



No 11, 25 Aug 2007

President's Report

Hi All,

Team sport, ethically applied, surely plays a role in developing worthy participants of a civil society. I hope all our wonderful coaches take a quiet moment this summer to reflect upon the often overlooked impact you have had on young individuals finding their way in a complex world. Thanks on behalf of the Club for your contribution.

The Club had a great new team this year, our infamous Asperger team, the mighty Senior AL8Bs. It is hard to imagine that some of the players in this team have never been invited onto the pitch for more than a token period over their entire school playing career. You can imagine what the simple act of inclusion can do to change an individual's experience over a season. Hats off to the elite players who supported the AL8B team including team captain Alex Stutchbury. Also to our Club Secretary Michael Burns who individually (and not without drama) sorted so many issues for the team in their inaugural season. Typical of his behind the scenes approach. And so many others including Bruce Tweedie a MFC Club coach and parent who pulled on his boots when the numbers dropped mid-season. And Rhett Butler who jumped in to referee when the team needed it. Great to see the spirit of the other Clubs also, with special mention to a particular fave 'Harbord Vince' who pulled on the Mosman jersey for the AL8Bs so willingly over the season. To all the players in the team, Mosman FC was very proud to have you join our Club and look forward to seeing you take the pitch again in 2008. Read the final match report from the ever-patient team manager and parent, Lisa Storrs, mother of Andrew at the back of this edition.

Onwards and upwards ...

If you are in the finals, good for you. We love winners.

If you are not, good for you. We love the game of football.

Hope it was a great season.

Teresa White

President, Mosman FC

Important Notice.

Presentations will not take place on Sunday 26 August. Details as to when the presentations will occur will follow in the next couple of weeks.

MFC has a great season

Last weekend saw the final league game of the season and Mosman Football club ended up with nine league champions and four teams finished runners up. This far outstrips last year performance where we only collected 3 major premierships and the previous year where we picked up 5.

In the juniors the under 10 division 3 team and the under 11 division 1, 4 and 5 teams all won the major premiership whilst the under 12 division 1 team and the division 3a team and the under 15 division 2 team picked up the silver medal.

For the seniors it was a barren year as far as league titles are concerned but the AL division 1 team did finish second to a very strong Manly Allambie side.

In the Over 35s the division the division 3 and 6 teams won the league title.

It was also a good year for the women with the under 12 division 2 and 4 teams picking up the major premiership along with the all age division 2 team.

There is also a good chance of more silver wear with lots of teams competing for grand final victory. In the Juniors the 10/3s, 10/6s, 11/1s, 11/4s, 11/5s, 12/1s, 12/3A & Bs, 13/2s, 15/2s and 16/2s are all playing in the semi finals. For the seniors the Prem reserves, AL1s & reserves, AL2 reserves, AL3s, AL6Bs, AL7s and the AL8As are all in action. In the over 35s the O35/1As and the O35/3s are looking for a place in the grand final whilst the O35/6s are in a round robin competition.

Due to wash outs last Sunday the LA2s, LA12/2s and LA12/4s all progress to the final although the LA18/2s miss out. The LA14/3s did put in a creditable performance against the league champion Wakehurst side but finally lost 1-0 however the LA16/3 managed to beat Pittwater who finished above them in second 2-1 and will now face the league champion Curl Curl team.

Snippets

Futsal

We have had a lot of requests for information about our Summer Futsal competition. Stay tuned and we will provide details next week.

What a scorer...

Special Mention goes to Ben Zucchiatti of the Goannas team members. Ben has scored 48 goals this season (including the gala day) and is on track for 50 this Sat.

MWFA would like to remind everybody of the rules regarding semi-final games:

1. The number of players that can be borrowed in the semi-finals and finals is TWO not FOUR. This rule was introduced at the beginning of the year as per below. (Rule D2)

2. As long as a player is registered with the Club and eligible to take the field for that team in a normal game, they can play in a finals series game. An example may be a player who has been registered in a team, but injured for most of the season. They are permitted to play.

In the past there has been a rule which stated that to be eligible to be borrowed by a squad, a player had to have played four games for the squad during the season. This rule NO LONGER HOLDS, and any eligible player may be borrowed by a squad team. But note if they haven't played and your team got there due to the efforts of other players, it doesn't seem fair to suddenly include these players above the ones who got you

there. After all the pleasure of playing in the finals surely belongs first to those who got the team there, not some blowins who may be stronger and increase your chances of winning.

3. DO NOT BORROW PLAYERS TO WIN GAMES. The MWFA EC will take a harsh view of teams who suddenly borrow players unnecessarily from other teams

just to win the semi-final or final. This is not the spirit of the finals series, and this will be checked. (Rule D14).

4. Due to washout all teams will be playing knockout finals series. In these finals the top four teams play a single knockout round and the winner of each game will proceed to the Final. The round will be 1V4 and 2V3.

Just a reminder about the Knockout Semi finals and Finals this weekend:

Semi Finals

The four teams play a single knockout round and the winner of each game will proceed to the Final. The round will be 1V4 and 2V3.

In a semifinal game, in the case of goals being equal at the end of normal time two ten minute periods of extra time are played. There is a five minute break between the end of the game and the start of the first period of extra time. There is no break between the two periods of extra time.

In the Junior Competition (U10 – U16), the winner is determined as follows during that extra time :

- Goals equal at end of normal time - First goal wins – game ceases
- No goal at end of extra time - Most Corners in extra time win
- Corners equal at the end of extra time - First corner in extra time wins
- No corners in extra time - Team highest placed in League

Finals

In the Junior Competition (U10 – U16), the winner is determined as follows during that extra time :

The team with the highest number of goals at the end of normal time wins.

In the case of goals being equal at the end of normal time two ten minute periods of extra time are played. There is a five minute break between the end of the game and the start of the first period of extra time. There is no break between the two periods of extra time.

The winner is determined as follows during that extra time:

- Goals equal at end of normal time - First goal wins – game ceases
- No goal at end of extra time - Joint Winners

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BING LEE

Winners are Grinners

Winners are grinners, even when winning has nothing to do with scoring more goals than the other side. That's why there has been a fair share of smiles on the faces of the Mosman AL8Bs this season.

When film maker, Peter Kirk, first suggested to Mosman Soccer Club that it would be worthwhile forming a team of players suffering from Asperger's Syndrome, the President, Teresa White, immediately saw the value of encouraging such players to improve their social and soccer skills. Ultimately the team came to comprise guys with special needs ranging from autistic spectrum disorder, mild intellectual delay and cerebral palsy. Joining this core group were several established soccer players who added structure and experience to the team.

Grinning was pretty much the order of the day at every match as Bindi yelled his war cry, Alex O was dogged in defence, Oscar booted the ball like a demon, William burnt up the pitch with spurts of speed, James put his body on the line, Spencer T perfected his tackling and Andrew tried to hide (unsuccessfully) how excited he was at kicking a goal.

The rest of the team found time to smile too. Made up of a combination of elite players (who were kind enough to launch the team instead of playing in higher grades), experienced stalwarts and a few enthusiastic newcomers, these players were able to teach the guys about keeping their positions and gave encouragement to be more confident in facing their opponents. There was quite a deal of laughter over Peter T who was forced to learn how to stop goals instead of just kicking them; John who, although taunted for wearing red "Ronald McDonald" boots, displayed his talent as a striker; Justin who showed that a newbie could hold his own; Peter K who had to put his rugby habits behind him and defend an open goal mouth; Sergeant Major Spencer J as he marshalled the troops; Alex S, the captain, always generous and patient in guiding the guys as well as displaying awesome footwork. But the biggest smile was reserved for Bruce, the veteran of the group, whose nightmare about the "one that got away" was replaced by dreams of the two goals he later scored.

Thanks to our opposition also for their patience when we often couldn't field a full side and were prepared to provide spare players. They grinned too when they had the chance to settle a few friendly internal rivalries after donning the Mosman Blue (except for Vince who chose to play as a "skin" when the jersey proved too small) or perhaps it was the promise of oranges and jelly snakes at half time that lured them to the "dark side". Referees, too, seemed happy enough to turn a blind eye to some players' ignorance of the rules and parents were glad to watch the guys respond to the more good hearted side of competition.

Mosman Soccer Club is to be congratulated for its foresight in providing these guys with a chance to move from a permanent place on the bench to an active role on the field. With no subs, each man was faced with playing the full game which improved fitness and allowed them to acquire greater skills. Having no reserves also gave them a sense of being needed that has always been denied them when playing for school or other clubs. They were no longer surplus to need. Instead the team expected every man on deck as it struggled to send eleven onto the pitch each week!

The general feeling of goodwill expressed by everyone whom the team met was fantastic. Thanks also to the Club Secretary, Michael Burns, and the AL8As who lent us players on quite a few occasions even though they had already played a full game beforehand.

As for the core group of the AL8Bs, they look forward to next year and hope that more will join their team so they can continue their journey to overcome the anxieties and fears of coping with what, to others, seems no big deal. Being in a team has made them grin; more importantly, the opportunity to be in one in the first place has given them a win.

Lisa Storrs
Manager, AL8Bs