**Footballer Notes – Tyntynder – Week Two Finals**

The beginning of this year’s finals series commenced last weekend in warm and sunny conditions, first class playing conditions and huge crowds on both days.

On Saturday at Woorinen we had four Netball teams take to the courts in their qualifying finals, finishing the day with a mixed bag of two wins and two defeats.

**A Grade** took on the Swans and in a tense and close battle, where neither side was really able to make a huge break, we went down by 5 goals at the final hooter. The game was played at an extremely high standard and skills of Emma Smith and Jemma Pound were outstanding to keep us in the game. The loss now pushes the girls into a knockout semi-final clash with Lake Boga, a team that has provided us with some very close matches in recent times so our girls will need to be right at the top of their game to progress.

The **Under 17 girls** were also involved in a very exciting game, storming home to win by just one goal against the Swans. Emily Cook, Nikita Devereux and Kate Morrison all played strong games. The girls now take on top of the table Kerang in the Second semi and if they can play a full four quarters they have a grand final berth within their sights.

The **Under 15’s** battled hard in their game against Kerang but in the end the height of the opposition was too much to overcome and we went down by 14 goals. Elvie Kelly-Britten, Kelsey Rowe and Milly Op’t hoog were prominent throughout. A must win semi-final clash with NNWY waits on Sunday.

A very even team effort by the **Under 13 girls** resulted in them recording a comfortable 17 goal win against Kerang, seeing them now advance to second semi clash with Lake Boga. The girls will be looking for a repeat of their Round 13 victory over the Boga girls and if they can retain last week’s outstanding form they will give it a real shake.

Our **Senior** football team took a lot out of their final round defeat at the hands of Woorinen and from the opening bounce it could be seen how determined the boys were to reverse that result. Hard, committed team football was the name of the game, and with Justin Fulton dominating in the ruck, Simon Bunyan (in his 50th game) and Lachie Gilbert in everything up forward, we were able to establish a handy break by half time. The boys continued on after the main break to put the game completely out of the reach of the Tigers by three quarter time, with the pleasing feature being that all 22 players contributed on the day.

Kerang have been top of the table all year and have clearly been the benchmark of the competition, going through the entire home and away season undefeated. But as we all know finals football is a whole new ball game, and our boys will be brimming with confidence after their victory against the Tigers. One thing we know is that the boys will give their all and the Blues will earn every touch. A place in a Grand Final awaits the victors, so good luck to our boys and no doubt you will do the Tyntynder FNC proud.

Last Sunday, our **B Grade** netballers were also involved in a one goal game and again we managed to sneak the victors in their Elimination final. Great effort girls! The win now sees the girls take on Woorinen in the knockout semi on Sunday and this to promises to be a close contest.

The **Under 15** footballers were able to lead at every change in their elimination final on Sunday and earned the right to tackle the Saints in today’s 1st semi-final. The final margin, almost 7 goals, was not a true reflection of the game, with the Eagles providing genuine resistance over the four quarters. In the end however it was the depth of the Bulldogs list that saw them extend their lead at each change and record what, was eventually a comfortable win.

Picking the better players was hard task; with a full-on team effort required to get the job done. In a very even team display award winners were Brad Baker, Elliot Broad, Marcus Pianura, Marcus Wattie, and Jack Woodward who were solid contributors over four quarters.

Today we approach the “knock out” 1st semi-final with plenty of momentum and hope we can repeat the effort of last week.

When the **Under 13’s** last met with the Raiders three weeks ago there was only two points in it with the Dogs going down. Last Sunday in the Elimination final our boys reversed the result, going on to record a fine five goal win. The boys played tough, hard footy in the very sunny conditions. They played as a team and should be proud of their efforts. This week we will need to find yet another gear as we take on Lake Boga in the first semi.

Huge rewards await the winners of this weekend’s game, as we move in on the final Saturday of the season and ultimate prize. Good luck to all our netballers and footballers, we know you will do the Red, White and Blue proud.

Go Dogs!