## <u>Under 11's</u>

Coach - Mark Farrow

Best & Fairest – Samuel Petersen 2<sup>nd</sup> Best & Fairest – Jack Jones 3<sup>rd</sup> Best & Fairest – Dale Senior Best 1<sup>st</sup> Year Player – Dylan Sikorski Most Improved – Codie Bloomfield Most Consistent – Cameron Pearson Most Versitile – Kyle Jacobsen

We started off training at the race course, due to the drought, fire's and shire work being undertaken at our home ground. I knew after doing Auskick, that I had a few handy footballers. I met quite a few new faces and was impressed.

We had about 7 players that were new to the game. Getting some miles in their legs and establishing some ball skills was a priority. The boys (and girl!) were encouraging in the first few games and starting to come to terms with what was needed to become competitive. The large Healesville senior ground didn't suit our players and didn't help the team's confidence.

Our first game at our Queens Park home ground turned everything around with a great win. With that grew the kids confidence and self belief. We started to bond together and work better as a team. We were then a lot more competitive against the top team (undefeated) Upwey on their home ground. After being soundly beaten 63 to 0 the first time. To be in front the whole game the next time we played them and to only go down by 1 point in the end was a massive improvement and proved to the players that if they all commit then they could achieve great things.

The Under 11's were the recipients of The Dandenong Ranges Junior Football Leagues "Best Conducted Team 2009"



All the players improved during the year and I hope they keep playing on, for the rewards will come.

I would like to thank the following people: **Colin Young** - for all his hard work, dedication and advice

*Nick Petersen* - for helping out for all training sessions and first aid

*Trish Hegarty* - for being a professional secretary and brilliant team manager

*Sharon Jones* - water girl and vocal support *Neil Street* - the happy runner

Rosie Moate - stand in for Trish

**Louise Farrow** - my lovely wife for being a great support when our runner Neil was away!

I'd like to thank all of the parents for their encouragement and support during the year. Being my first year of coaching, I must say that I have thoroughly enjoyed it. I also enjoyed the training, the kids, seeing the kids improve and getting a feeling for the game of football.

I hope that they have enjoyed the year as I have, it's not all about winning, but making new friends, getting fit, having a laugh, setting new goals and the great memories that come with it.

Best of luck next year! GO BLOODS!!

Mark Farrow