# THE KOOKABURRA SQUAWK



## www.hilltopkookaburras.sportingpulse.net

Welcome to the August edition of the Kookaburra Squawk newsletter. This month we continue to profile our teams from across the grades, with team photos of the Under 11's, Under 15's, AAM Youth & AAM Reserve Grade teams featured. Have you ever wondered how much time, effort and hard work goes into organising a full day of games at Boronia Park? We take an in depth look behind the scenes at the work Mark Johnson and his faithful team of helpers contribute at each-and-every home game. GO KOOKABURRA'S!!!

### **BABY KOOKABURRA'S!**

Congratulations to the families of two of our Senior AAM players on the birth of new Hill Top babies! Peter and Jane Crellen (AAM Premier Grade) became the proud parents of baby boy Oscar Thomas, and Robert and Hayley Hughes (AAM Reserve Grade) introduced baby girl Katie Louise to the world around the same time. Whilst both are not yet ready to try on a jersey have penned in both as future Hill Top players to debut in the 2019 Under 6's!

## UNDER 15's INTO CUP FINAL

Hill Top Under 15's have qualified for the 2014 Jan Plain Cup Final following a hard-fought 2-0 win over Moss Vale last Saturday. Cameron Felber and Cameron Halias each found the back of the net for the Kookaburra's, who will now play Bundanoon in the cup final on 30 August. Despite having gone through the entire tournament undefeated (which included a 1-0 victory over their final opponents Bundanoon in the 2nd round) coach Mark Johnson will ensure complacency doesn't play a factor in the final, capitalising on the experience the team gained last season in going deep into the regular season finals, which included taking out the Under 13's grand final.



## **BOOT BAGS FOR JUNIOR PLAYERS**

A huge thankyou to Brian Murphy from 'Football Heaven' sports store, who kindly donated boot bags to every single junior player in the club! Mothers across Hill Top are all privately thanking Brian for keeping the mud out of playing bags/laundry baskets as well as off the carpet! You can visit Brian's store online at FOOTBALLHEAVEN.COM.AU or if you are ever in Parramatta, drop into 251 Church Street to check out the great bargains and wide range of soccer and general sports clothing on sale.









Hill Top Soccer Club – AAM Youth Grade Proudly Sponsored by Cool Climate Horticultural







Hill Top Soccer Club – Under 11's Proudly Sponsored by General Carrying Pty Ltd



## MATCH DAY SATURDAY AT BORONIA PARK

Do you arrive for your game at Boronia Park and everything seems to run like clockwork? Look a bit deeper beneath the surface and you will find a dedicated group of officials, committee members, and willing helpers, all of whom contribute in making your match-day experience a truly memorable one.

Let's have a look at some of the key Boronia Park match day activities that often go unnoticed.

### Line Marking Boronia Park Fields

Preparations for Saturday actually begin around 3.00pm on a Friday afternoon, as Mark Johnson & Scott McKeown carefully commence the job of marking the lines on both senior fields in preparation for a full Saturday of action. New HSA conferencing arrangements sees more games scheduled at Boronia Park than ever before, making Mark & Scott's job even more important.

#### Acknowledging our many Sponsors

Around 7.00am on Saturday morning you will see Mark Johnson strategically balanced on a ladder, hoisting & tying the dozens of sponsor banners at both ends of the field. The near gale-force winds that regularly blow at Hill Top in winter require extra tight knots, otherwise our sponsors' signs might take flight and end up at Yerrinbool!

### **Setting Up for the Junior Games**

Under 11's coach Michael Gilkes and his boys Rhys and Brody are permanent fixtures at Boronia Park early each Saturday morning - diligently marking junior fields with cones and setting up Bownet's in preparation for a dozen or more games of junior soccer kicking off from 8.30am.



Looking After the Sponsors



**Brody Setting Cones** 



Mark Juggling Many Balls



What would we do without these two?

## **Running to a Very Tight Schedule**

As the small-sided games draw to a close around 11.00am, a flurry of activity takes place as coaches, officials, and members pack away cones and Bownet's in preparation for the Under 13's, Under 15's, and AAM/AAW games taking place on full sized fields. The additional challenge of Boronia Park now being a Northern Conference host venue now leaves even less time than ever between games to manage a smooth transition.

## Managing the Canteen & BBQ

The canteen & BBQ represent one of the most critical funding sources available to the club, requiring a dedicated presence from the early hours of Saturday morning right through to full time in the final game around 4.30pm. Karen Johnson and Darlene Bishop are the heart & soul of the canteen's operation, however, both openly acknowledge the far reaching support which is provided by a large number of club members and loyal volunteers who freely give of their time in the canteen at each home game.

### **Providing Qualified Referees**

Hill Top relies heavily on a select number of qualified club officials who give up significant time in refereeing both junior and senior games at each and every home game. Chris Cash, Steve Speakman, Scott McKeown, and Mark Johnson all feature



Juniors Done, Bownets Coming Down



Steve Speakman Firing Up the BBQ

heavily in refereeing junior games, whilst club life member Garry George does a sterling job refereeing multiple senior HSA games as the clubs premier senior referee.

### Bringing the Day to a Close - Packing Away

The final large job of the day involves packing away nets, sponsor banners, the canteen & BBQ, and often falls to a dedicated band of club members and Players – the likes of which regularly includes the ever dependable Zac Connolly, whom has often just competed in a hard-fought AAM fixture for the Kookaburra's Premier Grade team.

### Season 2015 and Beyond – Your help would be Greatly Appreciated!

Whilst the loyal band of members & helpers listed are all likely to put their hands up to help again next season, please don't die wondering if you have time available to assist at home games, as the committee would really appreciate whatever help you can provide ©

## Contact Email: craig.napper@bigpond.com

## HILL TOP KOOKABURRAS SOCCER CLUB



AUGUST CUP FINAL ACTION AAM RESERVE & UNDER 15's Great Family Friendly Day Out



CUP FINAL 1 - AAM RESERVE GRADE



Dean Felber AAM Reserve

HILL TOP Vs MITTAGONG 'B' Sunday 10 August, 12.30pm David Woods Field, East Bowral



Garry George AAM Res Coach



Emma Rumble Under 15's

CUP FINAL 2 - UNDER 15's JAN PLAIN CUP FINAL

HILL TOP Vs BUNDANOON Saturday 30 August, 11.30am Hampden Park, Robertson



Mark Johnson U15's Coach

## WATCH US BRING HOME THE SILVERWARE COME ALONG AND SHOW YOUR SUPPORT!



## **KOOKABURRA'S PLAYER PROFILE** Scott McKeown – AAM Youth / Coach U10's

FAVORITE CARTOON AS A CHILD? Anything Loony Tunes

#### **MY LAST MEAL WOULD BE?**

Shared with my Wife

#### WHAT'S TOUGHER – COACHING U10'S OR MENTORING THE AAM YOUTH TEAM?

I think I'm learning so much from both roles

## WHAT IS IT THAT MAKES YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT THE HILLTOP SOCCER CLUB?

All of the committee and club members who work so hard to make HTSC one of the best clubs in the Southern Highlands

#### WHAT IS YOUR PROUDEST MOMENT IN SOCCER ?

Watching my children play

#### WHATS YOUR FUNNIEST MOMENT IN SOCCER

Anytime that I don't stay on my feet

#### WHATS YOUR WORST HABIT?

Too numerous to mention!

WHAT WOULD YOU BUY IF YOU WERE DOWN TO YOUR LAST \$50?

Give it to someone who needs it more than me

#### **FAVORITE SOCCER GROUND?**

Any ground I played on as a child. They all bring back such great memories!

#### WHAT REALLY ANNOYS ME IS ...

Not too much annoys me, I'm pretty easy going most of the time

DO YOU HAVE ANY PRE-GAME SUPERSTITIONS

No, I don't believe in superstitions

YOUR IDEAL WAY TO UNWIND ...

Spending time with the family



**Player & Mentor for AAM Youth** 



Marshalling the Under 10's Troops!



## HILLTOP SOCCER CLUB 2014 SPONSORS



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ADKY CARPETS	<b>ADKY Carpets</b> A & K Shute, Ph. 0487 709 874 48 Cumberteen St, Hill Top 2575	For Fitness Hill Tay'r Piness Castra	<b>F for Fitness</b> 56 Wilson Drive, Hill Top 2575. Mob. 0428 185 000
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Kids (K Kids)	<b>The Kids Cottage</b> Shop 11/150 Argyle St, Picton 2571 Ph. 4677 1448	FOOTBALL HEAVEN	<b>Football Heaven</b> 251 Church Street, Parramatta Web: footballheaven.com.au

The Club would also like to thank Empire Cinema Bowral and Priceline Pharmacy Mittagong for their ongoing support in 2014, as well as Darby Allen, who donated DVD's for the U6's & end of year presentation



See a photo in the Squawk you would like a copy of? Images sent via email free to members. Contact <u>craig.napper@bigpond.com</u>