



NEWSLETTER

July 2011

Welcome to Newsletter 2 for Season 2011!

Those of you who wait for your Cooks Hill Junior Football Club newsletters to arrive in your inboxes throughout the year will have been waiting patiently for several months for this edition to arrive. The main reason for the delay was not a desire to avoid a clash with the frenzy of publications surrounding the Royal Wedding or a wish to wait for details of the Carbon Tax to be published so that we could comment on its anticipated impact on the Club, but rather the editor was suffering a serious case of editorial procrastination, for which he apologises to his loyal readership.

Once again, we have seen a growth in the number of registered players from 345 in 2010 to 380 in 2011. As recently as 2005, we had a mere 90 registered players.

Anyhow, it's hard to believe that we are now more than half way through the regular season for 2011.

The way most of our competition teams are faring at this stage means that many of them will be playing semi-finals football at the end of August. As at the mid-season break for the July school holidays, all but one of our competitive teams were in the top 4 of their competition, which is a great effort all round. So let's hope for a good run in to the semi-finals for all of our teams.

It's also great to see the younger children enjoying the small-sided football and to watch the progress as the tiny kids from the Under 6s turn into the slightly bigger kids in the Under 7s and continue to grow physically and as players as they move up through the age groups.

Good luck to all teams for the rest of the year.

Fundraising

Many thanks to Michelle Corling for all her hard work in organising the chocolate fundraiser. The Club will make a significant profit on the sale of the chocolates (as long as everyone sells their chocolates and brings back the money) and it's a lot easier than delivering phone books and various other fundraising activities.

Thanks also to the families who either bought 25 chocolate bars for their own consumption, sold them to friends and relatives or took them to work to sell to their colleagues. As long as the money comes back, nobody will be asked how many bars they ate themselves. If anybody is yet to return their money or any unsold chocolates (surely there can't be any of them), please do so as soon as possible.

Canteen

Speaking of fundraising, another of the Club's key fundraising sources is the canteen. While the help of parents and carers from the rostered duty team on each match day is appreciated, the efforts of the canteen committee are worthy of special thanks.

Those of you who are regulars at the best canteen in National Park will have noticed the major renovations which have taken place this year, giving us a more functional space which has allowed, among other things, the installation of the best pie oven this side of the Fire Station Pie Shop.

The canteen upgrade was funded with a Grassroots Football Facility Funding grant from FFA.

You may also have noticed that real coffee is now being served at the canteen, thanks to Longbench of Darby Street. So there's no need to head across the drain to the mobile coffee cart.

We may not have the luxury of the canteen facilities of some other clubs with their purpose built outlets with running water, but we now offer a great selection of hot and cold food and drinks to help you through a chilly winter morning at National Park.



Future Olyroos

A lucky group of Under 6 and Under 7 players were fortunate to be invited to play some demonstration games of small-sided football at half-time at the recent Olyroos v Yemen match at Ausgrid Stadium. The 16 children had lots of fun under the guidance of Michelle Corling and Ric Bucci as they played on the hallowed turf while Marco Jesic and the other Olyroos ate their half-time oranges in the sheds.

Parking / No Parking

It's not all happiness and joy down at National Park every Saturday, unless you're a parking officer for Newcastle City Council, in which case there's a reliable gold mine of vehicles to book when they park on the grassed area next to the drain on the Parkway Avenue side of the park. People with good eyesight and an interest in reading traffic signs will notice that there are signs warning against parking on the grass but it seems that every week there's a 'full house' of vehicles just waiting to be booked and a couple of council officers only too willing to oblige.

While parking near the ground can be difficult, the Committee wishes to remind everybody that it's a good idea to observe all parking signs at and around the ground. Why not park legally further away, walk down to the ground and, with the money you save on the parking infringement notice, reward yourself with a treat from the canteen! You should even have change for some more fundraising chocolates.

Newcastle Jets Membership Packages

Most Novocastrians will be aware of the push by the new owners of the Newcastle Jets, Nathan Tinkler's Hunter Sports Group, to re-establish a strong and committed membership base to support the Jets in the A-League. They are also working to strengthen the relationship between the Jets and 'the Grassroots'.

The Jets have recently released their Season 2011-12 Membership Packages and, as a value proposition, they stack up very well against other leisure activities.

For as little as \$230 (and \$20 for every additional child), you can buy a Jets Bumper Sticker and also receive a General Admission Ticket for two adults and one child to 13 home games for next season's A-League. That's not much more than a couple of parking tickets and works out at less than \$20 a game. Gold and Silver packages are more expensive but do include a Jets scarf and still work out at less than \$50 a game for a family of 4.

For more details visit the Jets' website at www.newcastlejets.com.au

Newcastle Football Website

For those of you who have not already found them, you will find the Newcastle Football website www.newcastlefootball.com.au useful. It's been completely revamped since last season and contains a lot of information, much of which is useful and/or interesting. It contains news from the association, news from the Newcastle Jets and other football news.

You can also get access to your team's draw and, for the teams playing in competitions, the ladder. Click on 'Competitions' and you'll be taken to a page on which you can select the relevant competition to find all the details.

Small Sided Football Awards

Optus, the major sponsor of Small Sided Football (SSF) in Australia is looking for the SSF Most Promising Player of the Year, the SSF Coach of the Year and the SSF Team of the Year. There is also the Lucas Neill leadership award. So if you know a person or team worthy of nomination, why not visit the website and see what it's all about:

www.optusfootball.com.au/ossf/enter

Entries close on 31 August 2011.

Newcastle Football Volunteer of the Month

Donna Cleur was named Newcastle Football Volunteer of the month for June 2011 in recognition of her efforts in organising the canteen renovations. Donna and joint treasurer, John O'Connor organised the grant and Donna then arranged the builder. While she didn't win a Gold Coast holiday or a new car for her efforts, the award is great recognition for one of the hard-working committee members. Congratulations Donna!

Cooks Hill Seniors

Many of you will be aware that our top Cooks Hill Seniors teams play in the Zone Premier League Competition, which is the top local league below the NBN State League. The team is currently third on the first grade table, 5th on goal difference in a closely contested reserve grade and a clear second in youth grade. The team plays its home games at Newcastle Athletics Track and has upcoming games on 23 July and 6 August. Youth grade kicks off at 11.30am, reserves at 1.15 and 1st grade at 3.00pm, so why not get along and cheer on the teams and see what our juniors can aspire to within the Club.

In fact this year has seen the first of our juniors move into the senior ranks, with many of last year's under 17 team now playing in the Zone Premier League Youth Grade. We're confident it won't be too long before others follow.

Two players who are getting something of a head start are Lewis Hextell and Louis Rothfield from the Under 10 Leopards, who are giving up their Saturday afternoons to act as ball boys for the first grade team this year. While nobody is suggesting the players aren't fit, both the home and away teams appreciate not having to expend their energy retrieving balls and the increased continuity of the games that the boys' efforts allow. The boys have had the honour of leading the teams onto the field and singing the Club song (along with the rest of the team) in the change rooms after the game. Great work, boys!

Presentation Day

A reminder to make sure you have **18 September 2011** on your calendar as the date for the Club presentation. As in previous years, all players will receive a trophy and the coaches and managers will be recognised for their efforts during the year. So please keep the date free.

Location and times to be confirmed, but indicative times are:

Under 6s and under 7s – 11am

Under 8s, 9s and 10s – 1pm

All others – 3pm

Bye Bye Bognars

Many people within the club will know the Bognar Family, Adrian and Emma and their two boys, Patrick and Hayden, who have been involved with the Club for a number of years. Both boys played since under 6s and Adrian initially coached Hayden's team and subsequently Patrick's team. He also played over 35s for the Club a few seasons back, when the Seniors still had Over 35s teams.

Sadly, the family has moved to Melbourne. The Club will miss them and wishes them good luck.

Committee Contact Lists

A Committee member contact list was attached to the newsletters/information sheets circulated around registration time. If anybody requires a further copy, please contact Di Spurway.

Otherwise, if you would like to contact the committee, please contact:

Murray Scott (President) – 0413 957823 or
ms.scott@optusnet.com.au

Di Spurway (Secretary) – 0410 531602 or
garyspurway@optusnet.com.au

Newsletter

The Club newsletter is published several times a year depending on the amount of news worth publishing and how long the newsletter editor procrastinates in publishing it. At this stage, the next newsletter is likely to be published around semi-final time.

If you have anything worth sharing with other members of the Club or have picked up a scoop, contact the newsletter editor, Richard Suters:

Email: richard.suters@sparke.com.au

We are interested in new canteens or any special achievements of your team or any player (e.g. representative selections) or anything else you think worthy of sharing with the other members of the Club.

Changed Address?

It's always helpful to have up to date contact details for all players. If you have changed your address or any other contact details (including email address) since registration, you should update your details on the My Football Club website www.myfootballclub.com.au (where you completed your online registration) and please also forward your new details to the Club Secretary, Di Spurway (garyspurway@optusnet.com.au).

2011 Cooks Hill United Shirt Sponsors

Once again a range of local businesses have kindly provided sponsorship for shirts this season, details of which are on the following pages. The Club acknowledges the support of these local businesses.

2011 Cooks Hill United Football Club Junior Shirt Sponsors



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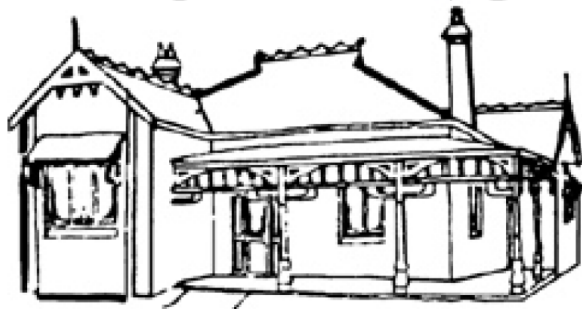
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