



**KENMORE JUNIOR  
AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL  
CLUB**

**2016**

**YEAR BOOK**

*THE MIGHTY KENMORE BEARS*

# KENMORE BEARS AFL 2016 SEASON REPORT

What a great season 2016 was, lots of new players and families to the club, the introduction of girls footy, the Souths Sharks Masters move in and even the bathrooms got a makeover. 2016 saw us field 16 teams across 10 age groups.

2 x Under 6	4 x Under 8
3 x Under 9	Under 10
Under 11 <i>combined with Moggill</i>	Under 11 Girls
Under 12	Under 13
Under 14	Under 15 Girls

The club is so proud of all players and teams with a special mention to the Under 12's who won their way through to the grand final. Hopefully a new premiership flag for the club by the time you read this.

A huge thank you to all Coaches, Assistant Coaches, Managers and parents/siblings that help out on game day. Without you volunteering we could not play games.

I would also like to thank our 4 club umpires, Mitch Lake, Max Chambers, Isaac Luhrs and Jack Spry, great job boys the junior players and the coaches really appreciate your efforts. A special mention goes out to Christine Phillips and Renee Lake for the countless hours and effort they put in to running the canteen.

In June we experienced a winter flood that threatened to destroy our oval and disrupt our season, I would like to thank all those volunteers that turn out to the working bees and got the oval cleaned up and back on track. True Kenmore Bears club culture was on show at that time.

Planning is already under way for next season so please continue to check Facebook and our website to stay up to date.

Finally it would be remiss of me not to mention the wonderful positive experience it was introducing Girls teams to our club. From the players to the coaches, the managers and the wonderful group of new parents to our club, it has been a pleasure watching your involvement and enjoyment grow from the come and try nights back in January, to actually fielding teams and watching the girls play. Thank you very much to everyone involved with Girls footy in 2016.



# KENMORE AUSKICK & U6



## Auskick

2016 was another very positive year for the club in Auskick. Firstly the number of participants this year grew by a further 15% from that of the previous year with 60 plus boys and girls registering at our club. Secondly and through the support of AFLQ, we were able to obtain the services of a very qualified and experienced coach for our program, Alex Bateman whom we thank very much and look forward to having back again next year. Given the size and complexity of managing such a large group, a big thankyou also goes out to our support coaches in Mitch Lake and Isaac Luhrs.

Auskick is unrivalled by any other in terms of a “value for money” introduction program for boys and girls into an organised team sport thanks in particular to its ongoing 15 year sponsor and supporter, the National Australia Bank. It also continues to be the lifeblood and point of entry for AFL across all clubs regardless of size and or in what state, so its importance to clubs like our own at Kenmore cannot be understated.

We will continue at the club to coincide our Auskick program on Friday nights in unison with our Junior Team training to cater for families with multiple siblings and provide current and new parents to the club with that positive end to their week which I know many of us enjoy and look forward to so much.

To further help and strengthen the club into the future, all members can assist by encouraging friends or other family members to join us and have their children come and try Auskick at Kenmore which is open for all those boys and girls whom turn 5 in that same season/year.

We look forward to another big group in 2017 and again welcoming as many new faces to the club as possible.

## **Under 6**

Once our Auskick program was completed we then invited participants to transition into underage junior football directly with that of the club. Our Auskick group this year had a very broad range of ages such that 7 participants went straight up into U8 teams with a further 16 players joining our U6 program.

The U6 program operates along similar lines to that of Auskick where fun & skill development is still the main focus however with a little more game time incorporated into each session and on our purpose built U6 field. Again we were extremely fortunate to have Alex Bateman as coach for the bulk of the season with Jarred D'Roza stepping in over the last 4 weeks. Both these coaches work directly with that of AFLQ and we hope to welcome them both back in 2017.

Unfortunately this year we weren't able arrange any more than one game in which we played against another local club and we thank Jindalee for coming across to Akuna Oval to give our players that experience.

Finally thank you to all those Auskick and U6 parents/guardians for enabling your boys or girls to participate throughout the year and hope your combined experiences at our club have been a positive one and one that will continue long into the future.



## KENMORE U8 GOLD



As Coach of U8 Gold, I'm very happy with the way the season unfolded throughout the year and the improvements the team have made as both individuals and as a group. While we had some good games and some not so good games, the measure of our success as a group in my view always comes down to those last few games where you hope everything comes together as you would like. This was certainly the case in our last two games which both were a real highlight for us all as parents.

Regard our players this year, see below some comments for each:

**Shiva "The General" Jay Gopi** This is the second year now that I have had the pleasure of coaching Shiv (as we like to call him) and could not be more happy and proud of the development he has made this year. Shiv's kicking has improved out of site however it has been his leadership I've been most impressed with. I played Shiv a lot in the Ruck and asked him to ensure those around him stood where they were supposed to which he not only did but then proceeded to consistently tap the ball to them. His enthusiasm for the game and his growth in self confidence has been a real highlight for his coach. PS: I really hope we see you again Shiv in 2017.

**Jackson "The Terrier" Mackie** You can't help but love the way Jackson goes about his football, it's flat out or it's nothing. Going in and getting the ball is a very important skill/trait to have and can be a real mental barrier for kids, but that's certainly not the case here. Jackson has been great to coach and has had a very good first year of AFL. His marking has improved throughout the season, he shares the ball when asked and when his kicking improves which it will over time, we will have a very good player on our hands. PS: Jackson – Stay on your feet.

**William “On & Off Again” Jones** Will this year has been a bit like a box of chocolates, when it comes to game day you just don't know what you're going get. In saying that he's no different to most kids (and a few others in our team) in that if the ball is not in his area “social networking” skills take over. When the ball however is in Wills space and he is switched on, he on several occasions this year has dominated quarter's and even full games. He has showed a massive improvement from last year across all aspects and skills of the game and I really hope Will sticks with it, as I think the introduction of some tackling in U9's will suit him even further. PS: It's been an experience, bring on “The Jones Boy No. 2”.

**Arianna “My Favourite” Camacho** I know the coach shouldn't have favourites and even if he does it probably should be his own son in the team, however what's not to love about Arianna. There's always a smile on her face, she's not daunted in the slightest about mixing it up with the boys and in her second year of AFL and while I didn't think it possible, I think her love for the game has grown even more. A real highlight for me goes way back to our first game of the year at Jindalee where Arianna kicked our first goal, then our second goal and by the end of the game had at least one more and was easily our best player. Just a pleasure to coach and inspiration for girls playing AFL. PS: Don't tell Casey you're my favourite player.

**Casey “Where Are You Going” Russell** Just like it was for his older brother in the previous two seasons (even though I promised myself not to be), Casey had it pretty tough this year. In saying that I must admit I was pleasantly surprised in his improvement throughout and in particular his last few games. Put aside the fact he occasionally had to be reminded which way we were going, to run forwards not backwards and to stop kicking around corners; credit where credits due, his marking, general kicking, passing (to his mate Xander) and leading for the ball was pretty good for his first year of U8's. The fact he loves his AFL and loves going to the club and wearing his Kenmore clothes all weekend, does please his coach also. PS: Casey – Go in and get the ball, mate!

**Addison “Around the Corner” Stolz** Addison has had a great year and along with Shiv, has been probably our most consistent player which is a fantastic achievement for a first year U8 player. With the exception of being a typical left footer and kicking around corners and needing to control his handballing, Addison is very much a well-rounded player and has a great build for AFL. He also has a great temperament and demeanour about him which makes him a pleasure to coach. I know there may be torn interests here for next season but I do hope we/I will get another chance to coach him in 2017 as he has huge potential. PS: No pressure Dad.

**Joel “The Giant” da Silva** Joel has been a coach's dream this year, he listens intently and tries to put everything he is told into practice. “Manning Up” has been a particular focus this year and more often than not, not put into practice the way I would have liked. However Joel was a standout in this area particularly when he spent a bit more time in the backlines over the last few games. Joel is nearly the tallest in our side and is only in his first year of U8's and by the looks of his dad could be a ruckman in the making. I look forward to hopefully having Joel again as a player next year and watching those shoots sprout even further to life: PS: Keep practicing, watch out for some preseason training at the club.

**Cameron “The Rock” Whitaker** It just goes to show you don't need to be big to play AFL. Cameron is a lock down defender in the making and the backlines seem to have been his playground and niche all year. He has had an outstanding year given it's his first in U8's and has something coaches cannot teach and that's an innate ability of knowing where to be a when, to give himself the best opportunity of getting the ball. Another exceptional skill that Cameron possesses which again is instinctive to him, is knowing how to position his body to shield it away from other players and put himself in the best position to win a contest. Awesome year and awesome potential. PS: Bring on 2017.

**Darcy “In My Own Time” Ryan** I think it would be fair to say that AFL is in the experimental phase for Darcy. In saying that and factoring him being in his first year of AFL and being one of our youngest, he has shown some clear improvements throughout the year. Like for many others, this seem to come together particularly over our last two games where Darcy was very good in his manning up and contributed to the scoreboard with a goal. PS: Early days, practice, practice and see you in the preseason.

**Liam “The Heart” Hart** One of my particular favourites, with a big heart and cheeky misdemeanour. A big thankyou quickly to Mum & Dad here (Sarah & Chris) for being prepared to shuffle between teams occasionally to make our numbers work but obviously we got to have Liam in our team more often than not. This is Liam's second year of AFL and I think it's been a good one for him in terms of self-confidence and his general skills. Like others he brought it all to bare in those last couple of games (maybe we need to extend the season?). I need to also remind myself that he has a further 2 years in U8's to go, so assuming the enthusiasm is there in 6 months' time, who knows what I might be saying in 12 months' time. PS: I'm very optimistic.

**Oliver “The Raging Bull” Smith** Late arrival to our team but what an arrival it was picking up Player of the Week straight up. Ollie is absolutely fearless in the contest and has the size and strength to match and yet is somewhat divergent to that in general nature. His skills improved even over the short period he had in the team, in particular his kicking and marking but still needs further practice like all our players. He is another player I can't help but be excited about in the future and would love to have another year coaching him. PS: Things to work on both on and off the field but what a prospect. (Also “bring on” younger brother, Sam)

**Xander “The Silk” Brickhill** A very late arrival to our team but a very welcome one and even though he might barrack for the Sydney Swans, he would fit perfectly into Hawthorn with that “silky” left foot. Xander is very well advanced in comparison to most his age across all the skills, but that justifiably creates higher expectations on levels of standard. Complacency is the danger here for Xander so it's important he continues to focus on deficiencies such as looking up when kicking, not kicking around corners and going in and getting ball (I think I've said this about someone else?) Massive talent and should be the best going around come 2017. PS: More mid-field time next year.

All my players and their parents have been a great group to work with this year and a very big thanks to all the parents for their assistance and support throughout the year, in particular our Team Manager Anna Jones. It will be sad for me to see a few players I've now coached for a couple years go up to another age group however I am excited about those who have another year in U8's and whom I just might have again next year. Hope to see you all back again next year.



## UNDER 8 GREEN



What a wonderful year it was for the mighty U8 Kenmore Green team. This was my first year as a coach and I went in with an open mind and no expectations of what would become of the season. It became very apparent very quickly that I had a wonderful group of boys who were keen to learn not only as individuals but as a team. That required a little bit of a re-assessment on my behalf to ensure I left the boys better off at the end of the season than where they started it.

The basic skills of the game were always important but we tried incorporating them into drills that were as much about game sense as well. Focusing on running to space when wanting the ball, lifting your head before you dispose of the ball and keeping your feet in a contest were some of the things the kids really embraced. By the end of the season we were witnessing some great passages of play resulting in some great goals.... And celebrations to match!

Keeping in mind we don't keep score, but also realising every kid does, we started introducing some situational tactics on game day to really get the kids thinking about the game. Giving them team roles in each zone and also individual roles on game day increased their team work and also gave them a sense of pride when they finished the game and had fulfilled those roles.

Every game day we had three focuses we would try and practice during the game the first two were either tactical or skill based and often about what we had focused on at training the night before. The third one was always 'Have Fun' and although there was certainly some serious moments throughout the year we also ensured we were having a good time at training and during games.

**#21 Alexander May** - Always in a bubbly mood Alex was a great team mate who shared the ball around. The most pleasing thing was to see the improvement in Alex's kicking throughout the year, which we worked on throughout the season. This meant some great games in front of goal later in the season and some good long kicks out of the backline... he preferred the goals though.

**#17 Tom Boyce** – Tom has great speed and loved to run and bounce. His hands are very clean for someone his age and his ability to keep his feet meant he was able to combine both skills for some great running play. He always looked to bring his team mates into the game and once we turn those wobblers into drop punts, sorry Dad, he will be unstoppable!

**#20 Charles McCormack** – Think Joel Selwood but the miniature version. The smallest boy on our team but easily the hardest. If there was a pack on the ground then Charlie was at the bottom of it fighting for the ball. At least once a game I had to check a bump or a scratch that had appeared after a contest. Every mark involved some theatrics including the two or three he took whilst on his back throughout the season.

**#19 Asher Brownrigg** – A very gifted player who I hope to see playing AFL one day, the Magpies hopefully but he would prefer the Hawks. He has great skills and pace plus a great ability to find the ball. What I loved most about Asher was that he was like a second coach on the ground and at training. He was always helping his team mates stand in the right place or letting them know how to get the ball. We just need to work on the Buddy kicking style.

**#26 Angus Benjamin** – At training he was one of the kids who always reminded me this was all about fun but on game day Angus became one of the most reliable players on the team. If the team needed some goals or a presence in the middle then that's where we put Angus. But it was down back where he was at his best. He had an uncanny knack of being where the ball landed when it came into the opposition forward line and stopped opposition momentum numerous times throughout the year.

**#24 Thomas Koenig** – A late starter but such a pleasure to have for the last few games of the year. He was immediately part of the team and any of the boys that were training with him were always laughing. He always listened intently at training and was a pleasure to work with. I think I was happier than him when he kicked his first goal for the team. Practice those kicking drills we did together over the summer and you will be kicking goals from everywhere next year.

**#23 Bailey Russell** – I have had the pleasure of knowing Bailey for a few years now and I wish I could have him on every team I may coach from here on in. The team stats man always knew the score during the game, how many goals he or any other player had kicked and where and what time we were playing plus what the weather would be like on the day! He has great skills, was the most consistent player throughout the year and the best celebrator of a goal in the team.

**#28 Inu Watt** – The team funny man always knew how to lighten up the mood with random pieces of information or a joke. We had a great conversation about black holes during one training session. Put a football in his zone though and the serious face came on and he worked hard to get it. He always knew when to kick or when to handball and never looked flustered on the field. Plus he knew how to look good doing it with awesome blue boots and gelled up hair.

**#27 Finn Adendorff** - Always one of the first boys at training and he worked on his skills harder than anyone. It was no surprise that he ended up kicking 5 goals in a quarter in one game at Jindalee which was great reward for his effort. If we needed any idea or a suggestion at training for a drill then Finn was normally then one who put his hand up. Somehow we always ended up doing Cops and Robbers!

**#22 Archie Dennis** – He wears number 22 because his favourite player is Steele Sidebottom... not his Dad who wore number 26 but I will get over that one day. Another one of the boys who loves a laugh at training but switches on once he gets on the field. He provided great run and carry and was one of the best kids at finding space if his team mates need someone to kick to. Never shy to kick a goal and apart from needing to work on his manning up I was very proud of how he played this year.

A massive thank you to all the parents this year who did a great job getting their kids to and from training and the games. The help I got during training and on game day was great with a special mention to those who jumped in the canteen when required. A big thanks also to the club and the umpires for organising and officiating in all the home fixtures. The last thanks must go to the greatest team manager anyone could hope for. The first day I met Jo I told her to let me know what emails to send or organising I need to do. She told me all I need to do is coach the boys and she would do everything else. She definitely made my job easier and I can't thank her enough for her efforts this year.

For those kids moving up to Under 9's next year I wish you good luck and good fun and hopefully I have helped in a small way make you better players. For those staying in Under 8's I will back next year if you can handle me and hopefully I get to coach you again. Go Greenies!



## UNDER 8 BLUE



What a great season we all had in the under 8 Blue where our motto was to 'have fun'. It was great to see all the boys improve over the season and learn to know each other's strengths and share the football. We are proud of all their achievements this year.

Our season began with a few players returning to the under 8's, but mostly we had new players who were trying out footy for the first time so the focus was on basic skills eg. marking and kicking.

The initial games were more dominated by our returning footy players but the season progressed and after a few training sessions some of the new players to the game came into their own.

During the year, the boys kicking and marking skills had come a long way as did their ability to pick up the ball, kicking directly to each other, and the introduction of handball which led to a more faster more inclusive game. They also learned to put pressure on the opposition players when they had the ball to stop it quickly coming into our back line.

Whilst we started the season with 11 players we ended up being short in the last couple of games, and whilst this made getting and holding the ball more difficult task, we were impressed on how well the boys performed and how they never gave up.

Specific comments on each of the boys are as follows:

**Max Board** – Jumper No. 35 - Max had a good season learning the basics skills and at first seemed to enjoy the forward line using his height to advantage by taking marks and kicking goals (sometimes lots of goals). As the season as Max developed his skills and confidence, he was not intimidated by the opposition when he had the ball and became a good ball carrier in the centre of the ground. His height was also good for the ruck contest which was rarely lost.

**Aston Bond** – Jumper No. 24 - where did you go? Aston played for approx. half the season with Kenmore Blue and his skills developed with each training session. As his confidence grew, he learned to run with the football and improved his kicking style the more games he played. Aston also came with his personal cheer squad for some of the games which was lots of fun. We wish him and his family the best of luck in Sydney.

**Tosh Bowers** – Jumper No 7 - Tosh has a good year. He developed a good straight kicking style and was good at sharing the ball with his team mates. During the year he even managed to be part of a 3 player handball combination in one zone that looked great. He also took one of the most difficult marks kicked at a high velocity. Tosh is a good utility player able to play equally well in every zone.

**Joshua David** – Jumper No. 25 - At the beginning of the season Joshua enjoyed staying in the forward line and trying to kick a few goals. His best attribute was his kicking from a stationary position. At the later end of the season Josh learned to run and fight for the ball, chase the opposition players when they had possession, and even took some good marks.

**Tyas Elsaesser** – Jumper No. 14 - Don't be fooled by Tyas slight frame and quiet demeanour. Tyas had a good year of improving his skills most notably picking up the ball and developing his kicking. Towards the end of the year he could be found on the bottom of the pack fighting hard and not letting go of the ball. We look forward to seeing the same fighting spirit next season.

**Jarvis Haywood** – Jumper No. 22 - Jarvis played all over the field and was most valuable in the centre getting the ball. He reads the play well, has an excellent mark, an accurate long kick, and developed as a play maker by getting the ball and sharing it with his team mates to bring them into the game.

**Sebastian Labagnara** - Jumper No. 35 - Seb grew in confidence throughout the year. He reads the play well and was valuable in the forward line kicking lots of goals (which he seemed to enjoy). Seb also learned to time his run into space so he was clear of the opposition players. Seb's skill developed throughout the season and is a good kick, handballer, and takes a strong mark.

**Ben Marsden** – Jumper No. 29 – Ben came to the side late this year but ended up being a good contributor. He was great at following instructions, was a good mark of the ball, and using his long kick (a round the corner kick) to get the ball into our forward line. He most notably played and excellent games when he had a sore leg and was used off the bench putting intensity into the game when on the field.

**Tyson Reid** – Jumper No. 10 - Tyson developed good skills throughout the year and learned to take his time when going to goals (and ended up kicking quite a few). Tyson was known to be involved in some good handball chains in the centre of the ground and stopping the oppositions run when they had the ball.

**Archie Slatter** – Jumper No. 30 - Archie brings his natural running ability into his game. He was hard for the opposition players to catch, with the ball in hand, and put pressure on the opposition when they had the ball. Archie is not afraid to take marks in a pack or wrestle for the ball when it is on the ground. Archie is a great utility player who can play in all positions, and he enjoys kicking goals.

**Aidan Raaff** – Jumper No. 13 - Aidan is a very consistent player having developed his skills in the previous season. He was good at following instructions, fights hard for the ball, often handballs the ball to his team mates, and used his long kick to quickly get the ball downfield. He was also quick to stop/hinder the opposition taking the ball to their forward line when he was in defence. Aidan can play in all positions and his efforts in the backline to repel the opposition attack should not go unnoticed.

In summary, the team significantly improved their footy skills by seasons end, learned to use each other in general play, and most of had fun.

Thanks goes to the mums and Dad's for washing the bibs, cutting up oranges, being time keepers ground marshals and goal umpires, and to the coaches (Quentin and Jeff) and their manager (Tiffany) for organising the games.

Thanks also goes to the umpires and our opposition for being patient with the kids and providing them the opportunity to develop in every game.

## UNDER 8 WHITE



The Kenmore White U8 team had a fantastic and energetic year and I mean just starting with the parents! With Mark our Manager ensuring we had fruit each week and the coach offering Killer Pythons at the end of the match, the kids had plenty of buzz about them as well.

As a Victorian-born coach with a passion for AFL in my DNA, I just loved watching the team enjoy their football. Training nights would give no indication to how we played the next day though we had plenty of fun and the 'volunteer' parents were invaluable. On a serious note, the lad's improvement over the season was incredible culminating in wild applause from the proud parents at the end of the last match.

A final season end of year report:

**Parents** Engaged from the first bounce to the end of the season = "Kick a goal, Kick a goal!". Great group of parents keen to see their child perform well and give support to the coach (except when I put their lad in the backline - Backmen win premierships I say!!!).

**Magnus** Combining the silky skills of a soccer player, Magnus used his speed, agility and kicking power to excellent effect. I really noticed his improvement in kicking, resulting in some match-winning performances in the forward line (if we kept score). Still remember that magic day he had against Moggill where he seemed to have the ball on a string.

**Noah** The rover of our team, Noah got the shorter hair-cut through the season and with that you could see something click. Earlier in the season, Noah was determined to kick goals for the opposition, with a turnaround by the last match where, with a bounce on the run, he split the big sticks to the roar of the crowd. Use your speed Noah and keep kicking the ball in the backyard over the summer.

### **Kai**

With his Dad cheering him on, Kai had a stellar season, developing into one of the go-to players in the forward line. My favourite improvement was when he started consistently winning the contested ball and staying on the man in the backline - "Backmen win Premierships". Keep kicking the ball over the summer and taking speccys.

### **Charlie**

This boy has gentle giant written all over him until one day when he just cuts loose. One of the younger boys in the team, Charlie's growing improvement was evident through the season. From being more quiet at the start, I soon had a team player that was calling for the ball and kicking goals (just remember to bounce it). Man, he LOVED the cops and robbers game at training. Looking forward to seeing you again next year.

### **Bailey**

I will forgive him for supporting Collingwood as I appreciate his passion for the game. This lad has a big kick on him which he used to great effect. I loved the pressure he applied in the backline and laughed when he and Isaiah fought over the ball. Often one of the first in the team to do a handball in the game, Bailey has great team spirit and a promising future.

### **Nathaniel**

Wow, can we all remember when Nate RAN the walkathon. Ten laps without stopping and I don't think any of us were suprised. An absolute burst of energy that would surge and then pause with no apparent pattern, Nat was the centre of our team. Another great improver, Nat was a fantastic team player that won contested balls against three other players and then did something productive with the ball. See you next year.

### **Harry**

Harry likes to kick goals. His Nanna likes him to kick goals. Harry is very good at kicking goals and got better as the season went on and his kicking get even better. Always smiling, Harry loved his football and never stopped - even when his foot had him nearly hobbled. Keep kicking the ball during the summer.

### **Oscar**

No denying of his passion for the football, Oscar was at the bottom of every pack. Ignore his indecision of whether his mouthguard should go in his sock or his mouth, Oscar was a vocal member of the team who grew into a skilled team player. Whether in the backline and staying on his man to his natural talent as a centre player pushing the ball foward for his team, Oscar displayed ambition and flair.

### **Isaiah**

As all coach's sons, Isaiah probably got the rough end of the stick though his own improvement was remarkable - particularly overhead marking. Isaiah could lift the team with the certainty he could get the ball and do something useful and to the team benefit. Hard to brag when he is your boy, but I know that Isaiah is going to have a great year in the U9s.

## UNDER 9 GOLD



What a fantastic year it was for the players and families of U9 Gold. 2016 saw many of U8 Green from 2015 continue on together with a combination of new players from players other teams joining them. It was great to have some first time players and some who had been playing for a number of years with the Bears combine so well as team and become such good mates.

It was exciting for the boys to experience football with modified tackling for the first time and it really changed the way they played from U8s. In the past the players had time when they received the ball to compose themselves and make a decision, whereas this season there was a necessity to move the ball more quickly due to the pressure of being tackled and / or giving away a free kick. In the most part we adapted well and by the end of the season most us were able to find a teammate most times.

Conversely, we were also required to tackle the opposition which everyone seemed to enjoy. Tackling and pressuring the opposition became one of our main strengths.

At training we worked mostly on our skills with a focus on handballing both hands, marking in our hands and kicking to targets. The progression was fantastic over the season and I would encourage everyone to continue working on their skills, particularly kicking drop punts during the off season.

Before every game we re-enforced the following footy basics.

- Mark your Man
- First to the Ball
- Pass the ball to a teammate or into space
- Tackle
- Have fun

I would really encourage everyone who is still living in the area to keep playing next year. All of the U9 coaches are excited at the way the kids are progressing and we are looking forward to the next few years of footy.

I would like to thank all of the boys and their families for making it such a fantastic season. Special thanks to Greg (who is quite possibly the most organised person in the world) for being a great Manager, Ron for his great work and insight on game days as assistant coach, all the Dads who helped out at training and on game days and all the Mums who washed the jerseys, prepared the fruit, helped in the canteen and are raising such great kids.

Kenmore Bears U9 Gold 2016 players were as follows:

### **Alec Bethel**

Alec is one of the smallest kids in the team but is so courageous. He tackles hard, puts his body on the line and fights for the ball. He loves playing footy and will keep getting better as he grows.

### **Tobias Blason**

This was Toby's first season ever of footy and he fitted straight in. He has a nice long kick and runs with real aggression when he has the ball. Hopefully he will keep working on his skills over the offseason and can develop further next year.

### **Jack Boyce**

Jack is a great kid to have in the team, he runs well with the ball and reads the play very well. We will continue to work on picking the moving ball up and Jack will continue improve.

### **Josh Broderick**

I have had the pleasure of coaching Brodo for 3 years now and have watched him improve. He is a very intent listener and has a great sense for goal. Occasionally we need to remind Josh to fight for the ball and I'm sure he will continue the getting better next season.

### **Josh Friedrichsen**

I coached Josh in his first year of U8's and the progress from the start is amazing. Has a knack of getting himself into space and is a good mark and goal kicker. Poor Josh happened to receive a ball in the head almost every game, hopefully that won't happen next season.

### **Joe Goudie**

Joe has amazing skills and loves to show them off. He loves to kick snaps, bananas, and look away handballs, but occasionally over does it. He is great at using the ball and when he takes the first option really enhances team play. Joe is great fun to have around the team.

### **Finn Harris**

This was Finn's first season of footy and the improvement in his skills from the start to the end was really good. Finn didn't get the ball in games as much as he would have wanted, but was admired and liked by all for never giving up. Good luck in Ireland Finn, hopefully you will take up Gaelic Football and come back to us in a few years.

### **Daniel Harrison**

Dan was new to Footy this year, but is from an AFL background and had good skills from the start of the season. He never stops trying and I would expect that he will be a big improver next season. He is a very polite boy who thanked me after every training and game with a good firm handshake.

### **George Murphy**

George is real leader both with voice and by his actions. He runs and fights hard on the field, wins plenty of the ball and uses it well. He loves to tackle always has a smile on his face.

### **Lachlan Ogle**

Lachlan is coming on really well as a footballer. He is big, fast, strong and aggressive and loves to tackle. Lachy wins his own ball and has a long kick. We need to keep working on his kicking, especially on the run so he can better involve his teammates.

### **Clayton Reid**

Clayton really loves playing footy and is improving from season to season. He is a strong mark and loves being the sweeper in the midfield. More kicking practice with his Dad and brother over the break will really help his confidence for next year.

### **Sam Slatter**

Sam is very skilful on both sides of his body and has terrific hands. He's very good at reading the play and combines well with his team mates. Like all of the boys he loves a goal.

### **Jarvis Warr**

I might be a bit biased but I love coaching Jarvy. He is a very good player who works very hard to improve himself. He reads the play well, has good hands and long left foot. We will probably work on winning the contested ball over the summer break.



## UNDER 9 GREEN



What a great season 2016 was for Under 9 Green and the progression the boys made with some new rules this year. This year brought the introduction of 3 more players on the field, modified tackling and a slightly bigger field giving the boys more room to move the ball.

We spent the first part of the season practising the basic skills as well as the new rule of modified tackle. I was surprised to see how keen the boys were to start tackling and it wasn't long before they had worked out how to effectively tackle without taking the opposing player to the ground. Our last half of the season was fantastic. The boys were leading to space, tackling when the opportunity presented it and getting in around the packs and spreading the ball.

Some of the biggest strengths for Under 9 Green this season was the consistency of our ability to turn up and compete week in week out, combine as a team & improve on our skills as well as trying new things learnt throughout the year. One of the strongest parts for our boys was to sing the Kenmore Song at the end of each game "Loud and Proud". I am proud of the boys and the way they played this season and would love the opportunity to do it all again next year for this wonderful club.

**Hudson Andrews:-** Being the coach's son he probably received the harder side of the decision making during the year but to his credit he accepted the decisions when given to him. His kicking has improved immensely and really started playing good footy at seasons end. We will continue to work on things in the off season and he will return a stronger, more skilful & consistent player.

**Hunter Draper:-** Hunter is one of those boys who turns up and gives 100% every time. Whether it be at training or game day he always turned up ready to compete at his best. A hard worker in defence his tackling at the end of the season was sensational. He always let me know when he was attending the Lions games during the year and had great pleasure in letting me know his team beat my team Carlton only a few weeks ago. Go 'Lions' Hunter.

**Alexander Howie:-** Alex is always one of the first to training and game day. This shows his eagerness to play this great game. He even knew most AFL football scores that were played the previous days. Alex has very good skills and has adapted well to the new rules especially near the end of the season. Some of those tackles in those last few games were great to see so keep up the hard work and don't be worried about getting in and amongst it. Oh, and work on those 'Banana Kicks' over the off season and I might let you have another try next season.

**Mosese Kinitavaki:-** Having been involved last year with Sess I really enjoy coaching him. He is a natural as he reads the game so well and positions himself well on field. Sess is a 'Ball Magnet' and finds himself with the ball a lot during the game. Things that are hard to coach to kids this age come naturally to Sess. Keep up the good work. Ah who's drink bottle, jumper, socks & footy boots are these??????????

**Solomoni Kinitavaki:-** Mon always turns up to training with that signature smile on his face. He also reads the game so well and when he gets that ball watch out. His pure speed is an asset and he knows how to use it. I think the only person on this planet that is faster than Mon is Usain Bolt. His kicking has improved greatly with many goals coming from his boot this year. Ah who's drink bottle, jumper, socks & footy boots are these??????????

**Oliver Odgers:-** Oli is one of the biggest boys in our team but the way he asserts himself on the ball, he seems like a giant on the field. When he is out on the field he only has eyes for the ball and finds himself running with the ball a lot. In the second half of the season Oli started to use the ball a lot better, looking for options and delivery them with ease.

**Zac Palmer:-** Zac had a great year with a lot of personal improvement during the year. He uses his height, speed and agility on the field to create opportunities that wouldn't normally be available to the average player. By seasons end he was taking marks above his head and kicking the occasional 'Monster Goal'. He is a pleasure to coach. He is a good listener. Well done Zac.

**William Roche:-** Will had a great season with many goals coming from his ability to create opportunities. He uses his height well and knows how to finish. In defence the ball rarely got past him with his ability to read the game and his strong hands with the ball. As he grows with confidence his game will go to another level.

**Samuel Russell:-** Sam is one of those players every coach enjoys to coach. He is a natural footballer who watches a lot of AFL football on TV and it shows on the field. Another player who reads the game very well, but his ability to position himself between the man and the ball is one of his strengths. His strongest skill set is kicking goals. Just like his father he just seems to know where the goals are without even looking. And he loves kicking goals which would have made his dad proud.

**Henry Slatter:-** Teaching Henry to be hungry for the ball and be first to the contest was not needed. Henry has what many call 'White Line Fever'. A quiet boy off the field but once he crosses that line it is game on, but to his credit he keeps it within the rules of the game. He just wants the ball more than anybody else on the field and no player is going to stop him from achieving that. A dream player from a coach's perspective. Henry also has quite a kick on him as well. He was caught more than once kicking goals from the centre zone. Thanks for giving 100% every time you went out their Henry. Keep up the good work.

**Oskar Voss:-** I had the pleasure of being involved with Oskar's football season last year and his skills have improved dramatically since last year. He is really developing into a good footballer and must be spending many weekends kicking the footy around with Mum & Dad. He listens to directions at training and on game day and it is showing in the way he plays the game. If the ball hits the ground amongst a pack 9 times out of 10 Oscar will be the one with the ball in his hands. If not, he will apply a tackle as we rehearse at training. He's not one to hang around long after training on Friday Nights as he is keen to get home and sit down to his Dad's famous 'Friday Fry Up'. Keep up the good work Oscar.

**Angus Walker:-** Angus is one to keep me on my toes during training this year but as the season came to an end he really started training well and it showed on the footy field. I would go as far as saying he would be one of our most improved players this year. He is one of the smallest players in our team but he makes up for it in fierce and aggressive bursts during the games. We need to work on containing that aggression for the whole game. He took a couple of fantastic marks overhead and kicked three goals in one game near the end of the season. Keep up that kicking practice on the weekends Angus. Oh, and have you got your water bottle??????????

**Jake Weatherly:-** Jake is one of those boys every coach likes to have on his team. He's the team comedian and always has a joke ready at hand. If there is a group of the boys with laughs coming for the area you can bet Jake is centre of it. He shows great skills at reading the game and loves a goal. Very much a goal sneak is our Jake. And enjoys running through the boy's legs at training just to keep them on their toes. Why you say, because he can. Keep that smile on your face Jake, it's infectious.

This has been my first year as a coach and after playing the game for 13 years and helping Mark out as Team Manager for the past 2 years here at Kenmore. To say I was a little nervous at the start of the year was an understatement but it made it a lot more enjoyable with the group of boys and parents I had around me. A big thank you goes to our Team Manager Belinda Roche who did a fantastic job of organising the duties each week, coordinating the parent's duties for canteen, time keepers & ground marshals. A big thank you must also go to all the parents for washing the Guernsey's, bringing the fruit & lollies (the most important job), helping with training and doing their time in the canteen and BBQ duties when asked.

On a sad note we are losing Mon, Sess and the beautiful Kinitavaki family next year. They are moving to the NT and they will be sadly missed around the club. I wish you all the success and hope to see you sooner rather than later.

In closing I would like to thank you all for making the season an enjoyable one and look forward to seeing you all back again next year. Go BEARS!

## UNDER 9 WHITE



The 2016 season was a great year for the team with everyone developing their skills during the year and adapting to the modified tackling in the under 9 environment. There were plenty of highlights during the year and below is a sample of the year that was.

**Jarvis, Olivier, Joshua L** and **Jacob** best summed up our team. If Friday night was fun and games then Saturday was strictly business. This group loved the comradeship of mucking about with their mates on Friday night but always had a case of white line fever on game day and always gave 100% effort. Their hard running and ability to win the contested ball was a feature of their season. **Olivier** always used his football smarts to read the play well and then win the contested ball. **Jarvis** played the defensive role to perfection and when the call went out to "mark up Kenmore" he obliged with absolute commitment and never backed away from his role.

Playing against a tough Yeronga opponent and with a few players short it was always going to be a tough game for the team. The game started out as expected with the team struggling to match their opponents but at half time and after some honest words from coach and supporters certain individuals decided enough was enough. During that second half players such as **Lucas, Joshua K, Jaime** stamped their authority on the game and began to tackle like their lives depended on it. With this change in attitude their confidence grew and so did that of the rest of the team. This was a turning point for these boys and they continued to play at the next level for the rest of the year. During the last quarter **Harrison** produced an effort which typified the team that day. Late in the final quarter he ran down a midfield opponent from behind laying a crunching tackle to win a hard earned free kick and giving the opposition a gentle reminder that the team from Kenmore will never give up until the final siren.

The Friday night game was the only one of the season and what a game it was. Under the big lights and on the big stage of Akuna Oval both Kenmore teams put on show of talent for all to see. **Sophie** produced her best game of the season by continuing to win the contested ball and then breaking packs to get a clearing kick into the forward line. **Ben** was absolutely dominant in defence, reading the ball like a veteran and disposing the ball with calmness and accuracy to team mates. He continued to use his aerobic engine to gather more possessions in the midfield and kicking the ball deep into the forward line. **Lars** was another who excelled under lights. Nimble on his feet, he weaved in and out opposition defenders to get a clearing kick into the forward line. Reading the play well, he also continued to collect the loose ball with ease and seemed to be able to dispose the ball with a calmness of a much older player.

The second last game was a highlight for team as it represented a come from behind win, or at least that is what the team told me. After drumming into the team the values of never giving up all season the last quarter was a pleasure to watch. The forward Dynamo Duo of **Zac** and **Charlie** combined to produce numerous opportunistic goals. **Charlie** played a pivotal role deep in the forward pocket and **Zac** seemed to be having the game of his life, always being in the right spot for a quick throw of the ball onto his boot and bingo another goal! **Charlie** also seemed to be in the right place at the right time as he seemed to score every time he put his boot to ball.

**Lochie** joined the team mid season and the last game of the season was his best. He became a tower of strength in defence taking several marks and every time he took a mark deep in defence he grew an inch taller. Every time he took a mark proceeded to kick the ball deep into the midfield with growing confidence.

It's hard to comprehend how much the team has developed until you spend time watching a game of under 8 late in the year and then you realise how much they have changed. Special thanks to Mike and Rick and all the parents for their support and of course the team. Congratulations to you for a great year.



## UNDER 10



What a great year it's been again this year! With the competition being very even throughout all the teams our Under 10s started off like the Kangaroos, but after game four against Wests we were brought back to the pack due to our over confidence - which goes to show that "attitude" is such a big part of playing well. This realisation resulted in some fantastic games in the second half of the year against teams that got the better of us midway through the season.

The greatest gain was playing for each other and our team work, especially when we found out that three of our boys, with only two games to go, hadn't yet scored a goal. With some inspired training sessions and a revised game plan, the whole team rallied to get these boys over the line in the last game against the all-conquering Yeronga. Every year there is an absolute highlight and for the coaches, parents and the boys alike that game was it!

**Simon "K.I.S." Aylward:** Simon keeps it simple. Simon goes about his footy with rare simplicity. Simon sees the ball and gets the ball, with bursting out of packs a feature of his game.

**Robert "the Bruce" Brown:** Rob "you may take the points but you'll never take our season". Rob had another stellar season with his "don't argues!" His long kicking a feature this year.

**Noah "the Ark" Brownrigg:** Noah's ability to position himself around the packs and then create space so he could steady and deliver some cracking lace outs were a feature of Noah's game.

**Lachlan "Wilbury's" Bryant:** What a season for this well-travelled Bear! I don't think there's a GPS that could clock up how many kms this player has gained both on and off the field!

**Brayden “the Stallion” Cox:** Everybody knows that you can’t fatten a thoroughbred and just like the famous Black Caviar, Brayden’s game is always smooth and silky, with long runs being a feature.

**Elijah “Hard Ball” Harris-Loft:** Love your hard work in the packs mate. Elijah’s hard ball gets were a feature again this year, as were a few head knocks - just as well he has a hard melon!

**David “Dasher” Hill:** Anyone who has watched a game of ours knows how Dave got this nickname, Dave’s run and carry, especially out of the packs a feature of his game.

**Caiden “Clem” Jones:** Caiden’s “tunnelling” in for the ball in packs and his ability to get quick hands on the ball to a running player a standout feature of Caiden’s year.

**Sam “Big Hero” Lewis:** Once we re-programmed Sam to be a little less of a team man and a little more selfish the results were outstanding - especially the last game! Sam’s quick hands a feature of his year.

**Seb “The Knife” Mc Cormack:** Seb’s ability to “cut through” congestion and deliver lace out passes, his “sharp hands” and decision making a feature again this year.

**Jack “BCF” Riddell:** Guess what? We know someone who has more “tackle” than BCF! Jack’s tackling, ruck work and shut down play a feature of his game.

**Blake “The Bullet” Robinson:** Blake’s ability to “shoot” out of a pack and “blast” the ball forward to his team mates a standout of his game this year.

**Thomas “The Tank” Ruddell:** Tom’s numerous steamrolling runs off the half back line a feature of his play this year earning himself the “locomotive” nickname.

**Luke “Bupa” Stephen:** Nobody has had more injuries this year than Luke – the reason being that he was always in and under the packs. We love the way he “covers” the ground as well.

**Oscar “the Flying doormat” Vandermaat:** Had to get a Carlton great in there somewhere... Oscar’s rundown tackles and clearance work and standout of his year.

**Finn “The Shark” Vickers:** Finn’s work around the packs and his ability to “shark” the oppositions’ clearances a standout feature of his game this year.

In closing can I say thank you to all the kids, parents and especially to my fellow co-coach Carl and to our managers Geoff and Leisl for the efforts you all have put in this season. To have such a great bunch of kids and parents makes it so enjoyable - I can’t wait until next year!!  
*Cheers Coach Lofty.*



## UNDER 11 GIRLS



The U11 girls competed in the first all-girls North League playing their inaugural match against Zillmere Eagles on Friday 22nd April 2016. The U11 girls progressed to be the stand out team throughout the competition and regularly recognized by competition and supporters for their AFL ability, teamwork and attitude. A great achievement for a new team, coach and manager created at short notice with amazing help and support from the club.

Thank you to all those involved in setting this team up and also the volunteer work on game days to make it happen – you all played a huge part in giving a great experience to the girls this season.

With the ladies league going professional in 2017 our talented 'Baby Bears' well and truly set the standard for the girls game in the north and west of Brisbane for their age group with many exciting performances over the course of our fifteen games. Our goal from the start of the season was to perfect our AFL technique, focus on teamwork and our love for playing footy. Anyone who saw the girls play would know that the team absolutely achieved these goals, and they also grew significantly in their confidence and athletic ability.

A little bit about the progress of the team and some special moments over the season:

**Emily Brunton** brought some solid AFL skills learned at school to the 'Baby Bears' team. Emily played every game with complete focus and the areas she really improved over the season were her tackling and kicking game. Emily worked hard on kicking technique in training and was a key player for the team by always supporting her teammates by sharing and working hard to help them.

Key in setting up the team from the outset were the Dekker family, and **Jasmine Dekker** joined the team with experience of the game from competing with her brother, fellow Bear and at times assistant coach, Jai Dekker. Jasmine has great all round AFL technique and put in some massive defensive performances for the team in the 2016 season. Always keen to share the ball and work with the players around her Jasmine is an absolute team player who won a place in the Met West team at the end of the season. Many congratulations Jasmine!

Key achievements and performances that **Charli Dunne** should be very proud of in the 2016 season included the very brave displays in games where she gave nothing but 100% in winning the ball, committing herself brilliantly in massive tackles and always working with her team - Charli is an absolute team player and never gives up, great attitude Charli. Over the course of the season Charli mastered perfect technique with hand passing, was fully committed in training and focused on improving her all round game.

For **Tahlia Ember** it was a first introduction to AFL and opportunity to learn a whole new skillset and build her athletic ability. Tahlia was a key player for the 'Baby Bears' and performed strongly in all positions. Tahlia linked up well with other players taking big marks, kicking some huge goals and never shying away from putting in some solid tackles with great technique. Tahlia was recognized for her natural AFL ability with a place on the Met West team in 2016. Well done Tahlia, keep achieving those excellent goals!

**Kate Marsden** had a very dedicated approach in both games and training, as well as being a great personality within the team. Kate made and took some great marks during the course of the season and always worked incredibly hard with her team every time she played. Kate's technique in all areas of AFL was very strong, in particular her kicking game a real strength as well as the big tackles she put in on her opponents.

Some of the great moments of the season came from **Madi McCue**, and in particular the marking when playing as a forward and the subsequent goals Madi kicked. The effort and skill Madi applied in achieving these goals, also due to her excellent work in training, were superb to see. Madi was a key player in defence from her strength in tackling and from her never give up approach.

Another newcomer to AFL this season was **Beth 'Betsy' Morris**, recently arriving from Victoria and showing that she is naturally talented at AFL. Beth should be very proud of herself for the improvement in marking the ball, as well as her kicking game. Incredibly fast, Beth would often get away from her opponent and kicked a lot of goals throughout the season. Beth's goal of the season was a banana kick from a tight angle at a home game that sent her fans wild!

**Kenzie Park** had many highlights throughout the season, quite often pulling off some brilliant marks which were followed up immediately by her trademark dance celebration - great to see for 'Baby Bear' fans! Kenzie played every game with 100% effort and outwitted her opponents with her pace and strength in tackling. Stand out moment for Kenzie was when she took on three Zillmere players singlehandedly when Taylah and Lucy had clashed heads - this perfectly summed up her tenacious approach.

A key player for the 'Baby Bears' from the outset was **Taylah Somerville** who put in massive performances every week. Taylah was dedicated in training, and applied what she learned on game day, most notably when linking up with her teammates in marking and hand passing, not to mention the huge tackles she put in. Awesome to see Taylah in full flight bouncing the ball before a large 30m kick being marked. Taylah is never phased by any opponent and shows great attitude and team spirit.

Match nights would see **Katie Ward** cover every blade of grass on pitch and ensure she was first to win the ball, the effort and dedication Katie put in for the team was second to none. Katie was a key player across all areas of the pitch, her defence and teamwork always impressed. Tough tackling and strong, Katie reads the game very well and always works with her team to get the ball out of trouble. Great kicking game and excellent team player.

Great at building team spirit on match nights **Lucy Wilkinson** has some great AFL skills in all areas of the game. Lucy is a strong runner of the ball and never shies away from getting the ball from the floor, or putting in a big tackle when it counts. Lucy has set up many goals this season with her accurate kicking and hand passing, Lucy will always help and encourage her teammates which is a pleasure to see.

Well done girls, you should all be very proud of your great achievements this season and your contribution to growing the women's game in future!

Thanks again to the club and parents for all the help and dedication in making this an amazing first season for the girls - bring on 2017!!!



# UNDER 11 KENMORE/MOGGILL



2016 turned out to be a fantastic year for the Under 11's Kenmore (Bears)/ Moggill (Mustangs) juniors. Through the combined efforts of both the Kenmore and Moggill Clubs, parents, and coaching staff, the team went from strength to strength ending the second half of the season with some consistent and fast entertaining football. Our goal for this year was to ensure every player improved on their skill and game play, supported by the following mantra:

1. First to the ball
2. Present
3. Stay low and tackle

## **The combined Kenmore/Moggill team consisted of the following outstanding players:**

**Kenmore-** Sean and Josh Turnbull, Josh Whitehead, Declan Fuller, Kaden Brink, Quinn Tichon, Jai Dorloff, Rutger Stroobach, Nathan Hart and Jack Lang.

**Moggill-** Thomas Theo, Chris Lee, William Paddison, Hunter Randall, Nic Riba, Noah DeOdorico, Aizach Duyzer, Angus Hatcher, Louie Owen, Matty Ryan and Ashwyn Smith.

Over the season an increase in skill, mateship and courage was a feature of the Under 11's game. Bolstered by some consistent individual efforts, players can hold their heads high and be proud of their progress during the season. To summarise these efforts in a short paragraph would be impossible so the following player profiles will hopefully paint some picture of the team make up this year:

**Sean Turnbull**- dominating overhead, competitive, committed, volatile and amazing all at the same time. Dominant positions: CHF, CHB. Super hero most like: Thor

**Josh Turnbull**- reserved, brave, intelligent and great in the ground contest.  
Dominant position: BP, HB. Super hero most like: Flash

**Josh Whitehead** (First year in AFL)- talented, fast, courageous and a dominating player on ball. Dominant position: HB, C, HF, RR, W. Super Hero most like: Captain America

**Declan Fuller**- fast, skilled, committed and a total disregard for his own safety.  
Dominant position: W, C, RR. Super Hero most like: Ant Man

**Kaden Brink** (transitioned to under 12's)- attacking and competitive.  
Dominant position: HF, C, FP, RR. Super Hero most like: Iron Man

**Quinn Tichon** (Injured)- skilled, potential yet to be unleashed.  
Dominant position: FF, CHF. Super Hero most like: Hawkeye

**Jai Dorloff**- elusive, talented, an attacking player.  
Dominant position: CHF, HF, HB. Super Hero most like: Falcon

**Rutger Stroobach**- courage under fire, progressive player showing some tagging ability.  
Dominant position: HB, BP, HF naturally defensive. Super Hero most like: Spider Man

**Jack Lang**- quite, naturally defensive progressive player.  
Dominant position: HB, HF potential ruckman 2017. Super Hero most like: Vision

**Nathan Hart**- intense, ferocious a natural tagger.  
Dominant position: BP, FP, W. Super Hero most like: Winter Soldier

It was a pleasure coaching this combined group of talented young men and I wish them the best over the off season. A special thankyou to both Mark Dorloff and Cameron Lang for their continued support during the year. Without their continued commitment to assist in the coaching role, this year would not have been success. Thank you to the Moggill boys for another outstanding season. It was great to see the mixed team colours on the field each week representative of the new friendships forged during some very physical games that were played. Who said blue and green should never be seen. .... Go Bears go Mustangs! Bring on 2017.

# UNDER 12 GRAND FINALISTS 2016



In a season that would see us end up as Grand Finalists, the year started off positively with a pre-season win against Yeronga. Both coaches and manager were feeling the nerves in our first experience on the boundary line for a youth game and our charges were raw, unfit and lacking some skills. This however was overcome with a desire to put the body in the contest and chase hard for the footy.

After 4 weeks of grading games that saw us travelling all over greater Brisbane, and resulted in solid wins against Alex Hills, Yeronga and Aspley, the season proper in Division 4 started with a win at home against Narangba. This was followed by a significant Friday night loss at home to Jindalee and despite their endeavour, our boys were given a lesson in overhead marking, precision kicking and positional play.

A decision to not only simplify the match day game plan and tactics for the boys, but focus our Tuesday night trainings on running, saw us return to the winners circle against a competitive Alex Hills side. It was at this stage the 'non-negotiables' of first to the contest and head over the ball was finally sinking in after weeks of repeating myself hoarse! In what was a recurring theme through the middle of the season, we managed to keep our opposition scoreless in a physical encounter at Aspley. If only we had kicked straighter some of the winning margins could have even been a lot greater.

We recorded another loss to Jindalee at Jindalee whilst down on manpower, but were more competitive and edging closer to knocking them over.

Proving that eyes on the ball and not the man is a sure fire way to win; ALL the boys put in a consistent and stellar four quarter effort (and a goal of the year contender to rival Eddie Betts and Stevie J) to thump the Aspley Black Hornets down at the lair.

Whether it was a 9 day break or just a bad day at the office the boys looked off from the get-go and went down to Yeronga at Yeronga.

An aberration in a very consistent year, the boys were dominated for three quarters, but in true Bears spirit they battled hard in the last quarter to only go down by a couple of goals. After the wake up call at Yeronga, we entered the final game of the home and away season with a renewed focus and energy to defeat our nemesis Jindalee. Following instructions to attack the ball and to put in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> efforts, the boys were far too strong for the Jags. A real boost for the boys mindset heading into finals.

In securing the top spot on the ladder we had a week off before a semi final win against Alex Hills in a scrappy, high pressure game indicative of finals footy. This victory gave us a berth in the Grand Final!

The introduction to youth footy was eye opening with stricter rules and regulations, coupled with extended game duties requiring significant effort and involvement by our parents. A BIG THANK YOU to a great group of parents that made the co-ordination of duties each week a whole lot easier than it otherwise might have been.

As is par for the course when you have a playing list of 21, there were times during the season when we were down on numbers. We were lucky to have a number of boys from U11 and U10 who stepped up and filled in. Thank you to those boys (and their parents!) A special thank you must be said to Nathan Graetz, our team manager who has always been one step ahead and made sure all the boys and their parents knew what was going on and where they had to be. This made for an extremely smooth season. YOU ALREADY HAVE THE JOB FOR NEXT YEAR NATH !!!!!

This year has been a fulfilling one personally and I have had a thoroughly enjoyable time coaching and imparting my knowledge of the game I love on the boys. To all the boys – THANK YOU. I hope you have learnt plenty and can look back on Under 12's in 2016 at the Bears as a rewarding and positive experience. GO BEARS!

**THOM BOSSCHER (C)** – Captain of the team this year and always lead the way on the field. His hardness at the ball and fierce tackling is a great attribute to his game (captain courageous).

**HENRY SPRY (VC)** – Henry is a great vice captain and an even better kid!! He was a pleasure to coach and always listened to my instructions. A great team player who is very courageous and was our rock in the backlines while always being solid in ruck when swapping with Tom G.

**BEN MURPHY** – Ben has improved so much throughout the season and has been a great defender/midfielder. Reads the play well and you can always rely on Ben in defence to be there for his teammates.

**CODY TALLIS** – Cody has so much potential and is a pleasure to coach. His clean hands and speed from the packs is explosive!! Was consistent all year.

**BEN FIGALLO** – Ben is a boy with a lot of talent (although he is related to Hodgy!!). His speed to break from a pack and natural ball skill have been really important for us all year.

**SAM TOOTH** – Sam is a really nice boy. He has come a long way this year. He always puts himself in the right position and tries his hardest every game. Sam and I spent time on his skills at training and he is consistently kicking drop punts now.

**JED HOOPER** – Jed has a natural ability to read the play. His skills and agility to get around players and sneak a few goals is great. His ball use around the ground was really important to the team this year.

**ALESSIO COOPER** – A new player to the side this year and started the season with a cracker of a game!!! Alessio has good ball skills and a lot of speed.

**TOM GRAETZ** – Tom has been excellent in the ruck for us this year. His great game sense and ball skills see him dominate the rucks and centre clearances. Has a raking left foot which helps us going forward.

**HAMISH CHALMERS** – Hamish is always a pleasure to coach. He is a smart footballer with great composure and uses the ball well. Has a big heart and puts his body on the line for his team. Great team player.

**AIDAN TREACY** – Aidan has been one of our main targets up forward this year. He has strong hands and a nice kick and uses the ball well.

**OLIVER WARD** – Oliver is a great team mate. His improvement throughout the season was great. Oliver never, ever gave up. His willingness to learn and listen made him a joy to coach.

**JAITON LYNN** – A great first year for Jaiton. His defensive skill and ability to get to the ball at the right times was very important to us in clearing the ball. He may not have liked it at times but I told him he was there because he was good at it.

**FINLEY WILKINSON** – Finn has had a good first season at his new club. His ball skills have improved throughout the year. He puts himself in the right spots and sneaks a few goals.

**COOPER ADAMS** – Missed 6 weeks with a broken finger but came back full of enthusiasm and got straight back into it with string tackles and good contests.

**GIAN DE STEFANI** – Gian has achieved a lot this season. His kicking, marking and tackling has all improved. He always tries hard and never gives up for his team mates. Gian is also the king of the time trials winning every week!!

**HAYDEN SMITH** – Hayden always tries hard at training and games. His footy skills have improved throughout the year. Hayden always put a shepherd on to support his team mates.

**BEN DEETH** – Ben has been an improved player this year. We tried Ben in a few positions at the start of the season but no doubt found his position across half back after a few games. Was great at clearing the ball for us and gaining momentum.

**KADEN BRINK** – Kaden joined our team through the year from U/11s and adapted to U12s footy very quickly. He has improved a lot this year with his strong tackles and skills around goal.

**MATTHEW RYAN** – Matty was a U/11s player that came up and played a full year with us as well. He fit in the team and played in the backline becoming one of our regular defenders. Matty has no fear of putting his head over the ball and backing himself in a contest. Team player and a great kid.

**JAI DORLOFF** – Jai was also a U/11 player that came up to play with us this year. Jai had a cracker first game, kicking 3 goals. He has since been consistent in all games and always tries hard.



# GRAND FINALISTS 2016

## UNDER 13



We officially launched Season 2016 on Wednesday 16 March. We welcomed back 18 players from the Under 12's – a credit to Brent Warren who had coached these boys for the previous 6 years – but welcomed two new players initially Ethan Appleby and Nathan Parry. Ethan and Nathan were mates of Myles Brown with the three of them quickly being dubbed “The three Musketeers”. Late in Round 1 we also welcomed Charles Connell back to the Mighty Bears after a short misguided stint with West Juniors (just jokes...we love the Bulldogs!)

We planned our season from the start:

Phase one: Pre-season – focus on individual skill development and fitness.

Phase two: Grading – goal to go up at least one grade.

Phase three: Round 1 – goal to develop “whole team defence” game style and try players in multiple positions.

Phase four: mid season break – goal to refresh for Round 2

Phase five: Round 2 – goal to develop more open attacking style of play with use of lateral kicks and switches of play.

We discussed the prospect of “earning the right” to play finals footy at the end of the regular season. But my main objectives were for the boys to improve their individual skills, in particular kicking, to play “team oriented” footy, to give people opportunities to play in multiple positions on the ground and for us to enjoy ourselves. An overriding objective was to get this group of fine young men to take responsibility for the team. It is their season and they are responsible for their training and game day performances. I also made it clear that the season would go fast and be over before they knew it...and I was right!

Looking objectively at our goals, I would say that every player made progress in their skill development throughout the year. For some that progress was significant. We have a number of boys who have the potential to become elite kicks and most boys should be able to develop into very good kicks. The key will be the work they are prepared to put in. We achieved our goal of going up a grade into Div 2. This was important for this group as they had not had to deal with many losses in their footy careers to date. The step up to Div 2 was a great challenge and one the boys handled very well. We made reasonable progress on our whole team defence game style but midfielders and half forwards still have a way to go before they are instinctively working up the ground and getting behind the ball. We didn't make as much progress as I had hoped on using the ball laterally and opening the play up for ourselves to use the ball more efficiently into our forward line. We still tended to play under 9 footy and keep belting the ball back up the line from where it had come. Especially when under pressure from better teams. I hope each player enjoyed the opportunity of playing in multiple positions during the course of the season.

Ultimately, we didn't end up earning the right to play finals this year. We were competitive against every side in our division but ultimately didn't win a couple of crucial close games against teams above us; and lost one game we shouldn't have, to a team below us. To the boys credit (and parents) we had a tough draw with only 2 home games before the mid year break and a number of injuries which meant we were challenged for numbers on quite a few occasions. We all got to know our way up the coast to Burpengary and Narangba very well that's for sure! But the boys showed tremendous resilience and I learned that this group of young men has a lot of character. Footy is full of good and bad days and I have no doubt our "tough experiences" this year will have brought the boys closer together as a group. But there is no denying that the top teams were better drilled and more advanced in their game plan than we were. For that, the coach takes full responsibility. The best example was the top team Redlands. We produced our best performance of the year in the second round over at Redlands. Our pressure and tackling was superb and the effort from our whole team was outstanding. But Redlands set up well at stoppages and consistently used one backwards handball out of congestion followed by one or two lateral handballs to clear the ball into space. This then allowed them to move the ball into their forward line with far more efficiency than the mighty Bears. As a result they out scored us. That was the difference between the sides.

Pleasingly, the boys recognised the way Redlands played in our weekly debrief. Hearing that sort of self-analysis by the boys was probably the highlight of the season for me. Having recognised the importance of clearing the ball effectively from congestion, we can now work on this aspect of our own game. Learning to move the ball laterally to create space for ourselves and take advantage of our "outside speed" will increase our scoring efficiency and take our team to another level next season.

My report would not be complete without a few thank you's. Firstly, to all the players for their outstanding commitment and effort. Thank you for the respect you showed me and congratulations on the way you represented your club.

Thanks to my assistant coach and runner Brent Warren. Brent is an excellent junior/youth Footy coach and a real asset to the club. In particular, Brent covering me at training when I was away with work took a lot of pressure off.

Thanks to Mel and Jason Fortescue for again managing the team. Mel is the best manager around. She does it so well, her son volunteers her for the school Basketball management role as well! Jase thanks for helping me see the lighter side of being a youth footy coach. Turning up and having some fun is important for everyone.

And finally thanks to all the parents who are so generous with their time in helping out in various roles on game day, getting the boys to and from training and games and offering terrific support despite more losses than wins. You can be very proud of the young men you are raising. I sincerely hope that your son and yourselves have enjoyed the season and we see you back at the Might Kenmore Bears in 2017.

### The Players

**Jared Alexander** – Natural athlete with very clean hands. Took his game to another level in 2016 in only his third season of Australian Footy. Crucial role as an attacking half back. Great potential in Australian Rules Footy.

**Ethan Appleby** – Member of our Three Musketeers. Terrific season as a first year player. Great young man. Keen to learn and a good listener. Rapid improvement in skills during the season. Showed great promise as a ruckman late in the season.

**Max Bacon** – Great athlete with ability to run and break lines and possesses a penetrating kick. Real barometer for our team – if Max plays well the team plays well. Damaging player off half back with obvious ability as a midfielder if fit enough.

**George Bowman** – Great Season. Still eligible for under 12's yet held down the No.1 ruckman position for much of the season in what was a crucial role for the team. Demonstrable improvement in skills during the year.

**Myles Brown** – Leader of the Musketeers and our Vice Captain. Tall, mobile player with elite left foot kicking skills. Great goal sense himself, but very unselfish instinctively dishing off handballs and short passes as goal assists. Played predominantly CHF but equally valuable in midfield. An outstanding season.

**Will Buchanan** – Broken arm in second game cruelled first half of the season. Versatile player that adds flexibility to team structure. Good right foot kicking skills. Uses handball instinctively and good use of voice. Made good progress on tackling and defensive aspects of game late in the season.

**Charles Connell** – A very welcome addition to the group mid season. Classy right footer with good pace and natural goal instincts. Proved very capable as an attacking defender and winger as well. Adds a lot to our outside running capability.

**Jai Decker** – Our Captain because he leads by example. Super competitive. Rarely beaten in one on one contests. Equally adept in Key Forward, Key Defence or Midfield role. Great young man who loves his Footy. Pleasure to coach.

**Dylan Ebertson** – Great athlete with fierce competitive instincts and a tackling machine. Slower start to the year playing in the midfield, but once settled on half back was regularly best on ground.

**Oliver Fortescue** – Great season as a hard working inside midfielder. The tougher it is the better Ollie likes it. Notably in our best players against the Div 1 sides during grading. Uses handball creatively to create space from packs. Will take game to another level with improvement in kicking penetration.

**Patrick Gibson** – playing up in age but you wouldn't know it. Tough, close checking defender who always puts the team first. Good potential as a key forward as body develops. Great right foot kick, great trainer and listener.

**William Gibson** – Another very versatile player who played multiple roles during the year. Good skills, great use of voice and good footy brain. One of our few players that know's how to run into space and use the ball laterally.

**Isaac Lihou** – “The Wall”. Outstanding defender but looked dangerous when given opportunities forward. Will play well anywhere because he reads the play exceptionally well. Season impacted by injury and illness at times. One of our most important players.

**Aidan Lloyd** – Highly talented small forward with great pace and a good pair of hands. Significant improvement in kicking skills during the year. Will become even more dangerous once he masters the art of being “front and square” at marking contests and not getting forward of the ball too early. Very capable as a running midfielder as well.

**Rory Marsden** – Very good season working his way back from a knee reconstruction in 2015. Good athlete, very good right foot kick and able to take a strong pack mark. With full confidence in the knee next year is capable of dominating games from either CHF, CHB or midfield.

**Nathan Parry** – Amazing first season of Australian Footy. From first game, just naturally found the footy. Natural athleticism and endurance running capability. Consistent improvement in game awareness and skills during the year. Our third member of the Musketeers. Great potential as an Australian Rules Footy player.

**Cooper Perkins** – thoughtful, committed left footer. A natural small forward, Coop was deliberately given opportunities in defence and the midfield this year to help in his Footy development. Did a great job in these new roles and had a number of break-out games during the year.

**Lachlan Searles** – Lachie also played a variety of roles from deep forward to deep defence. Great listener who receives feedback well and importantly then implements that feedback next chance he gets. Learned to play in front at all times and provide a contest to bring other players into the game. Great improvement in kicking skills.

**Eli Silva** – Courageous and quick, Eli was outstanding on a wing this year. Played other memorable games in the midfield and as a small pressure forward racking up huge tackle numbers. Right foot kicking and overhead marking have improved significantly. Put his body on the line to make a crucial tackle against a much larger opponent in the last game of the year, which lead directly to us kicking the winning goal. Inspirational stuff!

**Benny Walter** – What a gentleman. Thanks me after every single training and game. Rapidly becoming one of our best right foot kicks. Another crucial cog in our miserly defensive unit. Great concentration and team first attitude. Continues to pick up the rhythm of Australian Footy after switching from Soccer. Seeing someone like Benny do well makes it all worthwhile.

**Lachie Warren** – Naturally talented left footer. Ideal midfielder capable of winning own footy but also causing damage with outside run. Good hands overhead and on a lead. With confidence and practice will become a goal kicking midfielder. A leader in our group that other players look to for example.



## UNDER 14



We hope the team had as much fun as we did coaching them in 2016. While there were some disappointing moments, there was a lot of laughter and ribbing of each other both at training and on match day which provided a good environment for all.

We had a full squad of 22 as at game 1 through the efforts of the boys to actively recruit friends from school etc. Thank you for that as we would not have made it without these new faces. The new players, Mitch, Angus, Dom, Brenoki, Austin, Tom, Jari , and returning Morgan , all fitted in very well and were great inclusions.

While we didn't achieve our stretch goal of top two, we did achieve the goal of making finals. Unfortunately, we saved our worst performance for this game. The boys learnt the hard way that if you don't come prepared to give 100% effort and desire you won't achieve the outcome.

We only had a full squad in 1 out of 16 games, meaning we didn't really establish continuity. On the flip side every player played in multiple positions and hopefully learnt more about the game.

Our team

### **Alex Price-Powell**

Solid back pocket who improved with greater confidence to get us out of trouble and save goals against multiple opponents. Alex talks with his actions and has steadily improved year on year.

**Dan Weatherly**

Dan had a good year playing mainly as one of our key backs against big forwards. Reads the game well, good marking ability and has great closing speed to his opponent. Good potential who with continued work can play whatever level he wants.

**Mitch Bradshaw**

First year player who picked up the game very quickly. Rock solid in the backs and showed real enthusiasm to learn and do well.

**Isaac Barwick**

Isaac showed real improvement particularly in the last month of the season. He bobbed up when you needed him in both back and forward line.

**Jack O'Flaherty**

Continued his improvement from last year to become one of our key backs. The best tackler in the competition whose determination took him to another level as a player, where he also became a running half back. Great season.

**Isaac Luhrs**

Great year from one of our leaders. Eventually settled into CHB and ruck rover, our leading contested marker who through hard work showed more improvement in mobility and kicking skills and used the ball very well.

**Caleb Whitehead**

Rock solid, very reliable and competitive key member of our back line. Best two games of year were at full back and full forward showing his versatility. Great potential, keep working hard and you'll achieve your goals.

**Nathan McMutrie**

Has good skills, athleticism and reading of the game. Had a couple of very good games where he demonstrated his potential.

**Dylan Palmer**

Showed great improvement and locked down one of the wings. With his better understanding of the game, athleticism and never give in attitude became one of our link players.

**Jack Spry**

Bottom of most packs, improved his ball use and positioning to be one of our key players. Never gave up, always gave his all and could be relied on every week to be one of our leaders on the field.

**Dom Letizia**

Another first year player who picked up the game very quickly. Played on a wing because of athleticism and no fear approach. Often tackling players, a foot taller, as a result got more and more of the ball as the season progressed. Great work Dom

**Ash Wells**

Boomer has great skills and athleticism and turned some games in our favour using these attributes. Improved his ball getting ability considerably this year to show a lot of overall improvement.

**Jaiden Tallis**

Mr unlucky unfortunately JT got two serious injuries and missed a majority of the season. All his pre-season work will have to be repeated next year as we missed him during the season. Great to see him at games and training despite being injured which illustrated the bond between this group.

**Tom Mulvihill**

Mulvi played mainly at CHF a difficult position. Mulvi was a key player this year and one of our vice captains who had a good year overall. Strong contested player who presents well with heaps of potential.

**Tom Orr**

Another one of our first year players. Picked up the game pretty well, likes the open spaces and generally used the ball well. Will really benefit from first season and should flourish next year.

**Morgan Smith**

Morgan returned to the Bears this year and made an immediate impact. Reads the game very well and generally makes good decisions. Dominated games in patches this year and really worked hard on some things to make him an even better player. One of our keys who had a very good year.

**Angus Shugg**

Another first year player who just slotted in and it appeared in some games the ball was on a magnet as it just found him. Has the attributes to have good potential if you stick at it Shuggy.

**Hamish Olsen**

Our captain who led from the front. Extremely competitive by nature gave his all, improved his positioning, ball use and decision making this year to again be one of our key players. Good season mate.

**Jari Walpo**

Morgs brought Jari down and it was great having him and his smile in the team. Great natural ability who will really benefit from the year and showed that he has potential next year and beyond.

**Charlie McClelland**

Charlie relished the move into the ruck. Unfortunately for both the team and Charlie a broken finger took 1/3 of the season away. Showed real promise as tap ruckman a good sign for next year. Squashed the myth that make up wearers can't Ruck!

## **Austin McCue**

Aussie was new to the Bears and a welcome addition being 6 foot plus. Handy in the ruck who loved kicking goals when playing up forward. Future as a key forward who can be focal point and take pack marks.

A huge thank you to Mark Spry and Liam Anderson, I thought we made a good Coaching team who had a good time doing it. I know I could not have done it without you guys. Also thank you to the parent group for all of your assistance on game day and getting your child to training.

This is a great bunch of young men and it has been the absolute pleasure for Mark, Liam and I to have some influence over their development as young men and players.

I really hope they all continue next season for the Bears, if you look at the fact that we had 7 (33%) new players of which 5 were first year AFL players and 6 Under 13's it was a very good effort by everyone. To the more experienced guys, thank you for helping with the less experienced, together it all bodes well for 2017, as hopefully we will have a Core group of at least 20 that we can build on.

As a personal aside thank you to Nat, Jacob and Isaac for putting up with me in the car trip home after some games, I know it isn't nice, at least you have had over 8 years' experience, and the good balances some of it out.



## UNDER 15 GIRLS



The inaugural year of girls' football at Kenmore was a big success for our U15s, regardless of what the ladder looked like. There was a massive learning curve at the start of the season for all our girls, parents and coaching and management team but it resulted in incredible improvements every single week at training and in games. We hit our first challenge before round one, when we lost Shilo Monday to a broken arm and that was the beginning of a season-long struggle to keep enough players on the field to avoid forfeiting games. I don't think I've ever seen so many injuries in such a small group of footballers! Fortunately the dividing of the competition mid-season seemed to steady the injury rate a bit, and was a huge relief after being pitted against several teams with at least 3 years more experience than us for the first half of the season.

Despite the unbalanced competition, not once did the team drop their effort or commitment to the game, and that's testament to the outstanding character and attitude of our 16 young ladies and their parents. The team built a culture of some of the best sportsmanship, resilience, persistence, encouragement and enjoyment that I have seen in footy, and it was such a privilege and pleasure to be part of. Payney and I said several times that we've got a team of the best sports in the competition and that is something we're very proud of. A massive thank you to all our amazing parent volunteers, and especially team manager Despina Vincent, who made everything so much easier for all of us. Hope to see all the girls back next year with some friends to fill our new age groups too!

**Chloe Davies (Vice Captain)** We were really excited about having Chloe's height and physicality on board for the season, bringing great tackling skills across from rugby. Unfortunately we lost her to two successive injuries for a big chunk of the season but the games we had her for she always made a big impact, setting the bar high for second efforts and one percenters.

**Maddison 'Woody' Wood** Woody is a natural footballer who took to the sport like she's been playing her whole life. Her run and carry and athleticism was second to none, as was her ability to get a kick away no matter how tight a contest was. The other feature of Woody's game was her consistency, she always brings her A-game and her efforts lift the team.

**Madeleine Pepper** Over the season Pepper grew into a really diverse player, who was handy as a running back, defensive forward or a midfield rotation. Her shepherding is a big strength of her game and demonstrates her team focus, and she always backs herself to take on an opponent and run through packs.

**Izabella Baker** Izi is another player who became a genuine utility. She's a very coachable and never stops running during a game. She always makes second, third and fourth efforts at the footy and will chase an opponent from end to end if she has to. We really missed her pace and endurance when she was injured for the last few games of the season.

**Natasha Vincent** Tash was one of the girls whose attitude really helped set the tone for the whole group. She was injured for a big chunk of the first half of the season but never failed to be at training, observing, encouraging and joining in where she could. When she came back from injury she slotted straight back in and her defensive pressure in particular was a big bonus for the team.

**Loryn D'Roza (Captain)** Loryn's skills, experience and maturity made her the obvious pick for captain at the start of the season. She uses her body well in contests, and has a booming kick which helped us gain a lot of metres during games. She was invaluable in defence but when we could spare her to have a run in the forward line or midfield she brought a lot of drive there as well. It was a big blow having her injured for the second half of the season and we wish her all the best recovering from ACL and PCL surgery.

**Philipa Richards** Philipa is a small forward or defender whose endeavour on field is anything but small. She worked really hard on her skills at the start of the season and it was great to see that paying off with her dishing clean handballs out of packs and always pushing to influence contests. As one of the youngest on the team, this year was great for Philipa's development and we hope to see her back to build on it next season!

**Charlotte Birkinshaw** Charlotte was the youngest (and tallest) on the team, but by the end of the season you wouldn't have known it. She took naturally to the ruck when we had to throw her in after a couple of injuries and after that was a regular ruck rotation. The improvement in her tackling and marking, and her goal in the last couple of weeks of season were big highlights.

**Jordan Bond** Jordy is a really talented footballer with pace to boot. She was one of our most consistent and hardest workers, particularly in defence, and several times we watched her sprint at least half the field to stop a certain goal. Jordy has great game sense and reads the play really well, so she's very rarely beaten to the footy when it comes her way.

**May Wever** May is a solid and versatile player who kicked 4 goals in her first game of the season and looked dangerous in front of goals whenever she was down there. We often needed her to have a run through the midfield in games, where her attack on the footy and body in contests was a big help. She was another big loss for us to injury in the tail end of the season.

**Alyssa Beasley** Alyssa was the rock in defence for the vast majority of the season. Her stats on defensive marks inside 50 would rival some of the top full backs in the AFL. She's got a great read on the play, and almost always knows where the ball will fall, and is there to wrap it up and rebound back into the midfield. She's also known to take some solid hits and continue to soldier on and play out games.

**Emily Siddle** Em came into the team part way through the season and she was a revelation. She's a natural athlete with plenty of speed, and after getting a few games under her belt she was one of the most effective tacklers on the team as well. Her dedication for the team is always evident in how she pushes herself to apply pressure to opposition players.

**Gene Godfrey** Gene is another who came in mid-season and made an immediate impact with an important goal in her first game. She's a great asset to our forward line, with a real hunger for the footy and to get goals on the board. She also lifts the team with good voice and big celebrations after goals (and points sometimes).

**Phoebe De Glas** Phoebe once again joined us later in the season and we are so glad she did! I had trouble believing she hadn't been playing her whole life because she took to it like a pro, laying big hits, taking big marks and playing way above her height. We had trouble deciding where to play her, because she makes a huge difference to whichever group she plays in, but she's a particularly effective ruck.

**Shilo Mondey** Shilo broke her arm before we'd even made it to round one, but to her credit she was at every single training session and game while she was injured. The dedication paid off in spades, because when she came back into the team she was brilliant. She's a real competitor who goes in full steam to every contest with no regard for who's in her way and wins a lot of the footy because of it.

**Lucy Siddle** Lucy came into the team a couple of weeks after Emily and has a lot of strength despite being one of the younger girls. She always gets contact on around a contest, whether it's a shepherd, bump or tackle, and is able to take on much bigger girls with her strength. She's also got a big boot when she gets in space to use it.



## MILESTONE PLAYERS 2016



# 100 GAMES

*Hamish Olsen U14*

*Ashley Wells U14*

*Jack Spry U14*

*Maxx Bacon U13*

*Myles Brown U13*

*Jai Dekker U13*

*Ollie Fortescue U13*

*Patrick Gibson U13*

*William Gibson U13*

*Lachlan Searls U13*

*Lachlan Warren - U13*



# 150 GAMES

*Isaac Luhrs U14*

*Morgan Smith U14*

*Congratulations!*



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