

FOOTY RECORD

DIVISION 1 SENIORS GRAND FINAL
11th September 2016



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KICKIN' IT WITH KRISTEN

Editorial – Issue 23, September 11th, 2016

GRAND FINAL TO CAP OFF ANOTHER BIG SEASON

By KRISTEN ALEBAKIS



DEER PARK and Hoppers Crossing will go head-to-head in today's Division 1 Grand Final.

One team is aiming to create league history by winning four straight premierships, the other is a young side on the rise who will be doing everything in its power to cause an upset.

The Lions have been the benchmark of the competition for several years and will be aiming to do what no one else could and win four consecutive flags. It would be an incredible achievement if they were able to win today.

On the other hand, the Warriors have also put in the hard yards on the track and have spent a countless amount of hours preparing for this moment, so you can't count them out of the equation.

There are no guarantees in sport, but what I do know for sure is, is that it will be a fantastic day of football at VU Whitten Oval.

Congratulations to the Caroline Springs and Newport Power Football Clubs for their premiership victories last weekend.

The smiles and tears of joy on the faces of the Lakers players and officials on Sunday was exactly what football is all about.

Everyone at Caroline Springs has worked extremely hard to get into this position and they were rewarded with a premiership. Congratulations.

Newport Power also created history on Saturday, when they defeated Parkside to win the Division 3 flag.

In their inaugural season they were able to claim the premiership. It is an incredible effort. Everyone at the club should be proud of what they have been able to achieve in such a short period.

Newport's Under-19 team also won back-to-back titles in the Division 2 competition, so it has been a year to remember for the Power.

Finally, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank the WRFL team and board for their ongoing support and guidance throughout 2016.

To all the reporters, photographers and radio team, thank you for all of your efforts throughout the year. Your hard work and passion for the league is what makes this competition so great.

A special mention goes out to the WRFL's video producer Sarah Guganovic. Sarah joined the WRFL this season and her enthusiasm and willingness to share stories has been inspiring.

Grand Final Day would not be possible without the support of our sponsors, thanks to 7News for their backing of the Division 1 competition and to TIV for throwing its support behind the Under-19 competition.

A special thanks also goes out to the Western Bulldogs for their support of the league's junior competition.

To all the club presidents, administrators, volunteers and most importantly the players who put on a show each and every week, thank you. I can't wait to work with you all next season.

See you at the footy.

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FRONT COVER CAPTION: Deer Park's Brendan Fevola. Picture: DAMIAN VISENTINI. Hoppers Crossing player Wayde Skipper. Picture: DARRELL JONES

WRFL FOOTY RECORD

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WHO WILL WIN THE BARRY PRIEST MEDAL?

NAMED after one of the Western Region Football League's best players, the Barry Priest Medal is one of the competitions most prestigious individual awards.

The award recognises the best and fairest player in the Division 1 senior competition throughout the home and away season. Below are some of the players who might be in the running for the award:

ALBION

Troy Kelm, Josh Bench and Jeremy Mills have all had impressive seasons for Albion.

Kelm, one of the league's premier ruckman, was named in the best on 12 occasions this season, while Mills has provided the Cats with some experience.

Bench's season speaks for itself. The young gun represented the WRFL in the Community Championships and also got the chance to play for Vic Metro.

ALTONA

Captain Jordan Robbins has gone from strength to strength this season, he was named in the best 12 times.

Teammate Mitch Turnbull has been an X-Factor for Altona in the second half of the season and has been a big reason why the Vikings have been so damaging in-front of goal.

Joel Magnabosco is not one to count out. He is a player who relishes the pressure and the big stage and could snare some votes.

DEER PARK

Excitement machine and star of the competition Kwame McHarg has had another outstanding season for the three-time defending champions. He kicked 44 goals this year.

Lions new recruit Shannon Byrnes has been a standout in 2016, gathering plenty of possessions across the season.

Jase Perkins is another who will grab the attention of the umpires. He was the Division 1 Leading Goal kicker, kicking 62 goals.

HOPPERS CROSSING

Despite missing a few games at the beginning of the season, Wayne Skipper has still been one of the best players for the Warriors and in the league, has he done enough to go back-to-back?

Skipper Mathew Ryan has also led from the front in 2016. His leadership on the field and willingness to put is on body on the line has been a highlight.

Reece Miles is another candidate from Hogans Road Reserve who could factor in the votes.

SPOTSWOOD

Can the 2016 SEN Most Valuable Player winner Tom Langlands do the double this year and take home the Barry Priest medal?

Langlands had one of his best seasons to date for the Woodsman. The talented midfielder led his young side incredibly well in 2016.

Murray Boyd is another who is always consistent.

ST ALBANS

Tim Jenkins already has two Barry Priest medals, could he add a third to his collection at the Senior Presentation Night?

Teammate Matt Quigley is also one who polls well in the best and fairest. Keenan O'Shea could be a dark horse.

SUNSHINE

Goal sneak Daniel Castellano came to the club from the North Central Football League and was a shining light for Sunshine. He kicked 32 goals this season.

Ruckman Thomas Miller polled well last season and despite the team not in finals contention he had a stellar season.

WERRIBEE DISTRICTS

Andrew Panayi was one of the best small forwards of the competition this season. When Werribee Districts needed someone to stand-up in front of goal he was the man. He booted 51 goals.

Teammate and goal kicking sidekick Chris Molivas had another great season in-front of goal. He kicked 33 goals in 2016 and was best on ground six times.

Last but certainly not least, Matt Dean is another Tigers star won the Barry Priest medal in 2014 and will certainly gather some votes again. His silky skills and his ability to be calm under pressure is one of his best characteristics.

WYNDHAMVALE

Brothers Chris and Brian Graham led by example this year and are two of the most influential players for Wyndhamvale.

Brian in particular had a good season. His transition from the North Gippsland Football League to the WRFL has been seamless. He is a ball magnet and was named in the top five in the MVP award.

The Barry Priest medallist will be announced at the Senior Presentation Night on September 22.

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DIVISION 1 – SENIORS

PRELIMINARY FINAL

HOPPERS CROSSING 12.16 (88)

ALTONA 11.13 (79)

HOPPERS CROSSING

GOALS: J. Viola 3, D. Riosa 3, M. Smith 2, D. Strnak 1, M. El Hawli 1, M. Ryan 1, M. Young 1

BEST: B. Ferrari, H. Armstrong-Weston, J. Viola, M. Smith, R. Kitchen, D. Riosa

ALTONA

GOALS: J. Magnabosco 2, J. Russo 1, S. Collis 1, E. Cavallaro 1, J. Robbins 1, O. Abou-Zeid 1, M. Turnbull 1, T. Lunardi 1, B. Shiels 1, P. Manivong 1

BEST: L. Spiteri, J. Rafferty, J. Robbins, J. Magnabosco, T. Szanyi, J. Goetz

DIVISION 1 – RESERVES

PRELIMINARY FINAL

DEER PARK 17.15 (117)

ALTONA 10.8 (68)

DEER PARK

GOALS: D. Cooper 4, S. Jones 3, B. Foley 3, C. Raftopoulos 2, G. Cadman 1, A. Mayoum 1, A. Bryson 1, G. Catterall 1, K. Klux 1

BEST: G. Catterall, T. Sullivan, G. Cadman, D. Cooper, K. Klux, J. O'Donnell

ALTONA

GOALS: M. Davis 3, L. Allen 2, B. Miller 1, A. Fenton 1, B. O'Leary 1, A. Spiteri 1, D. Kirk 1

BEST: M. Davis, B. O'Leary, J. Comeadow, L. Allen, H. Rafferty, J. Cook

DIVISION 1 – UNDER 19'S

PRELIMINARY FINAL

WERRIBEE DISTRICTS 9.15 (69)

ALTONA 8.10 (58)

WERRIBEE DISTRICTS

GOALS: D. Kerruish 4, N. Buykx 1, C. Thar 1, M. Atem 1, J. Russell 1, B. McMahon 1

BEST: J. Menadue 3, L. Fox 2, A. Zammit 2, S. Bowala 1

ALTONA

GOALS: J. Snow, R. Dodemaide, J. Harris, D. Kerruish, J. Russell, N. Buykx

BEST: E. Taylor, M. Wright, M. Dean, L. Fox, W. Taylor, R. Tandy

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SENIORS

HISTORY IN THE MAKING OR UPSET BREWING?

By KEVIN HILLIER

SPORT is filled with fairy tale stories of unlikely victories and that is part of the reason we love it.

The unpredictability, the human element, the chance-be it ever so slim, that an underdog can rise above form, talent and circumstances to triumph, and experience the sweetest of victories.

That is the scenario facing the Hoppers Crossing Football Club today at Whitten Oval in the Division 1 Grand Final.

In boxing parlance, Deer Park is the heavyweight champion of the competition, licking its lips ready to devour the hapless challengers.

Hoppers Crossing is the rank outsider, battered and bruised from its most recent encounters, and even Rocky Balboa would go in favourite against them.

Can the Warriors live up to their nickname and conjure an unlikely victory?

Sports history tells you they can. How did Steven Bradbury win an Olympic Gold Medal in 2002? The 1980 USA Men's hockey team won gold in the game dubbed 'The Miracle on Ice'. Kieren Perkins win in the 1500 metres at the Atlanta Olympics and the 1983 America's Cup win by John Bertrand and Australia II all fall into the fairy tale category.

I could name more, but I could also name another 100 where there was not a 'and they all lived happily ever after' ending.

Those who have been around Deer Park for a few years, will well remember their own fairy tale finish in 2009 against Parkside.

They were given no chance to beat the might of Parkside, but they did. It is a memory worth revisiting for the current crop of Lions, and I am sure Luke Summers who was part of that team, will mention it. I actually tipped them to win that day in this publication.

Can Hoppers Crossing replicate that feat in 2016? Facts, statistics and form will overwhelmingly tell you they can't.

Sports romantics, and I am one, will tell you they can.

They will have to be bold, unrelenting and adventurous.

They will have to take chances, back themselves and hold their nerve. Most importantly, they have to believe they are not here today to make up the numbers. They are here to win.

An attitude less than that from any of the Warriors will defeat them before they enter the arena of battle.

Deer Park is a very good team and deserve to be favourites.

They ooze talent and class and are very well coached.

They have the chance to write themselves into the history of the WRFL and secure a place envied by all who have preceded them.

The 2009 premiership is a long time ago now, and the club has changed a lot on and off the field.

The team behind the team on the field has done a remarkable job in securing the financial stability of the club.

Deer Park is a powerhouse on the field and off, and on Sunday they will take that to a new level, adding yet another cup and flag (maybe more depending on the early games) to the bulging trophy cabinet at John McLeod Reserve



Hoppers Crossing defeated Altona by nine points to book its spot in the Division 1 Grand Final. Picture: BELINDA VITACCA

DIVISION 1

COACH **CAPTAIN** **VICE-CAPTAIN**

Marc Bullen
(Deer Park)

Jordan Robbins
(Altona)

Reece Miles
(Hoppers Crossing)

BACKS



Rodney Van Reit
(Deer Park)



Tim Quick
(Deer Park)



Kelly Pickard
(Altona)

HALF BACKS



Keenan O'Shea
(St Albans)



Braden Ferrari
(Hoppers Crossing)



Kane McKenzie
(Deer Park)

CENTRES



Reece Miles
(Hoppers Crossing)



Tom Langlands
(Spotswood)



Brian Graham
(Wyndhamvale)

HALF FORWARDS



Jack Purton-Smith
(Deer Park)



Murray Boyd
(Spotswood)



Kwame McHarg
(Deer Park)

FORWARDS



Jeremy Mills
(Albion)



Jase Perkins
(Deer Park)



Andrew Panayi
(Werribee Districts)

RUCKS



Troy Kelm
(Albion)



Jordan Robbins
(Altona)



Tim Jenkins
(St Albans)

INTERCHANGE



Daniel Castellano
(Sunshine)



Jarrod Tuppen
(St Albans)



Chris Molivas
(Werribee Districts)



Shannon Byrnes
(Deer Park)

DEER PARK		
ROUND	RESULT	FINAL SCORE
1	W	Sunshine 8.12. (60) def by Deer Park 17.7. (109)
2	W	Deer Park 15.8. (98) def. Hoppers Crossing 7.10. (52)
3	L	Albion 13.20. (98) def. Deer Park 8.13. (61)
4	W	Deer Park 13.14. (92) def. Spotswood 9.12. (66)
5	W	Deer Park 14.5. (89) def. Werribee Districts 7.16. (58)
6	L	Altona 8.11. (59) def. Deer Park 7.8. (50)
7	BYE	
8	W	Wyndhamvale 8.2. (50) def by Deer Park 17.16. (118)
9	W	Deer Park 15.8. (98) def. St Albans 11.10. (76)
10	W	Deer Park 21.7. (133) def. Sunshine 12.4. (76)
11	W	Hoppers Crossing 6.11. (47) def by Deer Park 18.9. (117)
12	W	Deer Park 22.15. (147) def. Albion 10.5. (65)
13	W	Spotswood 5.5. (35) def by Deer Park 17.10. (112)
14	W	Werribee Districts 9.11. (65) def by Deer Park 17.14. (116)
15	W	Deer Park 15.10. (100) def. Altona 5.6. (36)
16	BYE	
17	W	Deer Park 35.20. (230) def. Wyndhamvale 4.5. (29)
18	W	St Albans 4.9. (33) def by Deer Park 16.16. (112)
Second Semi-Final	W	Deer Park 12.19. (91) def Hoppers Crossing 6.3. (39)
HOPPERS CROSSING		
ROUND	RESULT	FINAL SCORE
1	W	Hoppers Crossing 15.8. (98) def. St Albans 9.9. (63)
2	L	Hoppers Crossing 7.10. (52) def by Deer Park 15.8. (98)
3	W	Spotswood 7.9. (51) def by Hoppers Crossing 10.9. (69)
4	W	Hoppers Crossing 21.13. (139) def. Altona 6.11. (47)
5	W	Wyndhamvale 2.4. (16) def by Hoppers Crossing (18.15. (123)
6	W	Hoppers Crossing 9.9. (63) def. Sunshine 6.7. (43)
7	W	Albion 4.8. (32) def by Hoppers Crossing 16.12. (108)
8	W	Hoppers Crossing 14.7. (91) def. Werribee Districts 9.7. (61)
9	BYE	
10	W	St Albans 12.8. (80) def by Hoppers Crossing 14.8. (92)
11	L	Deer Park 18.9. (117) def Hoppers Crossing 6.11. (47)
12	W	Hoppers Crossing 14.11. (95) def. Spotswood 7.2. (44)
13	W	Altona 11.6. (72) def by Hoppers Crossing 14.8. (92)
14	W	Hoppers Crossing 31.11. (197) def. Wyndhamvale 2.2. (14)
15	W	Sunshine 10.14. (74) def by Hoppers Crossing 11.15. (81)
16	W	Hoppers Crossing 23.18. (156) def. Albion 8.7. (55)
17	L	Werribee Districts 18.12. (120) def. Hoppers Crossing 12.10. (82)
18	BYE	
Qualifying Final	W	Hoppers Crossing 11.12. (78) def. Werribee Districts 11.4. (70)
Second Semi-Final	L	Hoppers Crossing 6.3. (39) def by Deer Park 12.19. (91)
Preliminary Final	W	Hoppers Crossing 12.16. (88) def. Altona 11.13. (79)

Deer Park V Hoppers Crossing

ALL TIME (1993 - 2016):

Played: 31 Matches

(Deer Park 19, Hoppers Crossing 12)

IN HOME & AWAY SEASON: (2012 – 2016):

Hoppers Crossing 13.9.87 def Deer Park 11.9.75

(2012 Round 5 DIV 1 @ Hogans Road Reserve)

Deer Park 17.12.114 def Hoppers Crossing 7.11.53

(2012 Round 14 DIV 1 @ John McLeod Oval)

Deer Park 13.16.94 def Hoppers Crossing 4.13.37

(2013 Round 9 DIV 1 @ John McLeod Oval)

Hoppers Crossing 7.5.47 def by **Deer Park 19.12.126**

(2013 Round 18 DIV 1 @ Hogans Road Reserve)

Deer Park 9.18.72 def Hoppers Crossing 8.10.58

(2014 Round 9 DIV 1 @ John McLeod Oval)

Hoppers Crossing 3.6.24 def by **Deer Park 25.15.165**

(2014 Round 18 DIV 1 @ Hogans Road Reserve)

Deer Park 18.10.118 def Hoppers Crossing 12.8.80

(2015 Round 9 DIV 1 @ John McLeod Oval)

Hoppers Crossing 16.18.114 def Deer Park 5.11.41

(2015 Round 18 DIV 1 @ Hogans Road Reserve)

Deer Park 15.8.98 def Hoppers Crossing 7.10.52

(2016 Round 2 DIV 1 @ John McLeod Oval)

Hoppers Crossing 6.11.47 def by **Deer Park 18.9.117**

(2016 Round 11 DIV 1 @ Hogans Road Reserve)

IN FINALS:

Played: 3 Matches (Deer Park 2, Hoppers Crossing 1)

VENUE RECORDS:

John McLeod Oval: 14 Matches (Deer Park 10, Hoppers Crossing 4)

Hogans Road Reserve: 14 Matches (Hoppers Crossing 7, Deer Park 7)

Yarraville Oval: 2 Matches (Deer Park 1, Hoppers Crossing 1)

Avalon Airport Oval: 1 Match (Deer Park 1, Hoppers Crossing 0)

Whitten Oval: 1 Match (Deer Park 0, Hoppers Crossing 0)

CLUB PREMIERSHIPS:

Deer Park

Div 1 (7 Premierships): Spotswood x3 (1994, 2013, 2014),

Parkside x2 (1939, 1941), North Footscray x1 (1940), Werribee

Districts x1 (2015),

Div 2 (2 Premierships): Parkside x1 (2009), Albanvale x1 (2011)

Hoppers Crossing

Div 1 (2 Premierships): Parkside x1 (2002), Port Melbourne Colts

x1 (2004)

Div 2 (1 Premiership): East Brunswick x1 (1992)



Hoppers Crossing captain Mathew Ryan and Deer Park captain Chris Stewart with the Division 1 Premiership Cup. Picture: CODY BENCH



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BULLEN SAYS FLAG WOULD BE ICING ON THE CAKE

By KRISTEN ALEBAKIS

IF Deer Park can defeat Hoppers Crossing on Sunday it would have done what no other senior team in the WRFL/FDFL history has done, win four premierships in a row.

The Lions have won the past three flags and are poised to add a fourth premiership cup to their growing trophy cabinet.

Deer Park's Reserves and Under-19 teams are also in the Grand Final, adding another special element to Sunday's decider.

Seniors coach Marc Bullen said the preparation for this Grand Final felt different to previous years as all three teams were playing off for premierships.

"(The club) is a great place to be at the moment," he said.

"The Seniors, Reserves and Under-19's have all made it through to the Grand Final.

"It is an excellent reward for the amount of time and effort both Pat Christofi and Andrew Bryson have put into their respective teams."

Bullen said Deer Park has gone through highs and lows like any other club would over the years, but says he is proud of everything the club has been able to achieve.

He said if the Senior side were the ones to hold up the premiership cup at the end of the day, it would be a pretty special feeling.

"Every Grand Final victory has its special memories which you can reflect on, however this one will certainly be the icing on the cake," Bullen said.

"Our club has had its fair share of ups and downs and this one is for all the people who have supported us through the good and bad times."

Their form on the field has been first class, since their Round 7 Bye, the club has won 11 straight matches.

"Overall our season has been very good, the competition as a whole has improved which is great," Bullen said.

"Our second half of the season has been outstanding.

"We have managed to play 41 players, which is an excellent effort, this included bleeding a couple our home grown players such as Mark Galea and James Harrison."

Bullen said there was stars across every line for Deer Park who all had the potential to be match winners.

"Kwame McHarg has owned the past three Grand Finals," he said.

"Jackson Barling returns to the big stage aiming for his third medal, Jack Purton-Smith returns to the side fresh from a week off, Scott Greenhough has taken his game to another level, Shannon Byrnes, Ryan Houlihan and Brendan Fevola are all big game players.

"If anyone can take the BOG medal off Kwame it will be Rodney Van Reit."

One of the club's biggest recruits has been former AFL champion Brendan Fevola. He is expected to line-up in the Grand Final after spending several weeks on the sidelines battling a sternum injury.

Bullen described the larger than life character as an exceptional player and person.

"He has embraced the club and they players love playing and training with him," he said.

"Fev's contribution and promotion of the club has been outstanding, a premiership medal and a bag of snags will cap of a fairly successful year for the King of the jungle winner."

Bullen wanted to thank the entire crew at Deer Park for their ongoing support and guidance throughout 2016.

"On behalf of the players I would like to thank everyone that has contributed to our success so far, coaches, trainers, footy managers, support staff, committee, sponsors and anyone else that wears the blue and gold," he said.

"We thank you and look forward to your support as we try to create history for this great club."



Deer Park coach Marc Bullen.
Picture: DARRELL JONES

DIVISION 1 – GRAND FINAL

SENIORS – Whitten Oval – Sunday 2.20pm



DEER PARK

NO	NAME	POSSESSIONS	GOALS	BEHINDS
1	Scott Greenhough			
2	Chris Stewart (C)			
3	Jack Purton-Smith			
4	Ryan Houlihan			
5	Sohrob Ismail			
6	Marc Bullen			
7	Shannon Byrnes			
8	Kane McKenzie			
9	Trent Williams			
10	Jason Kennedy			
11	Daniel Cooper			
12	Shaydon Bloomfield			
13	Jase Perkins			
14	Tim Quick			
15	Jayke Ewer			
17	Brendan Fevola			
18	Ryan Crawford			
20	Rodney Van Reit			
21	Tim Sullivan			
22	Spiros Amaratidis			
23	Adam Houli			
24	Ahmed Souki			
25	Luke Summers			
26	Corey Brown			
27	James Condos			
29	Kwame McHarg			
31	Ben Foley			
35	Rhett King			
36	Max Bruin			
48	Rhett Coots			

COACH:
Marc Bullen

ASSISTANT COACH:
Grant Setterfield
Jamie Madigan

UNIFORM



GUERNSEY:
Royal Blue with Gold V

SHORTS:
Royal Blue

SOCKS:
Royal Blue

Q1	Q2	Q3	FINAL

LAST TIME THEY MET: Deer Park 12.19.91 def Hoppers Crossing 6.3.39 (2016 Semi Final @ Avalon Airport Oval)



DIVISION 1 – GRAND FINAL

SENIORS – Whitten Oval – Sunday 2.20pm



COACH:

Steven Kretiuik

ASSISTANT

COACH:

Brian Gray

Glenn McGaw

David Taylor

UNIFORM



GUERNSEY:

Navy Blue with
White Logo

SHORTS:

Navy Blue

SOCKS:

Navy Blue

HOPPERS CROSSING

NO	NAME	POSSESSIONS	GOALS	BEHINDS
1	Jordan Mead			
3	Mohamad El Hawli			
4	Jordan Moody			
5	David Brierty			
6	Jackson Viola			
7	Matthew Poland			
8	Matthew Young			
9	Harley Armstrong-Weston			
10	Nicholas Weir			
11	Braden Ferrari			
12	Michael Hart			
13	Brent Sheean			
14	Daniel Riosa			
15	Ryan Kitchen			
16	Adam Poland			
17	Nicholas Jones			
18	Wayde Skipper			
19	Jordan Cook			
20	Jarrold Arnott			
21	Todd Caulfield			
22	Corey Muscat			
23	Mathew Ryan			
24	Mitchell Appleby			
25	David Barbieri			
28	Reece Miles			
29	Matthew Smith			
30	Murphy Watt			
31	Mohamed Dibb			
32	Joel Bentley			
33	Brent Turner			
34	Joshua Doyle			
35	Ricky Wood			
36	Adam Moscatiello			
37	Noah Walker			
38	Ashley Fenton			
39	Kane Galley			
40	Daniel Strnak			
41	Rhys Caulfield			
42	Benjamin Jago			
42	Blake Jago			
43	Alexander Chrysostomou			
45	James Spark			
46	Mohammed Haddara			
47	Andre Bistisi			
47	Benjamin Fletcher			
48	Mitchell Palma			
49	James Santarosa			
51	Aaron Presnell			
52	Jackson Redfern			
53	Ethan Raczkowski			
54	Michael Nozzolillo			
55	Jake Mutton			
57	Codey Guy			
57	James Grubb			
58	Matthew Turner			

Q1	Q2	Q3	FINAL

LAST TIME THEY MET: Deer Park 12.19.91 def Hoppers Crossing 6.3.39 (2016 Semi Final @ Avalon Airport Oval)



YOUNG GUNS KNOW THE WARRIORS WAY

By KRISTEN ALEBAKIS

HOPPERS Crossing survived a spirited Altona comeback in last week's preliminary final to book a spot in the Division 1 Grand Final.

The Warriors came out firing at the weekend and were able to hold off the Viking's attack, setting up a premiership decider with Deer Park.

Led by coach Steve Kretiuk, the team from Hogans Road Reserve has continued to rise up the Division 1 ranks in recent years.

When Kretiuk first took over the coaching reins in 2014, he led the team to a semi-final, last season they reached the preliminary final and now they have earned a Grand Final berth.

Captained by Mathew Ryan and led by experienced campaigners in 2015 Barry Priest medal winner Wayde Skipper and WRFL Interleague representative Reece Miles, the Warriors have been able to put together an impressive season, losing just three games during the home and away fixture.

There younger players have also played a huge role in getting the team into a Grand Final, talented players

Braden Ferrari, Jordan Mead, Murphy Watt and Ben Fletcher have all had good seasons and will be players to watch on Sunday.

They will all be put to the test when they take on the might of Deer Park at VU Whitten Oval.

The Lions have defeated the Warriors in the three occasions they have met this season, however, if previous Grand Finals are anything to go by, anything can happen.

Hoppers Crossing will back themselves in and give 100 per cent.



Hoppers Crossing senior coach Steve Kretiuk. Picture: CODY BENCH



The Western Region Football League partners with the Werribee Football Club's Diversity Program

RESERVES

DEER PARK'S GIANT KILLING RUN CONTINUES

By CONNOR PAIN

DEER Park's giant killing run has continued, with the Lions winning their way through to the Division 1 Reserves Grand Final.

Deer Park's impressive throughout the finals now means they will go head-to-head with Hoppers Crossing on Sunday.

The final score of the Preliminary Final was 17.15. (117) to 10.8. (68).

The Lions third win of the finals season was arguably its best yet, as it comfortably downed the Vikings, who finished the regular season second on the ladder.

The game was set for a blowout after just one quarter as Deer Park dominated offensively and defensively, kicking four goals and holding the Vikings to just one solitary behind.

Showing why they finished second and were in a preliminary final, Altona hit back in the second term with five goals (to Deer Park's three) and reduced the margin to 13-points heading into the main break.

The third quarter highlighted just how real the Lions hunt for a premiership is as they dominated, booting six goals to two and extending its lead to an unassailable 42-points.

The fourth quarter was much of the same for Deer Park as they added another four goals in what was their best performance of the season and finals so far.

Daniel Cooper's four goals led the way for the Lions, who had nine individual goal scorers.

The 49-point victory sets the grand final as Hoppers Crossing, who finished the season on top of ladder, versus Deer Park, who finished fifth.

As they entered the prelim, the Lions will be the underdogs with the Warriors the favourites, but as has been shown throughout this finals campaign, anything is possible.

Deer Park's run has been historic, as no side since at least 2011 (as far as the online statics date back) has finished fifth and made the grand final.

If the Lions are able to win, it will also mark the first time since 2011, where Sunshine upset Hoppers, that a team who didn't finish the season first didn't win the premiership.

Sunday's Grand Final should be a cracker with the stakes clear for each.

Hoppers Crossing are looking for their second consecutive premiership while Deer Park are searching for a historic Grand Final win.



Deer Park Reserves coaches look on. Picture: BELINDA VITACCA

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DIVISION 1 – GRAND FINAL

RERSERVES – Whitten Oval – Sunday 11:40am



HOPPERS CROSSING

NO	NAME	POSSESIONS	GOALS	BEHINDS
1	Jordan Mead			
3	Mohamad El Hawli			
4	Jordan Moody			
5	David Brierty			
6	Jackson Viola			
7	Matthew Poland			
8	Matthew Young			
9	Harley Armstrong-Weston			
10	Nicholas Weir			
11	Braden Ferrari			
12	Michael Hart			
13	Brent Sheean			
14	Daniel Riosa			
15	Ryan Kitchen			
16	Adam Poland			
17	Nicholas Jones			
18	Wayde Skipper			
19	Jordan Cook			
20	Jarrold Arnott			
21	Todd Caulfield			
22	Corey Muscat			
23	Mathew Ryan			
24	Mitchell Appleby			
25	David Barbieri			
28	Reece Miles			
29	Matthew Smith			
30	Murphy Watt			
31	Mohamed Dibb			
32	Joel Bentley			
33	Brent Turner			
34	Joshua Doyle			
35	Ricky Wood			
36	Adam Moscattello			
37	Noah Walker			
38	Ashley Fenton			
39	Kane Galley			
40	Daniel Strnak			
41	Rhys Caulfield			
42	Benjamin Jago			
42	Blake Jago			
43	Alexander Chrysostomou			
45	James Spark			
46	Mohammed Haddara			
47	Andre Bistisi			
47	Benjamin Fletcher			
48	Mitchell Palma			
49	James Santarosa			
51	Aaron Presnell			
52	Jackson Redfern			
53	Ethan Raczkowski			
54	Michael Nozzolillo			
55	Jake Mutton			
57	Codey Guy			
57	James Grubb			
58	Matthew Turner			

COACH:

David Taylor

ASSISTANT

COACH:

Ashley Dumesny

Ignazio Cataldo

UNIFORM



GUERNSEY:

Navy Blue with
White Logo

SHORTS:

Navy Blue

SOCKS:

Navy Blue

Q1	Q2	Q3	FINAL

LAST TIME THEY MET: Hoppers Crossing 13.19.97 def Deer Park 4.5.29 (2016 Round 11 @ Hogans Road Oval)



DIVISION 1 – GRAND FINAL

RERSERVES – Whitten Oval – Sunday 11:40am

COACH:

Andrew Bryson

ASSISTANT

COACH:

Andrew Lloyd

Brian Duggan

UNIFORM



GUERNSEY:

Royal Blue with Gold V

SHORTS:

Royal Blue

SOCKS:

Royal Blue

DEER PARK

NO	NAME	POSSESSIONS	GOALS	BEHINDS
4	Kevin Klix			
5	Graeme Catterall			
6	Haydon Campbell			
9	Chris Robertson			
16	Dean Stankovic			
17	Lance Grogan			
20	Gary Cadman			
26	Andrew Bryson			
30	Scott Mizzi			
32	James Vella			
33	Akat Mayoum			
34	Joel O'Donnell			
38	Craig Plant			
39	Josh McPhan			
40	Denham Krstevski			
41	Jason Robertson			
43	Jye Davis			
44	Michael Mazzocato			
45	Ryan Barry			
46	Luke Styles			
47	Karl O'Donnell			
49	Dylan Garlick			
51	Atem Duot			
52	Dylan Garlick			
53	Tim Plese			
54	Luke Foley			
55	Chris Raftopoulos			
56	Archie Grogan			
60	Hassan Laszkani			
71	Shane Jones			
	Peter Chapman			
	Blaize Warden			
	Jackson Barling			

Q1	Q2	Q3	FINAL

LAST TIME THEY MET: Hoppers Crossing 13.19.97 def Deer Park 4.5.29 (2016 Round 11 @ Hogans Road Oval)

WARRIORS AIMING TO GO BACK-TO-BACK

By KRISTEN ALEBAKIS

HOPPERS Crossing's Reserves side picked up from where they left off in 2016.

After winning the premiership last year, the Warriors have again had an impressive season, finishing on top of the ladder and winning their way through to the premiership decider with an emphatic win over Altona two weeks ago.

Coach David Taylor said if the team prepares well they will have every opportunity to go back-to-back.

"If we happen to win the premiership, it will definitely mean a lot to the group after a long season," he said.

"To get the ultimate reward would be great."

Taylor said two players to keep an eye out for is midfielder Danny Strnak and defender Joel Bentley. He says the two players always create opportunities for their teammates whenever they are around the ball.

Overall Taylor described this season as a positive one.

"Our season has been pretty solid, we have a good group of young blokes who are doing everything to improve themselves as footballers," he said.

"That shows with us having 13-14 blokes that have gone up to play in the seniors at one time or another."

Finally, Taylor wanted to thank his teams and the many volunteers for their continued support in 2016.

"I would just like to thank my assistants Ash and Nuts, Team Manager Emma and all the support staff at the club. Without these people it would be nearly impossible to get out on the park every week," he said.



Hoppers Crossing reserves coach David Taylor. Picture: SUPPLIED

DEER PARK WANT WINNING STREAK TO CONTINUE

By KRISTEN ALEBAKIS

WHILE most of the community is focused on the possibility of Deer Park's seniors creating history, it is their Reserves side, who could also create some history of their own.

The Lions finished fifth after the home and away season and over the first three weeks of finals, have caused quite a stir, defeating Sunshine, Werribee Districts and Altona on the way to the Grand Final.

Coach Andrew Bryson said at the beginning of the year if they were able to retain most of their players they would be a chance of playing finals footy.

"We started well but were inconsistent throughout the season not able to beat the other top teams," he said.

"In the second half of the year we continued to work hard on improving all aspects of our game but let ourselves down with a poor performance against Altona in Round 15 with our effort and level of commitment questioned by many.

"To the players credit we refocused and developed a strong belief amongst the team which has been reflected in our strong performances since the bye and throughout the finals with all players playing their role."

Bryson said winning the Reserves flag would be the perfect reward for the club and the best way to thank everyone who has been along for the ride in 2016.

"It is great to have our Under-19's, Reserves and Seniors all playing in this week's Grand Finals," he said.

"We are all a chance to win and to share the day with Pat Christofi and Marc Bullen as well as our supporters who have shared this journey over the years would be truly special."



Deer Park reserves coach Andrew Bryson. Picture: SUPPLIED



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Yarraville Seddon Eagles Football Club

The Yarraville Seddon Eagles congratulates it's Senior and Reserves for making the 2016 WRFL Division 2 Grand Final. A great year on the field has been matched by many positives off the field.



We would like to thank our wonderful sponsors for their support during the year. Yarraville Seddon Eagles is a growing club with great community support.

We look forward to seeing all our supporters, past players and sponsors for a bigger and better 2017 which will include our first girls team and an Under-8s team.

If you would like to become involved please contact president@yseagles.com.au



DIVISION 1

TIGERS SET UP SHOWDOWN WITH LIONS

By ASH BOLT

WERRIBEE Districts will meet Deer Park in the Under 19 Division 1 Grand Final on Sunday, after defeating Altona by 11-points in the Preliminary Final.

The Vikings were confident coming off their win in the semi-final and took control of the first quarter, kicking three goals to take an 11-point lead into the first break.

A goal from Adam Zammit put the margin out to 16-points within the first two minutes of the second quarter, but from then on it was all Werribee Districts as the Tigers kicked the next four goals, including a long goal from a centre bounce by Nicholas Buyx, to hold a 12-point lead at half-time.

Altona came out of the half-time break with nothing to lose and it showed as they were able to lock the ball in their forward half, kicking four goals to one in the third term to hold a slender nine point lead at the final break.

With the game in the balance, Werribee Districts knew they had to pull out yet another come from behind win in the final quarter.

The Tigers came out with a strong focus on defence and they were able to restrict Altona to three behinds for the term while kicking three goals of their own to claim the 11-point win.

The star of the day was Daniel Kerruish, who kicked four important goals for the Tigers, including an amazing goal from the boundary that sealed the game in the final quarter.

Nicholas Buyx was strong in the midfield for Werribee Districts and Joshua Snow was solid in defence.

Joel Menadue finished with three goals for the Vikings while Ethan Taylor led the way through the midfield.

The win means Werribee Districts will meet Deer Park in the Grand Final at Whitten Oval.

The match will be the third time the two teams have met in the four weeks and fifth time for the season.

They first met in Round 5 where a big last quarter effort gave the Tigers an 11-point win and their second game ended as a draw in Round 14.

The two teams played off in the final round of the season

to determine who finished on top of the ladder, with Werribee Districts claiming a 25-point win, before Deer Park demolished the Tigers by 64-points in the semi-final the week after.

Both teams will be going into the game with confidence, but Deer Park will go in as the fresher team after having the week off.

The Lions will also be looking to go one step further than they did last year, where they finished runners up to Spotswood.



Werribee Districts are through to the Grand Final after defeating Altona at the weekend. They will meet Deer Park. Picture: BELINDA VITACCA

ONE TEAM, ONE DREAM FOR THE LIONS

By KRISTEN ALEBAKIS

DEER Park's Under-19 team understands the heartache that can come on Grand Final day.

The Lions fell short to Spotswood in 2015 and while that loss could have done one of two things, it ultimately fired the group up and 12 months later, they find themselves fighting it out for the premiership once again.

Coach Pat Christofi said if the team worked hard and played for each other, then their goal of holding up the cup at the end of the game will become a reality.

"I would be over the moon (to win the premiership) firstly because of all the hard work that goes into winning a premiership and understanding how hard and challenging it gets from time to time working with 18-19 year olds," he said.

"The club would be very proud considering we are striving for greatness at senior level and having our under 19s win would be a successful and well accomplished year."

Christofi wanted to thank not only the players, but the team behind the team, that do the jobs that need to be done without hesitation.

"Firstly to the playing group, I thank you for another enjoyable season and appreciate you all very much for

all the hard work, sweat and tears you all put in to get us into another Grand Final.

"Secondly a special thank you to my assistant coaches being, Scott Thomson and Steven Kolyniuk.

"A big thanks to my runner Robert Axiak, my board man Peter Christofi, my stats man Pat Testa who does the toughest job of us all.

"I would also like to thank my team manager Simone Schembri for a job well done. Last but not least a special thanks to Domenic Nesci, John Phillips and John Rimes (Santa), this could not have been achieved without all your help."



Deer Park coach Pat Christofi speaking to his players earlier this season. Picture: KRISTEN ALEBAKIS

TIGERS SET THEIR EYES ON THE PREMIERSHIP

By KRISTEN ALEBAKIS

WERRIBEE Districts Under-19 coach Darron Batties and his team set a goal in November to be as competitive as they could be in 2016.

Then at the halfway mark of the season, as a group they reassessed their goals, as finals were in sight and they were a real chance to win the flag.

Now, a few months later, the team will play in the Grand Final and are a 50-50 chance of winning the premiership.

"We have really banked our fitness over the last few months in readiness for the big grounds at finals time and hope to use this strength to get us to the big prize," Batties said.

"One thing is certain with these guys and is that they will not stop running when the heat is on."

Batties said there were many stars in his team that could flourish on the big stage.

"It would be great to win the flag of course both individually and for the club and it would be great to do it with the loyal under 19 guys who stayed for the club first and foremost," he said.

"The flag would mean more to these guys than other offerings."

Batties wanted to thank all the parents for their support this season and made a special mention to Scott May who would be playing if he didn't succumb to injury.

"To Craig Whiting, Josh Harkins and Digger McMahon a real big thanks to you, we wouldn't be here if not for you guys."



MATCH OF THE DAY



SUNDAY
September 11

VS



DIVISION ONE GRAND FINAL:

DEER PARK V HOPPERS CROSSING

Grand Final - Kick off at 2:20pm at VU Whitten Oval, Footscray

Join Kevin Hillier, Steve Thom, Pepe Cavaleri, Andrew Wilson, Troy Rainford and Michael Velissari from 1:30pm-5.30pm every Saturday for all the latest results and news from around the grounds.

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Tune into 88.9 WYN FM every Friday night between 5pm-6pm to listen to the *WRFL Preview Show* with hosts Kevin Hillier and Steve Thom to preview all the big games for the weekend, including special guest interviews with coaches and players from across the league.



THE WRFL

SUPER FOOTY QUIZ 2016

1. Which former Hoppers Crossing player, now plays at Deer Park?
2. Which former WRFL club played Hoppers Crossing in the 2006 Grand Final at the Whitten Oval?
3. Prior to 2016, how many reserves premierships have Hoppers Crossing won?
4. Prior to 2016, how many U19s/U18s premierships have Werribee Districts won?
5. How many goals in total have Jase Perkins kicked for Deer Park in 2016?
6. What year did Division 3 come into the FDFL/WRFL competition?

Answers
 1. Scott Greenhough
 4. Nine Premierships
 2. Port Melbourne Colts
 5. 62 Goals
 3. Four Premierships
 6. 1988

Quick hands with your favourite Senior Stars

PETER DALINKIEWICZ



Team: St. Albans

Position: Full Back

Number: 52

- 1. Who has had the biggest influence on your career?**
Damien Fitzpatrick. Fitzy has been a great mentor, leader and friend for many years. He looked after me as a young player and also 'sat in the hole' as a senior footballer. A St. Albans great!
- 2. What is your coach's favourite saying?**
Keep on tickin!
- 3. Who would you like to have kicking for goal after the siren in a grand final?**
Anthony Cristofaro. He missed so many set shots last year, I figure he is due.
- 4. Your funniest team-mate?**
Brad Allen. His jokes should not be told in a public forum though.
- 5. Finish this sentence: Before a game I always...**
Wind up Matthew Quigley because it is so easy.
- 6. Who is your favourite AFL player?**
Darren Gaspar.
- 7. What is your favourite TV Football Show?**
Open Mike.
- 8. If you could appear on any reality show, which would you choose?**
Selling Houses Australia. I need someone to fix up my kitchen!
- 9. What is your favourite meal before a game?**
Boring old oats.
- 10. What is your favourite movie?**
The Big Lebowski.

Glen Orden Sports Club



Seeking Senior, Reserve &
U19 Coaches for Season 2017

Glen Orden is seeking applications for playing or non-playing coaches for our Senior & Reserve & U19 teams for 2017 and onwards.

The successful applicants will need to be success focused, have a good understanding of the modern game and have the ability & desire to develop a young playing list.

All successful applicants must have accreditation or be prepared to complete the level 1 coaching course prior to the 2017 season.

Applications close 30th September 2016.

Please email all applications to admin@glenordensportsclub.com.au

Enquiries can be made via the Football Manager, Peter MacDonald 0401 701 182.



CELEBRITY TIPSTERS – WEEK 21



Barry Priest
WRFL Legend

Chris Gallagher
Werribee FC

Sean Sowerby
7NEWS

Marcus Bontempelli
Western Bulldogs

Cameron Mooney
SEN



DIVISION ONE					
<i>Deer Park V Hoppers Crossing</i>	Hoppers Crossing	Deer Park	Deer Park	Deer Park	Deer Park
LAST WEEK	2	2	3	3	2
TOTAL	159	154	165	161	166

FLASHBACK PHOTO



Western Region Football League Best and Fairest Winners 2010.

- Back:** Brandon Davies U13 (St Bernards), Hayden Barnett U16D (Williamstown Juniors), Charles Craig U16B (Flemington Juniors), Joseph Blake U14C (Sunshine), Mohammed Zahraman U16A (Spotswood), Pele Manivong U14A (Altona Juniors).
- Middle:** Xavier Cassar U12C (Hoppers Crossing), Jamie Cameron U18B (North Sunshine), Luke Summers Div 2 Seniors (Deer Park), Timothy Jenkins Div 1 Seniors (St Albans), Paul Growcott Div 2 Reserves (Albanvale), Anthony Hodggets Div 1 Reserves (Altona), Joshua McPherson U18B (Albion).
- Front:** Mark Galea U12B (Deer Park), Matthew Knezevic U12A (Werribee Juniors), Braydon Kitchen U12A (Hoppers Crossing), Bailey Siwek U11A (Werribee Juniors), Wyntyn Parker U12B (Newport Power), Jayme Gilmore U11B (Wyndhamvale Juniors), Anthony Esposito U14D (Werribee Juniors).

TRIBUNAL REPORT

Results of the WRFL Tribunal from 3rd and 4th September

PLAYER	CLUB	GRADE	CHARGE	RESULT
Nicholas Poland	Hoppers Crossing	Div 1 Under 19	Striking	2 years suspension

* Denotes player opted for the prescribed automatic penalty

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CHRISTINE GENT MAKES WRFL HISTORY

By GREAME HODGART

WE have now reached that very important “one day in September” that Mike Brady wrote and sang about way back in 1987.

It’s a fantastic song and describes some of the passion associated with Aussie rules.

Even so, it doesn’t have the same historic significance as another one of Brady’s songs in “Up there, Cazaly” which was written in 1979. This phrase was coined by fellow Swan Fred Fleiter in the 1920’s that he would call out to inform his team-mate in Roy Cazaly that he had a clear run at the ball for a mark or tap out.

It was also used to inspire Australian diggers in the Second World War.

The song will go down in history as one that is synonymous with our great game.

Congratulations to all those who officiated in the Grand Finals last weekend.

Their appointments were the result of lots of hard work through many training sessions, meetings and discussions with umpiring coaches and colleagues. Their names will be recorded and join the long list of umpires since 1931 who have been fortunate to umpire Grand Finals in our local league.

WRFL history is being created today with Christine Gent becoming the first female goal umpire to officiate in a Division 1 senior Grand Final. After breaking into the senior grade last season, Christine has continued to demonstrate the skills and abilities required to umpire consistently in Division 1.

Prior to this year Amy Galloway’s Division 2 senior Grand Final in 2004 was the highest achievement by a WRFL female goalie.

In 2013 Bianca Michetti was the first female to run the boundary in a Division 1 senior Grand Final when Deer Park pipped Spotswood by a solitary point.

Hopefully all those officiating today in the Division 1 Grand Finals will be able to confidently exhibit their skills on Whitten Oval and umpire to the best of their ability.

As mentioned in the previous two articles, so much about umpiring is about teamwork, composure, communication and control.

The history books and umpires’ records will record the names of today’s umpires but, more importantly, may those watching be able to see why these umpires (field, boundary and goal) have been chosen to represent the WRFL umpires on today’s main stage.



LAWS OF THE GAME QUIZ #23

Last week’s question:

Player A dives on the football and drags it under his body. He is correctly tackled by Player B of the opposing team and immediately disposes of the football by pushing it along the ground with one hand.

What happens next?

The correct answer was **(OPTION D)**.

The field umpire calls, ‘Play on’.
(See Law 15.2.5)



UMPIRES APPOINTMENTS

UMPIRES SIGN OFF ON A SUCCESSFUL SEASON

By MARK WESTGARTH, WRFL Director of Umpiring

IN season 2016 we have had the theme to “be the best you can be”.

The challenge was for all umpires to improve from where they were in 2015 by taking on board coaching advice, training hard, attending coaching sessions and working as a team.

We have more than 360 umpires involved in the WRFL covering field, boundary and goal over senior and junior football. The age range is from 13 through to 76 years of age which provides a great spread of experience as well as an opportunity to develop personally through linking with a wide range of people.

The focus of the WRFL umpiring department is to improve the skill of umpires, in all disciplines with a particularly focus on our younger umpires.

The umpire’s academy commenced in 2009 at MacKillop College in Werribee and this weekend we will see the Division One Grand Final field umpires all come from that academy.

Shamus Dundon, Ryan Webster and Michael Westgarth, with an average age of 20 years, all commenced their umpiring career in 2009, with Ryan and Michael commencing as boundary umpires whilst Adam Cosham, ex-TAC player, sits the bench.

Over the years the WRFL have established more academies across the region and this has provided the opportunity for young people to get involved in umpiring with most also playing football in the WRFL.

Boundary and goal umpire development has had very similar success with a large growth in the number of females joining the ranks which has also been highlighted in this week’s Division One Grand Final with Christine Gent appointed with Trevor Budge as the two debutant goal umpires.

Kia Abela, Robert Hill, Riley Kane and Jordan Wiltshire complete the Division One team with the boundary umpires average age being 18 years.

The future looks very good, from an umpiring perspective, with 30 field umpires having Division 1 experience and excellent growth in our junior ranks.

Good luck to all teams in today’s Division 1 Grand Finals and hopefully the umpires will not even be noticed.

MATCH	FIELD UMPIRES	BOUNDARY UMPIRES	GOAL UMPIRES
Division1 Seniors	Ryan Webster	Jordan Wiltshire	Christine Gent
	Shamus Dundon	Kai Abela	Trevor Budge
	Michael Westgarth	Riley Kane	
	<i>Adam Cosham</i>	Robert Hill	
Division 1 Reserves	Dean MCGowan	Lachlan Main	Mitchell Taleb
	Heath Grundy	Willem Cumming-gray	Adam Steger
	Andrew Fregonese	Bianca Michetti	
	<i>Nicholas Van Schoten</i>		
Under-19 Division 1	Wayne Cooper	Indra Campbell	Thomas Gath
	Christian Brenner	Adrian Terrill	Craig Hill
	Cameron Terrill	Luke Steger	
	<i>Noah Piggott</i>		

*PLEASE NOTE: Italics denotes Emergency Positions.

DIVISION 2

Detailed Results



DIVISION 2 – SENIORS

GRAND FINAL

CAROLINE SPRINGS..... 12.8 (80)

YARRAVILLE SEDDON EAGLES 9.12 (66)

CAROLINE SPRINGS

GOALS: M. Sutton 5, B. Lake 3, J. Degabriele 1, J. Ryan 1, T. Xerri 1, T. Manolis 1

BEST: T. Xerri, M. Chadwick, J. Caterino, M. Sutton, R. Rich, L. Tudor

YARRAVILLE SEDDON EAGLES

GOALS: S. Krakouer 2, K. Upton 2, M. Goring 2, C. Topalidis 2, M. Patterson 1

BEST: M. Goring, G. Newton, C. Vincent, J. Compton, K. Johnson, J. Collins

DIVISION 2 – RESERVES

GRAND FINAL

YARRAVILLE SEDDON EAGLES..... 8.11 (59)

CAROLINE SPRINGS..... 6.8 (44)

YARRAVILLE SEDDON EAGLES

GOALS: J. Hargreaves 3, H. Evans 1, N. Fry 1, P. Azar 1,

J. Cousins 1, M. Volpi 1

BEST: P. Azar, D. Fry, A. Bernhardt, J. Hargreaves, B. McCrorey,

J. Lee

CAROLINE SPRINGS

GOALS: M. Saker 2, A. King 2, P. Wentworth 1, G. Downs 1

BEST: A. Brook, K. Maschewski, J. Brook, G. Downs, D. Markovski

DIVISION 2 – UNDER 19'S

GRAND FINAL

NEWPORT POWER 10.4 (64)

ALBION 6.13 (49)

NEWPORT POWER

GOALS: M. Taleb 3, M. Abouzeid 2, Y. El Hawli 2, A. Mesto 1,

A. Turcinovich 1, N. Haddara 1

BEST: H. Abdo, A. Abdo, W. Abdou, T. Beard, J. Haddara,

T. Johnston

ALBION

GOALS: C. Muir 2, J. Leach 1, K. Wilson-Roach 1, B. Kendall-Coyle 1,

J. Bettin 1

BEST: T. Parkinson, J. Bettin, C. Muir, B. Jones, C. McPherson,

B. Kendall-Coyle

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LAKERS CELEBRATE FIRST SENIOR PREMIERSHIP

By DANIEL MOSCA

THE Caroline Springs Lakers have won their first ever WRFL premiership after taking down the Yarraville Seddon Eagles by 14-points in the Division 2 Grand Final on Sunday.

The Lakers rode a best-on-ground performance from Lewis Tudor and a hot start from forward Mathew Sutton, who kicked three goals in the opening term, to outclass the Eagles and eventually claim the title.

After being humbled by the North Footscray Red Devils back in Round 17 to the tune of 61-points, the Lakers saved their best footy of the season for when it mattered most, winning their last five games of the year, dating back to Round 18.

On top of that, their last five games included wins all against top-4 opponents, besting Yarraville Seddon and Glen Orden twice each, and rival North Footscray by an average margin of 70-points. Suffice to say they peaked at the right time.

Meanwhile, Yarraville Seddon will be kicking themselves after their poor start to the game in which they conceded the first five goals of the contest and were forced to play catch-up the rest of the way.

Despite earning themselves a week off after their six-point win over favourite North Footscray in the first Semi-Final, the Eagles looked sluggish to start off things and were overwhelmed by Caroline Springs in the early minutes, especially in the centre as the Lakers midfield dominated the clearances and dictated the tempo.

Led by Tudor and Rodney Rich, the Lakers had their way with the Eagles through most of the first term and created havoc when they went forward, with Sutton and Brian Lake causing all kinds of problems for the Eagles backline.

Yarraville Seddon were almost held goalless for the entire first quarter until Scott Krakouer earned himself a free kick and booted their first major of the contest to stop the bleeding and cut the margin to 23-points as the first quarter came to a close.

The Eagles would hit back in the second quarter, kicking four goals while limiting the Lakers to just one for the term.

Kicking with the wind, it was almost the complete opposite from the opening quarter as the Eagles asserted themselves and began winning the hard ball gets. They had four different goal kickers in the term and after Krakouer booted his second goal in the 27th minute, Yarraville Seddon took their first lead of the game.

However, like Krakouer late in the first, Jason Degabriele snapped a late goal to stop the Eagles run and put the Lakers back up by 3-points heading into half-time.

After Yarraville Seddon kicked an early goal to start the third quarter, they took the lead back and looked primed to run away it, having kicked five of the last six goals.

However, Caroline Springs' backline held strong and they responded with the next three goals of the quarter, capped off by Sutton's fourth goal.

They led by 14-points as the fourth quarter began and extended their lead to 26 half way through the term after consecutive goals from Brian Lake and James Ryan. Just as it looked like they were about to bow the game open, the Eagles fought back once again.

When Chris Topalidis found Kevin Upton in the 26th minute for his second straight goal, the Eagles had rattled off three straight goals of their own and cut the lead down to nine with only minutes remaining.

However, it wasn't meant to be. Sutton's mark and goal only a minute later put the Eagles away for good and sent the Lakers' supporters into a frenzy.

With the win, Caroline Springs have been promoted and will move up to Division 1 next season.



Caroline Springs coach Scott Korczynski and captain Chris Bestal with the RAMS Division 2 Premiership Cup. Picture: DARRELL JONES

DIVISION 2 – ROUND WRAP

RESERVES

EAGLES REWARDED AFTER NEAR PERFECT SEASON

By DAYLE DUNSHEA

YARRAVILLE Seddon have finished their near perfect season in the best possible way, by winning the Division 2 Reserves Grand Final against Caroline Springs at Avalon Airport Oval on Sunday.

After losing to the Lakers in the Second Semi-Final just two weeks prior and having to take the long route to the Grand Final, the Eagles were ready to fire from the first bounce. .

It was clear from the start that Caroline Springs were in for a difficult game of footy with the Eagles putting on a lot of pressure on their opponents in the first quarter.

With a lot of intensity around the ball, the Lakers found it hard to move the ball forward, failing to kick a goal in the opening term. However the Eagles managed to kick two goals.

The Eagles continued to dominate in the second quarter as the game was played in Yarraville's half, as they kicked three goals and kept the Lakers scoreless.

As the second half rolled round and the third quarter began, the competition started to heat up with Caroline Springs began their fightback.

They won the quarter by four goals to three.

It was clear during the fourth quarter that Yarraville Seddon were tiring, as Caroline Springs were managing to get on top.

They were able to keep the Eagles to just two behinds in the last quarter, while kicking two of their own, but the margin was too large.

The final score was, the Yarraville Seddon Eagles 8.11. (59) to Caroline Springs 6.8. (44).

Paul Azar from the Eagles was judged best on ground by the umpires.

Other stand out players for the Eagles include Daniel Fry, Adam Bernhardt, Jack Hargreaves, Ben McCrorey and Jack Lee.

The Eagles goal kickers include Hargreaves, who kicked three majors. Azar, Heath Evans, Jason Cousins, Michael Volpi and Nicholas Fry all kicked one.

Caroline Springs also had some standout players. Anthony Brook, Kane Maschewski, Justin Brook, Glenn Downs and Declan Markovski all played well.

Goal kickers included Aaron King and Michael Saker, who both kicked two each, and Paul Wentworth and Downs, who both kicked one goal each.



Yarraville Seddon Eagles coach Peter Lazzaro and his players celebrate the premiership victory. Picture: DARRELL JONES

BACK-TO-BACK TITLES FOR THE POWER

By NICK GALEA

NEWPORT Power have won the Under-19 Division 2 Grand Final with a 15-point win over Albion at Avalon Airport Oval.

The back-to-back premiership win capped off a successful weekend for the club, with the senior team also winning their respective Grand Final.

The final score was Newport Power 10.4. (64) to Albion 6.13. (49).

The Cats gave it their all, but as the old adage goes 'bad kicking is bad football' and team from Parsons Reserve would be disappointed with their inaccuracy in-front of goal throughout the game.

Albion settled quickly with Tyler Parkinson starting like a house in fire, but they weren't able to convert their inside-50s into goals kicking three behinds.

Newport eventually got on the board with gun full forward Youssef El Hawli kicking the first goal of the game at the 11th minute mark with a long bomb from outside-50.

Cooper Muir responded for Albion, but it was the Power who were in front by three-points at quarter-time with Alexander Turchinovic slotting a goal after the siren.

Albion like the first quarter controlled the early stages, but weren't able to make it count on the scoreboard.

Newport on the other hand didn't look like missing when they went forward and kicked three of the four goals for

the quarter to go into half-time with a 13-point lead.

Newport piled on the pressure in the opening few minutes of the third term which resulted in a Mitchell Taleb slotting a brilliant goal from the pocket to extend the margin to 19-points.

Muir provided a much needed goal for Albion to give his side some hope, but despite their endeavour, their skills were found wanting with poor conversion.

Alternatively, a goal to Ahmed Mesto from 45 metres put Newport up by 23-points going into the last quarter of the season.

Mohammed Abzoudeid kicked the first goal of the last quarter to put Newport up by 29-points, but Albion mounted a spirited comeback to kick three consecutive goals to bring it back to 10-points to create a tense final five minutes.

But it was Abzoudeid, who settled the nerves of the Newport faithful with his second to seal the game and spark jubilant celebrations at the final siren.

Newport's Hamza Abdo was best on ground, Thomas Beard was strong down back and Youssef El Hawli and Mitchell Taleb caused havoc up forward with two and three goals.

For Albion Joel Bettin, Cooper Muir (two goals) and Tyler Parkinson put in strong four quarter efforts.



Newport Power's Under-19 team pose with the premiership cup after defeating Albion on Sunday. Picture: ELLIE ALEBAKIS

DIVISION 2 GRAND FINAL DAY



The umpires for the Division 2 Grand Final walk onto Avalon Airport Oval for the first time. Picture: DARRELL JONES



Brian Lake and his daughter celebrate winning the Division 2 Seniors Premiership. Picture: DARRELL JONES



Caroline Springs player David Cavanagh receives his premiership medallion after defeating the Eagles on Sunday. Picture: DARRELL JONES



A Yarraville Seddon Eagles reserves player receives his premiership medal from WRFL CEO Bob Tregear. Picture: ELLIE ALEBAKIS



Yarraville Seddon Eagles coach Dean Callaway and Caroline Springs coach Scott Korczynski with Kevin Hillier. Picture: ELLIE ALEBAKIS



Newport Power Under-19 Division 2 premiership players with competition sponsor TIV at Avalon Airport Oval. Picture: BOB TREGEAR



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DIVISION 3 – SENIORS

GRAND FINAL

NEWPORT POWER **12.8 (80)**

PARKSIDE..... 6.11 (47)

NEWPORT POWER

GOALS: A. El Hassan 2, M. Saoud 2, M. El Houli 2, M. Williams 2, M. Mesto 1, M. El Hassan 1, W. Taleb 1, I. Saaoud 1

BEST: M. El Houli, K. El Houli, B. Abdul-wahed, Z. Kadour, F. Abdo, I. Saaoud

PARKSIDE

GOALS: Not Supplied.

BEST: Not Supplied.

DIVISION 3 – RESERVES

GRAND FINAL

PARKSIDE **10.7 (67)**

TARNEIT 8.11 (59)

PARKSIDE

GOALS: D. Orchard 4, R. Keenan 2, T. Witton 1, S. Campbell 1, L. Perkins 1, C. Hall 1

BEST: M. Schwabl, R. Ferguson, C. Sturrock, V. Gardiner, D. Ferguson, J. Goldsmith

TARNEIT

GOALS: N. Williams 2, J. Baird 2, B. Arabit 1, R. Frost 1, C. Ebbels 1, S. Ingham 1

BEST: T. Whiting, B. Arabit, M. Lawrence, J. Baird, K. Thomas, B. Jones

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DIVISION 3 – ROUND WRAP

SENIORS

NEWPORT POWER'S HISTORIC SEASON

By WILL ZWAR

NEWPORT Power has made it one from one, after winning their first ever premiership in their first season in the WRFL Seniors competition, at Wootten Road Reserve.

It caps off a remarkable season, in which the Power lost just two games.

After a close opening term, which had the Power up by one-point at quarter-time, a strong five goal to none second term saw Newport lead by 31-points at the main break, from which they never looked back.

While Parkside kicked three goals, winning the term, in the third quarter, Newport kicked three goals of their own, as the Magpies reduced the margin by just one to 30-points at three-quarter-time.

With the game, and the season, wrapped up, Newport were able to take their foot off the gas in the last quarter, and enjoy their final moments of footy for 2016.

Kicking two goals to one, Newport came victorious by 33-points in a famous Grand Final that proves to be the ultimate highlight in the clubs short senior history.

For Parkside however, it will be a second grand final loss in two years, and perhaps a year of missed opportunities, with an inaccurate 6.11 tallied for the day.

While Newport still led Parkside in scoring shots, 20 to 17, a few extra goals on the board could have bought Parkside back in the hunt for the premiership.

For the Premiers, skipper and ex-AFL premiership Hawk Mark Williams kicked two goals, and will go down in history as the first premiership captain/coach of Newport Power.

He was joined on the scoreboard by Munir El-Houli, who was named in the Division 3 Team of the Year at centre half-forward earlier in the week, as well as Mouhroud Saoud and Ahmed El Hassan, all with two goals apiece.

Bassman Abdul-Wahed was named best on ground while Fouad Abdo, Ziad Kadour and Khaled El-Houli, named back pocket in the Team of the Year, were also among the best.

For Newport, they will be looking to have an immediate impact in Division 2 next season, and have the potential

to make some damage, such has been their dominance over the seniors and Under-19 competitions.

Parkside meanwhile will look at making amends for the past two years, as they would not want all of their hard work over the past two years to go unrewarded.

That's the curtain call for Division 3 in 2016, look forward to seeing you all again in 2017!



Newport Power's Khaled el Houli receives his premiership medallion. Picture: DARRELL JONES

PARKSIDE UPSET TARNEIT TO CLINCH FLAG

By RHYS WOOSNAM

DESPITE finishing a game behind their opponents, it was Parkside who turned up to play this weekend and it resulted in the ultimate victory.

They are the 2016 WRFL Premiers after besting Tarneit in a surprise win by just eight points.

The quality of the game met the lofty expectations set by a tremendous regular season, with both teams giving it their all and never giving up.

It was a back and forth encounter that saw Parkside prevail after leading for the entire match. Their ice cold determination was the difference, as they held off a fast-finishing Tarneit in the final stanza.

Tarneit will rue their inaccuracy in front of goal, having one more scoring shots, but converting just eight of their 19 attempts, with Parkside kicking 10 goals and seven behinds.

For Parkside, David Orchard booted four majors and was supported by Ryan Keenan who kicked two.

Mark Schwabl, Robert Ferguson and Cameron Sturrock all starred for the eventual premiers.

On the losing side, leading goal-kicker Troy Whiting battled tremendously but couldn't receive the silver service that saw him kick 57 majors in 2016.

Parkside's premiership victory is a massive turnaround from their 2015 season where they finished in fifth place with just eight wins.

For Tarneit, it's another case of close but no cigar. They made it into the finals last year, finishing in third position and were the minor premiers in 2016. However, on the most important day of the season, they couldn't translate regular season form into a glorious victory.

The 2016 WRFL season was a hive of unpredictability and uncertainty which made it all the more exciting.

The departure of last year's minor premiers (Albanvale) and the introduction of Newport and Sunshine Heights made the premiership incredibly competitive and we saw a highly entertaining chase for the title.

Parkside will now revel in their ultimate glory, but they will have a number of challengers at their heels in 2017.



Parkside reserves side celebrates winning the 2016 Division 3 Reserves Premiership at Wootton Road Reserve. Picture: DARRELL JONES

DIVISION 3 GRAND FINAL DAY



WRFL Director of Umpiring Mark Westgarth hands out awards to each umpire who officiated the Division 3 Grand Final. Picture: KRISTEN ALEBAKIS



A Parkside reserves player celebrates winning the premiership after defeating Tarneit. Picture: KRISTEN ALEBAKIS



Newport Power players Khaled El Haouli, Mahmoud Saaoud and Mouhamed El Hassan interview each other in Grand Final Footy Show special. Picture: KRISTEN ALEBAKIS



Fans on the fence of Wootton Road Reserve about to run out onto the ground. Picture: DARRELL JONES



Parkside defeated Tarneit in the Division 3 Reserves Grand Final. Picture: DARRELL JONES



The Newport Power leadership group, coaches and president celebrate their historic victory in Division 3. Picture: DARRELL JONES.



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A Tarneit player marks the ball during the Reserves Grand Final against Parkside. Picture: DARRELL JONES



A Tarneit player marks the ball during the Reserves Grand Final against Parkside. Picture: DARRELL JONES

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2016 SENIOR LADDERS

DIVISION 1 – SENIORS

TEAM	P	W	L	D	PTS	%
Deer Park	16	14	2	0	56	196.91
Hoppers Crossing	16	13	3	0	52	160.59
Werribee Districts	16	9	7	0	36	113.14
Altona	16	9	7	0	36	109.19
Spotswood	16	9	7	0	36	97.45
St Albans	16	7	9	0	28	114.26
Sunshine	16	5	11	0	20	91.85
Albion	16	4	12	0	16	66.93
Wyndhamvale	16	2	14	0	8	38.59

DIVISION 1 – RESERVES

TEAM	P	W	L	D	PTS	%
Hoppers Crossing	16	15	1	0	60	333.20
Altona	16	13	3	0	52	188.04
Werribee Districts	16	13	3	0	52	171.22
Sunshine	16	10	6	0	40	149.87
Deer Park	16	9	7	0	36	143.88
St Albans	16	4	11	1	18	69.28
Spotswood	16	4	12	0	16	87.58
Albion	16	3	12	1	14	49.36
Wyndhamvale	16	0	16	0	0	15.00

DIVISION 2 – SENIORS

TEAM	P	W	L	D	PTS	%
North Footscray	16	14	2	0	56	280.79
Yarraville Seddon Eagles	16	13	3	0	52	178.56
Caroline Springs	16	12	4	0	48	275.82
Glenorden	16	8	8	0	32	127.41
Albanvale	16	5	11	0	20	57.93
Manor Lakes	16	3	13	0	12	42.51
West Footscray	16	1	15	0	4	23.58

DIVISION 2 – RESERVES

TEAM	P	W	L	D	PTS	%
Yarraville Seddon Eagles	16	16	0	0	64	530.60
Caroline Springs	16	12	4	0	48	576.72
North Footscray	16	12	4	0	48	406.57
Glenorden	16	7	9	0	28	69.75
Albanvale	16	5	11	0	20	46.69
West Footscray	16	2	14	0	8	20.20
Manor Lakes	16	2	14	0	8	17.15

DIVISION 3 – SENIORS

TEAM	P	W	L	D	PTS	%
Newport Power	16	14	2	0	56	175.74
Parkside	16	13	3	0	52	197.09
Tarneit	16	11	5	0	44	179.00
Sanctuary Lakes	16	10	6	0	40	111.90
Wyndham Suns	16	8	8	0	32	96.30
Sunshine Heights	16	8	8	0	32	89.38
Braybrook	16	4	12	0	16	53.57
North Sunshine	16	3	13	0	12	66.58
Laverton	16	1	15	0	4	57.11

DIVISION 3 – RESERVES

TEAM	P	W	L	D	PTS	%
Tarneit	16	15	1	0	60	361.18
Parkside	16	14	2	0	56	299.14
Wyndham Suns	16	13	3	0	52	221.71
Newport Power	16	9	7	0	36	138.32
Sanctuary Lakes	16	8	8	0	32	100.00
Sunshine Heights	16	7	9	0	28	76.09
Laverton	16	3	13	0	12	57.67
North Sunshine	16	3	13	0	12	35.41
Braybrook	16	0	16	0	0	16.68

DIVISION 1 – UNDER 19

TEAM	P	W	L	D	PTS	%
Werribee Districts	18	14	3	1	62	133.43
Deer Park	18	13	4	1	58	143.22
Hoppers Crossing	18	9	9	0	40	127.41
Altona	18	7	11	0	32	97.54
Yarraville Seddon Eagles	18	7	11	0	32	72.89
Spotswood	18	3	15	0	16	54.38

DIVISION 2 – UNDER 19

TEAM	P	W	L	D	PTS	%
Newport Power	14	12	2	0	68	209.42
Albion	14	11	3	0	64	212.83
Werribee Districts	13	6	7	0	48	118.18
Sanctuary Lakes	14	4	10	0	36	44.02
Wyndhamvale	11	0	11	0	16	36.17



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Luke Hemer @lukehmer · 15h

Check my @instagram story from the @WesternRegionFL div2 GF bit.ly/LHPhotoIG & Star Weekly this week.

👉 You, Star Weekly Sport, Yarraville Seadon FC and The Lakers



Hoppers Footy Club added a photo and a video.
December 3 at 6:07am · 🌐

Only the one game to write about this week, but what a game.

Our senior boys had a GF spot on the line and boiled out of the blocks but Altona pegged us back and we held a 1 goal lead at the first change.

Some nice work in the second saw that lead extended to 20 at the main break and we were halfway there.

Altona pushed us in the third and were not going away.

We scored early in the last before the late challenge came, but with the carrot of the spot in the big one and club stalwart Matty Young's 350 game milestone at stake, the boys held on and set up a return bout with Deer Park next week.

Our reserves who had the week off will also face the same foe in a double header.

Time to make more room in the trophy cabinet... This is it! This is what we play for!

🎧 "winning the flag is well in our sights" 🎧



Deer Park FC
December 3 at 9:03am · 🌐

Our Reserves side has booked a spot in the GF and now joins the U17's and Seniors in the ultimate showdown at Whitten Oval next Sunday!

Reserves finished in 5th spot after the home & away season, now meet Hoppers Crossing after a convincing 10 goal win today v Altona.

Well done to all Players, Bryson all Coaching staff and Volunteers involved - Special mention to Nicole and congratulations on the safe arrival of baby James!

Yarraville Seadon Eagles
17 hrs · 🌐

The seniors went down by 14 points today. The players had a massive crack as they have all year. Thanks to Nippa and all the players and support staff for their effort this year. Thanks to all the supporters who came today. We are looking forward to a bigger and better 2017 and hope to see you all next year!



Luke D'Anello
@LukeDAnello

Caroline Springs prevails in a super @WesternRegionFL grand final over @YSEagles, 12.8 (80) to 9.12 (66).

PLAYER PROFILE



Quick hands with your favourite Senior Stars



SAM KATER

Team: North Footscray

Position: Wing

Number: 3

1. Who has had the biggest influence on your career?

Father.

2. What is your coach's favourite saying?

Get to training....

3. Who would you like to have kicking for goal after the siren in a grand final?

Me or Eddie Betts.

4. Your funniest team-mate?

Brandon Walsh.

5. Finish this sentence: Before a game I always.....

Eat two Dim Sims and strap my ankles.

6. Who is your favourite AFL player?

Rory Sloane or Nat Fyfe. It was Chris Judd and I cried when he got stretchered off.

7. What is your favourite TV Football Show?

Bounce.

8. If you could appear on any reality show, which would you choose?

Keeping up with the Kardashians.

9. What is your favourite meal before a game?

Two Dim Sims before the game and pasta of some kind the night before.

10. What is your favourite movie?

Zoolander, Anchorman or Happy Gilmore.



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