Gippsland Power Media Release

The 2011 TAC Cup season for Loy Yang B Gippsland Power took a disappointing downturn yesterday when they lost narrowly to Geelong Falcons at Visy Park. Both sides had gone into the game without their state team representatives so it was a level playing field and optimism was high for the Power based on their wonderful season so far.

Gippsland won the toss however chose to kick into the wind with Geelong quickly scoring the first goal of the game. Tim Membrey kick Powers first goal at the eight minute mark of the first quarter with both teams applying consistent pressure in contested issues. Geelong had the better of the first quarter going inside 50 15 times to Powers 5. Gippsland Powers defence were doing a great job to stem the tide. Quarter time scores Geelong 3.3.21 to Gippsland 1.1.7.

It was the Power who scored the first two goals of the second term and the Power were looking good as they made the Falcons look ordinary with great tackling and chasing pressure and then used the football with great precision by hand and foot. The Power dominated this quarter and where able to keep the Falcons scoreless for the quarter. Half time scores Gippsland 6.4.40 to Geelong 3.3.21.

After the long break the Falcons come out with renewed vigour and Power’s unwillingness to be accountable through the midfield and lack of tackling and chasing pressure in the forward line was exploited further by the Falcons and they kicked four goals to one during the quarter while the Power wasted all of their forward fifty entries with poor finishing and an inability to kick to their forwards advantage. It was disappointing to watch as they wasted many chances late in this quarter and should have been more than 4 points in front and the three quarter time break. Three quarter time squares Geelong Falcons 7.6.46 to Gippsland Power 7.9.51.

At a time when Power hand the wind all-out attack was required the Power were over-using the ball and kicking too short and making the Falcons job much easier to defend against them. The Falcons scored the vital first goal against the wind and seem to have a real belief once they hit the front the Power had their chances but kicked only minor scores and finally went down by 5 points.

Final scores Geelong Falcons 9 goals 7 behinds 61 points defeated Loy Yang B Gippsland Power 7 goals 14 behinds 56 points. Goal kickers; Ben Matthew Northe 2, Jack Doderico, Tim Membrey, Tom Muir, Josh Scott and Chris Williams 1.

On a day when the Power defence was being besieged the class and poise of Sam Docherty was a critical factor in minimising the damage on the scoreboard. He won and cleverly used many possessions as well as keeping opponents quiet.

Midfielder Haydn Hector was another who stood out to consistently win the ball himself and finish off his good work with effective use of the ball to the sides advantage. Clever utility Danny Butcher was very busy around the packs and was able to win the ball seemingly at will and then used his unique skills to try to get some system into the team’s play. His work ethic in heavy traffic was impressive.

Key forward Tim Membrey continued his superb form with many strong marks and long penetrating entries into the forward fifty. His ability to present strongly for team mates was important. Gippsland Power’s next challenge will be next Sunday at the Morwell Football Ground starting at 12-00 noon when they take on the Eastern Ranges.