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**Football
Netball
Club**

*** season defining wins by Ressies and C Grade**

*** Women's footy goes down fighting.**

*** Senior Men and A Grade struggle**

*** OFC Juniors Big Day Out.**

Reserves Footy and C Grade Score Stunning Upsets.

Over the last six or seven years there have been a few occasions each season where OFC has had a Donut Day- winning every game of footy and netball against the opposition.

On Saturday against powerhouse Narre we feared OFC would be the hole in the donut - on paper we faced a clean sweep- so how good was it when our Reserves footballers and C Grade netballers enjoyed major upsets.
More about that below.



OFC inflicts the first loss for the season on Narre Warren Reserves- at Narre.



OFC inflicts the first loss for the season on Narre Warren C Grade-at Narre

Interestingly- in terms of ladder positions for all teams- OFC is probably the second most powerful Club in the competition (as we were in 2021) but the gap between ourselves and top club Narre Warren is stark.

Meantime our U/19s made it back to back wins with a sensational display at Pakenham while our Women Footballers bowed out with a brave Preliminary Final loss.

HAVE YOU HEARD- the tender process for the Netball Court (and cricket nets) redevelopment has been pushed back until next month. That's putting extra pressure on them to finish in time for the start of season 2023, Fingers crossed.

HAVE YOU HEARD #2- about our Tireless Worker who received a desperate call from an U/19 player at Pakenham on Saturday morning because the young guy had forgotten his boots.!! Our TW did what he always does and put the Club first. He raced all the way to Pakenham to get there before the game started- and got picked up by Police radar on the way.

Reserves and C Grade Netball Score Huge Upset Wins

Both our teams inflicted first losses of the season on their Narre opposition.

While the girls have been red hot in C Grade for the last month, and we rated them a chance of an upset, we did not see the Ressies victory coming.

While we held a slender four point lead at the first break Narre's pace and ball movement was decisive in the second quarter and they slammed on 3.4. to our two goals.

But nothing prepared us for what was coming after half time as we held Narre to one solitary point in the third quarter while kicking 2.3 ourselves.

If there was one pivotal moment in the match that made the upset win look like a real possibility it was when Tommy Dawson turned back the years with a stunning run from the half backline resulting in a huge long range goal. Until that point in the third quarter the two teams had been locked in a tense arm wrestle with neither side conceding a cheap possession.



Tommy Dawson turns back the clock with a line breaking run and a 50 metre goal that helped inspire the Twos to an improbable win

It's almost unfair to nominate the best players from this match because so many guys contributed to the win however James Royle-Young was even more irreplaceable than normal and skipper Paul Steen was huge in the ruck and did just as much work at ground level.

Selection will be interesting this week- with so many Seniors injured will some of the big bodied older guys be called up to play Mt Evelyn in the wet ?

Narre Warren 6.9.45 OFC 7.6.48

Best Players- Paul Steen, James Royle-Young, Connor Keegan, Tom Dawson, Dominic Woodfield, Oscar Sarafian.

Goal Scorers- Hunger Greenall 1, Glenn Stevens 1, Thomas Millwood 1, Tom Falzon 1, Tom Dawson 1, Jack Lucas 1, James Royle-Young 1,

Meantime whatever coach Chelsea Maher said to the C Grade girls before the Narre encounter she should bottle it .

OFC was electric in the first few minutes and raced to an 11-0 lead. The top team was reeling at quarter time.

To the surprise of many the expected fight back from the only undefeated team in C Grade didn't really materialise and OFC went into the last quarter with a more than handy 8 goal lead.

Again OFC fans expected Narre to come out bristling and fighting but incredibly our girls extended the margin to 12 goals and romped away to

a stunning win.

Veteran Mel Thomas led the way with 31 goals but it was truly a team effort which has suddenly put the C Grade flag into play into a big way.



Appearances can be deceptive- the game was never in the balance.

Our team- Ella Grigg, Jess McCall, Kate Anderson, Mel Thomas, Adriana Hawkins, Hannelize Human, Maddy Smith, Eliza Wilson , Victoria Clarke, Molly O'Brien.

Narre Warren 30 OFC 41

Best Players- Mel Thomas, Ella Grigg, Jess McCall

Goal Scorers- Mel Thomas 31, Adriana Hawkins 6, Victoria Clarke 5

Madi Taylor- 100 Games and 4 A Grade Flags

Yes it was a shame our A Grade women couldn't bring home the chocolates for Madison Guz (Taylor) in her 100th match for OFC on

Saturday, but it's fair to say Madi has enjoyed more than her fair share of Cadburys Roses over her extraordinary career with us.

Four premierships in 100 games is the stuff of dreams for every person who pulls on a team jumper or dress each week. Incredibly Madi played her 80th game in the 2019 Grand Final- which means she actually won a Flag in every 20th match (thanks for that stat MB) !!!

Along the way she's also produced a baby and is halfway to her second child (good luck Madi! Hope you can play out the finals series).



Madi Guz (Taylor) - recognising an amazing career by an extraordinary athlete.

A couple of anecdotes sum up Madi's team commitment- a few years back she completed the OXFAM walk from Waverly to Warburton. Its a torturous 62 kilometres, a lot of the journey is on mountain tracks. Madi fully intended to then drive to Olinda and suit up for OFC. However her body "shut down" and she had to pull out.

In 2018 she arrived home from an overseas trip on the morning of the

Grand Final- she had a quick shower, grabbed her gear and drove out to Yarra Glen where she was among the best as we went "back to back".

DALE ROHRMANN and CAM HORNER Chalk up Centuries.

Two of our most loyal and serviceable footballers also played their 100th matches against Narre.

Cam Horner came through the junior club (as his dad Geoff did before him) and first came to senior attention when he captained the 2013 U/18 team to a premiership while playing alongside younger brother Stuart.



Cam Horner, second row right, and brother Stu, front row second left, after the 2013 Premiership win.

Cam also played his first senior game in 2013, and has been a regular player in the Ones ever since.

He missed out on the 2017 Senior Flag after an infamous off the ball incident in the Prelim which has become a part of OFC folklore. It's to Cameron's great credit that he was able to put that serious injury behind him and reach this milestone.

Will the Horner boys ever wear the Red and White together in a finals series again ? Gees we'd love to see that.



Mercurial, athletic, unpredictable- Dale Rohrmann in action this season- you could select any of three dozen highlights of Dale's spectacular career through the lens of Trevor Currie.

Dale played his first match in the Red and White in 2014 during a famous four point win over benchmark club Wandin .

From the outset his style has been as unpredictable as it has been spectacular and to be candid it's worth attending games just to watch this guy play.

Dale's father Rennie also wore the Red and White and pundits have pointed out it's abundantly clear Dale inherited his athleticism , agility and speed from his mother Lindy.

As is the case with Cam Horner we have our fingers crossed Dale will get another chance to play for a Premiership. At 34 years of age he's playing as well as ever.

[A Very Special Day UP Top.](#)

We are hoping at least 10 of our famous 1958 U/16 Premiership team will join us on Saturday afternoon when a copy of the famous Thorley painting will be presented to the Club.

The painting hangs in pride of place in the MCC's Board Room at the MCG.

All members and supporters are welcome to attend the presentation inside the Social Rooms at 3.00pm during the Mt Evelyn game.



Graham Thorley's famous painting of our 1958 U/16 boys.

Robbie Reid- the tallest player in the painting- is the only one of the four boys who is able to attend. Two have ill health and the fourth, Rod Thorley- an architect in Benalla-says the day trip will be too much for him.

Presentation Night

With the 2022 football/netball season approaching it's climax, here are the current details for our presentation night:

Date: Friday 7 October 2022
Venue: Dorset Gardens. Croydon
Time: 7pm - 12am

BOOKING LINK-

<https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.trybooking.com%2FCBSWQ&data=05%7C01%7C%7C5b17ec958e7e483d2e1508da7a6156d4%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637956855742303296%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWlloiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTil6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=l2wwX2SNCNxKcphpYiH9RQ%2Br7tb11aqhiMWeCqd8Q%3D&reserved=0>

Concession price will be available for secondary students only. Please see Carey for tickets.

There will be 8 people per table with room for 2 more but no more than 10 per table - If players wish to make up a table please notify Carey before 23 September.

The Dorset will allow discounts on rooms and free entry to the night club if it is open (covid restrictions may apply).

Further information and updates will routinely be posted between now and October 7

Controversy in D Grade.

Wow ! What a match. Second v Third on the ladder a few weeks out from the finals and it was perhaps appropriate it turned out to be an absolute nailbiter.

Missing a few players, including Julie Smith and Mary Taylor, OFC was down by seven goals at the first break and it looked like we were in for a significant belting.

However Mera Pringle and Sarah Kennedy got busy with some tireless running in the second quarter and with Caz Bates and Michelle Tomlinson on target we grabbed a two goal lead at the main break.



U/17 player Mera Pringle helping D Grade- Mera gives away height and strength but makes up for it with speed, skill and superb judgement.

Narre reduced that lead to just one goal at three quarter time and then in a thrilling final few minutes edged past us.

There was some controversy when it was thought the scores were tied-up and while the winning Narre goal had left the player's hand before the final bell the ball HAN'D'T gone through the goal ring- which means it doesn't count!

Anyway- the scoreline shows a two goal win to Narre and we look forward to playing them again in a few weeks.

Narre Warren 33 OFC 31

Best Players-Michelle Tomlinson, Sarah Kennedy, Mera Pringle
Goal Scorers- Carline Bates 19, Michelle Tomlinson 12.

The Man Who Polled More Votes Than Himself.

Life Member John Faull attended the funeral of 1966 Premiership coach Arthur Gill last week and recounted the story of the crisis when South Belgrave recruited him (before he played with us).

Unable to get a clearance for him, and so desperate for him to pull on a Saints jumper, they played Arthur under an assumed name.

Unfortunately he was such a good player he started to attract umpire votes under the dodgy moniker.

As luck would have it his clearance came through during the season and Arthur took the field under his real name- and continued to attract umpires votes.

By the end of the season Dodgy Arthur had more votes than Real Arthur and in effect he beat himself in the Best and Fairest count.

U/19 Boys Go Back To Back.

Such a shame that this match was at Pakenham while the rest of the Club was at Narre.

In fact because the boys have a bye this week- and are at Narre in the final round while the rest of us are at Wandin- we've probably missed an opportunity to see them at their best.

After accounting for Officer the previous week- with just 12 players- we were hopeful the boys would at least be competitive against Pakenham. Well they were better than that, they were downright spectacular and celebrated a 40 point win.

This week we played with 14 guys, what this means is that there were few stoppages of play and 80 minutes of gut busting free flowing footy with precision passing and marking.



Ollie Clarke (25) and Lachy Body (26) were impassable in the backline.

Key forward Josh Meadows was missing from the team that beat Officer , as was young gun Christian teBoekhorst, but we welcomed back Tobeh Gaudion-Arrowsmith, Josh Rowe , Liam Humphries, Nick "Goal Sneak" Heron and U/17 star Luca Smith.

By half time Pakenham had scored just one goal as Lachy Boyd, James McBride, Josh Rowe and Ollie Clarke worked overtime to shutdown Pakenham's big forwards

In the middle, and at the front half of the ground Tobeh, "Leroy" Royle-Young, Lachie Bates and Luca Smith were simply too quick and skilful for their opponents.

We are really hoping all these guys go on with their footy next season-

we are huge fans of this group (and coach Borgey!)

Pakenham 3.4.22 OFC 8.13.61

Best Players-Darcy Falkner, Ethan Royle-Young, Lachlan Bates, Lachlan Boyd, James McBride, Josh Rowe

Goal Scorers- Lachlan Bates 2, Tobeh Gaudio-Arrowsmith 2, Nick Heron 1, Laine Fransen 1, Luca Smith 1, Ethan Royle-Young 1

Womens Footy- A Fight to the Finish



The Wattle is out- the finals are here- we salute our Women's team for making the Prelim in First Division

We will run Sacha Sullivan's season review next week but suffice to say our first season in the top division ended in a brave Preliminary Final loss to Healesville on Sunday.

We are going to return to 2018 to put this result into context.

The previous year our Senior Men had won the First Division flag but they literally limped into the finals in 2018 and seldom had their best 22 available during the year.

Our best two players, Marcus Hottes (League B and F) and Dylan Troutman were injured during the finals and we went out in straight sets. To this day the "older heads" will tell you we might have won back to back flags if...

Fast forward to 2022 at Upwey early in the season and OFC, the new kids in town at the top level, sent a shockwave through the comp by defeating the best women's team on their own ground.

After that we could seldom field our best side again and that was reflected in our results.

On Sunday we lost running machine Liy Carlin and ruck star Chelsea Wilson to injury while key forward Phoebe Dixon played under injury duress. Luck plays such a big role in sport and we really needed everything running right for us to challenge our opponents.

OFC 3.3.21 Healesville 8.6 54

Best Players- Lily Carlin, Claire Hyett, Grace Belloni, Madeleine Collins, Vanessa Bateman, Leah Cody
Goal Scorers- Grace Belloni, Ella Smith, Phoebe Dixon

Senior Footy- Salvage Operation.

We decided to move on quickly from the weekend shemozzle and not run Frank Seal's match story (which appeared in the Trader Mail).

Suffice to say OFC copped Narre on the rebound, and in comparison to recent weeks they were almost at full strength.

Yep they overran us in the first quarter but injuries to three of our best 10 players- Keegan, Belli and Matt Rosier- left us with one player on the bench after half time and a severe lack of on-field experience and nous.

The rest is history.

Interestingly while we were reduced to an incredibly young 19 players the two youngest, 16 year olds Ned Ford and Isaac Tonkin, were among our most impressive players as they continually demanded the ball and ran to contests.

Narre Warren 30.12 .192 OFC 4.6.30

**Best Players- Ned Ford, Isaac Tonkin, Peter Lucas, Dale Rohrmann,
Lachlan Taylor, Kelsey Currie**

Goal Scorers- Lachlan Taylor 2, Noah Desta 1, Nick Keegan 1

Netball- A Grade

It was First v Second on the ladder and yes we lost by 12 goals but... that was Narre's closest game since the start of July.

Only four goals separated the teams at the main break but The Magpies closed us down in the third quarter when we could manage just five goals.

The good news is that we held them to 43 goals, their second lowest score of the season, but we could shoot only 31 ourselves, and if we are to challenge Narre during the finals we've got to find a way to score more.



Defensive pressure after half time ensured there were no easy circle entries.

But as Madi told us after the match there's plenty of room for OFC improvement and this season is not done and dusted just yet.

Narre Warren 43 OFC 31

**Best Players- Brodie Smith, Holly Taubert, Hayley Howard
Goal Scorers- Hayley Howard 19, Taylah Werner 9, Jackie Cutting 3**

B Grade- Ouch

Yep, that one hurt.

While OFC has a finals berth locked away we were hoping B Grade would take it up to the ladder leaders and in fact we were optimistic after a strong first quarter.

But it went south after that and this comparatively young group went down by 30. They're on a steep learning curve and thankfully have the perfect run into the finals.

Over the next fortnight we play the two teams immediately below us on the ladder- Mt Evelyn and Wandin- which presents us with the ideal opportunity to learn and improve.



B Grade-an ideal run into the finals

Narre Warren 64 OFC 34

**Best Players - Tessa Bourke-Finn, Teagan Bethune, Rhiannon Pendleton
Goal Scorers- Bindi Bates 18, Harper Scott 18, Jessica Horner 8**

U/17s-

...and your reward after a tough day in the office against Narre Warren is... another match against the top team the following week. In a quirk of the draw the girls get to play Narre in back to back games. We had our colours lowered 40-25 on Saturday so our starting point has got to be to reduce that margin and then see where it takes us. The girls are already through to the finals so the scoreboard outcome in this match is not as important as HOW we play. Lets get behind our girls this Saturday morning !!!!



Coach Chelsea Maher debriefing the girls after their match against Narre and ahead of their match against...Narre.

Narre Warren 40 OFC 15.

**Best Players- Emily McCall, Chloe Biggs, Emily Vidler
Goal Scorers- Djay Elliott 12, Sophie Grima 2. Mera Pringle 1.**

OFC Juniors Big Day Out.

What a sensational day Up Top on Sunday with swag of our Junior Club teams playing in finals.

The U/11 boys restricted Monbulk to just two behinds while OFC peppered the scoreboard with 5.11. U/13 boys had a similarly big win over top team Mt Evelyn while the U/17 guys were also much too good for The Rovers.

Our U/16 girls lost their Elimination Final to Belgrave and the U/12s went down to Healesville.

Finally the U/15 boys had a tough time against undefeated ladder leaders Healesville in their Qualifying Final but we predict they'll bounce back with a win next week.



A huge day coming up for Ella Smith- the U/12 girls coach had the clipboard out at Olinda before driving up to Yarra Junction where she kicked a goal during the Prelim loss to Healesville

Finally we are rapt in the OFCJFC decision to name it's U/17 Best and Fairest award after Tim Scott. Tim's playing record as a junior and then coaching success as a dad are the stuff of local legend. The Senior Club has huge interest in the B and F this season after seeing

Isaac Tonkin and Ned Ford at senior level and Lachlan Bates, Christian teBroekhurst and Luca Smith in the U/19s.
They are all exciting young footballers. Will one of them or another U/17 star "take Timmy home" this year?

MEANTIME- talk about a tough week on the footy field- Ned Ford's school (Yarra Valley) copped a 111 point hiding from Assumption College then a few days later he was in the OFC team which lost by 162 points. Just as well the U/17s saluted on Sunday.



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TREV CURRIES PIC OF THE WEEK-



Turning back time- Tom Dawson goes on one of his trademark gut busting runs-and brings up a goal that was to prove crucial in the Reserves big upset win over Narre.

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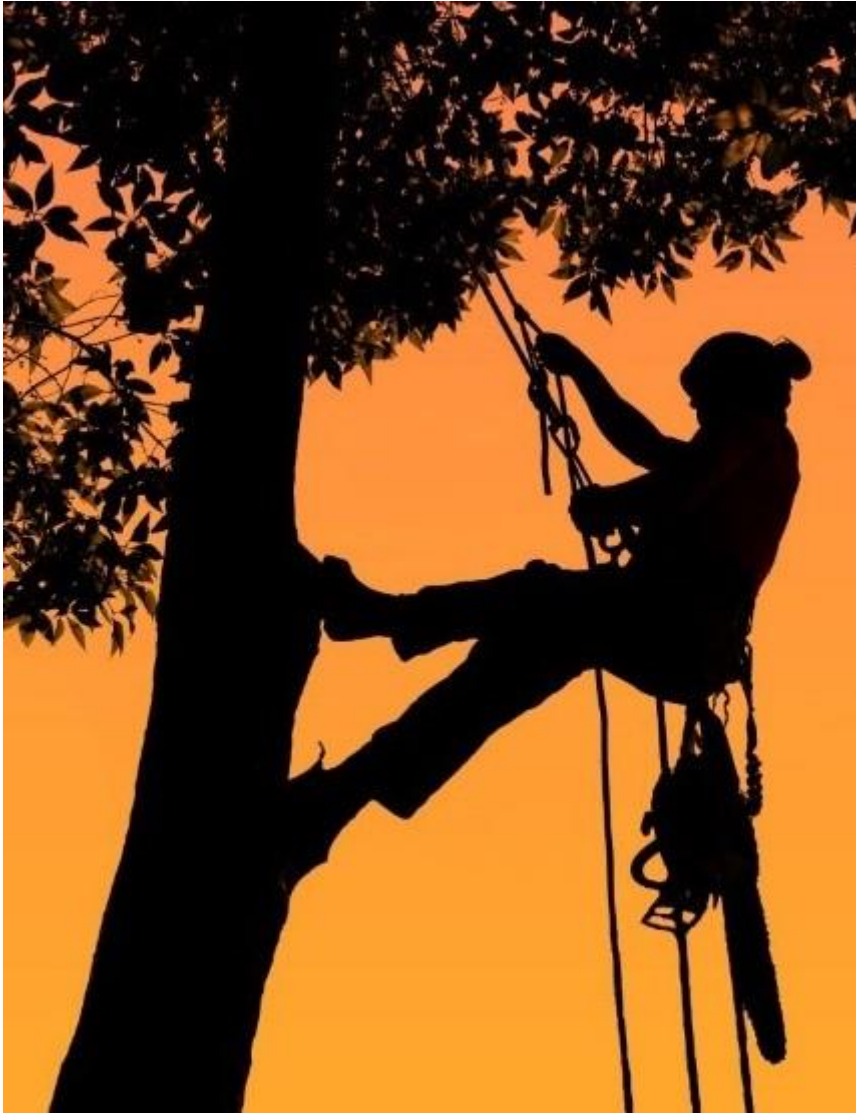
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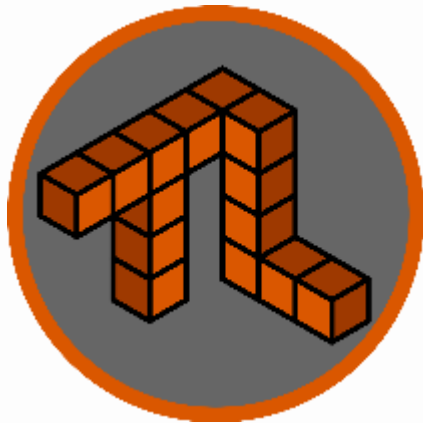
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