



Thornleigh Sports & Recreation Club Inc.

SOCCER DIVISION

Blue & Gold Newsletter

Issue 3 – 3rd May 2017

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



Deadline for Blue & Gold: Tuesday 6pm

Email to: mokdsi.george@gmail.com

President's Report:



We are so lucky to live in such a beautiful area and share the sideline with friends and other parents who largely love the game. We watch our kids and friends and Thunder teams, have a coffee and a lovely sausage sizzled to raise money for a good club cause, by a volunteer. A few times a season we help out by setting up a pitch.

In this beautiful setting we are largely unaffected by some of the games more competitive elements, where boundaries get pushed to get the ball by any means. We don't often see and hear yelling and ref abuse thankfully! But also by design. Subtle, careful constant reinforcements of RESPECT.

Our club does and will continue to adhere to Football Federation Australia and GHFA directives, obviously because we have to, also because we know that 'small amounts of prevention calmly observed, are always better than 'cure'.

I've been asked to provide total clarity on some aspects of FFA GUIDELINES and RULES to the club re the playing experience. So I will focus on that this week. You will see some further adherence to this by the club because we are required to do so.



Last Sunday the O35/1 had a team family day BBQ at Oakleigh, whilst the football was entertaining from a crowd perspective it was a hard, testing day at the office for the players. The first year back into 1st Division after 3 years has been a hard slog playing the best 3 teams from last year's Div 1 competition, and whilst we haven't had a win yet, we can feel one is just around the corner. Thank you to all the families and locals who came down to watch.

School zones are in place around most schools (thankfully) now to protect our kids because we all need to avoid the devastation of an accident. "Player zones" are in place along sidelines for the same reason: to avoid a running player or match official stomping unintentionally on a sideline game watcher, especially children and frailer folk. Also to reinforce respect to the players, volunteers and officials.

I AM YOUR REFEREE TODAY...

- On most occasions, I will be a school child/student, not an adult.
- I am learning.
- There will be decisions I get wrong.
- Some decisions might even be against you – it's not a conspiracy.
- Don't judge me like an experienced premier league referee.
- I LOVE THIS GAME and I want your son/daughter to love this game.

DON'T X THE LINE
Please show **FeFspect**

#NoRefNoGame



U6 Red C having a great time on Saturday. They are starting to get the hang of listening and positioning and have started to find their fighting spirit.

The stern email mid last week strongly emphasised:

"Ground dressing

As a reminder, By Law 6 outlines the requirements for ground dressing:

Dressing shall consist of 4 corner posts, 2 nets, post and rope barriers to both sidelines at a minimum of 1.5m from the sideline.

For matches where By-Law 8.2.3 applies, that ground shall also have easily visible posts or cones placed at the 25m mark out from each goal line, placed 1m outside each touch line.

Clubs must dress grounds at least thirty (30) minutes prior to the scheduled kick-off of the first game on that ground, and clubs must ensure all ground dressing is maintained until the completion of the last game on that ground that day.

A number of fields have been observed over the first rounds to not have the rope barriers installed, and some clubs have not provided"

GROUND MARSHALL's are also a stipulated requirement at our grounds. Once again a reference point for information, a guide for visiting teams towards the right oval and a friendly reminder to offer POSITIVE FEEDBACK and ENCOURAGEMENT (not berating or critical yelling) to teams and players. Ground Marshall's are also responsible for encouraging SAFETY by maintaining the 'no person except the coach, manager, players (not subs) and match officials shall be closer than 1.5 m to the field'.

NOT BEHIND THE GOALS (behind the goal lines) DURING PLAY is also a requirement.

A final reminder that the game regulations prevent anyone (except in proper circumstances the Capt, Manager and some rare other specific) from TALKING TO, or YELLING AT THE REF. This is quite apart from the pure commonsense that the (often young) ref can make better decisions and keep a better focus if they are not being criticised. New Refs are withdrawing their services from FFA at an alarming rate, citing most commonly, they do not feel they can deal with the criticism and abuse they receive for their decisions. You will spot obvious mistakes. They are learning! We need them and without them parents have to do that role. Thank Refs after a game and make no other comments, nor debrief.

I'm deeply passionate about the games, become seriously connected with the plays as they develop on pitch and love watching a close win. I love my kids defending well or scoring a goal. Seeing their face when they are proud of what they just achieved is unbelievable! Catching the moment in a photo is incredible. I get all of that.

We all just need to remember that this is not the World Cup. It's all about fun and enjoyment. Your VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE is charged with the responsibility of following directives in the warmest possible way and creating safe environments.

Very happy to talk to any club person at any time about any aspect of the rules, please do text 0409 007 134 so we can coordinate a time (Aldi aisles are not best for the sensitive matters).

Be kind to the volunteers please. Thanks to our WONDERFUL SPONSORS: please do business with them whenever you can.

See you around the ovals,

Kind Regards,
Geoff Knowles

0409 007 134

Important Notices:-

Managers need to return signed [Code of Conduct Agreement](#) by this Saturday to Oakleigh canteen or email to tamara_hughes@hotmail.com if you have not already done so.

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.



MATCH REPORTS FROM 29th April 2017:

U6 Green A vs Pennant Hills

Last Saturday's was against Pennant Hills FC, overall performance of the team has improved since this is the only 2nd game for us in this season. Compared to the first game, the players now have more understanding of teamwork and the game itself.

U6 Red A Thornleigh vs Roselea

Every week sees this team improve in leaps and bounds. And they are having a ball. They all show great spirit and care for each other and the opposition. Listening very carefully to coach Carl they have now started to pass the ball to each other ... wow! It is so enjoyable watching them play and they always finish the game with a smile.

U6 Red Thornleigh

The Under 6 Red Team had a great game Saturday with a true team spirit coming together already. Josh again showed excellent defence with some strong kicks to clear the goal. Rebecca, Puoy, and Ben made stellar performances on offence while Silvia and Louis covered the field with good kick-ins. Puoy earned player of the week to the enthusiastic support of his team.

U7 Green A Thornleigh SC vs. Roselea at Roselea Park Carlingford

It was a nice warm morning for a match and everybody enthusiastically partook of the opportunity to play. Olivia, Hannah, Aaron, Jeremy, Lachlan and Logan took part. The players all should improvements in ball handling and aiming the ball where it needed to go. Olivia and Hannah showed great skills in getting the ball where it needed to go while Lachlan, Aaron, Jeremy and Logan ran with the ball very well. The match was great and everybody (including parents) enjoyed themselves very much.

Under 7 Purple A Thornleigh vs Epping

The team was in fine form for their third game of the season. The players showed excellent teamwork and great focus as they passed the ball well and defended their goal. Matt was key to both attack and defence, getting in amongst the action with fierce determination. Sam was always attacking and getting the ball to the goal. Aidan was amazing in defence by turning the play back to Thornleigh's advantage. Zach chased everything down with tireless energy and was always ready when the ball was passed his way. Timothy worked hard for the whole game to help the team. The biggest win for Thornleigh was the incredible effort by Daniel who scored his first ever goal in a competitive game and was awarded a special prize from coach Josh for his awesome effort. Well done, Daniel! And well done to Thornleigh Thunder!

Under 7 Red Thornleigh Thunder vs Beecroft

On Saturday morning the Thundernation marched into Wombat territory and were ready for an epic battle. The wombats scored an opportunistic early goal however the thunders building on their confidence of past performances didn't let that deter them, it was pleasing to see with heads held high they were up for the challenge ahead of them and doubled their efforts in an excellent show of resilience. Marley and Ella were explosive with consistent bursts up the pitch providing the team with scoring options, particularly pleasing to see was the chase off the ball after it was kicked or passed. Xavier registered some critical tackles in defence and some nice touches to move the ball up the sidelines whilst Leo demonstrated some nice skills to put the opposition in a spin, showing quick feet like a magician playing a shell game. Tyler was excellent out back not only clearing in defence but demonstrating some excellent decision making to ensure the team received optimal field position (like a young Sergio Ramos) and Elise critically supported the team, moving into open spaces to provide excellent passing options for the ball runners reminiscent of Marta Viera Da Silva. Thor was smiling on his young apprentices knowing full well that as next week's opposition see the dark clouds gathering and our fearsome warriors walking the pitch, they will know.....a thunderstorm is coming!

Under 10 Yellow Thunder vs West Pennant Hills

Well for the past 3 seasons we have had very tough games against West Penno but have always come out on the wrong side of the result! Last season we outplayed them and left them knowing that you never get an easy game against the mighty Thunder! This rivalry has been made even bigger with us playing against some of them in futsal in the off season. The Thunder boys came out firing and struck early with some good pressing of their defence resulting in a turnover and an early goal. Unfortunately we conceded soon afterwards however we were definitely the better team at this point. For the rest of the first half it was end to end with our defence working well together to keep the amount of shots down to a minimum. Any shot they had was from outside the box with our keeper not having to make many saves. The second half was a war of attrition with both sides scoring goals at key times. Our defence of Luca, Jayden, Dan, Bryce and Chris worked hard all game against a good attack and were able to make some key tackles when needed. The most impressive part of their game this week was the communication especially when we were counter attacked. Our midfield and attack of Auden, Franco, Levi, Daniel, Cooper and Mitch worked hard both in attack and defence with the game being played predominantly in the middle third of the field. They pressed the opposition defence causing turnovers and helping to create chances. It was a tough game from start to finish and our boys gave everything right till the final whistle and showed great character throughout the game. It looked like West Penno played at their best and we matched them in every way. For us we know we can play even better so look out next round! This week's Player of the Week was Franco. He worked extremely hard all game in central midfield and helped to create chances as well as scored 2 goals. Well done Franco!

U12/2 Thornleigh vs Gladesville Sharks

It was a top of the table clash between Thunder and the Gladesville Sharks with both teams undefeated. It was a beautiful morning and you could feel the nerves in the air with both teams looking very keen from the outset. Kick off loomed, and Paul the coach was moving up and down the side line like a Panther. Simon Bailey was extremely handy on the flag with Ryan the manager controlling proceedings from the other side of the pitch. From the kick off the team was on. It was fair to say they were one pace ahead of last week's effort. Thunder controlled the ball well from the back, James Dandie stopping everything that came his way. His partner in crime Eric would then be beating players and distributing the ball at the will. They complement each other so well. This is important as the Sharks had pace to burn up front. The ball from the backline would be distributed so clinically through to the midfield to the likes of James Henning who had moves as silky as his new haircut. He combined magnificently well with Alex who is so controlled on the ball. Alex beats players like they are not moving with his shot on goal like a rifle constantly finding the back of the net from 20 to 25 yard out. The first goal was found not from Alex but from Sam Bacon, it must be said that Sam is so quick and so nimble on his feet he is like a Springbok. Sam makes the impossible possible and put the team up 1-0. Sam combined well with Joshua Mitchell whose pace is Gazelle like. Josh was often finding himself up front one on one with the goalkeeper and partnering with those around him. Gladesville then responded taking the score to 1-1. The combinations with Thunder then rose, with the ball being moved well and the team keeping its shape. Hugo was passing the ball nicely on the right with Bacon/LB and Co with Olivia on the left often turning the ball inside and playing well through the middle of the park. One fabulous highlight of the game was LB taking the ball to the corner and crossing for the ball to be met and punished by George. Both LB and George were strong, moving up and down the park winning the ball and supplying it to their teammates. Henry Graham owned the left running hard like a thoroughbred and never stopping, willing the ball into the 18 yard area. Whilst Dandie was the enforcer down back Foxy owned the midfield letting nothing past him. He leaves nothing in the tank and it was great having him back. We missed him last week he is a great team man. Hamish played in goal and was fabulous stopping the Sharks shots on goals. The team ended winning 5-1 and despite Sunderland going down the coach is sitting pretty on top of the table. Special mention and well done to Alex Penn who scored a hat-trick.