

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



President's Report:

Luckier with the weather most of us stayed dry through the games and another round completed. Although the Super League side went down 2:1 they're playing a great style of game, pleasing to the spectator and building towards (hopefully) nice results.

We're all looking forward to the FAMILY FUNDAY on Saturday 14th at Oakleigh Oval. Great activities are planned and a live game 'to boot'. Do come along for a BBQ, to see a jeep, climb into a fire engine, bounce in a jumping castle, have your face painted or enjoy the soccer.

Terrific to see such active interest in the season with so many people committed through the weekend. Families early to see the game before and hanging around afterwards to see the game after.

Again the grounds have looked spectacular and played well.

Thanks to another wave of volunteers who make the round possible and special thanks to all Managers and Coaches who dedicate their time to train the teams. Be sure to make suggestions, ask questions, or contribute in a way that suits you best. Our community club is all about you. Enjoy!

See you on the fields,

Kind regards, Geoff Knowles Thunder President Important Notices:-

The e-mail address for Match Reports this season is <u>mokdsi.george@gmail.com</u>. **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.

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MATCH REPORTS FROM 30th April 2016:

Under 6 Purple A vs Hills Pumas

Today, Saturday April 30th, our wonderful stars from Thornleigh Thunder under 6's played their opponents Hills Pumas. It was a great display of defence and attack. Despite the light drizzle of rain they were all very brave soldiers. Hannah was excellent in defence; tackling and keeping the ball moving forward. Jeremy managed the ball very well, moving it up the field to the forwards and kicking it into the goal. What a splendid effort! Lachlan and his greats efforts midfield showed fantastic defensive footwork. Rebecca showed great speed and determination with some fine kicking skills. Great work by Olivia getting the ball away from the opposition's goal, excellently supported by Lily. Into the second half Aaron showed great skill in kicking the ball down the field and managed a goal. What wonderful skill and all on his birthday! Well done to all our great players on both teams

Under 6 Purple B

This week provided one of the most exciting games yet for the Under 6 Purple B team. We were a couple of boys down so all 4 boys had to play the full game. Credit to Daniel, Leo, Max and Matt for their marvelous effort and persistence.

Early on the team was a few goals down but managed to defend well and then came through with a couple of beauties making it a very exciting game!

There were also a couple of 'incidents' in the field with a few balls to the face and a couple of on goals, however this did not deter the team and they continued to play an awesome game till the end. Well done team, another enjoyable game.

U7 Green Thornleigh vs WPH Cherrybrook

The rain held off for the start of this weeks game. After a slight delay to locate the opposition team we found both teams were well represented with subs now the holidays were over, and ready for a great game. For the first half Thornleigh defended well against a strong WPH attack, with Linden blocking

some great crosses. After the first round of subs we brought on our secret weapon James who brought the attack into the WPH half with some strong tackling. Lucas and Zac provided some great midfield support over the remainder of the half. After a short interval of drinks oranges and rain the team was re-energised. The second half started with Will providing some powerful strikes to bring the ball back to the opposition half. This was in defence of some strong attacks from WPH, which saw some frantic defence in operation in the Thornleigh half. Louis then brought team into the opposition half for some great late attacks. Overall a great game from Thornleigh, and congrats to WPH for a great game.

Under 9 Blue Thornleigh vs Redbacks

We were back at Ruddock Park to take on Redbacks who we had no knowledge of. This didn't stop all the boys being keen to go!

We spoke before the game about doing the simple things well and trying to work hard for each other. From the first whistle everyone did exactly that. Our defence was stopping anything coming their way but more impressive was the way that they turned defence into attack. The past two games has really seen our defence come together and they continue to improve each week.

A great first half performance continued into the second half.

Our defence of Luca, Dan, Nathan and Jayden were outstanding and worked hard all game to protect our keeper. Rocco was in goals again and is getting better and better every week. He made some great saves in both halves and his distribution from goal kicks was excellent.

The attack of Auden, Franco, Daniel and Levi is really starting to gel and some of the passing and movement from them was fantastic to watch.

Great work from Auden and Franco who both scored cracking goals.

Player of the week went to Rocco for an outstanding game and great saves!

U11 Red Thornleigh vs Pennant Hills

On a grey Saturday morning the Thunder was shining. The team stepped up to a new level of control, passing defence and attack.

James led the attack with plenty of control and giving their goalkeeper lots of practice. Passing and footwork was superb. Hamish and LB were working well on the right wing to bring the ball up to attack and Hugo was always hustling for the ball. Foxy on goals had plenty of good clearances. His work was kept to a minimum with good defence and running and hustling by Knowsley George and Hugo. Isabel and Sophia showed good teamwork and passing in midfield.

Plenty of shots at Pennant Hills goal but couldn't convert. Nick as always putting his body on the line Hugo on goal for second half and the team stepped it up a notch on passing and control. Eric was strong in attack, coming in from the left wing to keep their goalie awake. At one stage in the PH goal square the ball was bouncing around like a ping pong, fortunately ending up in the right spot. Strong hustling and passing from Foxy in defence not letting up. Sophia kept the midfield moving and Isabel did some good passing and defence. LB and Eric's team work cutting up the middle was poetry in motion.

PH keeper was again kept busy in the second half being peppered with shots. George again super in defence and Isabel good with control on left wing. James was a destroyer to the back of the PH net. The final moment of an outstanding game was Hugo's jump to glory and deflecting a power shot from PH.

U12/4 Thornleigh vs Pennant Hills

What a cracker game we had. With no subs due to several injured players being out of action for a few weeks our 11 on-field players worked brilliantly together to really give the other team a run for their money as we completely dominated the first half.

The absolute highlight of the game was when Sparsh kicked the first goal of the season for the team - parents went wild and all players turned around with their mouths wide open in total surprise. Yes kids, you can do it!

Ashton did well being in the right spot at the right time to shift the ball our way whilst Adele outran the opposition every time when tracking the ball down the field. Annabelle, with her strong smooth kicking action, sent the ball flying down the pitch many times and Jack saved us over and over in the goalies

posts. Emily, the little pocket rocket, was determined to keep the ball out of our opponents hands as Georgina buzzed around like a little fruit fly getting in the oppositions way. Christian was repeatedly well placed to receive the ball on the outer side to move it towards our posts. And finally Aliyah, Michaela and Chloe all showed how much they've learned in just a few weeks stopping the ball, changing its direction and kicking it to where they wanted. Go girls!

Our team is going from strength to strength as our 5 new players show how quickly they're learning the skills and how well the team as a whole is working together. Just think what's possible when our injured players return and all 14 players are available to play.

U14/3 Thornleigh Thunder 3 defeated West Pennant Hills Cherrybrook 2

We all arrived early on a dreary morning ready for a big game but our enthusiasm quickly turned to mild panic when our Player Cards were mysteriously not in our kit bag. Luckily technology came through. We were able to present a digital copy and took to the field 5 minutes late. Thornleigh kicked off but WPH/Cherrybrook dominated immediately and remained in our half for the WHOLE 1st half. WPH/Cherrybrook were lucky to get two balls past our goalie Matt who excelled

saving at least 4 other attacks.

Half time came and our comparatively softly spoken coach Kel, worked his magic. WPH/Cherrybrook were astounded to find us their half and Lucas sent in a great 1st goal. Suddenly Thornleigh were showing all their tricks. Fancy foot work by Oli, Matt and Will, great attack by Tom, Riley, Lucas and Milly and relentless pressure from Megan and Sachin in the midfield. Miles, Matt, Callum and Kashev were a brick wall in defence giving Mason a much easier half in goal. Riley came through with two more goals and was "robbed" for a third by a tough off side call. We were awarded a penalty shot in the last minute and what started off as a very well placed shot by Tom, was buoyed by the enthusiasm of both the team and crowd and sailed straight over the goal. What a great team effort!

U16/4 Thornleigh vs West Pennant Hills Cherrybrook

by The Thunderer

This 9 - 2 win over WPH shows how far the new team has come in a few short weeks playing together. And there was even a penalty saved brilliantly by our Ryan which got the biggest cheer. Too right.

First the stats:

PJ (10) opened the scoring and put away three goals, Nathaniel (18) one, Kayleb (40) two, Ralph (3) and Connor (12) and an Wph own goal off a Ralph corner which was well on its way in anyway. But it was the team effort that really impressed much more. This is a team that is happy and they play for each other. They're a treat to watch especially as you can see their development week by week under coaches Jay and Max.

Ishan (41) was typical of the effort constantly from the back defending and starting attacks with precision passing. While Tom (35) at the back was intercepting and clearing with what is shaping into a strong defence.

Importantly this is not a one-man team as so many players have the skills and hunger to score. Every one deserves a mention in this one. And the Wph goalie who carried on after a nasty crash into the woodwork.

The other opponent was Beecroft who lost their top spot to Thunder but have a game in hand. Goal difference could be vital come the end of the season.

These 'basketball' scores are needed.