



Thornleigh Sports & Recreation Club Inc.

SOCCER DIVISION

Blue & Gold Newsletter

Issue 2 – 26th April 2017

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



Deadline for Blue & Gold: Tuesday 6pm **Email to: mokdsi.george@gmail.com**

President's Report:



Another great round with the community element of our club shining through: the first of the FIJI Tour 2017 fundraising BBQs wafting lovely aromas across Ruddock Oval. Each week you'll see this years group of participating U16s learning all about life by raising the money to travel to Fiji and play some soccer overseas.

The all age teams showed some tremendous skills as their fitness starts to kick in a bit more and many Dads got to show their kids how much they still love the game. Great to see parents and young adults committed and loving playing.

Our Super League teams are very strong and committed too. A year has seen much change. Karl, Bruce, Matt and the players are displaying really good build ups and great scoring chances. Better still Ressies had a 7-4 win and first grade won 2-0.

Super League play at home again at 1 and 3, on Ruddock and it will be a magnificent autumn day. DO COME ALONG... the game, kids playing in the background, a sizzling BBQ, a quiet drink and local friends: hard to image anything nicer. Oh and some lucky door prizes and Cantuccis vouchers!

So many young U6 boys and girls chasing the ball for the first year. So nice to see their determination whilst they charge at the ball somewhat akin to being little upright human dodgems. Give them a cuddle, pick them up. Teach them space when you can.

This week hopefully the goal kicks and throwing will improve, such a great opportunity to advance the ball and keep possession. Let's practice getting it to our team and then 'giving' the ball again.

Have fun, turn up early. Lots of encouraging words for good play, no critical yelling from parents and not a word to the Refs please. RESPECT!

Be nice to the volunteers, they set up the round and make all 51 teams games possible and fundraising on budget. Without volunteers we are a no start!

See you on the ovals,
See you on the ovals,

Kind regards,
Geoff Knowles
Thunder President

Important Notices:-

Please send the match scores immediately after the game to Graeme Hewitt 0419 167 950.

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 6pm on the Tuesday 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 – 2017 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 2017 season and encourage everyone associated with Thunder FC to support these local businesses.

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MATCH REPORTS FROM 22th April 2017:

U6 Red A Thornleigh vs Epping

What a fun game – well done team. The enthusiasm in this team is wonderful. Great skills developing with players already settling into their specialties with Daniel taking care of business when it comes to defence and Isabel and William attacking and scoring goals. Taking up the mid field and doing the work of both defence and attack we have Zichen and Eve. Alex (our youngest at 4!) is hanging around still curious about what this whole game is about but starting to take a few kicks and feeling a little more comfortable. Two thumbs up to our young ones.

U6 Red C Thornleigh vs Pennant Hills

Thornleigh U6 Red C were excited to take the field on their home ground. They showed great sportsmanship by lending players to PENNO so the game could go ahead. REBECCA lead the way being the first to wear the other team's jersey. BEN and PUOY showed powerful attacking skills. JOSH defended the goal brilliantly and LOUIS was in control of the whole field. We missed SYLVIA'S enthusiasm. Benny took out the Player of the match and Sophie was Cheerleader of the day. We all enjoyed it.

Under 7 Red Thornleigh Thunder vs Redfield

A great game with some excellent passing and defence tested constantly. With only 4 players on both teams all players got a full game and worked together well. Each team assisted in providing some goals for the other side but after that the attacks came thick and fast. Leo was constantly enthusiastic in defence and attack, and TJ defended the goal with his body but also perfected the big kicks to get space for the Thunders. Elise was always in the middle of things and was the go to for kick ins. Ella made some amazing breaks and truly owned all the line breaks in the game. The admirable quality for this game was that the Thunders never gave up and played with energy the whole game.

U9 Orange Thornleigh Vs Epping FC

Due to the Easter break we only had 5 players from our team. We were very thankful for **Roman** and **Ryan** (from U9 Gold) and **Daniel** (from U9 Blue) who helped us out. Most of our team are fairly new to soccer so the addition of some more experienced players really helped boost the confidence of our team. **Luke** has improved remarkably since the first game and was able to stop most of Epping FC's attacks with his speed and tackling. **Sreevalli** at left midfield was getting into space and passing well. **Zennith** had a good 1st half in goals and learnt to wait for the ball to come to him as our sole forward. He had a great strike for his first goal of the season. **Roman** was impressive up front able to control the ball at speed and was on target a couple of times. **Ryan** sent across pinpoint crosses from the corners in the 1st half and was quick out the goals in the 2nd half to kick away any through balls. **Daniel** (U9 Orange) and **Sianna** both were starting to mark their opposition players and pass to their team mates. **Daniel** (U9 Blue) curled a glorious free kick over the wall and into the top right hand corner of goals. **Daniel** (U9 orange) took our "most passes" player award and **Sianna** for the "Best Effort". It was encouraging to see some of things we have been working on in training start to come out in the game, especially in seeing some good passes and finding space. A big thanks to Daniel's (U9 Blue) dad for referring our match. Thanks again to **Roman**, **Ryan** and **Daniel** for helping us out.

Under 10 Yellow Thunder vs Ryde Saints United

What a game! The boys came out of the blocks like greyhounds and opened the scoring in the first 2 minutes! From here we dominated the rest of the game in every aspect.

The team worked very hard at training and it showed in the way they played. With no subs the big focus for the game was to let the ball do the work as we needed to have the ability to be there at the end of the game. That is exactly what the team did moving the ball around and making some fantastic passing moves from one end of the field to the other.

By half time we were still in full control of the game and our goal keeper had spent the first half all by himself. At half time we talked about starting again and continuing to work as hard off the ball as on the ball. Again the boys did exactly that and again they had complete control of the game scoring at will. Right up until the final whistle we were attacking and defending everything we could.

Our defence of Dan, Jayden and Chris did a fantastic job of limiting Ryde Saints United to only 3 shots on target and about 5 shots in total. Our midfield of Daniel, Franco and Cooper terrorised the opposition midfield and defence scoring at will.

Auden played striker and linked well with the midfield as well as making key runs off the ball to open space for the midfield to use. Goal scorers this week were Franco, Daniel, Auden, Cooper and Luca.

Player of the Week was Luca who had an outstanding game playing a defensive midfield role for the first time. He worked tirelessly in defence and provided a key to our transition into attack. Well done Luca!

Next week brings our second home game of the season against our arch rival West Pennant Hills!

Under 12/2

It was a 9.45am start at Pidding Park Ryde against Ryde Saints. After a smashing start to the season last week the team had a week's rest over the school holidays and were desperate to get out on the pitch and stretch those legs.

We started a little slowly with some poor passing but very quickly switched on and created some opportunities. Hugo was solid in defence as usual with some well-timed tackles and James D in goals had some early work to do but coped well, he showed a great display of positional defending in the 2nd, never an issue when JD is there. Eric controlled the middle of the field and covered huge metres.

With only the 1 sub this week there was going to be some tired kids but there were no signs of tiredness. Hamish turned up late as our sub after playing up with his brother in an older age group and jumped into central midfield where he looked right

at home. Olivia worked the left hand side of the midfield and controlled the ball well, she was awarded player of the week for her efforts. Lachlan Bailey played the first half in central midfield then headed up front for the 2nd half positioning himself well and also passed to players in better shooting position. Alex had a fantastic all round game and kept the ball moving through the midfield creating opportunities with his close cohort Sam who always seems to be there waiting for ball. Josh covered some huge metres on the left wing with some solid crosses into the box. George has a brilliant knack of the reading the play in defence and made some beautiful tackles and cut outs to slow down opposition attacks. Henry showed some great skill controlling and offloading through both halves. James H also showed poise and calmness on the ball once again throughout the match.

Coach Paul has flagged some training drills on first time shooting, we missed some opportunities on goal through trying to control the ball and then having pressure on the shot, when a first time shot would have been a better choice. A great team game all round with the new playing group coming together well and few more games will hopefully show some further development of this. The first year on the full size pitch has not been an issue, we are using the width of the pitch well and offloading nice an early.

Well done all, bring on The Gladesville Sharks next week at Normo Oval.

U15/3 Thornleigh vs West Ryde Rovers

We arrived at Meadowbank knowing we were a bit short with only 10 of our regular players available. Thankfully Lucas' brother Hamish made himself available so we had 11 players for the game, even though it meant he would be late getting to his U12/2 game.

We started pretty well with everyone doing their jobs well and created some good chances to score, but failed to put the ball in the back of the net. As often seems to happen in football the opposition made us pay for our misses by converting an opportunity about 20 mins into the game and we went into halftime down by 1. With all the opportunities we created in the first half we came out still looking to win the game in the second half, but again found the opposition hard to crack.

Unfortunately our offside trap was not being rewarded as it should have been and our defence did well to keep a clean sheet in the second half with several close calls. Finally with about 3 mins to go we converted a corner and managed to get away with a 1-1 draw. Overall it was a good game with both sides having enough chances to win.

Some great saves by Daniel in goals, Miles ran hard in defence and never gave up, Keeshav was very solid at the back, it was good to have Callum and Mason back and really appreciate their commitment to the team with one of the boys carrying an ankle injury into the game, but was there for the team and did not let it affect performance, both played very well. It was good to have Oliver back as well and he played very well on the left midfield, helping out Hamish up front and getting back in defence. Will Pearson had another top game at centre-mid, solid in defence and always menacing in attack. Will's combination with Tom Dandie in attack was responsible for a lot of opportunities. Tom had a great game at right-mid and really got us moving forward. Riley and Lucas were excellent up front and were unlucky not to score more goals. Hamish put in a fantastic effort to last for the full game, almost got his head on the ball in the corner that resulted in Riley's goal and did not stop all game even when some of the bigger opposition players pushed him around.