



THE WRAP

Rounds 6 & 7

An abridged Round 6 gave some of our teams the opportunity to play mid week footy under lights. Round 7 returned solid results from the U11 Rockets, U15 Comets and U15 Jets. Well done to the U11 Rockets who remain undefeated. Our U16s and U17s struggled against the bigger Division 1 bodies but will be better for the experience.

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

Matt Lincoln celebrating a massive 150 games



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50 of the best!



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Around the grounds





THE WRAP

Results – Round 6

U11 Rockets

Ajax 6.4 (40) def Beaumaris 2.3 (15)

Goals: Levy 2 Rothfield 2, Ickowicz Lakman

Best: Ickowicz, Krasnostein, Lakman, Levy, Mehl, Rothfield

All week parents and players were looking forward to the Rockets launching into Monday Night Football. The floodlit ground at Jack Barker Oval looked fantastic as the boys arrived and everyone was excited to get the game going. So excited were the umpires that they came out 15 minutes early and started the game about 10 minutes before scheduled. The coaches asked the boys to focus on each contest. Win that contest and then move to the next one. Win that and then move to the next one. Keep providing effort - second efforts, third efforts and so on. The song was sung with extra gusto as the boys knew they would be staying up well past their usual school night bedtime.

U11 Stars

Brighton Beach 10.10 (70) def Ajax 1.2 (8)

Goals: Alford

Best: Borsky, Houseman, Janover, Klein, Micmacher, Rubinstein, Zukerman

U14 Girls

Mordialloc Braeside 1.5 (11) def Ajax 1.1 (7)

Goals: Baring

Best: Amira, Baring, C Efron, S Efron, Klooger, Slade, Slominsky

The girls were very excited to play their first game of footy under lights last Tuesday night. In what was a nail biter to the very end the team scored their first goal through Allegra Baring, and pushed hard to secure the vital second goal that would have secured the win. Eve Smolinsky played well to be amongst the best and Coco Efron was welcomed back into the team with a solid performance following return from injury. The team is closing in on their first win. Go Jackettes!!

U14 Jets

Highbury/Cheltenham 15.10 (100) def Ajax 2.3 (15)

Goals: Mushin 2

Best: Flescher, Gaddie, Moktow, Mushin, Shaw

It was an exciting opportunity to play a night game! Something the boys will remember for a while! However we were up against a quality opposition who proved far more convincing. The best footy we played was in the second quarter where we ran the ball well and really shared it around entering the 50m. This allowed us to convert two goals from Jasper. It was really exciting footy. We also had Binny on debut. What an OUTSTANDING effort. Tough and strong over the ball he really got us going through the middle. The backline was under threat all night as the opposition ran the ball in. Lachie had a huge task down there on the last line and put in a tremendous effort. He was ably helped by Behm. They were seriously undersized but took on the opposition big time and halved many a contest. Overall we were beaten by a stronger side on the night.



THE WRAP

Results – Round 6

U15 Comets

Cheltenham 15.9 (99) def Ajax 7.7 (49)

Goals: Jacobs 2, Carp, Davis, Israel, Ostilly, Spark

Best: Bergman, Ehrlich, Ostilly, Peker, Spark

U17 Comets

Ajax 11.9 (75) def Mordialloc Braeside 6.1 (37)

Goals: Gold 2, Lincoln 2, Sharp 2, Chrapot, Michelson, Siegel, Smart, Zielinski

Best: Bryer, Jacobs, Lincoln, Nankin, Smart

With the Nirens boys out for the season, Jonno Machlin (broken finger), Benji Krongold (TAC Cup), Brad Antman (suspended) and Brandon Oberklaid a late withdrawal, the U17s went into the night match against old rivals, Mordi-Brae severely undermanned. Fortunately, we were able to draw on the talents of Cobi Chrapot and Harry Carp from the U16s to strengthen the team.

10 minutes into the game, we lost Corey Schwartz to a rolled ankle, an injury that will see him on the sidelines for a couple of weeks at least.

Despite the injuries, the JACKAS came out strong. It was another great team effort across the board, including outstanding 4-quarter play by Matt Lincoln and Sam Jacobs. Hayden Nankin was a force down back, with Aaron Bryer breaking lines and providing inspirational leadership. Lior Smart was at his elusive best and Sammy Guttmann continues to impress, throwing himself at everything and caution to the wind. Matt Hendel keeps building on his good form throughout the season, providing strength at every contest. It was also great to have the services of the skilful Cam Sharp for 2 weeks, thanks to a break in the APS competition.

AJAX handled the fluky conditions at Walter Galt Reserve better than the home team, kicking three goals against the wind in a dominant third quarter display which came close to sealing the win. A three goals to zip final term saw AJAX finish strong with a 38 point advantage.



THE WRAP

Results – Round 7

U8 Rockets

Facing Bentleigh, our toughest opponent yet and having lost the coach's son to concussion pre-game, the Rockets dug deep and eked out a tremendous performance. It was a gripping game and despite being under siege for periods, the team did as they do, which is reach deep into their reserves of grit and determination to see off challenge after challenge, while also transitioning forward beautifully to put pressure on the opposition. At the end of the game, there would have been some exhausted little whippersnappers and proud family members, chuffed at how these kids are developing. Finally, kids ensure you bring runners and bathers to training this week - we will be running from training to St Kilda beach and then swimming there before running back.

U8 Stars

Families and friends alike travelled down to East Brighton this morning to cheer on the Stars. The boys are familiar with this ground. One of the Stars boys was overheard telling his mates that we played there more than our hallowed turf at Princes Park. He's not far off being right! Soaking up the inspirational speeches by the three birthday captains (Dean, Joe & Jesse) the boys lined up ready to fly. For 4 quarters, the boys battled hard against seasoned competition. Some of the pleasing signs included some new names popping up with attacks on the ball and hard tackles that left the opposition feeling that they were in a real game. The Stars don't know how to give up, which really pleased the coaching group. The effort displayed on the ground was solid, with skills improving all the time. Have a great week Stars. See you on the training track ready to shine.

U9 Rockets

The U9 Rockets were led out by their captains, Theo & Krasnostein, against St Bedes Mentone on a beautiful day for football. The focus for the day was on making good decisions with the football. The boys jumped out of the gates with an incredible first quarter where the tackling pressure was relentless. Szwarc, Sacks and Kave drove the ball forward countless times and Hyams kicked 4 goals for the quarter in an amazing solo effort! The Rockets had a reality check in the 2nd quarter with St Bedes hitting back hard, kicking 3 goals to nil and the instructions from the coaches at half time was for the defence to tighten up. The 2nd half was full of highlights. Sher, Zohar and Maller were contesting hard and Smorgan's ability to win the contest and precision kicking was a delight to watch. Gelfand and B Majman were everywhere but what was most impressive was the team's decision making with the ball. There were numerous plays where the boys linked up nicely with each other, kicking to space and finding a target. Ami took a nice mark in front goal and kicked truly and Factor was on the end of some good pressure up field and kicked his first ever goal for the club. The U9 Rockets are really starting to develop their skills and combine as a team to play some great footy. Well done boys.



THE WRAP

Results – Round 7

U9 Stars

The Stars took on Mordialloc Braeside on another sunny Sunday morning. Coming off a two week break, the boys were ready to go. Eden and Jax were co-captains and got the kids pumped up to run hard, stay on their man when the opposition had the ball and to have fun. We kicked with the wind in the first quarter and used it well to advantage, locking the ball in the forward line for most of the quarter. Zac Onas broke free to kick a great snapshot goal, and then used the “get it and go” philosophy to break out of traffic for another shortly after. In the second quarter we kept the pressure up, however a few goals scraped past with the wind helping them get the ball over the top. The third quarter was another strong one. The “Zac attack” continued, this time with Zac Balter taking a strong mark and kicking truly much to the delight of his teammates. Dean then stormed through for another. The highlight of the day wasn’t the goals though it was the four quarter effort and the contribution across the group. Jake, Jack, Hugo and Jax all showed repeated efforts and a hunger to help the team out in a close fought match. Eden’s sweeper role in the last quarter was another highlight. Critically, the players are showing great maturity and playing to team roles. Leaders are emerging who are constructively making sure we have the structures on the ground right. The runner is relieved by this because he doesn’t have to spend as much time delivering messages and telling the players where to be, and he can now focus on his primary match day role of tying kids shoelaces out on the ground. All up, a great performance and enjoyable to see such a team effort from the boys.

U10 Stars

Everyone loves a “cakewalk,” the kind of game where things come easy and the miraculous just seems to happen. But the truth is you tend to learn a lot more from a ‘hard day at the office’ than you do a stroll in the park. As such, the U10 Stars learnt today that they are a super resilient team that fights to the end. Today, our boys battled a team of seriously talented giants in East Brighton. The boys knew it was going to be tough when Gardenvale student Taj made it very clear that half the East Brighton team were already shaving, and the other half had a motor bike licence. But as tough as it was, the Stars gave as good as they got for four quarters. What they lacked in the height department, they compensated for in heart and determination. There were some incredible individual efforts, but most pleasingly there was consistent team work from start to finish. It was a great showing that all the boys can be proud of.



THE WRAP

Results – Round 7

U11 Rockets

Ajax 7.5 (47) def Prahran 6.4 (42)

Goals: Krasnostein 2, Lakman 2, Levy 2, Cabelli

Best: Cohen, Gunn, Krasnostein, Lakman, Levy, Rubin

They say winning isn't everything but the will to win is everything. Well today at the open spaces of Como Park we saw a will to win that will be etched in our minds for a long time. The day started with a smell of September in the air. Despite it being late May it felt like finals time and the game against Prahran Rickards certainly had a finals feel to it. The deck at Como looked outstanding with the huge spaces and wide wings we knew it was going to be a challenge. The boys would need to run themselves into the ground to win this one. Our captains today smelt of nepotism as Jethro and Dylan Swart ran into the middle to toss the coin. The umpire decided that a toss was too traditional and instead went with the old guess which hand my whistle is in. After Dylan guessed correctly we chose to kick with the slight breeze to what would become the scoring end. Our midfielders did a terrific job keeping the ball in our forward half and with some straight kicking the game could have just about been done. A fantastic comeback and a will to win that will define our season.

The song was sung loud and proud and in the echoey concrete change room it sounded as loud as we've ever heard. Back to work on Thursday night focusing on some of the stuff we can do better and the group will be back at home on Sunday against a formidable St Paul's McKinnon.

U11 Stars

St Bedes Mentone 9.5 (59) def Ajax 5.3 (33)

Goals: Szwarc 2, Alford 2, Zukerman

Best: Borsky, Houseman, Janover, Micmacher, Zukerman

Today we played undefeated St Bedes. We were challenged in the first quarter but we played top line football. We tackled hard, got the ball out to our running teammates and got it into the forward line. With the aid of the breeze, we kicked 3 goals to establish a good lead at the first break. Against the wind, in the second quarter, our players 'manned' up with all defenders carrying out the coaches instructions and played a tight defensive quarter. At one period, the ball was pushed forward, without a possession and our determination and endeavour paid off getting the ball inside the forty metre zone to set up a wonderful team goal. This gave us a handy lead going into the half time break. This was our best first half of football in three games, getting back to our hard tackling, running and pushing the ball forward. We needed to keep this momentum going for the second half, as we knew the opposition were going to come back. In the first 10 minutes of the quarter, our guys 'went to sleep' and let St Bedes come back. Full credit to our boys, they could have let the game slip but forced themselves back into the contest, getting a late goal, to be only a goal behind at the final break. The players were urged to give it their all in the last period. Some guys fatigued and let their opposition players run into space, and some players not following the team plan, playing out of position. Consequently, the result went against us.

We showed we could match it with the better teams of Division One. The difference is we need to play a full four quarters.



THE WRAP

Results – Round 7

U12 Comets

South Melbourne 11.4 (68) def Ajax 4.4 (28)

Goals: Haeata 2, Newett, Nussbaum,

Best: Balter, Edwards, Fell, Flinkier, Newett, Nussbaum

On a beautiful day for football, the U12 Comets were coming up against the undefeated and highly fancied South Melbourne team. The opening quarter showed that Ajax could match it with the ladder leaders, with the wind behind them and good run coming from the middle, the team managed to get out to an early lead at quarter time. Then South Melbourne found its stride, and in the second quarter piled on 7 goals to 1 to take a significant lead into half time. Ajax fought valiantly for the rest of the match with some great individual performances from Balter, Edwards and Fell while Newett and Flinkier were ever resilient in defence and Nussbaum and Haeata were there to finish off with goals to give Ajax some hint at getting back into the game as the third quarter finished. However, the final quarter again showed the dominance of South Melbourne kicking another 4 goals to none to run out comfortable winners in the end.

U12 Jets

Ormond 5.11 (41) def Ajax 1.1 (7)

Goals: Farkas

Best: Chrapot, Farkas, Gottlieb, Lewin, Paneth, Shostak

The U12 Jets were back at home again and faced another big test against Ormond. A number of the boys are school friends with some of the Ormond boys which always makes for an interesting challenge and the game was played with great spirit and sportsmanship from both teams. But the Jets will be rueing missed early opportunities to score in windy conditions because most of the game was played as a scrappy affair and clean shots at goal were few and far between. Ormond moved the ball well through the middle of the ground and seemed to be well organised in defence as well. The Jets tried hard all day and were also solid in defence preventing many scoring opportunities from Ormond. But the Jets are still a little loose in defence and the opposition seem to have loose men in opportunistic positions making it easier for them to score. Gaddie and Keddie had breakout games and have really benefitted from the extra work they have been doing in addition to weekly club training, while Kranz, Paneth and Shostak continued with their consistently strong seasons. Farkas gave good drive from the wing and in defence and Gottlieb was tireless again all day on the ball. Our captain Aladjem played his 50th game today and had done a great job in the last 3 weeks.



THE WRAP

Results – Round 7

U13 Comets

Beaumaris 12.12 (84) def Ajax 3.1 (19)

Goals: Krongold 2, Smorgon

Best: Faigen, Grodski, Michelson, Nirens, Zielinski

Scoreless and down by 57 at half time the Comets could easily have thrown in the towel against big and classy opponents. But they didn't, instead rallying to win the third quarter and only narrowly lose the last. The effort was terrific and the team can take heart from the performance in the second half. The backs were fantastic throughout, with Becker and Okun giving their all along with standouts Grodski and Michelson, and Krongold popped up for 2 goals and Smorgon for one at the other end. Zielinski presented strongly all game and Nirens and Faigen gave us useful run and delivery from the midfield. But it was a tough day against really good Division 1 opponents, and we will have to look to bounce back with good training during the week and a great effort next week.

U13 Jets

Mordialloc Braeside 5.12 (42) def Ajax 4.5 (29)

Goals: Goldfarb 2, Schenk 2

Best: Goldenberg, Green, Hershan, Jacobs, Schenk

Today we brought it right up to one of, if not, the best side in the competition. In the end we fell short, but not due to lack of effort. We led for most of the game and just couldn't quite hold on in the end. The most impressive thing was the way we played our brand of football, and it meant that despite having our backs against the wall for a lot of the game, we managed to control the scoreboard.

As we say each week, we will only continue to improve, and considering how close we were to knocking off one of the league's top teams, there is a lot of room for optimism.

U14 Girls

BYE



THE WRAP

Results – Round 7

U14 Comets

East Brighton 7.7 (49) def Ajax 2.7 (19)

Goals: Lowe, Rothfield

Best: Aladjem, Herman, Lowe, H Sheezel, Wrobel

Round 7 saw the U14 Comets take on East Brighton Vampires at Ajax' alternate home ground, Moorleigh Reserve. The Comets were keen to put in a good showing against last year's premiers and perennial league leaders. After being caught napping early, Ajax sprang to life midway through the first term, dominating possession but failing to capitalize on the scoreboard. Returning from injury for his first game of the season, Kai Aladjem showed just how important he is to this side with his attack on the ball and dour defensive play helping to keep the margin to just 2 goals at the quarter time break. Kicking with the breeze in the second quarter, the Comets had their chances but some loose checking in the middle allowed the opposition to run the ball out of defence with too much ease exposing us on the rebound and giving the opposition forwards plenty of one-on-one opportunities. Taking a 3-goal deficit into the second half, the Comets showed again that they won't be bowed, with our runners asserting themselves on the contest and our backline staunch in defence keeping East Brighton scoreless for the term. But for a couple of unlucky bounces and near misses, the score line would've been neck-and-neck coming into the last quarter. As it was, the last quarter saw a defining moment for the game and this team with Ryan Herman and Maor Chrapot demonstrating the selflessness that is their trademark with their ferocious attack on the contest resulting in a sickening collision that saw both of them admitted to hospital – one by ambulance. Thankfully, neither appear to have suffered serious injury with best wishes to both for a quick recovery. With no bench and only 16 on the field, the Comets still showed their will for the contest taking it right up to East Brighton and battling to the end losing no respect in defeat – indeed the opposite.

U14 Jets

Oakleigh 15.11 (101) def Ajax 4.2 (26)

Goals: Biran, Mushin, Rosengarten, Shaw

Best: Alford, Edwards, Eppel, Jotkowitz, Mushin

Today's game was a tough assignment for the boys coming up against Oakleigh. The conditions for football were perfect, albeit a slight breeze to the scoreboard end. We won the toss and although kicking with the breeze found ourselves 5 goals down by quarter time. Simple instructions from the coach to fight and just beat your opponent, saw the boys respond with a more dominant second term keeping the visitors to just 3 goals whilst snagging one for the home team. Great pressure, desperation and selfless acts from Savo, Behm and Lachi and a clever switch from Sabe to Bizza seemed to lift the team spirits. In the second-half, the boys continued to fight it out with Saul in the ruck and Jack and Raph continuing to repel attacks, provide tough contests, win the ball from half-back and deliver fast ball movement and forward momentum. The on-ball brigade of Ben, Binny, Luke, Coby and Jasper kept working hard with Gabe getting involved in some big marks and great transition footy. We fought out the day kicking a couple a majors into the breeze restoring respectability to our score. Congratulations to Yoav on reaching his 50 game milestone today. Unfortunately we could not get a win today, but we look forward to taking on our next opponent in Ormond.



THE WRAP

Results – Round 7

U15 Comets

Ajax 10.9 (69) def Oakleigh 4.9 (33)

Goals: Jacobs 3, Israel 2, Antman, Carp, Ostilly, Rosenbaum, Shostak

Best: Bergman, Davis, Jacobs, Ostilly, Rosenbaum

U15 Jets

Ajax 7.5 (47) def Beaumaris 5.15 (45)

Goals: Atzmon Dzienciol, Felbel, Hershan, Rostkier

Best: Atzmon, Felbel, Klooger, Hershan, Reitberger

Wow. What a hectic nail biter of a game. Due to last week's forfeit, we entered this rounds game at 0-2 after grading, and up against it as we travelled to play an undefeated Beauy side. As such, this was a must win/season defining game. And so it proved to be. The message was simple. Play hard, play tough, and play brave. The first half was some of the best footy we have played all year. Not because of the skill and class, but for the effort and desire to make this day ours. Off the back of two dramatic late goals, the boys were truly up and about heading into the Half Time break. Co-Skipper Dylan Hershan was playing out of his skin in an unfamiliar defensive forward roll, genuinely optimising the spirit within the group. 20 pts up, we were ready to fight it out for the W. After a 'mission accomplished' sort of a 3rd quarter, the remaining stanza was quite possibly the most tense period of any season I've had with this side. Therefore, it shouldn't be understated how proud I am of the playing group for scraping, clawing, and fighting their way to a brilliant 2 point win! A special heartfelt mention to gun forward Tamir and his family after the loss of his Safta during the week. You and your teammates did her so proud I'm sure. Long Life to you. Congratulations on the win boys. Let this remind you of what you can achieve as a unit when your mindset allows it.

U16 Comets

St Bedes/Mentone Tigers 15.10 (100) def Ajax 5.4 (34)

Goals: Fibishenko, Grodski, Meyerowitz, Micmacher, Mills

Best: Brick, Carp, Freeman, Grodski, Mills, Schauder

Today was always going to be a tough challenge given recent injuries and a starting team of 17 players. We knew that St Bedes/Mentone Tigers would try to come out firing, playing another team promoted from Division 2 but all credit to Ajax for a strong first quarter where the players got reward for their efforts and finished a point in front at 1/4 time. As the game progressed, the players were outmuscled by their opponents and although they never lost heart, the game slipped away in the final three quarters. The players are continuing to learn to keep up their energy levels and efforts at each contest and then to support each other.



THE WRAP

Results – Round 7

U17 Comets

Highett/Cheltenham 20.9 (129) def Ajax 5.6 (36)

Goals: Lincoln 2, Antman, La Sala, Siegel

Best: Efron, Jacobs, Krongold, Lincoln, Nankin

Playing against undefeated Highett/Cheltenham, whose stocks were bolstered by the return of a couple of TAC Cup players, it was always going to be a challenging day on the park for the U17s. The opposition started in brilliant fashion and continued to play at a tempo that the boys hadn't seen this season. We struggled to match their intensity, but to our credit we persevered and worked our way into the contest at times. It was a rude awakening after 6 wins on the trot, but it was also an important learning experience for Ajax as we saw what we need to do to compete against the top side in Division 1.

Special mention to Matt Lincoln in a best on ground performance in his 150th game for the club. Returning from TAC Cup responsibilities, Benji Krongold racked up possessions in another characteristically strong game. Brandon Efron battled manfully throughout the day, never taking a backward step, while Hayden Nankin and Slammin' Sammy Jacobs provided drive out of defence. The boys look forward to a match against old rivals, Ormond next Sunday at home before the Queen's Birthday break.



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