against a determined South Melbourne. In what is becoming a fantastic rivalry between the two powerhouse clubs, the Stars executed the coaches’ plan to the letter – i.e. rock solid defence, playing on at all costs, link-up footy, and most importantly, team work. It really was champagne football across four quarters.

There is a lot to get excited about with this young group. The new boys are quickly finding their feet and the veterans are adding new strings to their bows. Most pleasingly, the big spread of goal kickers highlights that this is not a team reliant on any one player. The collective growth is obvious to spectators and coaches and there is a real sense that things are starting to ‘gel’. Well done boys!





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## Results

### U11 Rockets

Ajax 11.5 (71) def East Brighton 5.5 (35)

Goals: Lakman 4, Gunn 2, Levy 2, Apelbaum, Krasnostein, Mehl

Best: Apelbaum, Cohen, Gunn, Ickowicz, Krasnostein, Lakman, Levy

The final game of grading was played at a venue which was very memorable for all members of the 2017 U10 Rockets as it is where we witnessed our 36 point comeback against the Vampires. This time we were not going to let the Vampires get out to a big lead and the boys were primed to have a good start. After a big rev up the boys went out and piled on 6 goals to one. Lakman continued to build his season tally with 2. Levy also kicked 2 while Gunn slotted his first of the game during an incredible first quarter. The coaches favourite piece of play saw Toby Rubin take a mark in the forward pocket and instead of trying a banana, he centred it to Swiatlo who just dropped the mark but was able to gather and kick it to Apelbaum who took an excellent mark in the goal square and slotted his first for the game. The second quarter saw the Vampires respond and outscore us 8 to 7. Our goal came from a sensational run from Gunn who, like Buffy before him, slayed a bunch of vampires before drilling a brilliant running goal. At halftime the boys were asked to tighten their defense as they are great at running forward to attack but all year have struggled to get back quickly. This will have to be a focus at training. We managed to keep the Vampires scoreless and kick three goals ourselves to extend our lead. Mehl had a fantastic third quarter which was highlighted by a strong mark and a long goal. Lakman, enjoying kicking to the scoring end, slammed home another 2 to take his season tally to 19 after 4 rounds (an incredible average of just under 5 per game). The final quarter saw us try hard but ultimately got outscored 3 goals to 1. Krasnostein kicked our only goal for the quarter and helped us to a solid 36 point win.



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## Results

### U11 Stars

Ajax 5.9 (39) def East Malvern 2.10 (22)

Goals: Alford 2, Greenberg, Pitt, Zukerman

Best: Alford, Katz, Micmacher, Pitt, Shaw, Zukerman

The final game of the grading was against East Malvern on a smaller, but wider ground. With this in mind, the team plan was to move the ball into the forward line quickly. As usual, we started well kicking two goals to one in the first quarter. It was a hard hitting quarter with our team laying some ferocious tackles. There was plenty of run with a number of opportunities missed with four behinds. The team was shuffled around to give players a chance to play in positions they would not normally play. Some backs were forward, some forwards back, with many of the boys were out of position. For the first time this season we were out scored in a quarter and we were behind by 2 points at half time. The challenge was on! The team was being intimidated by the opposition and things were not going our way. Nevertheless, the Coaches instruction was to keep calm, play our normal game and to play to our strengths. There were some mighty performances from our midfield which helped us push the ball forward in a tight, physical third quarter. We progressed into the break with a narrow 3 point lead. During the final break the Coaches could see the boys were determined to finish the game strongly. There was a steely resolve in the group and a commitment to win for our Coach Jonah, who was having an operation today. As the last quarter started we set out to kick the first goal to continue our momentum. Many players lifted and special mention to Itai Alford, Josh Shaw, Jay Marabel-Whitburn, Adam Rubinstein, Gideon Stzokman, Jake Factor and James Degen. Well led by our Captains today Manny Micmacher and Benji Houseman. It was a great team effort in the last quarter as we player strong hard football and we ran away with a 17 point victory in a low scoring game. Our strong defence held East Malvern goalless in the second half. Despite playing against tougher opposition, the team showed courage, strength, skill and a desire to succeed. With a strong resolve and bond, this game will help the boys have confidence to know that they have a great bunch of teammates they can rely on.



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## Results

### U12 Comets

Ajax 6.9 (45) def East Brighton 4.4 (28)

Goals: Mohr 2, Baring, Glance, Haeata, Sormann

Best: Baring, Fell, Klein, Mimeran, Mohr, Sormann

Today was the perfect Autumn day for football. The Vampires have had a fantastic start to the year, winning most of their games convincingly and we knew we had to bring our “A” game. And that’s what we did. From the outset the coaches could see how switched on the players were and how ready they were for the contest. The warm up in the rooms was intense, the boys were smiling and individually thinking about how their efforts could and would make a difference. The message today was very clear. Spread the ball, Kick to space and tackle hard. In the first quarter – that is exactly what we did! and, the constant pressure intimidated the opposition and lifted our confidence. Despite only kicking one goal, the play around the ground suggested we were on top and there were some outstanding individual efforts. The second quarter was a real arm wrestle with both teams scoring 7 points a piece. One thing that stood out was our tackling efforts and 1%’s. Every week we encourage the boys to shepherd, tackle and perform selfless acts and our second quarter was our best performance to date in that area. At half time the boys looked spent after running tirelessly in the first half. However they were feeling good about themselves and their efforts. The boys were asked to go back to some basics “See ball, get ball” and make sure when they got their hands on it they moved the ball away from the congestion. It was an absolute pleasure watching them deliver on this and so much more in the 3rd quarter. We were jumping for marks, hand-balling to moving players, tackling, and most importantly..... we had 18 leaders out on the field which was inspiring. By the time the siren was blown the boys had managed 7 scoring shots and had almost put the game to bed. The Last quarter didn’t disappoint anyone as the boys continued to fight hard for the first ten minutes before slightly letting their guard down. All in all a fantastic team effort today.

### U12 Jets

Ajax 15.13 (103) def Caulfield Bears 2.1 (13)

Goals: Paneth 5, Chrapot 3, Rheuben 2, Aladjem, Farkas, Kranz, Segal, Shostak

Best: Gottlieb, Harris, Kranz, Pacanowski, Paneth, Shostak

The Jets returned home on a perfect day for footy and played a team game that brought the desired results. Before the game, our coach Dave again emphasised the importance of tackling and sharing the ball around and the boys closely followed these instructions and kept up fierce pressure all over the ground until the final siren. The Jets opened up a 24 point lead by quarter time and from there the boys did not stop. Pacanowski was instrumental giving us first use of the ball out of the centre and Gottlieb, Shostak, Harris and Kranz were running and tackling all day, which ensured that the ball was constantly moving quickly into our forward line. Once it got there the Bears struggled with Paneth, Chrapot and Rheuben all converting multiple times. The forwards dominated both in the air and on ground level, but it was also fantastic to see plenty of unselfish team play, which led to a large spread of goal kickers. On the few occasions that the Jets were challenged, the accountability of our players improved dramatically. The leadership shown by many in organising the wall and keeping a close check on the opposition is exactly what the coach had called for and he was not disappointed. The great start to the season for the Jets has continued and the boys should all be proud of their efforts as their improvement has been remarkable.





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### U13 Comets

East Brighton 13.6 (84) def Ajax 4.1 (25)

Goals: Feder 2, Greenberg, Pike

Best: Feder, Graham, Kister, Pike, Zielinski

The final score did not tell the full story of a game in which the U13 Comets took on the Division 1 ladder leaders and more than matched them in the contest in the first half. With great energy and some real flair, the Comets did their coaches and supporters proud, heeding the call to give maximum effort, make contests and take the game on. The opposition responded well in the second half as the early efforts took their toll on the Comets who experienced some injuries and fatigue. No special mentions this week because it was a fantastic team effort, with every player making a real contribution. In the grading period the Comets have shown they belong in this division and the players can look forward to the challenges that lie ahead in this strong competition.

### U13 Jets

Ajax 8.13 (61) def Murrumbeena 6.2 (38)

Goals: Goldfarb 3, Gaspar 2, Boymal, Lindell, Schenk

Best: Gaspar, Goldenberg, Goldfarb, Green, Jacobs

What a gutsy win today! Murrumbeena competed hard, but we took control of the game when it was on the line. To see our forward pressure lift late game, was really promising, being able to lift intensity for the big moments is a sign of a winning team.

Our defensive efforts were much improved from last week and we played to a game plan that worked well, particularly with 18 guys all on the same page at every moment in time. We now move past the grading phase of the season into the portion of the year that really counts. At 2-1, we have plenty to be optimistic about. Let's keep growing, learning and building and we can achieve a lot as a group.

### U14 Girls

Caulfield Bears 2 4 (17) def Ajax 1.0 (6)

Goals: Klooger

Best: Y Alford, Gold, Jacobs, Klooger, Slade, Werdiger

On a sunny afternoon and a firm ground, the Ajax girls rebounded strongly from last week's tough game, and played some good linking footy, with a strong display of overhead marking. A well-deserved goal was slotted by Romy Klooger in the second quarter, with the team going into the main break only 3 points behind. With a strong showing from new recruit Amira Kacser and solid performances in defence from Carlia Slade and Dahlia Gold, the team limited the opposition to only two points in the 3rd quarter to go into the final break less than a goal behind.

A dominant performance in the ruck from Werdiger gave the strong on-ball contingent plenty of supply, and the team was unlucky to miss an opportunity in the final quarter to score the much needed second goal.

One of the team's best performances to date, with the skills and teamwork continuing to improve.



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## Results

### U14 Comets

Ajax 9.11 (65) def Sandringham 1.4 (10)

Goals: C Sheezel 4, H Sheezel 2, Alford, Herman, Light,

Best: Herman, Lowe, Potash, H Sheezel, Spicer

On another unseasonably warm Autumn Sunday, the U14 Comets took on East Sandringham at home. With most of the first quarter played inside Ajax's forward half, East Sandy fought hard to limit the Comets' scoring opportunities using flooding to good effect and keeping Ajax's quarter time lead to just 4 points. The second quarter was a similarly scrappy affair with large numbers around the contest stifling ball movement and continuing to make clean scoring difficult. Some key position changes in the second half saw the Comets begin to play the type of football they've been instructed to, switching play, running and carrying and hitting up targets inside their forward 50. Without playing their best football the Comets managed to run out comfortable winners but showed there's still plenty of work to do to match it with the best in a tough competition. A big thank you to Saul Alford and Natan Fell who filled-in from the Jets providing some critical depth after a couple of Comets fell to injury before and during the match.

### U14 Jets

BYE

### U15 Comets

Ajax 23.19 (157) def East Brighton 1.2 (8)

Goals: Carp 3, Efron 3, Rosenbaum 3, Jacobs 2, Shostak 2, Antman, Baron, Bergman, Davis, Israel,

Kavallero, Nissen, Ostilly, Rajch, Vogel

Best: Antman, Carp, Ostilly, Spark, Vogel

Another great win after being challenged early, and completed our early season objective of moving ourselves back up to Division 2. The 1st quarter saw Port/South Melbourne come out very hard and physical and this resulted in a number of send offs and unsettled some of our players. Our midfielders managed to get on top of them as the quarter went on, and Ayden Carp was fantastic kicking our first 2 goals and helping to get the game back on our terms. We went on to kick 4.4 to 1.0 which left us with a handy 22 point lead. Unfortunately, the 1st quarter was marred by a serious injury to Loki Zielinski, we wish him all the best and a speedy recovery. After getting the boys in at quarter time, we managed to get the focus back on playing football and not getting sucked into fighting, and this was really evident the way we played the 2nd quarter. The discipline and restraint shown by our players was excellent. This showed we have matured as a side and we did our talking on the scoreboard. This was one of our better quarters for the year kicking 9.1 to the oppositions 0.0 leaving us with an unassailable 77 point lead at half time. The 3rd quarter was very strong again with some excellent passages of play. Our ability to lower the eyes and hit up targets has definitely improved and this is really important feature rather than blazing away. We kicked a further 7.7 and held Port/South Melbourne to no score giving us a 126 point lead at ¾ time. The final quarter fizzled out into a non-contest and only our inaccuracy stopped a bigger margin. We dominated the quarter, but only added 3.7 to the oppositions 0.2 giving us a 149 point victory. The pleasing thing once again was having 15 goal kickers and most players got opportunities in multiple positions. Well done boys.



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### U15 Jets

Ajax 7.5 (47) def East Sandringham 5.8 (38)

Goals: Mond 3, Lindell, Rostkier, Schwarz, Tobias

Best: Braby, Felbel, Mond, Reitberger, Rostkier

The U15 Jets are up and running. The boys today received reward for their efforts after some tough losses in recent weeks with their first win of the season and a first win as a Jet for Tamir and Harley. The game plan that we have been practicing each Wednesday night was put into full practice on game day, as we started off in terrific fashion. Our run, spread and confidence allowed for a sizeable half time lead. It was no shock that the opposition would fight back but just how quickly they'd get the 5 goals back could have severely dented the boys resolve and drive. However, we eventually wrestled back control of the contest, a late 3rd quarter goal proving vital, as we headed into the last change still a goal up. Lead by captains Coby and Dylan - who's bravery to fight on after an early injury shouldn't be discounted - we played a smart, professional last 1/4 to lock in our first win for the season, against a top two side. It would be naive to single out players in this report as so many players deserve a mention for the efforts all day. A real TEAM effort that sums up what this group is all about. Well done guys, continue this standard. Thanks to all parents and family members of the players for the committed support so far this season. Keep making noise!

### U16 Comets

Ajax 12.15 (87) def Dingley 7.3 (45)

Goals: Chrapot 4, Sheezel 3, Taranto 2, Feldman, Grodski, Meltzer

Best: Brick, Chrapot, Feldman, Herskope, Sheezel, Taranto

Due mainly to illness and injury, the Comets fielded only 17 players (and no bench) against Dingley today at our 'home away from home' at Moorleigh Reserve. Cool and sunny conditions greeted the players who were challenged to rise to the occasion in the face of a full-strength opponent.

Only inaccurate kicking in the first quarter prevented a big lead as the team ran hard, switched play well and produced some excellent passages of play. In fact, the rest of the game was almost a carbon copy of the first quarter apart from a short period in the second quarter.

Other highlights included some very courageous one on one efforts against bigger opponents and the general edict to 'take the game on'. The boys played for each other and showed what a strong tight-knit group they are.

We also acknowledge that Dingley, understanding our plight, played the match with great spirit and competitiveness ....and it was a fast and incident free game.

Well done on a very strong showing today.





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## Results

### U17 Comets

Ajax 16.17 (113) def Bentleigh 0.2 (2)

Goals: Gold 5, Cowan 2, Hendel 2, Spicer 2, Zielinski 2, Micmacher, B. Nirens, Schwartz

Best: Gold, Lincoln, Machlin, Michelson, Nankin

In perfect conditions in front of vocal home crowd, the U17's made it 4 huge wins in a row after beating Bentleigh by 101 points in a tough and bruising encounter. Bentleigh went into the game as the only other undefeated team in Division 2 and took it right up to AJAX physically, but our boys kept their heads. Despite a delayed start, the U17's were unfazed and came out strong, with our midfield taking control from the opening bounce. Our backline was impenetrable, as reflected in the scoreboard, which, in turn, did not reflect the overall competitiveness of the game. The opposition just couldn't get past our wall. Up forward, Kai Gold and Corey Zielinski continued their dominance, along with our small brigade of Justin Spicer, Natan Cowan and Ethan Siegel who took full advantage of every opportunity that came their way via our skilled midfield. It's been an impressive start to the season, but the boys will need to be at the top of their game as they prepare for what now appears to be an inevitable promotion to Div. 1. We wish Brad Nirens a speedy recovery after sustaining a serious knee injury.



# THE WRAP

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