



**Busy:** Moe’s Hollie Bugeja looks to promote the ball up the court under pressure from Morwell’s Ellie Pollutro on Saturday.

# Parrots, Lions in top form

NETBALL  
GIPPSLAND LEAGUE

WINTRY weather made for a less than ideal start to the 2021 Gippsland League netball season.

The talking point of the round was Leongatha’s six goal win over Traralgon, with the visitors taking a 50-44 victory back to Parrot Park.

Jessica Edgar shot 32 goals for the victors, and received good support from Lauren Redpath and Hannah Flanders who scored 18 goals herself.

The Maroons found good contributions from Caitlan Ponton, Sophie Lecchino and Rebecca Jennings.

A strong second half by Moe saw the Lions to a 48-40 win over reigning premier Morwell.

The Lions led by one goal at the main change, before slamming on 12 goals to four in the third. Morwell scored the same amount in the last, but Moe was able to keep them at bay with 11 goals of their own.

Former Moe player Shannon Freeman got her coaching career with Warragul off to an ominous start, with the Gulls winning 52 to 24 against Bairnsdale.

The Gulls were rarely challenged, and ensured a long and sombre drive back for the visitors.

Mia McGarrity and Alex Cole played well for Warragul, while Macy Tatnell, Alison Dwyer and Charli Young battled hard for the Redlegs.

Maffra defeated rivals Sale 35-30 in a keenly-contested match played yesterday.



**Soaring:** Morwell’s Abbey Noblett gets off the ground to catch this ball. photographs tom gannon

## Blues start strongly

NETBALL  
NORTH GIPPSLAND

ROSEDALE opened its A Grade premiership defence with a convincing 44-20 win against TTU on Saturday.

The Blues controlled proceedings from the get-go and rarely gave the Bombers a look-in.

Rosedale coaches Linley Bertacchini and Sarah Mayman would have been delighted with the quality of their side’s play across all four quarters.

The win puts the Blues at the top of the ladder following Round 1.

Woodside won a high-scoring and entertaining contest against Glengarry.

More than 100 goals were scored during the match with the Wildcats prevailing 58-45.

Woodside were mighty impressive in attack and signalled why they will again be a serious contender in 2021.

Despite the defeat, the Magpies showed enough to suggest an improvement on fifth from 2019 is a distinct possibility.

Sale City were the only side to score an away win in Round 1.

The Bulldogs withstood a lion-hearted challenge from Gormandale to score a 46-28 victory.

Heyfield scored a 48-29 win against Cowwarr in the other A Grade game, while Churchill had the bye.

**B GRADE:** Winners were Yarram (on Good Friday), Glengarry, Heyfield, Cowwarr, Rosedale and Sale City.

**C GRADE:** Winners were Yallourn Yallourn North (on Good Friday), Glengarry, Heyfield, Rosedale and Sale City.

**D GRADE:** Winners were Yallourn Yallourn North (on Good Friday), Glengarry, Cowwarr, Rosedale and Sale City.

**17 YEARS AND UNDER:** Winners were Yarram (on Good Friday), Glengarry, Heyfield, Rosedale and Sale City.

**15 YEARS AND UNDER:** Winners were Yarram (on Good Friday), Glengarry, Heyfield, TTU and Sale City.

## Magpies dominant

NETBALL  
MID GIPPSLAND

DEFENDING champions Yinnar sounded an ominous warning to their rivals with a commanding 76-10 away victory against Thorpdale in the opening round of the new season.

The Magpies showed the time away from the court due to COVID-19 pandemic had not impacted on their teamwork with a simply devastating display.

Thorpdale battled hard, but Yinnar’s class shone through as the Magpies stretched their advantage at every change.

The sizeable win was enough to put Yinnar top of the ladder on percentage, albeit just after Fish Creek enjoyed a winning debut in the Mid Gippsland competition.

The Roos took care of former Alberton rivals Tarwin 37-5 in blustery conditions at Tarwin.

Fish Creek gained the upper hand early, leading 12-2 at the first change, a margin they extended at every break. Tarwin struggled to find any fluency in attack and were kept scoreless during the final term.

Mirboo North showed it will be a serious contender under coach Ebony Best, defeating Boolarra 75-39 at Boolarra.

The Tigers finished third in 2019 and are eyeing a top two finish this time around.

Hill End signalled a better season is in store with an impressive 37-17 away win at Foster.

Coach Lillian Duff would have been delighted at the way Rovers overcame the youthful Tigers.

Foster’s line-up did look markedly different to the side which hoisted the 2019 Alberton League premiership, but nonetheless, the result demonstrates what level the Tigers will need to get to if they are to be a finals contender this season.

Morwell East opened its campaign with an impressive 63-24 win away at Newborough.

Much like the football contest, it was a close game early before the Hawks gained control and flew away from their opponents.

Toora defeated MDU 39-17 in the other opening round match, while Stony Creek had the bye.

**B GRADE:** Winners were Mirboo North, Fish Creek, Hill End, Toora, Morwell East and Yinnar.

**C GRADE:** Winners were Mirboo North, Fish Creek, Hill End, Toora, Morwell East and Yinnar.

**D GRADE:** Winners were Mirboo North, Fish Creek, Hill End, Toora, Morwell East and Yinnar.

**17 YEARS AND UNDER:** Winners were Mirboo North, Tarwin, MDU and Morwell East, with Foster, Yinnar and Stony Creek having the bye.

**15 YEARS AND UNDER:** Winners were Mirboo North, Fish Creek, Foster, MDU, Newborough and Yinnar.

### GIPPSLAND LEAGUE

**A GRADE - Round 1:** Drouin 48 d Wonthaggi Power 39, Moe 48 d Morwell 40, Leongatha 50 d Traralgon 44, Warragul 52 d Bairnsdale 24, Maffra 35 d Sale 30.

LADDER	P	W	L	D	F	A	%	Pts
Warragul	1	1	0	0	52	24	216.7	4
Drouin	1	1	0	0	48	39	123.1	4
Moe	1	1	0	0	48	40	120.0	4
Maffra	1	1	0	0	35	30	116.7	4
Leongatha	1	1	0	0	50	44	113.6	4
Traralgon	1	0	1	0	44	50	88.0	0
Sale	1	0	1	0	30	35	85.7	0
Morwell	1	0	1	0	40	48	83.3	0
Wonthaggi	1	0	1	0	39	48	81.3	0
Bairnsdale	1	0	1	0	24	52	46.2	0

**B GRADE - Round 1:** Wonthaggi Power 53 d Drouin 35, Morwell 39 d Moe 3, Traralgon 56 d Leongatha 40, Warragul 37 d Bairnsdale 24, Maffra 53 d Sale 42.

**C GRADE - Round 1:** Wonthaggi Power 32 d Drouin 21, Morwell 32 d Moe 8, Traralgon 34 d Leongatha 25, Warragul 42 d Bairnsdale 23, Maffra 47 d Sale 19.

**17 YEARS AND UNDER - Round 1:** Wonthaggi Power 42 d Drouin 15, Moe 25 drew Morwell 25, Traralgon 30 d Leongatha 15, Warragul 23 d Bairnsdale 18, Maffra 38 d Sale 29.

**15 YEARS AND UNDER - Round 1:** Wonthaggi Power 47 d Drouin 13, Morwell 40 d Moe 11, Traralgon 57 d Leongatha 6, Bairnsdale 26 d Warragul 19, Sale 28 d Maffra 22.

**13 YEARS AND UNDER - Round 1:** Wonthaggi Power 35 d Drouin 3, Morwell 50 d Moe 11, Traralgon 65 d Leongatha 21, Bairnsdale 54 d Warragul 4, Sale 26 d Maffra 21.

### MID GIPPSLAND

**A GRADE - Round 1:** Mirboo North 75 d Boolarra 39, Fish Creek 37 d Tarwin 5, Hill End 37 d Foster 17, Toora 39 d MDU 17, Morwell East 63 d Newborough 24, Yinnar 76 d Thorpdale 10.

LADDER	P	W	L	B	F	A	%	Pts
Yinnar	1	1	0	0	76	10	760.0	4
Fish Creek	1	1	0	0	37	5	740.0	4
Morwell East	1	1	0	0	63	24	262.5	4
Toora	1	1	0	0	39	17	229.4	4
Hill End	1	1	0	0	37	17	217.7	4
Mirboo North	1	1	0	0	75	39	192.3	4
Stony Creek	0	0	0	1	0	0	0.0	4
Boolarra	1	0	1	0	39	75	52.0	0
Foster	1	0	1	0	17	37	46.0	0
MDU	1	0	1	0	17	39	43.6	0
Newborough	1	0	1	0	24	63	38.1	0
Tarwin	1	0	1	0	5	37	13.5	0
Thorpdale	1	0	1	0	10	76	13.2	0

**B GRADE - Round 1:** Mirboo North 62 d Boolarra 17, Fish Creek 47 d Tarwin 28, Hill End 35 d Foster 25, Toora 44 d MDU 10, Morwell East 50 d Newborough 43, Yinnar 55 d Thorpdale 15.

**C GRADE - Round 1:** Mirboo North 48 d Boolarra 26, Fish Creek 38 d Tarwin 10, Hill End 32 d Foster 17, Toora 35 d MDU 18, Morwell East 36 d Newborough 20, Yinnar 60 d Thorpdale 8.

**D GRADE - Round 1:** Mirboo North 53 d Boolarra 12, Fish Creek 24 d Tarwin 16, Hill End 32 d Foster 14, Toora 21 d MDU 15, Morwell East 42 d Newborough 18, Yinnar 49 d Thorpdale 8.

**17 AND UNDER - Round 1:** Mirboo North 60 d Boolarra 13, Tarwin 19 d Fish Creek 14, MDU 27 d Toora 18, Morwell East 33 d Newborough 25.

**15 AND UNDER - Round 1:** Mirboo North 26 d Boolarra 17, Fish Creek 24 d Tarwin 10, Foster 17 d Hill End 3, MDU 29 d Toora 3, Newborough 35 d Morwell East 13, Yinnar 24 d Thorpdale 14.

### NORTH GIPPSLAND

**A GRADE - Round 1:** Yarram 40 d YYN 36, Woodside 58 d Glengarry 45, Heyfield 48 d Cowwarr 29, Rosedale 44 d TTU 20, Sale City 46 d Gormandale 28.

LADDER	P	W	L	B	F	A	%	Pts
Rosedale	1	1	0	0	44	20	220.0	4
Heyfield	1	1	0	0	48	29	165.5	4
Sale City	1	1	0	0	46	28	164.3	4
Woodside	1	1	0	0	58	45	128.9	4
Yarram	1	1	0	0	40	36	111.1	4
YYN	1	0	1	0	36	40	90.0	0
Glengarry	1	0	1	0	45	58	77.6	0
Gormandale	1	0	1	0	28	46	60.9	0
Cowwarr	1	0	1	0	29	48	60.4	0
TTU	1	0	1	0	20	44	45.5	0
Churchill	0	0	0	1	0	0	0.0	0

**B GRADE - Round 1:** Yarram 42 d YYN 25, Glengarry 40 d Woodside 28, Cowwarr 59 d Heyfield 44, Rosedale 50 d TTU 36, Sale City 50 d Gormandale 30.

**C GRADE - Round 1:** YYN 38 d Yarram 16, Glengarry 29 d Woodside 24, Heyfield 31 d Cowwarr 25, Rosedale 32 d TTU 13, Sale City 40 d Gormandale 24.

**D GRADE - Round 1:** YYN 34 d Yarram 28, Glengarry 38 d Woodside 9, Cowwarr 20 d Heyfield 18, Rosedale 33 d TTU 25, Sale City 59 d Gormandale 7.

**17 YEARS AND UNDER - Round 1:** Yarram 36 d YYN 26, Glengarry 37 d Woodside 23, Heyfield 57 d Cowwarr 8, Rosedale 29 d TTU 14, Sale City 68 d Gormandale 19.

**15 YEARS AND UNDER - Round 1:** Yarram 22 d YYN 14, Glengarry 25 d Woodside 18, Heyfield 50 d Cowwarr 18, TTU 28 d Rosedale 25, Sale City 51 d Gormandale 15.