



THE WRAP

Round 14

Round 14 was a wonderful experience for our U8s and U9s to participate in the Lightning Premiership Carnivals. Well done on a fantastic season and some great performances on the day. The U10s played their final home and away game in preparation for their Lightning Premiership this Sunday – all the best to them.

The U13 Jets continued playing superb footy now sitting at the top of their division's ladder. The U12 Comets beat an undefeated South Melbourne kicking the last 3 goals of the game to keep their finals chances alive.

Save the date

AJAX Junior Football Club Presentation Evening

Sunday 16th September, 2018

National Theatre, Cnr Carlisle & Barkly Streets, St. Kilda

3:45 pm for a prompt 4.00 pm start (finishing by 5.30 pm)



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Around the grounds





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Results

U8 Rockets

Little known "fact" is that it is called a 'lightning' premiership because at the first such event a shot to win the flag, which was sailing out of bounds on the full, was struck by a bolt from the sky which sent it through the big sticks. Not, as a few were overheard to say last Sunday as a result of an impending 'lightening' of the load on parents on a Sunday morning. In any event, there is little doubt that the carnival atmosphere at Port Melbourne on the weekend had the players, officials and spectators in fabulous moods, which the torrid breeze could not diminish. After a slow start in our first game against East Malvern, what followed were two inspiring efforts against the 100% helmeted Oakleigh and a determined Mordy-Brae, who threw everything at us in the 2nd half when they had the wind. Whether this was attributable to a team which cleverly adapted to the conditions experienced in the early game or, more likely, the post-game / pre-game carbo and sugar loading, we will never know. What we must all acknowledge however is what a terrific group of kids turned out for the Rockets this season. It is hard to think back only 13 odd rounds ago to a team which had never played together and indeed, 95% of who had never even played a competitive game of football. They are now season campaigners and there must be a great deal of optimism about what they will be able to achieve next year and beyond. To a player, they have been a credit to themselves and their loved ones and supporters, and the heartfelt celebrations of the season done in the rooms (marquee) at the completion of the carnival was an apt finish to the year. Well done Rockets and good luck with your future football careers. On this point, there is of course an AFL mandated period off, but we encourage you to keep fit and be ready and raring to go at pre-season training in 3 weeks...

GRUNDY'S POST MATCH "SPRAY":

"Kids, bring it in. I know **Issiah** lot, but you don't know **Jack** and I am worth listening to. As you know we were playing **loCal** and it was a lovely **Sonny** Sunday, luckily not a Saturday as I would have had **Shulman**. I, the other coaches and all the parents, siblings, if any of you have a boyfriend or **Gelfand** and supporters are so proud of your performance today. It certainly helped that there was no need to **Alter** the team from last week and I didn't make any changes during the course because no-one wants to be the coach who **cHux** the baby out with the bathwater. I have to say that the way we used the fat side of the ground and moved it away from the **Finn** was simply superb. In fact, the ball was travelling with such speed meaning there was **pLenny** of space for us to move in. **Miles** and **Miles** of space in fact. Maybe not enough room for all the tribes, but easily for the **Levi** and **Cohen**. And it wasn't as though it was all smooth sailing. For a long while it was looking like being **Itai** but we got there in the **Nick** of time. And there were some hits along the way, with at least one of you likely to end up with **Oscar** and I can already see you with your **Lipshutz**. Was it a hit to the mouth or **Zabi** I saw flying back to its hive? **Issi** here? There you are. Terrific game. [to the supporters] I am confident that in the future when people ask if you **Noah** you can say you did from when she played under 8s. And to top it all off, the **Samsung** the club song with such gusto. Now, it's time to get started on the Mad Monday celebrations - see you all at the English pub, the **Gold Berg** or is it the **Rose 'n' Berg**? The bartender is a relaxed guy. I once asked him why and he said "**Ah, zen man**"



THE WRAP

Results

U10 Stars

Today the Stars learned that the difference between good and great is as simple as the difference between sometimes and always. Sometimes you get lucky and good things happen, but when you work together as a team you can always make great things happen. Things got off to a rough start before the game, when the boys learned that Adin was out with a late illness, meaning that we down to 17 players. Outnumbered by Prahran, one of the best teams in the league, today every moment and every metre mattered. The Stars were going to start with their backs against the wall. But, on this ordinary Sunday, what their opposition didn't know was that the Stars are an extraordinary team. The team work, effort and skills on display by the Stars today was not luck. It was a result of all the hard work the kids have put in at training, the leadership of our superb coaches and managers and the support of all the mums, dads, families and pets throughout the season. On any given Sunday, the Stars may win or lose, that much we know. But on this Sunday, the Stars shone brighter than ever. In doing so, they showed their opposition and all their fans that they are indeed stronger together.

U11 Rockets

Prahran 7.3 (45) def Ajax 5.6 (36)

Goals: Appelbaum, Brott, Gunn, Krasnostein, Lakman

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

A disappointing result at our home ground on Sunday saw Prahran avenge the win we had over them at Como Park in round 7. The boys were devastated after the game and hopefully the memory of the Prahran celebrations will stick in their minds. This group needs to learn from this loss and perhaps two weeks before the finals, its the reality check they needed. The day started with celebrations for Dylan Swart's 50th game. The banner was broken and the toss was won with Prahran incorrectly guessing what hand the umpire had his whistle in. This week will be a big week at training. We will see how much the boys learnt and hopefully they are up for the fight for the next few weeks. A win on the weekend will see us finish top and set ourselves up for a good crack at a Grand Final. The boys all must come to the next few training sessions, it is a very important time of the year for this group. We look forward to these last few weeks and hopefully make some very special memories.



THE WRAP

Results

U11 Stars

St Bedes 10.4 (64) def Ajax 2.7 (19)

Goals: Alford, Pitt

Best: Alford, Janover, Katz, Klein, Mirabel-Whitburn, Pitt, Zukerman

After beating the top team last week, today the boys faced this weeks top team, St Bedes/Mentone. After a rocky first quarter we won the second as the boys upped their intensity and effort towards the ball and the contest. From there on the effort from our boys was there, however, it simply wasn't enough to get us over the line as we played kick to kick with our opposition giving the ball back every time we were able to win it. Boys there are always positives to take out of a game and today we had another 50 gamer in Phoenix, a big congratulations to you and an excellent game! We also had more scoring shots in the first half which means we are able to get the ball into our forward line, we just need to capitalise. We also had some great individual efforts with Noah effectively shutting number 3 down after quarter time and playing a great role for the team. Jay did an excellent job of always providing a contest and when he couldn't mark he followed through on the ground ball. As a team when we looked for our team mates and kicked to someone in space our ball movement was strong and is very hard to stop. We've got one more game of the season where we have control over the result and we look towards next Sunday to try and implement and improve on all these things especially this last point. We know we have the ability, we know we have the want, now it's about focusing for four 15 minute quarters and nothing else. We can do it boys!!!

U12 Comets

Ajax 5.4 (34) def South Melbourne 4.4 (28)

Goals: Fell 2, Heata, Sormann, Wrobel

Best: Casper, Fell, Mohr, Newett, Rozenes, Sormann

The scene could not have been more perfect, the boys arrived to the use of the AJAX seniors change rooms which were steeped in tradition and allowed the boys to understand what playing for the jumper meant. To top it off the conditions were always going to allow for a tough game, as it was blowing hard to the pocket, and was going to be a low scoring match. Despite kicking with a strong wind in the first quarter, the boys were unable to put enough scoreboard pressure on the opposition. In fact after dominating the play – South Melbourne were first to strike, and managed to kick two easy goals over the back. The boys went in at the first break a goal down, and the quarter time message was to tighten up the defence, and understand that we were right in the match. Our midfield had dominated, and the forward line had shown some of the skills that had been practised at training. In the second quarter the boys battled hard – applying great pressure, tackling and smothering at every opportunity. Once again South Melbourne were able to kick two more. With finals on the line and a never say die attitude the boys came out in the second half, and played the best football of the season. South Melbourne were given no space, the pressure was incredible. We hit the last change 13 points down and kicking into a stiff breeze. Once again the message was hang in there, to take the game on and let the opposition know that we were not going away. In the last quarter, against the wind, the whole team put in a massive effort and we were able to kick three goals, and keep the previously undefeated South Melbourne goalless in the second half, to run out winners by a goal.



THE WRAP

Results

U12 Jets

Murrumbeena 5.9 (39) def Ajax 5.3 (33)

Goals: Lewin 2, Gottlieb, Paneth, Segal

Best: Aladjem, Farkas, Pacanowski, Paneth, Reuben, Werdiger

Despite not getting the 4 points today against the second placed Murrumbeena, the Jets can be proud of their 4 quarter effort today. In windy conditions again, the Jets' instructions were to kick longer, quicker and more often in order to move the ball faster and set up more scoring opportunities. And the Jets responded well with Paneth, Reuben and Farkas leading the way. The Jets were also asked for a full 4 quarter effort and most of the boys were able to give that today resulting in the Jets almost stealing the game late in the last quarter kicking the last 2 goals of the day into the wind – both off the boot of regular defender Bailey Lewin. Rockman & Rosenberger (in his 50th game) were as solid as a rock all day in defence while Pacanowski, Segal, Gottlieb and Kranz (also in his 50th game for the club) were warriors on the ball – driving it forward from the stoppages and contested situations all day. Aladjem and Werdiger were awesome sharing the ruck duties against taller opponents and seemed to grow taller as the game went on giving the Jets first use of the ball in the centre clearances. With 1 game to go and the finals out of reach, the Jets will still play a role in shaping the 4 and should expect to finish the season on a high next week.

U13 Comets

Beaumaris 12.13 (85) def Ajax 1.5 (11)

Goals: Pike

Best: Faigen, Levy, Nathan, Nirens, Pike

The Comets scored the final goal of this contest, and their first for 3 long weeks, and it was great to see all the players get around and celebrate. It was just reward for a really good effort during this game, and during the previous games, when the Comets have never dropped their heads and have kept presenting and trying their best throughout. It is of course a team sport and it has been pleasing to see a strong contribution from all. But it would be remiss not to mention the special contribution that has been made this season and again today by Nick Pike. He plays with such courage and flair and always in the right spirit, willing himself to contest after contest and imposing himself on the game with his strength and skill. There is not a better player and leader going around in this strong Division 1. Comets, there is one more game to go this season, so let's train well on Wednesday and give it our best next Sunday.



THE WRAP

Results

U13 Jets

Ajax 5.4 (34) def Mordialloc Braeside 3.7 (25)

Goals: Worth 2, Goldfarb, Hershan, Roff

Best: Carracher, Dahan, Green, Goldfarb, Harris

With a hard earned win today, we have moved to the top of the ladder. We came in to the game immensely focused, and showed a great amount of desire. From that we built a strong early lead. As we anticipated, Mordialloc came hard at us in the second half, and whilst they gave us reason to be nervous, we kept attacking and eventually secured the win with a late goal. The game was tough all day with windy conditions, but our physicality and intent brought us to an eventual win. We have one week to go, and a win will earn us a well deserved minor premiership. However, the main focus for us now turns to finals, where we will try to achieve something truly special!

U14 Comets

St Peters 12.8 (80) def Ajax 5.8 (38)

Goals: Potash 2, Flescher, Light, C Sheezel

Best: Aladjem, Alter, Lowe, Potash, Schauder

More jetstream winds met the Comets for their clash against middle-of-the-table St Peters FC at home and despite sitting below Ajax on the ladder, St Peters showed just how much difference a few rounds of football makes turning the tables on the Comets and running out comfortable winners. In his 50th game, Kai “Mr Reslient” Aladjem, sparked the Comets into action playing a pivotal hand in two early goals into the breeze giving the boys hope of maintaining their slender finals chances. But no sooner was Kai taken down midway through the first quarter from a heavy knock than St Peters started turning the screws and began asserting their authority on the match. Keeping pace with St Peters the Comets did well to only be down a 3-point margin at half-time with a couple of St Peters players showing signs of their potential to blow the game wide open. Which is exactly what happened. With the wind at their back St Peters blew the Comets away with a 5 goal to nil third quarter in a dominant display of superior football. Hoping for a miracle the Comets started the final quarter the way they wanted with an early goal but St Peters weren’t going to let this one slip running out comfortable winners in the end. A big mazel tov to Kai Aladjem on 50 games typified by courage, class and determination.



THE WRAP

Results

U14 Jets

Ajax 6.6 (42) def Hampton 3.5 (23)

Goals: Alford 2, Edwards, Rose, Sunshine, Thurston

Best: Alford, Edwards, Fell, Gaddie, Shaw

Today we were away to 4th place Hampton and it was Natan's turn to lose the toss and have us kicking into the wind in the first quarter. It was clear that from the start the boys were on. And in the end this was a famous and well-earned and deserved victory!!!! This was easily are most even effort across the team for the whole year. EVERY single one had a role and did it! Ezra, knocking the ball out of defence in front of him, 3 or 4 times to clear the ball. Yoav being in and under and making a contest on centre wing, ran at it hard and what as a 3:1 their way the ball went out! Rosey smashed one home from 50m and played a crucial role cross half back. Savo beat his man for 4 qtrs and was strong on the last line. Moose swarmed past into the fwd line and got the ball front and centre on numerous occasions. Callum was superb in the backline as a power forward and on the ball. Overhead at ground level. Top notch effort. Jasper stuck a couple of tackles early and then took a few good marks and lovely delivery, especially into the wind. Gabe made contest after contest, took marks and laid tackles. Luke started like a house on fire and never once dropped the pressure from his game. Was well rewarded with an AWESOME snap to seal the match. Raph provided drive and run off the HBF and put his head over the footy to make every contest. Jack was outstanding – everywhere – kicked a blinder of a goal, towering marks and won the 1:1 ball in the middle, in a purple patch of form. Coby ran his guts out, used his footy smarts to win a few contests in the middle and when the ball went deep was dangerous but even more importantly did not let the ball out. Ron was down back early where he beat his man every time and then late went forward where he was dangerous and fought hard. Wally started in the backline where he won some marking contests and then went forward where he presented really well, either taking the mark or bringing the ball to his feet. Never beaten. Ben was a livewire from the start and never stopped scrapping and working. 4 qtrs in the middle, was all over the ground and just worked. Saul was up against a few ruckman bigger then him – no issue – smashed them. Then also won the broken play footy, was crucial in the providing run and took some towering marks and snagged a couple goals. A truly complete performance. Behm held down CHB against guys a full head taller then him. He BEAT them. Then came onto the ball and provided drive and run. Awesome down deep and grunt on the ball! Tatazi was like a bull all day, smashing through packs, giving off the ball to runners or thumping it long. Winning contested footy! Then there was Alex Rance, err I mean Bizza. What a game. Outstanding marking. Being in front and doing exactly what was asked. Won the scrappy footy. Won the marking and lifted the whole team.

U14 Girls

BYE



THE WRAP

Results

U15 Comets

Oakleigh 11.10 (76) def Ajax 6.16 (52)

Goals: Rosenbaum 2, Israel, Mitsel, Rajch, Spark

Best: Ehrlich, Mitsel, Peker, Rajch, Spark

U15 Jets

East Sandringham 4.10 (34) def Ajax 3.6 (24)

Goals: Dzienciol 2, Atzmon

Best: Atzmon, Kol, Reitberger, Segman, Schwarz

U17 Comets

Northvale 4.7 (31) def Ajax 3.10 (28)

Goals: Gold 3

Best: Cowan, Gold, Krongold, Smart, Zielinski

A disappointing effort today two weeks out from the finals. It was a huge match for Northvale as it was their last home game before club closes its doors for good. They had everything to play for and we weren't up to the task. The boys will need to regroup and refocus in order to return to the skilful and competitive form that has been the hallmark of the U17's season to date.



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