

- OUR NETBALLERS ECLIPSE BEACONSFIELD - THE FOOTY FINISH WHICH STUNNED THE FANS -OUR WOMEN FOOTBALLERS ENJOY MOMENTOUS WIN. -MONKHORST STARS FOR OFC - OUR BEST PLAYERS EVER- CHECKING THE MIRROR

THIS WEEK WE HOST PAKENHAM-BUT NOTE- THE BOYS WILL PLAY AT HEALESVILLE ON SATURDAY MORNING WHILE THE WOMEN WILL PLAY UNDER LIGHTS AFTER THE SENIORS. ALL FIVE NETBALL GAMES WILL BE AGAINST PAKENHAM- GO GIRLS !

#### OFC TRAVELS TO BEACONSFIELD

WELL THAT WAS A BIG SATURDAY- EIGHT MATCHES ( THE UNDER 19s PLAYED FRIDAY NIGHT) AND WE CAME AWAY WITH THE CHOCOLATES IN FIVE OF THOSE GAMES.

ON THE FOOTY FIELD THE TWOS LOST IN A POST SIREN DRAMATIC CLIMAX TO A CLOSE GAME WHILE THE SENIORS LOST A MATCH THAT WASN'T AS ONE SIDED AS THE SCORELINE SUGGESTS.

CAN YOU BELIEVE WE HAD SIX UNDER 19s PLAYING IN THE FIRSTS ??!!

IN A STUNNING RESULT OUR WOMEN FOOTBALLERS TURNED THE TABLES ON ROUND ONE NEMISIS BELGRAVE .

BUT LETS START THE ROUND UP WITH ANOTHER RESULT THAT LEFT EVERYONE SMILING ON SATURDAY -

A GRADE NETBALL-HOWARD'S AWESOME DEBUT

Tim Smith's team faced a moment of truth last Saturday. The new look side

had managed to retain an unbeaten record while at times looking just a little vulnerable.

Beaconsfield was also unbeaten and not without reason had some belief that it had narrowed the gap between the two teams (remembering that OFC had been the yardstick for success in 2019).

However we welcomed back one of our favourites - triple Premiership player Maddy Taylor- and the team immediately looked balanced AND dangerous.

PLUS we took the wraps off teenage Goal Shooter Hayley Howard who gave a sensational performance.



A welcome sight - Maddy T back in the red and white

By quarter time we had raced to a 14-7 lead and the girls never looked back easing home to a 55-39 win over Beacy. We asked coach Tim Smith for his highlights-

- 17 year old Hayley Howard shot 30/31 in two and a half quarters against quality defence (that is awesome Hayley!!)

- Maddy returned for her first competitive game since 2019 and settled back in very well.

- Brodie Smith was again outstanding in GK, restricting the League's leading GS to 34 in four quarters .

So- OFC has now put four points between us and the pursuing pack in A Grade.

While we're on a netball roll let's check in with the U17s- the youngsters have climbed to third on the ladder, behind Narre and Berwick, on the back of their 27-17 win over Beaconsfield.

Given that we are regularly playing clubs that have under age teams feeding their U/17s this is a particularly strong result (so far)



OFC U/17 girls- turning heads in AFL Outer East

U/17 Coach Jo Hawksworth says the girls are really jelling as they put into practice what they are learning on the training court.

Particularly pleasing, says Jo, are the amount of goals we are scoring from turnovers.

Jo says it was a tougher game than the scoreline indicates so it's great to grab the four points.

Check the other netball action below.

SCARY SCOREBOARD DOESN'T REFLECT "ON FIELD" FOOTY ACTION.

#### Seniors at Beaconsfield

On a warm Saturday afternoon away from home, Olinda's seniors were treated to perfect conditions for football in their biggest challenge for the year so far against ladder-leading Beaconsfield. With two late outs pre-game, young bloods Ethan Royle-Young and Oakley Jessop were called up.



Significantly Olinda listed six u/19s players for the clash.

Ethan Royale-Young - great balance and speed. Played Friday night for U/19s then debuted in Seniors on Saturday.

In the first term Olinda's effort was very honest, yet ball skill was poor. A high number of turnovers to the opposition helped Beaconsfield jump to a 3 goal – nil start. As per usual, key forward Lachy Taylor found himself competing against numerous defenders, and despite consistently bringing ball to ground, Beaconsfield defensive structure proved effective in limiting any scoreboard impact from the Bloods.

With a notable intensity lift from the Eagles in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, the Bloods struggled once again to hit the scoreboard and Beaconsfield was able to score repeatedly from Olinda mistakes. Matt Scharenberg and Ben Watson proved crucial in defense however, limiting the damage as much as possible and preventing a dramatic score blow out. A nine-goal lead to the Eagles didn't do justice to Olinda's effort.

Going back to the basics for the 2<sup>nd</sup> half, the message for the Bloods was "man on man" as Olinda hoped to stem the tide and prevent the outnumber that Beaconsfield had enjoyed in the first half. But in the third term the Eagle's spread was fantastic,

and their ball use was elite. They blew out the margin to 90 points at the final change.

Determined not to drop their heads and give in to a classy opposition, Olinda entered the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter ignoring the scoreboard and focussing on the little wins. Midfielder's Pat Rosier and Peter Gough continued to hit the contest hard and Nick Keegan continued to provide run.



After a dominant display in the U.19s this season Oakley "Juice" Jessup earned a Senior call up against Beaconsfield.

The Bloods finally received reward for effort, kicking 3 goals to 1 to outscore Beaconsfield for the quarter. The final result was an 80-point win to the Eagles. The take home message was Beaconsfield are excellent and Olinda can learn from the game and must keep improving. The gutsy last quarter provides a good platform for Pakenham next weekend

OFC 3-4- 22 BEACONSFIELD 15-15-105 Best players- M Scharenberg B Watson M Rosier K Currie N Keegan

This article was supplied by Frank "The Tank" Seale, and is also printed in the local Star newspaper.

## **RESERVES LOSE A HEART STOPPER**

#### By Coach Theo Zaharopoulos

Away to Beaconsfield gave us the opportunity to benchmark ourselves against another Southeast team. We went into the game with confidence and it showed in the way we played for the full 4 quarters.

We were able to match it with Beaconsfield on the big deck and little separated the teams up until we were able to kick away in the third quarter by 3 goals. Unfortunately up to that point we sustained several injuries which impacted our ability to rotate which was going to make it hard on a 19 degree day, on a big ground. Noorda, Royale-Young (James), Roger, Walter and Sarafian were prominent.



Blake Walter -a very welcome return to OFC- as an added bonus we got to meet his family as well.

With limited to no rotations Beaconsfield hit the front in the final quarter as we couldn't match their run but credit to the boys who fought back and for a moment appeared we would come away with the win.

Unfortunately luck wasn't on our side with a kick after the siren hitting the post.

Whilst we didn't come away with the win, lots of positives we can take from the game that I feel can help us get better the more this group play together.

Special mention to Liam Humphries. Oscar Sarafian and Liam Dennis who played on

#### Friday night and backed it up on Saturday. Thankyou boys.

Best Players: B. Walter, A. Rogers, R. Chazbek, M. Riordan, L. Dennis, D. Noorda

OFC 9.4.58 BEACONSFIELD 8.14.62

#### **BIG WINS TO B and C Grade NETBALLERS.**

As we have seen the U/17 girls set the tone for us on Saturday with a sensational win over Beaconsfield.

D Grade then went down 33 to 17, coach Brodie Smith says it was a tough game but a good opportunity to trial a few different combinations on court.



Divas down by nine- but tweaking some on court combos.

Brodie's C Graders had a close 24-21 win and showed great poise in the final quarter when they build on a one point lead at three quarter time. Brodie singled out Cate Anderson for a gong, "she had a ripper game with multiple intercepts shutting down her player". "The whole team worked well together and put in a consistent effort for the entire game".

In B Grade OFC and Beaconsfield were both on 12 points going into the game so the 47-39 win was probably worth a bit more than just the four points. OFC is fourth on the ladder and we've put a gap on the rest of the field. Well done Romy Schauble for making a seamless step-up from C Grade.

OFC WOMEN ENJOY BEST WIN YET ON FOOTY FIELD.

#### By coach Simon Gilson

The girls came into our return match against Belgrave (at Beacy) having learnt a lot from playing Yarra Junction the week before in really difficult conditions.
We worked on our midfield clearance setup, our defensive structures and continued to work on our ball use and running efforts during training this week. Our game this week would show us how far we've come, especially given that we expected a stronger Belgrave side than we faced in Round 1



OFC women celebrate their best win so far.

. From the start, we worked hard to win control of the footy and keep it in our half. This week we took our shots on goal and were rewarded in each quarter. Maddie Collins, in particular, kicking 3, mostly from set shots

. Our midfield matchups were pretty good, although their captain still proved a handful and got away from us at times. Clare Hyett picked her up later in the game and shut her out quite effectively, whilst also winning a mountain of footy from the middle.

Kiah Burgress was tagged fairly heavily but still managed to win the footy. Her sister, Aila, in only her second game for the Bloods, showed how second efforts can help you win contests and create scoring opportunities as she chased down a missed kick and won a free kick on the forward flank.

Chelsea Wilson had her greatest challenge in the ruck since she's being playing with us as their ruck blocked her run and jump and challenged her to find ways to win the contest.

Defensively we played very tight, high pressure football, which has been an earmark

for our season. Opposition teams have found it hard to move the ball freely in their forward line and to score against us. This was true for this match as we kept
Belgrave goalless to 3 quarter time, led ably by Casey Seymour and Beth Hopper.
Emmalee Keegan again worked really hard at contests around the ground and more often than not came up with the footy. Leah Cody was rock solid in defence, taking intercept marks and spoiling their forward entries. Ellen Jones played her best

game of the season as she showed aggression to be first at the footy. Our forward line was successful when we moved the ball in quickly and kept space for our forwards to work. Shanae Northey presented herself as a forward target and whilst she didn't score, she created opportunities. Illyah Reid showed some grunt in the midfield and our running players, such as Bella Strathairn and Isla Bradbury, worked hard on the wings to get first hands on the footy.

Belgrave came hard at us in the last quarter as we perhaps showed a little complacency with the scoreline, however we tightened up our defence in the last 4-5 minutes to keep them from scoring again. In the end, it was a great win for the girls and proved to them that their hard work and improvement could show up on the scoreboard and in the win column.

It gives us confidence going into our return match under lights at home against Yarra Junction. Whilst there's still scope for improvement, there's plenty of belief in the playing group that we'll continue to challenge sides in the comp and develop our game each week.

Best Players: M. Collins, C. Hyett, C. Wilson, K. Burgess, C. Seymour, K. Smith

#### OFC 3.7 .25 BELGRAVE 2.3.15

# Note this week's match against Yarra Junction will be played under lights AFTER the Seniors

#### U/19s- First Loss, But What a Thriller.

Coach Adam Borg-

There was a lot of excitement to play under lights on Friday night and week new we had our biggest challenge for the year ahead of us and Emerald didn't disappoint. We've struggled with our 1<sup>st</sup> quarters all year and unfortunately the trend continued. In the first quarter Emerald's intensity and structure really kept us on the back foot, we had 23 tackles which was fantastic however we were not getting our hands on the ball and if it wasn't for some fantastic defence we could have been further behind. Credit to them keeping us scoreless but our intensity was certainly there

#### which was pleasing on the upside.



Noah Desta- another dominant ruck display.

In the second the message was to get first use, work on our one touch and start looking for the 45's and to the teams credit we did that and the momentum was starting to shift. Our structure was starting to take control of the game however we still weren't getting the reward for effort on the scoreboard.

Oscar Sarafian was fantastic down back and Ethan Royal-young was really starting to give us some drive through the mid-field.

We shuffled the team around in the third moving Josh Meadows down back and Oakley Jessop into the forward line along with Oscar moving to CHB and we really gained ascendancy all over the ground however credit to Emerald's defence we still didn't get the reward on the scoreboard, they did get a couple of cheap goals which kept them in front. In the last we really wanted the team to leave nothing in the tank and to the boys credit they did just that, we did own the quarter and got some reward on the scoreboard however we did fall just short going down by 9 points in the end.

Very proud of the effort from the whole team and it was really pleasing to see the way we wrestled back control of the game from a tough start. With an improvement in the way we start games there's a lot of good things to come.

All in all a really high pressure game that was played at a high standard, plenty to like and plenty to take out of the game. Looking forward to our response next week.

Best Players: O. Sarafian, P. Hyett, N. Heron, N. Desta, M. Reid, J. Rowe

OFC 5.9 39 EMERALD 7.7 49 (OFC kicked 5.9 to Emerald 5.4 after quarter time)

#### NOTE- THE BOYS ARE AWAY TO HEALESVILLE THIS SATURDAY MORNING

### A QUICK GLANCE AT THE MIRRORMAN

In our continuing series on OFC's greatest players this week we look at a guy who owns Club records that are unlikely to ever be bettered.

#### **Check the CV-**

Eight time Club best and fairest YVMDFL Division One Best Player 1998 Triple Premiership player. Premiership Coach. 405 Games. Two season of senior footy and other clubs

He played his first Senior game in 1987 and his last in 2012 . That's 25 years of footy- a quarter of a century- in a game that is among the most taxing in the world. Yes, it's an awesome record . We should add that he came out of retirement to help us in the Twos in 2019- 32

years after commencing his Senior career,

His name is of course Michael Scott



In his last year of coaching Mick praises the guys for their big win in tough conditions at Monbulk in 2012 . Patrick Rosier and David Noorda are in the foreground.

# What was it that made this rugged midfielder such a stand out player over so many years ? We asked the man who played more matches with him than anyone- Andy Greenall-

"Mirror" was an old fashioned footballer in as much as he never rested or rotated off the bench. Other teams tried to combat his amazing stamina by rotating players off him but he continually ran them into the ground.

He was also a tough and uncompromising footballer and in his hundreds of games over many years he was seldom beaten. Simply he was unbelievable the way he played consistently good footy.

#### Ian "George" Symons was his first senior coach-

" Mick was very talented with a huge motor and consequently could run all day. He was part of a group of talented youngsters coming through in the late 80s, including Andrew Boxhead Greenall and Grant Faull (they won the Div 2 flag in 1988 and made the Div One grand final a few years later).



A "svelte" teenager- Michael Scott flying high in the 1988 Grand Final Grant Faull looks on in awe..

"Mirror's" unequalled playing record is further embellished by his selfless commitment to the Club. He was captain/coach when he led by example in 1998 and won the League Best and Fairest.

A decade later he stepped up again when OFC was unable to appoint a suitable coach. Mirror put his hand up and guided the Club through one of it's toughest years on record (2008) before reaping the rewards the following year when OFC won all three premierships in Second Division.

Incredibly this was three years after OFC recognised Mirror's service to the Club by naming the Senior B and F after him.



Michael Scott- last senior game August 2012

MICHAEL SCOTT and the "Mirror"- Michael is known throughout the League by his nickname "Mirror". It stems from the fact that he was a very handsome teenager who, allegedly, was fond of the mirror. Ian Symon's wife Deb says Mirror, and his young team mates AG and Grunna, were all a good looking bunch of kids.

## MONKHURST STARS FOR OFC- AND MILLWOOD RETURNS TO RUCK !!

Did anybody notice the junior results at the weekend ??

Wowee there are some talented kids coming through.

The U/15s inflicted Woori Yallock's first loss of the season. OFC and Woori have been the stand out teams in this age group since U/10.

Ned Ford booted two goals as the red and white got home by 5 points.



U/15s- a talented group coming through junior program

Meantime the U/13s saluted against Emerald. It's been a tough season for this group but now that the U/13s have been regraded things could open up for them.

Aiden Bates booted two goals and Olie Millwood starred in the ruck.



The "Little O" getting bigger- Oliver Millwood in action.

Finally it seems there's something special happening at U/11 level where OFC is on top of the ladder unbeaten after recent wins over Top Five rivals Monbulk and Mt Evelyn.

Alistair Deering kicked two last Sunday while Ned Monkhurst was also among the best ( cousin of long time OFC rivals in senior footy!).

Bloodlines also notices another Desta coming through with this group- Jesse- while his brother Noah stars for the U/19s.

Fletcher Brown- son of OFC favourites Duncan and Fiona-is also in the side.



Sunny days for our unbeaten U/11 boys.

BLOODLINES has also noticed that our U/15 girls are on top of the ladder. Grace Belloni has been burning it up in this team , could she turn out to be a better player than her brother, emerging star Tyler ? We also have girls in the U/13s who fly the flag each week for the red and white. We'll take a closer look at the girls teams in the weeks ahead.

## **OFC WOMEN V YARRA JUNCTION**

Because last week was a bye for senior footy we didn't run a newsletter so we held this over **Simon's report to this week.-**

Our match against Yarran Junction was shaping up to be our biggest test of the season to date. They were undefeated and their leading forward had kicked 13 goals in 3 matches. We did our homework and went into the match with a strategy to reduce their forward's impact whilst also continuing the work on developing our game. We knew it was going to be a hard game, but we wanted to show them, and ourselves, just how far we had come in such a short time. The weather was very tough for football with wet, slippery and cold conditions but the girls were fired up at the opportunity and went into the start of the game working as hard as they have all season. Our mids won lots of footy with Chelsea Wilson dominating in the ruck and also in our defensive wall. Clare Hyett, Maddie Collins and Kiah Burgess all won their fair share of footy as Yarra Junction seemed genuinely surprised by our effort and pressure. Emmalee Keegan and Ella Smith were also hard at the footy in their areas helping generate turnovers and we certainly interrupted their centre clearance play with tight defensive football.

We set Kylie Verbakel the task of matching their forward whilst Stella Thornton dropped back a spare intercept defender which was really effective in cutting off her

supply. We were also able to move the ball out of defence and win shots on goal through marks and free kicks. Unfortunately, the conditions and perhaps our inexperience under pressure meant that we couldn't capitalise, where they pounced on a lack of concentration in crucial defensive situations to score. Shane Northey, Casey Seymour and Leah Cody all provided grunt in key positions, winning footy and driving forward momentum as players such as Leah Gassl, Kim and Hannah Smith provided run on the wings. Beth Hopper again worked hard in the pockets and flanks to clear the ball from contests. Isla Bradbury, Bella Strathairn and Ellen Jones provided good run around the ground. We went into 3 quarter time three goals down, but not having scored a goal.

We'd had shots and so the message was to keep working to provide scoring opportunities. In the end, though, Yarra Junction were able to maintain composure and their work rate and continued to score in the final quarter where we couldn't. In the end, the score line didn't look great, but we did keep them to their lowest score for the year and the girls came away excited about the game and playing together. Their coach was really impressed with our efforts, saying it was their hardest match for the year. The girls saw the best in the comp and matched them in pressure and general play and every week shows continued growth and development. There's plenty to work on from the game, but the girls are raring to have another crack at Yarra Junction at home in a couple of weeks under lights

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