



Thornleigh Sports & Recreation Club Inc.

SOCCER DIVISION

Blue & Gold Newsletter

Issue 15 – 27th July 2016

Website: <http://www.thornleighsoccer.com.au/>



Deadline for Blue & Gold: MONDAY 3pm **Email to: mokdsi.george@gmail.com**

President's Report:



Another great weekend of Soccer. A little icy and the strong winds created a will to keep moving. I think we can expect the same this weekend. Please tell someone we already know it's winter!

Great to see so many keen players helping out in another team to make sure full strength Thunder sides run on. I saw several games with hungry to contribute kids in an older age group. Thanks to their parents who juggled in the extra event in what was probably a busy weekend already.

Results were solid with several teams having a fair bit at stake! Sportsmanship again held both days and good RESPECT prevailed.

Good of you all to embrace the need for that little bit more care to avoid speaking to the ref. The GHFA are issuing very clear guidelines each week to refs about 'dealing with parents' which is unfortunate. I guess in other clubs the officials are not being supported and there's a desire to try and keep referees available.

Have a lovely weekend and do enjoy these final rounds. Before we know it we will be missing the soccer weekends and craving next season.

Kind regards,
Geoff Knowles
Thunder President

Important Notices:-

Please send the match scores immediately after the game to George Mokdsi on 0403871543.

The e-mail address for Match Reports this season is mokdsi.george@gmail.com. **Submissions should be in Arial, font size 9** and attached as a word document to your e-mail is preferred. Please have your match reports sent by 3pm on the Monday following the weekend's match. Even if you miss deadline send it anyway and it may be ok or can go into following week.

Thunder FC Sponsors – 2016 Season

Thunder FC relies on the financial support of its sponsors to provide the necessary gear and equipment to supplement the various running costs of the club. Therefore, we gratefully acknowledge the support of the following sponsors for the 2016 season and encourage everyone associated with Thunder FC to support these local businesses.

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MATCH REPORTS FROM 16th July 2016:

UNDER 6 PURPLE A THORNLEIGH vs. NORMANHURST

On another chilly Saturday morning, under 6 Purple A took on their local team, Normanhurst. With Normanhurst down a few players **HANNAH** first stepped up, volunteering to play for them to help ensure the game was fair and exciting. She took a few knocks and a ball to the head, but played her best. **REBECCA** showed more of her remarkable recent form with a few big kicks up the sideline, to get the ball back into our half. Without **LACHLAN** kicking and chasing in defence, Normanhurst would have streaked ahead. He remains an integral player, with an eager interest in the game. As always, we could not have played as well without our all-rounder, **AARON**, who continues to play with a skill far beyond his 6 years. Finally, a big mention to **OLIVIA** who capably and competently got into most of the tackles, to help get the ball off the opposition. With

only a few weeks of games left, the team are playing consistently well together as a team, under the caring eye of their fantastic coaches.

Under 9 Blue Thornleigh vs Redfield

After a bye and then a wash out the boys were as keen as anyone could be for a game against Redfield at Redfield. We had played here earlier in the season but found it tough going as the grass hadn't been mowed for a year making it difficult to play our passing game. When we played them at home we had played them off the park in all areas and really kick started our season.

This time around was like the last time with the boys playing great football and working really hard for each other for the whole game. Our defence held their shape better this week and it showed by limiting Redfield to very few chances. When they did get a chance Rocco in goals was ready and waiting to do everything he could to deny them. Rocco has put his hand up this year to goal keep and has been fantastic every game.

The first half was end to end however Thunder was the only side that looked like scoring due to our defensive efforts. Luca, Dan, Jayden and Auden worked as hard as they could in defence and are getting better and better every week. Through training and games they are building a tight unit that is working together and starting to understand how each other play. This is showing in the way the opposition teams are getting very few shots on target.

At half time we spoke about getting back behind the ball and staying patient with our passing. At times we were in too much of a hurry to go forward and turning the ball over however we also needed to create options for the player with the ball.

The second half was the same as the first however we limited Redfield to only one shot on target which Rocco saved well. Our attack made life very difficult for the Redfield defence again this game. The passing was great to watch but this week it was the movement off the ball that made it easier for us. Franco, Levi, Auden and Daniel have been outstanding all season and are growing as a unit every week. Whenever one of them has the ball they are able to look up and find at least one option. They are thinking themselves and trying new things at the right time.

Our goal scorers this week were Levi, Daniel, Franco, Jayden and Auden.

Player of the Week was Levi who is growing in every aspect of the game and this week he raised to another level with confidence and by backing himself. Well done Levi!

MATCH REPORTS FROM 23rd July 2016:

Thornleigh U6 Kookaburra/ Purple A Vs Hills Pumas

Thornleigh U6 Purple A set out on a long but scenic road trip to Les Shore in Glenorie. Deceived by blue sky and sunshine, we all jumped out of our cars with the usual enthusiasm and were taken by complete surprise by the icy chill in the air. To say it was cold was a huge understatement.

Once again we started out by lending one of our players to the other team. Our parents are very proud of the fairness and sportsmanship shown by our players in these situations. They are all happy to give it a go and always play their best. The cheer squad is a bit confused about their role when we score brilliantly for the other team.

Lachie, Jeremy and Hannah are improving every week in their solid defence, teamwork and relentless attack. Aaron's speed and tactics scored him two goals, Olivia's solid tackles and concentration scored her one goal and Rebecca surprised herself with a few great kicks.

The teams were well matched, it was a good game.

Lachie found the joy of oranges and we were all very relieved to hear the final whistle so we could get back to the car to thaw out.

Under 9 Blue Thornleigh vs WPH

We were back at Ruddock Park to face WPH who we knew were going to be a tough game. Last time we played them they well and truly played us off the park however that was back in round 3. The boys were looking forward to having another crack at them.

Due to the smaller field at Ruddock being very wet in some places both teams decided to adjust the bigger field and play there.

We started a bit slow and let west penno dominate the game for the first few minutes conceding an early goal. From here on in we started to wrestle control back from them and created 3 or 4 chances in the space of 5 minutes. We made it difficult for our opposition in attack and defence. By the end of the first half we were starting to dominate and give them a lot of things to think about .

At half time we spoke about making better options, looking for the easy pass and being first to the ball. The boys took this into the second half and started the better team. WPH had chances and put them away however when they did we struck back to make it a see-sawing game. In the last 5 minutes we were camped in their half hitting the crossbar twice, the post once and seeing the keeper make some good saves.

This game was a great way to see how far the team has come and from a coaching perspective I could not be prouder of the whole team. They showed great skill, teamwork, hunger, passion and did not give up.

To single one player out this week was a tough job however Player of the Week went to **Franco** who scored a goal, ran hard in attack and got back to defend all game. He was unlucky not to score 10 but put in a massive effort all game!

U11/4 Thornleigh

It was shaping as a fabulous day for football, the sun was out and we were playing at Thornleigh Oval. The 11/4s were primed and you could see the energy and enthusiasm pouring off both coaches Simon and Paul. Simon and Paul had prepared the team well ably supported by the very capable manager Mike M. Kick off occurred and it was very visible that due to the thorough preparation the team had optimal shape. This shape would not leave the team and the building blocks

were there for the fluid ball movement that would occur for the rest of the match. George in the first half was instrumental in driving powerful runs through the midfield. This setup the forward line with the likes of James in front of goal. James here is Ronaldo and it was easy to see why, when the ball is at James feet he could win the Euro for anyone. The two ladies of the team Sophia and Ysobel were sublime both showed composure beyond their years. Sophia playing forward but tracking back well, holding the ball skilfully bringing the midfield and the forwards together. Ysobels pace is something to behold moving swiftly in the fluoro green/yellow boots regularly getting herself in positions to score or providing opportunities to her teammates. The first half was nothing short of artistry ably managed by the general at the back Mitchell Knowles. There was no way the opposition were getting beyond General Knowles managing and defending the troops. Eric also needs to rate a large mention. Eric has a motor of a tank constantly initiating and supplying balls from the back, whilst Knowlesy was the stopper Eric was the supplier, Eric has fabulous football brain matched by his skills which the opposition encountered time after time. George went in to goal for the second half and this brought out the enforcer Lachlan Fox onto the pitch, what a sight to behold this young man and his commitment to winning the ball in midfield. Foxy did this time after time bringing players into view both on the right and on the left. The player on the right was Lachlan Bailey. LB continues to grow in stature from week to week making the right side of the pitch his own. What stand out for me is his maturity, many opportunities came his way but as absolute professional bringing his team mates into play rather than going for goal himself well done LB. Hugo defended in the second half and showed much vision in the way he distributed the ball from the back, as his coach Simon pointed out you can't teach that in a player it is a gift. Whilst LB owned the right Nick tracked up and down the left and also owned the middle. On more than occasion Nicholas showed class that belied his years in the way he tested the oppositions keeper. Hamish played all over the park and was testament to his utility abilities. He never shirked his responsibilities and contributed to a great team performance. Special mention must go to Simon, Paul Michael and the way they look after the team. They instil the right values in the team and as a parent it is a pleasure to be involved in the 11/4s.