Olinda Ferny Creek



Football Netball Club



The lights are on and there are plenty of people home. What a buzz at Olinda on Saturday Hundreds of people were still on hand at 5.30 pm watching the OFC- Healesville women's match.

In this edition-

- men's footie the boys hit the ground running
 - women's footie- this was huge
 - netball- we split the points with Emerald

- undermanned and under the pump but under18s do us proud
 - player auction all the squads
- the mum who travelled 1400 ks to see her son debut at Olinda
 - David Noorda- 30 years and counting

Dyl Wilson Starts Coaching Career With Big Win

At quarter time of the round one OFC- Emerald game rookie coach Dyl Wilson must have been thinking "how good is this ". The Bombers, fresh up from Div One after their flag last seasonn had something of a reality check as they went to the first break scoreless while a rampaging OFC had 5.3 on the board.



Dylan Wilson's talks to the troops for the first time in a match at quarter time- with Emerald scoreless and OFC 33 points it was a case of "more of this please".

Wilson's pre season emphasis on tackling and physicality overwhelmed the visitors who often found themselves gang tackled by two or three opponents and coughing up the pill.

So complete was OFC's dominance in the first half it was difficult to identify a position we weren't winning.



Mitch Wright (in head gear) returned to the Club as S and C coach and only decided a month ago to make a playing comeback. What a huge bonus for us! He put the cherry on top with a goal on Saturday.

In the second half two things happened- Emerald adjusted to the pace of the game and we, perhaps testing our own limitations, took some high risk options

Consequently the Bombers outscored us in the third quarter.

At the last break we readjusted and in the final quarter slammed on 5.7 to Emerald's 1.3, effectively ending the game as we started.

There were plenty of highlights but the continued exciting improvement of Percy Hyett must be near the top of the list, along with Bocce's ball delivery and Matte Rosier's explosive form after we thought late last season that his illustrious career was coming to an end.

From the Coach " a perfect way to start the season with a win at home. It was a pleasure watching the boys enjoy themselves after a long pre season. I thought our pressure and tackling were outstanding, which contributed to that big early lead."

OFC 15.13.103 Emerald 6.9.45

Best Players- Percy Hyett, Matthew Scharenberg, Peter Lucas, Lachlan Taylor,
Anthony Giacobbe, Peter Gough
Goal Kickers- Lachlan Taylor 5, Mathieu Rosier 2, Noah Desta 1, Patrick Rosier 1,

Matthew Scharenberg 1, Josh Wallis 1, Mitch Wright 1, Peter Lucas 1, Anthony Giacobbe 1, Percy Hyett 1.

Netball-Splitting the Points,

When you factor in the number of netball changes OFC endured pre season then winning two of the four matches against Emerald marks a solid start for the new era at the club.

We are truly indebted to Jake, Dana, Mel, Sarah Seddon and others in our "netball family" who've worked so hard to keep us on an even keel.



Up and away- Molly Argoon shooting her first goal for OFC

Head Coach Jake Hederics on Round One-

"it was an awesome day of netball !!

Fresh new-look teams took the court representing OFC in what we are branding a new era for the Club.

Our D and B teams played wonderfully and came away with wins. Both were team wins built on strong connections and team work.

Our C Grade team fought hard and showed some real gusto. but fell short on the day. I have full confidence they will bounce back with plenty of positives to take from the day.

Similarly our A Grade team showed some moments of brilliance. Although we lost

by a large margin at no point throughout the game did I feel the score represented the gap between us and Emerald.

It was hard fought and a highly skilled game, the only difference being the experience and time both teams have had together .I have full confidence that with more time to build connections and chemistry it's a match we could win."



Dana gives off into the circle- but note the player on the far left- Ella Grigg. Ella, Mera Pringle and Harper Scott are among a bunch of young players now getting an opportunity at the elite level.

A Grade- OFC 46 Emerald 67
Best Players- Molloy Argoon, Ella Grigg, Dana Millwood

B Grade- two goals down at three quarter time the girls ground out a really inspiring three goal win. Again, as was the case in A Grade, a bunch of youngsters got there chance at a higher level.

OFC 47 Emerald 44.
Best Players- Millie Grigg, Ella Jonker, Emily McCall

C Grade- a completely new look team in C Grade with the Two Sarahs - Kennedy and Seddon- stepping up as leaders. It was a good first hit out and we managed to keep with them until the third quarter.

OFC 25 Emerald 37 Best Players-Mickey Balzereit, Rianne Fraser, Molly Jones



The Divas - first use of our new show court last Saturday morning.

D Grade- what a great way to start the action on the first Saturday of the season.

Some thoughts from coach Sarah Seddon-

"A very solid performance from the Divas right throughout the court. The feeding into the goal circle meant that our GA Matilda Brewster (who's come up from U/17s) was able to shine all game. Special mention also to Jaz Donner who played her first game for OFC and was able to carve it up n defence. Jaz took some key intercepts to help secure the victory."

OFC 26 Emerald 25

Best Players- none named so we just want to congratulate the whole team on their

first match- Matilda Brewster, Casey and Tahlia, Jasmin Donner, Ruby Fleming, Sam Mikulandra, Casey Patterson and Em van Duuren

Ressies Round One Salute

So when you look at the Senior playing list it's clear that it's a significant improvement on 2023, but when you check the Reserves things are a bit murkier. With a couple of young guys heading overseas, a couple not playing plus an injury or two we really didn't know what to expect on Saturday.

But things became a lot clearer early in the match when Cam Horner, Brody-Stone Edwards, Dyl Arnold, Ben Watson and Jonty Scott all gained quality possessions. These guys all have senior experience, and in some cases vast experience at the pointy end.

So the inevitable conclusions is that although some of the younger guys are missing the recruitment of a host of senior level players has pushed guys back into the Twos and finally given us some depth to work with.



League Reserves B and F, James Royle-Young, had limited preparation and started on the bench, but Jimmy had an immediate and significant impact as soon as he came on- for example this key goal which helped put us over the line.

A few take-aways; Cam Horner was everywhere and picked up possessions at will -Ollie Clarke's speed and tackling in the last quarter snuffed out Emerald's hopes of a comeback.

Gus Nelson- looks fitter and stronger and all of a sudden has added to our "quality depth". Speaking of which, Dyl Arnold was pretty much impassable off half back. Zack Seal- played U/18s Friday night then fronted up Saturday morning- this kid provides a sure pair of hands and nearly always runs to the right spot.

OFC- 9.12.66 Emerald - 6.10.46

Best Players- Angus Nelson, Daniel McNaughton, Jack Lucas, Ben Watson,
Cameron Horner, Dylan Arnold
Goal Scorers- Angus Nelson 2, Ayden Bordon 2, Ben Watson 2, James RoyleYoung 1, Cameron Horner 1.

..and a special shutout to the coach Theo Zaharopoulos who has worked so hard on so many footy issues over the past six months. The win was a wonderful reward for his incredibly hard work

Juniors First Game with Senior Club.

The Club is very proud that, after a series of hiccups, we were able to field an U/18s on Friday night with many of the boys representing OFCFNC seniors for the first time.

As late as Thursday night this group was still overcoming hurdles when our bid to gain over- age permits for three players was rejected.

Couple that with some of the premiership stars, Ford, Smith, Tonkin and Wilson were committed to school footy/Seniors/ Eastern Ranges then it was in many ways a victory just to get a competitive team on the field.

With just 17 players- including five Under 16s - we did well to stick with a pretty slick unit (Mt Evelyn) until half time when there was just seven points in it.

But in the second half Mt Evelyn's older boys- and weight of numbers- proved too much and the Rovers five goal third term effectively killed off the game.

Mt Evelyn 13.14.92 OFC 6.7.43

Best Players- Zachary Seal, Campbell Hutchin, Bon Sullivan, Charlie Hooper,
Cassian Hine, Aden Bates

Women' Footy-Big Night Against Big Foe

-Sacha Sullivan

OFC's Women's had a brutal start to their Premiership defence, going down to ruthless nemesis Healesville by 18 points on a beautiful twilight afternoon at Olinda on Saturday.

In a perfect world, Olinda would have gone into Round 1 with the same Barnstorming side that played the best football of it's life in the finals series last year to snatch a fairytale Grand Final victory.

In reality, Olinda was missing 7 of it's best players from that finals campaign. Talent and success can be a dual-edged sword in local football, and losing 3 players to the AFLW, VFLW and Vic Metro is a cause for celebration and concern in equal measure. Olinda rightly believes they have these losses covered, recruiting a bunch of current and potential star footballers.

11 of the 24 players listed for the game were new additions, two playing their first ever official game of AFL football.



OFC women in action- fans who have watched our women from day one are stunned at the improvement- not just individually but as a team. If you haven't seen a twilight game yet you are missing something special

Two players who took a break from footy in 2023 were cousins Maddy (Mad Dog) Collins and Phoebe (Big Dog) Dixon. Both players bring back a wealth of experience, strength and skill, Maddy captaining the side and winning the B&F in 2022 and Phoebe leading the goal kicking. Mads had a direct hand in Olinda's first 2 goals, the first a centre clearance in the opening play and the second a deft handball deep in the forward pocket.

The recipient of these assists would be forward star Olivia (The Weapon) Edwards, fresh from a bumper Summer of cricket where she captained her Wandin side to a Grand Final and won a wheelbarrow of awards, Club and League, batting and

bowling. Liv's transition back to footy was seamless, being elevated to the Leadership Group for 2024 and a clear best on ground for The Bloods on Saturday.

While Olinda outscored Healesville 12-1 in the first quarter, Healesville had most of the play, continually bombarding their forward line. Olinda's backline fought tenaciously to repel every attack, classy half-back Anna (Goanna) Hughson and first gamer and future star India (Bruiser) Griffiths the standouts.

The second quarter would start with a goal in the first minute to Healesville, and they would continue to pepper the goals, kicking 1-5 for the quarter to draw level at halftime.

The Footy Gods can be cruel, and young dynamo Chloe (The Smiling Assassin) was in their crosshairs on Saturday. Chloe is one of the team's youngest, smallest but fiercest competitor. Chloe barely missed a training session all pre-season, and works hard and diligently every minute she's there.

How do the Footy Gods repay such commitment? Chloe left the field early in the second term after an accidental kick to the face while smothering. Re-entering the fray in the third quarter, Chloe would then be crunched to the ground by an opponent twice her size, fracturing her collarbone.

Best wishes to Chloe for a speedy recovery.

Reigning Premiership Captain and B&F winner Claire Hyett was back to her imperious best in the second quarter, roaming the field and getting clearances at will.

First gamer and U18 Aurora (Razor) Edge had the ball on a string all quarter and was unlucky not to score a goal, but it was a great taste of things to come.

Healesville continued to pepper their forward line in the third quarter, but their inaccuracy was keeping Olinda in the game. Olinda's best play in the match came late in the quarter when deep in the back pocket a fierce tackle by Miss Football Lily (Swag n' Chips) Carlin forced the ball loose. Lil had a great Summer too, earning herself a train-on spot in Hawthorn's VFLW side and being appointed Co-Captain at Olinda. Lil is called Miss Football for a reason, and any rewards that come her way are more than well deserved.

The ball spilled loose and was scooped up by young star Charlotte (Webby) Edwards. Younger sister of The Weapon, Charlotte won the League B&F while captaining Mt. Evelyn's U16 side to a Grand Final appearance last year. Webby fits

perfectly into Olinda's mosquito fleet, and all at the Club are rapt to have her. You will be reading her name again.

Webby handballed to Ness (Burgers) Curnow (nee Bateman) who has also been rewarded for her commitment to the team and the game with a place in the Leadership Group. Ness handballed to Big Dog Dixon who thundered the ball into the centre square. The hard contest was won by Razor Edge and the handball was fed to Mars Kostich-Angerson who belted the ball into the forward line in front of a swooping Eloise(Ello)Tyler. Ello, another promising U18 and first gamer beat her opponent to the ball and kicked truly from long range.

It would be the last hurrah for the Bloods, as Healesville finally found their radar and ran over the top of the home team in the last quarter.

It was scrappy affair for the Olinda team, but they should be buoyed by this. With a little added polish, expect them to come back bigger and better next week away vs Belgrave.

OFC 3.2.18 Healesville 4.14. 38

Best Players-Aurora Edge, Vanessa Bateman, Kyah Barry,, Laura Clarke, Olivia Edwards

Goal Kickers- Olivia Edwards 2, Eloise Tyler 1.

Gee "Gia" That's Impressive

With Mothers Day not to far away its apt that we ask the rhetorical question- just how good are mums ?!!

Karen Giacobbe travelled all the way from Adelaide just to see her son Anthony (aka "Gia") make his OFC debut on Saturday.

Clearly Karen would have been pleased by what she saw- Gia was named among our best and kicked a long bomb goal from the 50m arc (it's actually only 43m but we didn't tell Karen).

Apparently she enjoyed it so much she's coming back for the big Anzac Day at Upwey.



Karen Giacobbe- a round trip of nearly 1500 kilometres to see Anthony make his OFC debut.

30 Years and Counting

The great man himself isn't 100% certain but David Noorda "thinks" he began his playing career at OFC in the juniors way, way back in 1994.

Three decades of footy in the red and white.



The apparently ageless Davey Noorda about to embark on his fourth decade of footy at OFC.

Along the journey David has picked up two Mick Scott Medals (senior B and F) and one Paul Wicks Medal (reserves B and F) plus two premierships eight years apart (2009, 2017). A true champion player, and one of our all time greats.

Michael Scott	361
Bruce Lowery	285
Paul Jones	252
Tim Scott	250
David Noorda	234
Joe Fowler	220
Sandy Gammon	214
Tom Millwood	217
Nick Broomhall	207
Peter Milic	206
Steve Rose	205
Stewart Gardiner	204
Steve Harris	204

Davey Noorda- fifth on our all time list of (Senior) "games played", Can't see him catching Timmy Scott but no ne else on the list is challenging him, unless "Future" comes out of retirement.

PIC OF THE WEEK



OK- it's not much of a pic. we concede that, but it does appear to show the one time hardman of OFC, Andrew "AG" Greenall, walking a poodle at the match on Saturday. We concede it's a distant and poor quality shot but the evidence is pretty compelling. We never had AG marked down as a "poodle type of guy".

ALL STAR SQUAD AUCTION.

Here's the leaderboard after Round One-



OK- so let's recap the big auction night (thanks to Sacha) and then we'll run through all the teams-

Thanks to all who attended Saturday Night's inaugural All-Star Player Auction and supported the concept to make it a fantastic evening.(particularly Sacha and Pat)

The auction started late as we waited for bidders to filter in, and the start of the auction itself could best be described as lethargic.

It was decided on the fly to reduce the minimum bid from \$300, and even then it was looking like a couple of squads would get passed over altogether.

Some astute Club Legends headed by Peter Hayne noticed people sitting on their hands and swooped, getting Squad 2 for an absolute bargain. The fact that Squad 2 is second in the weekly rankings should rightfully have some attendees kicking themselves! The old guys have called their squad "The Taylor Swifties".



One of the bargains of the night- snapped up by the Taylor Swifties

Miss Football Lily Carlin and her syndicate got their Squad even cheaper, and all expectations for a bumper haul started to deflate.

Then it happened.



A big group of women footballers enjoyed this "steal".

Whether it coincided with the end of happy hour or was simply the realisation that there were less teams left than bidders, the crowd woke up.

Recently injured Ned Ford was wheeled out in a wheelchair as a joke and that somehow drove his price up! Now you know why Prez Ben Selby-Hele's team is

called The Wheelchair Army!!



The Prez jumped in with an astute bid here- The Shaggy Bull Lucas, Horner, the Argoons, Catey Anderson- sone big vote winner

"Auction-Andy" Greenall started getting RSI in his right shoulder, so often it was going up and down, driving up the bids.



AG was on the money with this one- the Rosier boys, Liv Edwards, Noords, Rhianne, Amalija- all of them attract votes.

The Adjudicator spent much of the evening on his phone to a 'mystery bidder' who was driving up the prices. A shrewd observer noted that perhaps the Adjudicator was holding his phone upside down and it wasn't even turned on but this was not

confirmed.

Olinda got Dylan Wilson back to the Club for his footy smarts, and all in attendance took notice when his syndicate started bidding hard on squad 6, Lily's Legends, and went along for the ride, driving the price up and up. Dylan's first up win as Senior Coach pales into insignificance next to the fact that Lily's Legends is currently the clubhouse leader for the All-Stars.



Could almost call this group The Young Ones- Lily, Percy , Sarah, Bon, the Spence sisters- youngsters bound to attract plenty of votes.

Is Jack the best Lucas?! The Lucas clan seem to think so, and refused to be outbid on his squad "Frank's Fighters". The Lucas squad is sitting third on the All-Star rankings so perhaps Jack is the best Lucas after all?!



The Lucas Clan have done well here- keep an eye on young Campbell Hutchin and Mera Pringle- they'll attract coaching votes

Poor Lachie Taylor. He'd been telling everyone for weeks how good his squad Lauchie's Lionhearts was and how he was going to be rich. The problem with being the last squad auctioned is that whatever money is left in the room has nowhere else to go, and it was sad to see Lauchie and lan change colour as the bids kept coming incessantly. The squad reached an impressive \$900, the biggest price for the evening so far. Let's hope the Lionhearts give the Taylors what they paid for!



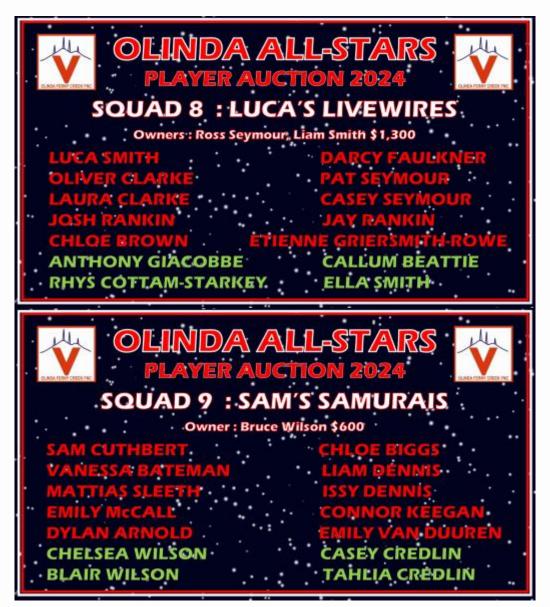
Taylor Made-big bucks for a big squad. They'll be looking for the Royle-Young boys to smash it out and Charli Hooper to continue his great 2023 form

With the main squads settled an impressive \$4,900 had been raised but there were

more thrills and spills to come....

OK- before we check out the rest of the auction night here are the other squads-





After a short break to rehydrate the Wildcards auction began, and Auction-Andy's hand went straight up like a rocket and we were away.

Confusion reigned supreme, again, possibly because of the happy hour?! One young Gentleman, let's just say his first name starts with J and his second name starts with Scott thought it would be romantic to purchase the Wildcard group that contained his girlfriend. What a great story to tell the grandkids one day, "Grandpa bought me at an auction for \$150". Unfortunately Jonty had to relinquish ownership of his Wildcard Group as he didn't have a main squad to go with it but it was entertaining while it lasted.

Anthony Giacobbe, Callum Beattie, Rhys Cottam-Starkey and Ella Smith must be absolute superstars because their Wildcard Group generated a bidding frenzy. With the whole room joining in the minimum bid of \$20 skyrocketed to a whopping \$900!

The Wildcard auction raised an amazing \$2,330 which massively exceeded expectations.

On the whole, the night raised \$7,320 with half, \$3,660 going back to the winner(s) on Presentation Night.

More importantly, the night was heaps of fun, make sure you pencil it in your 2025 calendar.

Weekly winners will be published based on Head Coaches(Play HQ) votes.

All there is to do for the Squad owners now is sit back nervously and leave it to their players to do all the work (and if the players work half as hard as Sacha it'll be a huge year- Bloodlines)

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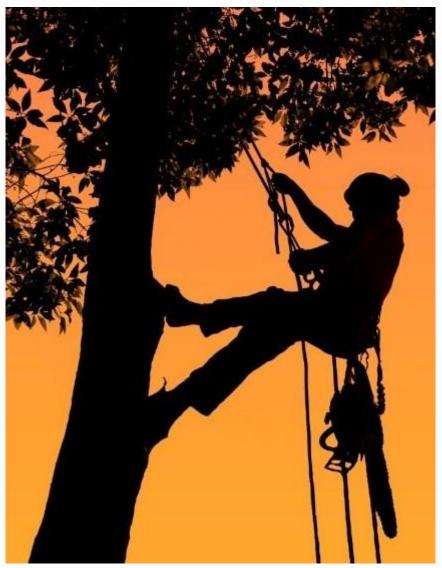
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