

Balwyn Junior Football Club

www.balwynjfc.com



BJFC Newsletter

22 June 2008 – Round 10

It's always a good week-end in footy when Essendon wins and Carlton, Collingwood and Hawthorn lose!! Not so much joy for the Balwyn Tigers, however, with the **Under 10 Black** team the only winners in the miserable conditions on Sunday. Well done Under 10 Black! Since moving up to Gold Division, this team has had a very respectable 3 wins and 3 losses, and currently sits in fourth position on the ladder.

Milestone Games

Congratulations to **Chris Adams** (Under 12s) and **Declan McLaughlin** (Under 13s) who both played their 50th game on the week-end. Chris is pictured right, crashing through his banner.



Upcoming Events

The BJFC annual "Gala Night" is taking the form of a **Trivia Night** this year, to be held at the Balwyn Tigers Social Club (formerly the Bowling Club) on **Friday 25 July**, at 7.30pm. Please note the night in your diary.

Can you help us with auction items for the night - tickets, footy gear, restaurant dinners, the use of a holiday home, gift vouchers etc? If you have something you can donate, or know someone who might be able to help, please contact Cath Owen on 0414 907 429.

The next **Family Night** will be on **Sunday 13 July** which is the last Sunday of the school holidays. Matches are played that day. Come along and catch up with friends from the club, and hear Tony Jones and the coaching panel discuss the progress of their teams.

Balwyn Seniors

The Balwyn Seniors are playing Donvale at Balwyn Park this Saturday, with the main game starting at 2.10pm. They'd love some support from the junior players and these home games are a great opportunity for our young players to see a quality AFL match close up. If you do go, don't forget to wear your BJFC jacket.

Grounds Update

The City of Boroondara has revised its finish date for the building works at the clubrooms and the pavilion handover will now occur on 19 July. It is hoped the new lights will be in place at around the same time.

As you may know, the Balwyn Bowls Club ceased operations at the end of last year. The Balwyn Senior Football Club has now secured the tenancy of the bowls club rooms until at least the end of the 2009 winter season. The venue will be renamed the Balwyn Tigers Social Club. Balwyn Junior Football Club will continue to have access to the rooms for our social functions.

Footy Boots

Don't throw away those old football boots. Matt O'Callaghan (Under 10 Yellow Team Manager) is collecting footy boots to send to under-privileged children in Alice Springs. The first few pairs were donated at the last Family Night, and Matt is keen to collect more. The boots are being distributed in Alice Springs by the Clontarf Football Academy, the main objectives of which are to improve the discipline, life skills, self esteem and employment prospects of young Aboriginal men. The Academy uses Aussie Rules Football as a way to keep boys at school, but most of them can't afford to buy boots. If you have an old pair you are willing to donate, please contact Matt at matthew.ocallaghan@scap.com.au or on 0416 052 597.

If you have any **contributions or photos** for the newsletter, please email kathrynw@aapt.net.au

Until next week ...GO TIGERS!

Match Reports – Round 10

Sunday 22 June 2008

Tackers

The Tackers played Canterbury at home this week. It was certainly back to WET weather football! Unlike our slow starts of previous weeks, the boys got off to an absolute cracker. The boys played a complete team game, getting their heads over the ball and making strong tackle after tackle. Although the boys ran out of legs in the last quarter we were able to hold on for all of the supporters who braved the persistent rain.

Our first half captain, Jackson Gillard responded well to playing out of the centre. Our second half captain Lucas Mucciante put on a brave performance in very tough conditions.

An absolute stand-out this week was Matthew Cheah, our wet weather specialist. Matt dominated in the ruck, then moved into the forward zone and kicked two goals. Matt then floated down back in the last quarter and took many marks.

Just as important was Nicholas Sette who had the ball on a string. Nic was instrumental in following the pre-match direction playing on at every opportunity. Well done on his best game for the season.

Rhys De Highden slotted through a very tight goal and the boys once again celebrated. On a water-logged ground with a VERY slippery ball, we had many near misses with magnificent contributions from Will Golds and Max Chew Lee.

Down back Christian Ambatzis stood firm and rebounded a certain goal. Bradley Whelan, Thomas Braddy, Ed Stents, Joseph Parente and Ryan Lumprekis were all keen to get their bodies over the ball and worked it forward to our advantage.

Cameron Ewart played his best game of the season, he went in hard and tackled brilliantly, he is clearly a wet weather specialist. James West also had a great game, as did Josh Bilston-Gourley who recovered well after some initial problems with his gear that were amazingly quickly resolved by his mum.

Dan Crowley continues to apply himself and Will Lambert picks up regular possessions.

Well done to all the boys, but lets remember we need to run out 4 quarters!

Enjoy the week with your new temporary coaches Andrew De Highden and Andrew Gillard (thanks gents for your welcomed assistance).



U10 Yellow Canterbury R 4.18-42 def Balwyn Y 1.3-9

In a return to traditional footy weather, the rain did not let up at all during the game and made for slippery conditions. The boys were fired up to make amends for last week and came out of the blocks in great form. The ruck work from Humphris was strong all day, and at the start led on to Donnelly passing to Watt, who then steered a centering kick to Noonan for a mark. Not waiting to line up the goal had hearts in mouths, but the kick was through for a goal and the Tigers were on the scoreboard in the first three minutes of the game. The remainder of the quarter saw plenty of hard work rewarded, as the boys played hard for the ball. Ukovic was again in the middle of the action, along with Khallouf and Donnelly. Kavanagh was accurate in the kick out, finding Humphris and then Zanella in turn. Quarter time score 6-3

Second quarter saw many determined tackles – Humphris and Dennis clearing the ball to Ukovic and Pasqua under pressure. Dennis showed great Tiger spirit to recover from a stinging ball to the face at close range. Campbell threaded the hand pass to evade three Cobras, and Donnelly showed the effectiveness of solid shepherding. Defending strongly, the backline of Kavanagh, Rishi, and Flugge applied constant pressure to restrict the scoring to behinds. Ambatsis, Zanella, and Walby managed to feed the ball out to the centre, with Allinson combining with Pasqua and Ukovic to get the ball into the forward fifty. Half time score 6-8

The break was short and the pressure continued from both sides. Another five behinds from the Cobras was followed by a goal. The Tigers rallied and put the goal under siege, resulting in two rushed behinds. Great skills in the wet were shown by Watt, Allinson, and Ambatsis. Score 8-19 Final term did not see any drop in effort, despite the lack of any interchange. Campbell marked to then find Humphris who scored a behind. Strong tackles from Campbell, Humphris, Donnelly and Watt. The fresh legs of the Cobras and more accurate kicking saw the score run out to 9-41 at the siren.

A much better team effort by far this week – well done.

Awards: Spirit of the Tiger – James Walby



Under 10 Black Balwyn b 7.7-49 def Ivanhoe W 2.3-15
Balwyn Tigers Depth Tested As Ivanhoe Visits The ‘House of Pain’!!

For the first time in some time Match Committee were wondering if the club should enter a 24 hour exclusion zone as the question of depth was once again thrown up at the selection table. A mystery virus showed no favours and cruelly ruled out first half Captain and North American Import Ary Zadoff. Match Committee started to feel the chill from the arctic winds when they also heard that its ruckman, Sam ‘Richo’ Charles, was another boy to succumb to the mystery virus. Post Match saw MV (mystery virus) enter the epidemic phase as we were made aware of the grip this MV had taken on one of our favourite sons. Reigning B&F Hazza VDK was rushed to Hospital with suspected appendicitis. Hazza was fortunate to dodge the surgeon’s scalpel and we are relieved that he may present himself as a starter for next Sunday’s game. As we go to print Match Committee hear the boys are recovering well and should all be available for selection next week. We call that **‘Pure GUTS’**.

Back to the Footy. To put it straight we needed to win this one. We were holding on to 4th place and another slip could see us out of the four and playing catch up for the remainder of the season. Sunday threw up many challenges. Absolute driving rain did not bother our forward line. Jason Watkins, Lachy Ryan, Louis Cunningham, LA Connection, James Lazari and Ben Hudson all showed attack on the ball that was beautiful to watch. That attack resulted in many goals, one especially from Bad Boy Benny Somers who slotted his first for the year and had the coach’s bench cheering ferociously!!!

Our midfield keeps the officials at YJFL Headquarters amazed at the skill and poise the boys show each week. Christian Moritz, Wade Brusnahan, Jack ‘Blind Turn’ Owen, Lachlan De Burgh, Jesse Ward. Hazza (as above) and Will Prowse continue to fire each week.

To keep a team scoreless for the first half is extraordinary. The effort from our backline has Match Committee often searching for the Tiger’s record books. The commitment shown by Lachy Reynolds (first half Captain), Nick Warmington, Chris Vanderkley, Ned Coleman, Jordan Moshopoulos, Harry Kirkland and Dan Murphy have amazed us all year. Boys keep it up and the results will keep coming.

Common phrases were spoken at Games end. ‘Keeping a lid on it’ and ‘one week at a time’ was thrown out for all to consume. Match Committee says enjoy the spoils of victory and as the famous saying goes from our Great Teddy Whitten

‘We stuck it up them!’

Awards:	Christian Moritz	Spirit of the Tiger Award
	Ned Coleman	Spirit of the Tiger Award
	Dan Murphy	Subway Award
	Chris Vanderkley	Palace Award
	Jack Owen	Colombo’s Award
Goals:	Harry Vanderkley (3), Louis Cunningham (2), Ben Somers, Jack Owen	



U11 Balwyn 5.8-38 def by St Damians R 7.4-46

Having been well beaten in the first round by St Damians, the boys were keen to revenge their earlier loss. Missing Daniel Jackson and Ben Carberry, we geared ourselves up for a big game. In the first quarter we had the wind and attacked but couldn’t kick straight (1:5 to 1 goal at quarter time). Marcus Alessi was playing a great game on the ball and Kirk Christodoulou was in fine touch in the ruck. Sam Paravizzini looked at home and made his presence felt at full forward. Liam Roney took on the role of a ruck rover playing the length of the field and returning to the forward pocket when needed. Tom McGowan was also picking up kicks on the wing with his tough attacking style. In the backline, Riley Cranage playing at fullback (not his normal position) made some exciting attacks at the ball to initiate forward thrusts.

In the second quarter, St Damians kicked with the wind and was suddenly three goals in front. Jimmy Baring was inspirational on the half backline and was our second best player of the day. George Cleeve Gerkins never gave up and his constant hard running saved many goals. Sandon Lai's natural judgment and skill and Michael Carpinteri's courage were also great to watch. At half time, we were well down. The boys were asked to lift their heads.

In the third quarter the boys were magnificent. Liam Azzopardi must have had a sore foot with the amount of kicks he got, and was unlucky not have scored a number of goals. We moved Andrew Foster into the ruck and he had an immediate effect releasing Kirk to cause havoc at centre half forward. Josh Somers was running wild and taking many strong marks in the packs. Billy Peters started to dominate the centre with his hard running and physical toughness and got many kicks. The play was all our way. Noah Bourke was in and under everything as was Alistair McIntosh. We were set for an exciting last quarter.

Tim Allan was dogged in defence and stopped many of their forward attacks. With inspirational running and fierce tackling by Alex Dalla-Riva (our best player of the day), the whole team lifted. Stefano Di Natale kicked a clever goal off the carpet and the momentum was with us. We had hit the front.

A short lapse in concentration lead to two goals being kicked against us and we were pipped at the post. Again, inaccurate kicking in front of the goal made our task harder but the boys did everything asked of them and Jim Peters and Leigh Barring are very proud of them.

We look forward to next week against St Marys.

Well done boys!



U12

Kew G 8.5-53 def Balwyn 5.4-34

The Under 12s gave a spirited performance in the wet this week against a side second on the ladder. The entire team provided a determined effort lead by Chris Adams in his 50th game. The Tigers' had two good targets up forward all day in D'Arcy Noonan and Charles MacCallum, with MacCallum snapping an excellent goal in the first term to give the team a positive start. Carter Louey and Costa Kazakos were getting plenty of the ball, as was Brodie McLaughlin and James Merrett who, in a tussle with a much taller opponent, always ensured that Balwyn was competitive at the stoppages.

Seven points down going into the second term the game opened up with surprisingly clean footy in the wet conditions. Each side booted three goals as the close struggle continued. The Tigers marked well and kept possession of the ball with some good foot skills.

McLaughlin passed to Noonan who marked and goaled, before MacCallum also marked and goaled to put the Tigers in the lead. The team perhaps lost some concentration at that point to allow their opponents to kick three of the next four goals. Defenders Luke Privitelli, Chris Samios, Daniel Speake and Matthew Bromell were beating their opponents. Midfielders Tyler Youngman, McLaughlin and Campbell Lane continued to be hard at the ball, with McLaughlin snapping the team's fourth goal.

The third term was also even. Marcus Italiano had a great quarter on the half forward line. Mitchell Dyer and Nick LeFebvre came into the game in the midfield, as did Sam Cornford in defence. Team play provided one of the best goals of the day as Cornford marked a long kick out from Bromell before passing to Youngman who combined with Noonan and Jarrod Whelan to give Kazakos the space to kick long to Italiano who slotted the goal. The Tigers were still just eight points down at three quarter time.

Although the boys trapped the footy in their forward half for a substantial part of the last term they could not post the goals they needed. Desperate acts were in evidence all over the ground. Adams finished off his 50th game with some exceptional tackling, pumping the ball into the forward line on many occasions. The siren sounded with many of the boys spent from having given their all, and the scoreboard not giving a true indication of just how much of an improved performance this was by the Tigers.

Goals: MacCallum (2), Noonan, McLaughlin, Italiano

Coaches Awards: Italiano, Ryan Jago, Bromell, Merrett

Best: Samios, Adams



Colombo's
250 Whitehorse Rd, Balwyn
Ph: 9836 6442

U13

Balwyn 0.4-4 def by Warrandyte 6.12-48



U15

Boroondara Bulldogs 10.13-73 def Balwyn 7.8-50

Definition of:

Madness – trying to get 20 or so 14/15 year olds together in one place to get their photo taken

Craziness – Trying to get the Team Manager there at the same time

Insanity – Having everyone at the match ready to go, after photos, when the match time had changed by half an hour

Excitement –Sharkey's playing

Disappointment – Tom's not

Wonder –Where's Patrick? Where's Nick?

Highlight – Sharkey's first goal. And getting carried off, on shoulders (long overdue)

Lowlights – knowing we could have/should have/would have

Warrandyte – Look out. We are due.

