



2022

GLEN IRIS GLADIATORS

YEAR BOOK

U8 BOWMAN



2022 was a great first year of proper football for the boys of U8 Bowman! Friday training sessions were always lively but when the games started, it was time for our game faces.

The under 8 Bowman team included boys from Auburn South Primary School, Camberwell Primary School, St Josephs Primary School (Malvern) and Scotch College, and the semi-professional coaching department was Simon Vun, Maarty Roosenburg and me. After all the shenanigans over the past few years, the boys and parents were eager to have a break out first season, so fielding a side was never an issue, and finding volunteers was usually not an issue. The main problem we faced was squeezing 21 boys into a team of 12 on field, and managing rotations during quarters.

Once we mastered the boys' names (made somewhat easier with pairs of Jacks', Felixs' and Oliver's'), the boys started to gel. We had some great tallies with Jack R, Ollie P, Felix S, Jonah and Robbie, and pacey players (including Ollie B, Felix R, James, Archer and Lucas), and some really versatile boys who played well all over the park (Austin, Harry, Xavier, Rupert, Ned, Nathan and the always entertaining Jack M). Then there were see-ball, get-ball types in Josh Vo, Noah and Salvador. The development of the squad throughout the season was something to behold, and the game highlight was definitely the under 8 Intra club clash/derby between the Bowman team and Winnett on a Thursday night UNDER LIGHTS! The boys played well, and I'm not sure of the score in the end, but plenty of amazing goals were kicked and football was definitely the winner.

At the end of the season, a real sense of community had built around the squad, and most of the boys were already talking about playing for the club in under 9's next year. Thanks so much to all the parents for their support, and to Jan for all the work he does behind the scenes. See you all back for 2023!

Nahum Ayliffe
Under 8's Coach



U8 WINNETT



An awesome year for the U8 Winnetts, highlighted by huge development by each player and the building of genuine comradery within the team.

The boy's confidence grew with each week and with that saw improved skills, game knowledge and teamwork. Lunch time matches at school were intense I'm told and this not only fueled their excitement for the weekend but honed their skills and intensity on game day.

Josh and myself are super proud now how the team developed throughout the season and the passion and enthusiasm the boys have for each other and the game.

Each game was played with great spirit and sportsmanship, and it was a pleasure to be involved every Sunday morning.

A big shout out to the 3 boys not from MCS who slotted in seamlessly and became great mates and an integral part of the team - as well as their parents who have been heavily involved in all aspects of the season. Well done Tex, Jacob and Hugo!

And finally, a big thanks to Shaun Stenson & Ed Farquarson as team managers for making sure everyone knew where to go each week. And of course, Amber Stenson for her help as trainer.

Josh and I are already looking forward to next season and I know the boys will be ready and raring for round 1 next year.

PLAYER REVIEWS:

Gussy Richards - a great debut season for Gussy. Found his niche as a running half back late in the season and improved each game he played.

Monty Farquarson - Electrifying small forward who improved week on week as he gained confidence. Quick and evasive goal kicker.

Noah Robinson - a goal kicking, clearance beast who dominated in the midfield and drifted forward to impact the scoreboard regularly.

James Skinner - A tough and gritty mid/defender. A tackling machine who set the standard for intensity each week.

George Grahame - another rapid improver who switched between a crafty forward and dependable half back this year.

George Drummond - excellent debut season. gained confidence as the year progressed. Fantastic attitude each week. Looking forward to what he can do next season.

Hugo Schildberger - versatile big man who was a target up forward and made an impact on the scoreboard. Was handy in any position on the ground. Set the standard for the group on the training track.

Jakob Malcom - a utility who had a breakout game in the midfield late in the season. Another one to watch out for next season. A heart and soul player who gave everything each week.

Herbie Jones - versatile player who is courageous in the contest and crafty ball winner. Great at ground level and around goal all year. Another steady improver.

Tex Stewart - athletic big man who found his home in the middle and down back. Another clearance specialist and strong overhead who impacted games.

Teddy Onofretchook - another impressive livewire goal sneak with genuine speed. Was handy in defense and on the ball when required too.

Huddy Roberts - a big improver throughout the season. Rock solid down back and a handy target in the forward line. Will be a force next season in.

Henry Drummond - brought the energy each week as well as the big motivational speeches and left field tactics. Roaring like a lion instead of tackling his opponent was a master stroke.

Jack Stenson - the "wall" or "Iron Fist" was unstoppable down back all year, showed aggression as well as great run and carry in the midfield each week.

Felix Vero - high marking key forward / ruckman with elite foot skills and goal kicking prowess. Showed courage around the ground with his tackling and contest game.

Sam Godfrey - a tackling machine and great role player who did what was asked of him each week. Bobbed up late in the season to get his elusive first goal.

Will Foote - Captain of the team who was injured for the first half of the season but showed up every week to lead the team. Showed some great courage and ball winning ability in the middle when he finally got on the park.



U9 COOPER



The Under 9 Coopers, led by Lasso, Beard & The Big Boss (aka Coach Monty, Assistant Coach Brad and Team Manager Caroline), had an unbelievable 2022 season of football.

As coaches we couldn't have been prouder of the boys' development, determination and passion shown at every training session and match through the year. It was staggering to see how each individual improved and in true Gladiator spirit how they contributed on and off the field in building a very special team bond.

The season was filled with numerous highlights:

- Coast-to-coast football facilitated by combination handballs out of the back-line, pinpoint passes to teammates on a lead, exceptional overhead marking and penetrating kicks into the forward line.
- We had some crazy goal of the year contenders showing opposition some candy and then slotting one from the boundary line.
- Ferocious tackling and smothers as our "Soldiers" in the back-line dominated their opponents from converting through the big sticks.
- Combination handballs and a couple of bounces showing fantastic speed and agility as the boys moved the ball along the wings.
- Tackling, Tackling, Tackling - just incredible to see the whole team pressuring the opposition for 4 quarters.
- Incredible overhead marks backing into packs and never taking their eyes of the ball.
- The "Engine Room" (mid-field) showed incredible teamwork and skill each week to win the ball out of the center and penetrate the forward line.
- Our "Warriors" in the forward line ripped teams apart with their spectacular goals and the ability to find teammates in better scoring positions.

Above all, it was the level of teamwork shown by the whole team. Each and every member of the team backed their teammates up and encouraged each other week in week out, always supporting their brothers in the Gold and Blue.

As coaches/managers we were so proud of these boys, not just because they are developing into fine footballers, but because they are becoming amazing young men. We have witnessed displays of generosity, kindness, protectiveness, dedication, self-discipline and most of all a genuine love for each other. Being part of this very special team has been a privilege for all three of us.



U9 WINNETT



Henry Cooch - A silky smooth footballer who makes it all look so easy, Henry's a versatile player who makes the most of every opportunity and is a valuable asset and a crucial player for the team.

Jack Davey - Always calm under pressure, Jack is a natural, tough all-rounder who has an innate ability to read the play and be where the ball is going to be. Keep an eye on this kid, a bright future awaits.

Sam Abela - A true workhorse all over the ground, Sam's courage and intent saw him take down his opponents consistently in every game. Great to see a huge improvement in Sam's kicking skills this season.

Josh Hewitt - A stellar season from this little warrior, improving in all facets of the game. Rick and I are looking forward to watching Josh grow and develop next year.

Harry Varty - Dynamic and elusive, Harry was like a bolt of lightning, bursting out of packs and kicking goals from all over the forward zone.

Lewis Lindeman - A reliable player week in and week out in all positions on the ground. Lewie consistently shut down opposing attackers with his tenacity, tackling, and endeavour.

Hugh Miller - A solid, consistent performer who excelled all over the field, Hugh's long goals and trademark runs down the ground were highlights of the season.

Austin Andrews - A rising star who showed tremendous potential for the future, demonstrating impressive skill, intelligence, and maturity on the field, executing orders from the coaching staff with surgeon like precision.

Jesse Jamieson - Jesse had a very impressive season and clearly felt at home in the centre of the ground, feeding his midfielders with expert tap outs and bullet-like handballs from the packs. His strength and pace were a consistent challenge for the opposition.

Oliver Hooper - A breakout season for this gifted young player, Oli made a significant impact on the team's performance every week with his natural talent and consistent work ethic.

Harvey Ravensdale - Fast, skilful and intelligent, Harvey possesses all the attributes required to be a champion midfielder. Teaming up well with good mate Jesse, Harvey was lethal in the middle of the ground delivering the ball with precision into the forward line.

Maverick Reay - A late recruit this season, Maverick made an immediate impact in his first game back with the group. His strength and determination see him set for success in whatever sport he chooses to pursue.

Fraser Gallwey - A very social and creative player, Fraser brought flair and imagination to the team's game plan, surprising his opponents with unexpected moves and taking strong overhead marks.

Luca Bresciani - An up and coming star player who quietly contributed to the team's success with his consistent and reliable performances every week.

Harrison Szadovszky - A stalwart in defence, Harrison improved week on week, adapting to different roles as needed and performing admirably in each one.

Julian Stewart - Jules showed great promise in his first season with the Gladiators, improving more and more every week. A fierce in-and-under player, Jules has the potential to be a valuable midfielder in the future.



U10 GIRLS

AWARDS:

Best & Fairest: Lilah Gillman-Sheer
Runner Up Best & Fairest: Jules Brooke
3rd Best & Fairest: Lana Stewart
Coach's Award: Nina Calvert
Most Improved: Mila Carroll



U10 WINNETT



The year was capped off in one of the most exciting lightning premierships stories.

Having gone through the home and away season winning 15 games, 2 losses and a Draw. We made the lightning premierships as the second favourite behind the very fancied Kew Comets who to this point of the season had not lost a game in 2 seasons.

Winning the first game against Camberwell convincingly we met the Comets in the second game. The boys played out of their skin and at the final siren were trailing the Comets by 4 points. Jack Passador had taken a mark 20 meters out from goal on a 45 degree angle, siren went, and with enormous composure slotted the goal to win the game.

After winning the third game we were into the grand final, we met Ashburton who had beaten us through the season. After full time in the scores were locked at 7 points each. Extra time of 5 minutes were added to the time clock. Again the scores at the end of extra time were locked at 7 points each. We move to "golden point" the boys rallied with the ball slowly making its way into the forward pocket, a quick snap and we scored the winning point.

On behalf of Kate our tireless team manager, Rob, Rhys and myself under 10 Winnett 2022 will go down as one of the most exciting football seasons of the boys careers! Certainly, the coaches anyway.

Player Review:

Campbell Gregory - Our best and fairest award winner. Consistent ball magnet that demonstrated his silky skills in every opportunity. A true champion. Highlighted was the win against Hawthorn where Campbell kicked 8 goals from the centre.

Callum Lehmann – Equally strong season sharing leather poising with Campbell for majority of the season. Callum's elite ball gathering and evasion skills was a pleasure to watch. A well earned runner up best and fairest.

Noah Gilhorne – Noah was awarded the prestigious Gladiators JUSTIN "JOC" O'CONNOR commemorative award for his outstanding and consistent year. Along with Rupert, Noah was instrumental in the back-line for majority of the season. A large reason for our success throughout the year.

Rupert Rowler – Our most reliable team player. One of our strengths along the half back line and credited many successes the team had to Rupert's intercepting and play making abilities.

Josh Nichol – Joshy was a star on the wing for the season. His damaging left foot and fierce attacking nature was a pleasure watching his game develop throughout the year.

Nick Androutopoulos – Nico was one of our most improved boys of the year, Nico's confidence for the contest was one of his greatest advancements throughout the year.

Will Bare – A tower in defence, Will was one of our most disciplined members of the team. Will's game awareness especially his accountability in the back-line improved nicely through the season.

Harrison Beech – Our dashing wingman, a defining resilience moment in his season against Comets during the season. Getting knocked down but jumped back up and kept playing.

Xavier Biggins – Finished out the season with grown confidence and skill. Always happy to give all areas of footy a go.

Jonah Brewster – Development in the forward line was a pleasure to watch and continued to grow throughout the season. He was the star who kicked the winning point in the lightning premierships round.

Spencer Cattermole – Came in to his own this season, never afraid of the contest and to get in there to get his hands on the ball.

James Collett – Always showing up and being a strong defensive player. Always brought his best each and every game finding himself one of the most consistent players.



U10 WINNETT

Ollie Grant – Never afraid to get his hand dirty, fast and free to get the ball. Ollie’s confidence shone this season.

Ned Gray - One of the best team players, always listened a pleasure to coach, followed and took on feedback.

Harry Hagen – Part of the Hagen duo Harry grew in his development this year, finishing off a great season.

Max Hagen – Part of the Hagen Brothers. Max’s confidence came through this season, always turning up and eager to improve.

Ollie Hunt – A solid and consistent year well done.

Harry Jamieson – Our star ruckman, always there to win a contest and hold the team up.

James Keating – He played with determination and skill as he slotted into the Aussie style of football.

Lachie Lewin – Always brilliant in the Ruck, never met a boy who could continue to play football with multiple broken bones.

Jack Passador – Kicked the winning goal against the Kew Comets and has been recognised in the street for his efforts. What a memory.

Benny Picken – Always goes hard at the ball, his fierce determination. A huge team player and always reliable.

Hugo Sahin – Full of heart and tenacity. Always willing to give everything a go with confidence.

Drew Wiseman – Showed huge growth and development this year through skills and maturity to the game.

Leo Zhang - The most eager and willing to learn. Grew in skill and confidence this season and always turned up with a huge amount of enthusiasm. A pleasure to coach.



U10 COOPER

AWARDS:

Best & Fairest: Jayden Millie

Runner Up Best & Fairest: Teddy Farquharson

3rd Best & Fairest: Ollie Stenson

Most Courageous: Angus Dunkley

Best Team Player: Sam Stokes

Best Defensive Player: Hunter Orchard

Rising Star Award: Ben Perovic

Ian Hanly Memorial Trophy: Harry Savige



U11 HANGERS



For our first full season in quiet a few years the U11 Hangers had a great year. We had plenty of familiar faces return together with some welcome new additions to the team. After some big wins during the grading process we found ourselves in a stronger division than in 2021 and the boys acquitted themselves well at the level, had fun and thrived competing against considerably tougher competition.

It was particularly pleasing to see all the boys work together as a team supporting each other on the training track and on game day. The improvement in the boys' skills, ball movement, commitment to the contest and their willingness to share the footy and bring their team mates into the game was outstanding. The boys' attitude and willingness to learn week in week out was first class which resulted in some sensational wins throughout the year. The team are an awesome bunch of boys to coach and they should be super proud of their efforts, continued development and results throughout the 2022 season.

A huge thanks to the following incredible support team: Our awesome team manager Elisa Failla. Everything ran like a well-oiled machine thanks to her constant hard work and organizational skills. To Sarah Ramasamy & Bec Estlin for their exceptional medical expertise looking after our injured warriors week to week. To the team runner Rob Collier for his valued game day inputs and for covering a lot of km's delivering messages. A big thank you to our Assistant Coach Al George for all your help, support and being a calming influence on the boys...and me at times!!

Finally, a big thanks to all our parents for their continued support of the team and for helping out with the various game day roles that helps the boys play the game they love.

Michael Addison



PLAYER REVIEW

Freddie Tulloch – Ultra consistent performer for us again all year. Freddie's desire to impact the contest is a delight to watch. A vital cog across our half back line his determination to beat his opponent is unrivaled. This kid has no fear and constantly puts himself in harms way. Leads the way for his team mates with 2nd & 3rd efforts. Freddie is developing nicely into a very good player.

James Badr – Had another cracking season for us. Reliable, tough and hard running defender that went into the midfield for us on occasions and dominated. JB is a super competitive tackling machine that just doesn't get beaten. He just keeps getting better and plays at a very high standard each week and is awesome to watch.

Jake Moulden – A very consistent year from Jake. Always gives 100% and attacks the contest hard. Jakey is always putting his body on the line, is the king of forward line pressure and has an ability to positively impact the team no matter what position he plays in.

Joe Ramasamy – Had an outstanding year and his game went to the next level which resulted in a very well-deserved equal 3rd in the League best and fairest. Joey dominated most weeks. As a key midfielder his 2-way running and ability to quickly transition from defense to attack and hit the scoreboard for us was brilliant. A true competitor that never gives up. His team mates love him and he's a pleasure to coach.

Jett Cannon – Power athlete that gave us enormous run out of the back-line and through the midfield. Jett is quick, versatile and has a penetrating boot on him. Moved forward later in the year and regularly looked dangerous. Has a big future.

Hugo Mackay – It was fantastic to welcome Hugo back to the club after a few years off. Hugo is a classy footballer with silky skills and the ability to look like he has so much time and space when he has the footy. Gave us great drive from the wing for much of the year and then was outstanding at Fullback late in the season with his composure and ability to regularly beat his opponent.

Riley Warren – Was important for us all year up forward. Riley is a really smart footballer that reads the play well, knows how to create space and has excellent skills. Kicked some important goals for us and was a nightmare match-up for opposition defenders most weeks.



U11 HANGERS



Mason George – Mase was an important player for us in 2022. He has speed to burn and wins his own footy. Gave us great drive each week on a wing and kicked goals regularly when forward. Mason is ultra competitive and plays his heart out every week.

Benjamin Brand – Benjamin was a new Gladiator this year. He is a real competitor and was never afraid to put his body on the line. Played forward and back when required and the highlight was a classic small forward roving goal he kicked during a grading game.

John Collins – John was another terrific new member of the team. His skills improved considerably as the year went on. He always trained and played with great enthusiasm & commitment to the team. Look forward to watching his game continue to develop next year.

Max Cooch – Was superb for us up forward this year. Became a real focal point at CHF and presented well each week. Maxy continued to work hard on his skills and is a beautiful mark & kick. Hit the scoreboard for us most weeks. Can play both ends and has turned into a very important swing man when we need some assistance down back.

Huon Beattie – Was cruelled by injury early in the season and was a massive loss. He has become a real barometer for us and it is no coincidence that the team strung some big wins together with him back in the side. Huon is tough, brave, a good decision maker and was super important for us across half back and rolling through the midfield.

Hugh Macdonald – Another excellent addition to the team. Hugh fitted in with the boys superbly quickly becoming an important player for us and earning the respect of his team mates. Versatile and able to play key position forward and back made him a difficult match up for our opposition. His skills developed nicely and he kicked some very good goals for us. Expect 2023 will be a big year for Hugh as his development continues.

Cooper Oakhill – An outstanding year from Coops. Took his footy to the next level and was vitally important quickly becoming one of our most reliable defenders. Cooper worked hard all year and his skills improved markedly especially by foot. Cooper is tough, a good decision maker and was a pleasure to coach.

Seb Collier – Seba had a really strong year as a key defender for us. He is tough, reliable and never gives up in the heat of battle. He regularly turned defense into attack for us through his attack at the footy and his 2nd & 3rd efforts impacting the contest which was outstanding to see. As a coach you just know that he is going to give you 100% each week.

Connor Malone – A welcome addition to the Hangers this year. Connor had a delayed start to the season due to a hand injury. Once fit he was a good contributor in the 2nd half of the season. Connor has excellent skills and look forward to watching his further development in 2023.

Krish Sellenger – A real smooth mover with great skills. Krish had a super consistent year for us and was super important. He clearly had a massive pre-season as he was the fittest in the team which saw him move into the midfield and rack up the possessions each week. Krish leads from the front and was pleasure to coach.

Matthew York – Outstanding young man. Matt plays with great composure, skill and is one of the most dangerous forwards in the competition. He is the ultimate team man and works super hard on the training track every week. Matt is vitally important to the team and I look forward to watching him kick a lot of goals in the years to come.

James Addison – Had a fantastic 2022 season. Dominated the ruck most weeks giving us first use out of the middle. James has worked hard on his skills and is a good overhead mark, a raking left foot kick and agile around the ground for a big lad. A reliable team player that wins his own footy and loves playing with his mates.



U11 GNATTS



We were thrilled to get back together as the U11 Gnatt's team for 2022. It was a full, uninterrupted season with 16 rounds, which culminated in the incredible achievement of the Premiership flag. Huge congratulations and well done to our players, coaches and parents. Also a call out to our special U10 friends who "played up" to assist us when we needed their help – it was truly appreciated.

It was fantastic to welcome passionate, new families to the team and welcome back friendly and familiar faces from U10's to come together as cohesive and connected group. The boys were taller, faster and stronger with great skill development and teamwork creating exciting and engaging matches for all to enjoy.

Round 3 included a special memorial and moment of silence for ANZAC Day, and a local Round 5 Mothers' Day match was a special family day. Round 9 was the inaugural club "Friday Night Round" at Righetti with Gnatts v Hangers with a fun social event and pizzas to celebrate afterwards.

Again a highlight of the season was our "Sock it to MND" in Round 10 with the generous support of the Bachelor family where the boys wore matching socks to acknowledge Motor Neurone Disease research. In Round 16 Sam was our first player to celebrate his 50th match with an impressive looking banner and a big smile.

Ed and Nico were both nominated by YJFL umpires to attend the leagues "Best and Fairest" event with Ed being awarded 3rd across the whole U11 age group. Saxon was awarded the "Ian Hanley Memorial Award" for his 2021 season. Huge congratulations to Ed, Nico and Saxon.

Our Grand Final against Bullen Templestowe on Father's Day gave the boys (and Dad's/families) a day they will never forget. The boys were certainly rewarded for their hard work and improvement as a team over the season with a fantastic win and impressive score margin to be proud of. For some of our players the GF win was 4 years in the making – fantastic.

Our coaching team of Nathan and Nick brought out the best in our boys – a huge thank you to the coaching team from all of the boys and parent group. Thanks to Adam our trainer and to all the families who assisted with a range of roles to support the team in 2022.

I know we are all looking forward to this awesome group coming together in 2023 for more skill development, great times, quality footy and heaps of fun with great mates!



U12 GIRLS

Being the first full year out of COVID the unknown was trying to plan for a season of girls football with no idea on what numbers would come back... cue frantic recruitment. What turned up was 28 girls from four different age groups and seven different schools – with seven of the girls never having played football before. Having never coached teenage girls before both Crab and I needed a stiff drink and some advice from our respective better halves! What then followed in the season was something, from a social standpoint that amazed me.



With a squad so large it was important that we continued the critical themes Respect, Positivity and Effort and tried to encapsulate hard, tough but honest and fair footy – we didn't want the girls to be known as the little petals from Glen Iris.

After the grading games where we were recorded two wins and three close losses and were graded into Brown division which was probably the right place given half of our team was playing a year up! The girls then proceeded to record 15 wins during home and away from 16 games with an average winning margin of 28 points, with 10 different individual goal kickers. The girls finished top of the ladder and whilst we were considered favourites there was definitely two main threats from Richmond and Ashburton who like us had gelled as a team throughout the year and were definitely pushing us through our games.

We won the first final with our trademark burst of goals in the last quarter to put the issue to bed in front of a typically raucous and bordering on hysterical Richmond JFC supporter base and earned a spot in the big dance. In what was a fitting final the two best teams in Glen Iris and Richmond would play for the flag.

The grand final was everything expected, it was tight and tense, the girls nerves started to show but as the game settled we stamped our authority and were unlucky not to blow the game apart in the second and third quarters. Credit must go to Richmond's defensive line which withstood and rebounded everything we threw at them. It was the lowest scoring game of our season but in the end we prevailed by three points much to the delight of the girls and fans alike.

The season ended in style at the Auburn Hotel where Gen O'Callaghan took out the B&F by one point from Sofia Barnaby who deservedly secured the league B&F – congratulations to both girls who have the potential to be strong leaders in whatever pursuit they choose in life.

What Crab and I were so proud of the girls was the way they came together as a TEAM and throughout the year trained hard but knew how to have fun, but when it came to the crunch they all did what they needed to get the bikkies – a relentless pursuit of success with lots of smiles and laughs. A huge thank you to the club and the people behind the scenes who helped with the girls football in particular, Rob Elsom, Dave Barnaby, Louise Blennerhassett, Ronnie Calvert, Marc Heine and Tim Gough. Jan Gnatt the absolute doyen of the club - special thanks for all his effort and support for the girls and the countless volunteers of all age groups that make Gladiators a special place.

Thank you to the parents. Apart from the general awesomeness of the parenting group and banter on social media, the understanding that the coaches were doing our best to make a difficult year with high numbers as fair for the girls and trying to find the fine line between development, safety and success.

And finally all the helpers; Trainers: Sarah, Emma and Annie Strauch, Runners: Waxy, CJ and others who stepped in – appreciate the insight and game day support, Sharon: Team manager, nothing runs without TM and it is the most thankless task, and Crab; the master magnet shifter who always has the toughest job managing the girls and putting up with my carry on.

Player Recap

Caterina Kalegeropoulos - We weren't able to see her as much as we'd like but when we did she provided that tough unassuming footballer from last year. Still want to see her teach the whole team Greek dancing

Rosario Quintanilla - See ball get ball – like a Chilean sheepdog around the packs – Efforts in the semi-final on Number 3 for Richmond were unbelievable – anything to shut her up

Zahara Kittikhoun - Ability to listen and take small steps of improvement and confidence was all a coach could ask for - Massive efforts in the Grand Final to risk herself by diving amongst the play were well noticed by all

Georgia Crawshay - It's hard when your dad is one of the coaches having to listen to him at home and at footy massive improvement this year highlighted by two goal saving efforts in the semi-final just shows you the 1% are just as important in big moments

KK McCarthy - For a player her size competing against some of the older girls she was amazing – took some heavy hits during the year. Just like her old man in the GF she was always near and around the ball

Billie Colquhoun - Throughout the year we had the catchphrase 'Be Like Billy' and throughout the year it was sound advice as Billy was our ever reliable Full Back, massive in the GF and kicked a goal against Fitzroy

Cordelia Paulusz - First year player who played anything like it, was a major part of our back-line wall instantly recognisable with her blonde locks –ragdolled the opposition so much that she scared her own mum.

Maddison Lavery - Once she figured out how to bend down and pick the ball up was lethal with a running kick out of the back-line – her best performance came along with the knowledge that she was being filmed in the Semi final

Molly Johnston - In terms of power to weight ratio this girl was off the charts. Relentless tackler and on multiple occasions her willingness to sacrifice herself lead into team goals, if not kicking them herself

Sienna Carroll - My memory of Siena was mostly talking about anything but footy at training, but once she took the field she attacked the ball relentlessly, highlight of the year against Fitzroy with a scooped up ball, big run and jaggling her first goal

Lilah Kirkland - Nothing more that I love more than someone who is willing to stand under a high ball and she showed this multiple times during the year, very courageous player and just improves more and more each game

Matilda Joyes - Power forward and when using her strength was unstoppable. In the semi final clearly ate her angry pills for breakfast as she terrorised Richmond's "Fab Five" with some bone crunching tackles



U12 GIRLS

Gigi Hay - Went a whole year last year not kicking a goal and then pops up and jags three all in one game – one of my personal highlights of the year.

Imogen Sergi - Was by far one of the most improved players of the year going from an unconfident first year player to a reliable forward who for her size was never afraid to get her hands dirty

Poppy Coates - Similar to Ash Barty was one of the strongest contenders for sports convert of the year. Transitioned from a gun gymnast and runner to elite winger in her first year – never too far from the action

Olive Nantes - Having witnessed her prowess and toughness on the basketball court I loved seeing this translate to the footy field – uncompromising and unassuming but always reliable to get the job done

Siena Hewitt - Adapted to the wing and got back to her B&F status from previous year. With some of the best 1% plays through the year, especially match saving effort in the dying seconds of the GF.

Izzy Hume - Tough, ball getter, goal kicker, dashing, in and under....everything her father wasn't. Has a mouth on her but luckily can back it up on the field – one of the best first year players this year.

Poppy Paine - Another first year player instantly recognisable with her blond locks who took giant steps this year – clearly too big of steps as she was injured for the tail end of the year, but couldn't have been happier that she made it back for the big dance

Lucy Devine - Formed part of our back-line wall and rarely let anything past her, unassuming but fiercely competitive always a coaches favourite who implements whatever she is told

Zara Daffy - If there is one thing I learnt this year it would be not to get on the end of one of her tackles. Critical in our forward line and was mostly unrewarded on the scoreboard for her impacts on games.

Taylor Burnet - We squeezed a few game before Tay and the family went around Australia – clearly impressed the umpires with some votes in the league B&F. Don't let the calm nature and smile fool you – can sniff a goal opportunity a mile away.



2022 Season Award

Coaches Award (Joint)

Liliana Perovic - Was critical to our success in the ruck and midfield and was able to listen and implement to perfection all instructions given to her. On field she's almost too selfless trying to bring her teammates into the game. In a year where we had respect as a key theme it wasn't just the respect she showed to the coaches, but also to the playing group and especially to the younger girls and made them walk taller – which she should be very proud of.

Tabitha Simkiss - Was always attentive and could guarantee was always looking up, listening and nodding. Never complained about playing in the back-line and was always switched on when the ball went down there. Most importantly was also one of the first girls to really engage with the entire playing group and had the perfect mix of cheekiness/fun without annoying.

Gladiator Award

Evie Brooke - I think all supporters love a player who isn't afraid to get down and dirty whether it's on the bottom of the pack or chirping back to the opposition. Someone who strikes the right balance between being hard and being fair and I think this girl summed it up throughout the year. Had her nose splattered across her face covered in mud against Ashburton and waived off the trainer reminiscent of the olden days of football and during the grand final received a nasty cork but kept chasing and tackling – epitomised the hard honest footy we wanted.

Third Best and Fairest

Molly Strauch - This girl is a line breaker in the true sense of the word, always circling a pack and has one of the best don't argues in the U12 competition – so much so I had to go to the osteo for treatment after training one night. She is unbelievably reliable and was so important throughout the year in getting the ball out of our midfield feeding the forward line – which when you are playing a grade up is even more impressive. I said last year she played like the Bont but after watching more AFLW she is a Bree Davey through and through.

Runner up Best and Fairest

Sofia Barnaby - This is a player that every coach would wish to have on their team and if they were an opposition coach would hope that she would not show up as she is the most damaging player in the league. Elite marking and kicking and what most impressed me about her this year was her ability in big moments to not wait for direction from the coach or runner, but to take it upon herself to do what she knew was right to win the game. Her deep down leadership on the field betrays her gregarious nature.

Best and Fairest

Genevieve O'Callaghan - In a conversation with her mum this week the phrase came up that this girl would often achieve amazing things but go by unnoticed. This was highlighted when for some unknown reason she did not poll a single vote in the league best and fairest. Her work on the field however clearly didn't go unnoticed by the coaches and supporters. It would be how I would summarise this girls season, she was never the one breaking massive lines, or taking big marks but she was always there doing her job week in week out. Making sure the midfield 'wall' was always there, making the big 'statement'. Always in amongst it both offensively and defensively and would make her teammates walk taller with her around which is the trademark of a good captain is to lead not always by words but by example.

U12 WINNETT

AWARDS:

Best & Fairest: Max Holt

Best & Fairest: Marcus Oh

Runner Up Best & Fairest: Joshua Lindeman

Most Consistent: Atticus Collins

Coach's Award: Luke Dickson



U12 NEWTONS



16 rounds with only 4 wins doesn't tell the story of these 24 committed kids. Donning the blue and gold each week, trying their best and playing the game we love playing. Although the wins don't add up tomuch, the rapid improvement in this group of kids was evident since day one. It was so enjoyable to see 24 excitable kids turn up to training each Friday night, regardless of weather, regardless of other commitments and regardless of how they went the game before, all eager to learn new skills, learn more about football and enjoy playing with their mates.

All players developed and played to each other strengths. Although many kids played many different positions, the roles did start to develop. Our mids group of Charlie H, Tommy, Maxy K, Mack, Zac, Sammy, Archie, Adam and Max M were the ball getters. Either in and under or roaming the ground. Fast and accurate by foot with tanks that go all day.

Our defenders were relentless and courageous, albeit a little overworked: Charlie S, Jonsey, Eli, Lachy, Chase, Sprags and Juddy. Our forwards sought every opportunity to pop it between the big sticks, and kept working hard: Harry, Ben, Lijy, Max P, Josh, Will H , Chase, Miles, Eddie and Monty.

This team built their own culture: a great mix of enjoyment, learning and developing. The guidance from the parenting group was awesome. A beautiful mix of encouragement and nurturing with guidance of education and conditioning. Here goes a special thanks for TM of the century: Penny, Runner/motivator/ strength and conditioning/entertainer: Carly, game analysis and tactician Jase, and all Med support :Alex, Ginny and Kate. Thanks all the parents who helped make such an enjoyable community. Simon Peate, thank you for the very generous sponsorship from Britmar, making this year happen.

Well done Boys, you fought right to the end. You showed the spirit and resilience. Football is a great game and I hope as a group we experienced what the game has to offer. I look forward to seeing you all back in blue and gold in 2023.

Go Glads.

Andy Seymour



U13 GNATTS

AWARDS:

Best & Fairest: Max Darcy
Runner Up Best & Fairest: Paddy Benson
Best Finals Player: Sacha Demetriou
Most Improved: Jack Satterly
Best Playmaker: Ethan Herbert



U13 NEWTON

AWARDS:

Best & Fairest: Tynan Ediweera
Best & Fairest: Max Johnston
3rd Best & Fairest: Tom Findlay
Most Improved: Darby Alexander-McCurry
Coach's Award: Angus Beechey



U14 NEWTONS



The U/14 Newtons started the year off with an emphatic win against Ashburton. In wet and tiring conditions, the game came with its challenges with our team only having 13 players available. The boys showed grit and determination at its purest leaving every on-looker in awe.

This trend of limited numbers carried throughout the year as we battled through COVID outbreaks and the flu. With the footy Gods against us, the boys never let this deter them, every week the boys turned up, throwing themselves head first at Goliath and every contest.

Through most of the year, results did not go our way, losing a number of close games due to the lack of numbers, which saw us eventually run out of legs.

Training on Friday's enabled the coaches to focus on how we wanted the boys to play. We worked really hard on our ball movement and team defense, of coming forward to defend all year.

The boys continued to grow every game in stature, with our intensity and pressure around the ball beginning to trouble even the top teams. In our last game of the year we came up against the Kew Rovers who beat us by a point during the season. We came out and controlled the game from the first bounce. The boys played an outstanding brand of footy getting everyone on the field involved and suffocating the oppositions ball movement with our relentless pressure which lead to bookend victories on the season. The boys unfortunately missed out on finals, with a full team each week we have no doubt that we can push for finals next year.

Coach Tom and Coach Andrew



U14 HANGER

AWARDS:

Best & Fairest: Freddie Sternson
Runner Up Best & Fairest: Nick Howitt
3rd Best & Fairest: Barnaby Woods
Best Clubman: Axel Gertis
Coach's Award: Nick Pritchard



U15 HANGER

AWARDS:

Best & Fairest: Rupert Sternson
Runner Up Best & Fairest: Sam Bayles
3rd Best & Fairest: Lochie Mann
Most Improved: Hamish Langford
Best Clubman: Flynn O'Halloran



U15 GNATTS

AWARDS:

Best & Fairest: Sam Allen

Runner Up Best & Fairest: Harrison Hewitt

3rd Best & Fairest: Mackie Martin

3rd Best & Fairest: Aidan Stewart

5th Best & Fairest: Will Bond



U16 GIRLS



Season Overview:

The GIJFC kicked off the 2022 with the plan to have an Under 16 team, comprising a hand full of top age U16 players and combined with a large group of U15 girls. As the season got going we had 32 players registered which prompted the decision to enter a U15 team after four rounds. This decision was made because we wanted to make sure the children got the most possible game time.

As the season progressed injuries and illness took a huge toll on player availability, with often fewer than 16 players being available across the two teams. The club made the difficult decision to withdraw the U15 team after round 10 and maintain the U16 team playing in a tough first division.

The U16 team fought extremely hard every week against older more experienced teams in small division of 4 teams. The girls should be very proud of their efforts.

Special thanks to Henry Starkins who gives up his time to come to Gladiators and coach our girls. Your energy and enthusiasm was incredible in 2022, under challenging circumstances.

Team Managers Report:

Congratulations to our players on an ever-improving season. From the first rounds of over 30 girls and over 30 degrees to the leaner weeks of 11 girls available and less than 11 degrees celcius it was great to see both the players and their families rally to get our team to the game. Despite COVID and injuries we did manage to play on and also get better at it.

Many thanks to our coach Henry Starkins and his assistants whose enthusiasm never wavered and helped improve our playing skills, and to our runners, boundary umpires and all the weekly volunteers who gave up their time to keep the roles filled. Thanks also to our sponsor HULK Labour Hire and Services for their support over the season.

Coaches Report:

I had the privilege of coaching a number of delightful U16/15s girls throughout the season of 2022. The girls overcame many challenges throughout the season, namely COVID19, division transfers and injuries however alongside and with the help of Ronnie Calvert, Dave Wilson & Michelle Emery, we had a fantastic year as a squad.

And testament to the girls, they succeeded in turning up each week, no matter the conditions and played the game with their heads held high and in the spirit of the game.

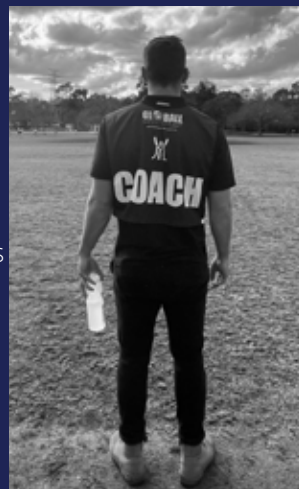
To all the parents that turn up and help out each week, for your support, I thank you very much. You enable the girls to play the game, thank you.

Player Review

Amelia Quilty - Is a very skillful footballer. She's always smiling and polite but we didn't get to see her much. All the best Amelia.

Lucy Sands - A sociable one! Lucy enjoyed playing football and hanging with her friends at the club.

Jess Nankervis - We didn't see much of jess in the latter part of the season, which was a shame because of her talent! Jess had the natural ability to take a strong mark and kick very long and straight. All the best Jess.



Liv Johnson - Liv started her football career this year and has improved significantly throughout the season. No matter the weather she turned up ready to train. A great quality to have. We could always rely on Liv turning up to train or play and have fun. Well done on a great season of football.

Lucia Pegler - Was lots of fun to coach. Training in particular, she is very positive and has a joyous attitude. Her football flourished in the middle of the season, playing in the u15s. Becoming a reliable forward pocket and kicking a number of goals. Thanks Lucia

Lucia Martin - Athletic and skillful, Lucia was a dominant player in the U15s. and when she came up to the play with the U16, she was reliable in key positions, mainly ruck and center half forward and back. A very talented player, all the best with your football.

Sarah Tanner - Very handy footballer, played her best game at the end of the season at Righetti oval when she was pushed up to the wing. Another girl who asked lots of questions and was engaged at training and on game day. Thanks for the great season Sarah.

Maggie Betts - Lots of personality in this girl. Biggest personality in the team, extremely colourful and polite. Kicked a few goals this season which was great to see, especially at Righetti oval. A joy to coach, she asked lots of questions, a lot of questions... hardly football related but it is a delight to get to know her. Good luck Bettie!

Tilly Seymour - Kicked an amazing goal at TH King on a very wet and raining game, taking a fantastic mark in the goal square to put 6 points on the board. A highlight game against Surrey that day. Tilly was never one to complain but always made an effort to say thank you to me after each training and game day which is always appreciated. Thanks for the season Tilly, all the best.

India Falcone - A key player for the club this year, India very much enjoyed her time with the U15s in the middle of the season. All the best India, you're terrific girl with a great attitude.

Selina Quereshi - Biggest smile award. Positive, infectious attitude. Selina was a pleasure to coach, asked questions and one of the few girls to never complain. She enjoyed her football and it was great to see her enjoy training sessions with her mates. Congratulations Selina on winning the coaches award for the U15s.

Charlotte Simkiss - Another player whose football flourished in the 15s. Improvement from day 1 to now was extraordinary. Unfortunate about the injury, would've been great to have you in the side the last month. Great to see another fellow Demons supporter. Congratulations Charlotte on winning the most improved for the U15s. Well done.

Gabbi Simcox - A very polite, very optimistic, encouraging and stood up to lead the girls. Vocal on the field, and lead the U15s girl. But furthermore, played very well in the U16s and gave it her best. Overall however she is the winner of the U15 BNF. Congratulations.

Keira O'Hara - Keira only managed to play a few games with us this year due to netball. But she is extremely talented, takes a very strong mark and usually dominates the ruck. She can run, tackle and lead the ball. All the best Keira.

Zoe Howard - A delight to coach! Very polite and engaged. Enjoyed her training session was a great player on game day. She polled 7 votes for the U15s league BNF and also polled votes in the U16s club BNF. Well done Zoe, a fast paced, agile player off the half back/wing half forward.



U16 GIRLS

Sophie Heine - Another big personality. Full of colour, passion and happiness. Vocal on the field, vocal off the field. A gun footballer who many of her peers look up to. Soph's coach didn't enjoy the Sunday afternoon 3pm netball training however when Soph did get to play she was a real asset to the team. All the best Soph!

Polly McHarg - A strong demon supporter. I hope Polly is enjoying her time away in the US but she had another strong season down back. I would've liked to see play a few more games with us as her ability to shut down forwards and break through packs is impressive.

Laura Talbot - Laura had another strong season. A reliable defender for the team and when the time came, a strong contender in the ruck. Laura's ground ball ability certainly improved throughout the season which was good see. Laura, always outspoken at training for better or worse it was a pleasure to get to know you for our second season together.



Annie Seymour - We only had Annie play with us the first half of the season, due to some head knocks. Sorely missed, as you're a terrific leader on and off the field. Extremely skilled with the football and very athletic. You still came down to training and most of the games which was terrific. Keeping me company and helping me out on the sideline was very much appreciated. Hopefully I can see more of you and your football career next year.

Jemima Heughan - A true and loyal north Melbourne supporter, rare these days. A handy player up forward who loved a bit of space to use her pace. When engaged Jemima made training very enjoyable for myself and for others. All the best Jemima.



Lucy Nichol - Lucy played most of the year across half forward and also helping out in the back line at times. She is a natural goal kicker and has good goal sense and ability to get in good scoring positions. She is pretty quiet at training, happy going about her business without much fuss.

Ivy Cockerell - One of the smallest player on the team but one of the toughest. Definitely the strongest tackler in the team. Arguably the most opinionated and outspoken girl on the team. Ivy was delight to coach this season and I thoroughly enjoyed the conversations we had. It was great to see you mature throughout the year. Well done on a great season Ivy.



Bella Wilson - Bella is a great girl, with a great sense of humour and even when her Dad is booming his voice out to her in the field, she stays engaged and focused. She has the biggest left foot kick I've ever seen and takes a very strong contested mark. Bella was pivotal to the team this year, polled very well, all the best with your football career.

Jamie Tucker - The other rock down back. Jaime spent the whole year in full back, and won almost every 1 on 1 she encountered throughout the season (which happened numerous times). She captained a few matches this year and polled the highest in the votes for these games. She stands up when she needed to and lead the girls. She's not one to complain and will always say thank you before leaving. A pleasure to coach Jaime you come third this year in the BNF and have won the coaches award.

Annabel Calvert - Bright, polite, happy and full of positivity girl. Annabel spent most of her time up forward, and really developed her positioning, marking and leading to the ball. Very engaging with me, asking questions about the game or about general life, she's a quality person with a great heart, caring for her friends. Thanks Annabel for a great season and I'm looking forward to hopefully coaching you again!

Imogen McCulloch - Being our full forward, G had a quiet year considering the results of our game. When G gets fired up, she brings a lot of passion and energy to the game. She played in her 100th game, a massive milestone to achieve so well done G for playing 100 games with the club. All the best G, hope to see you next year.

Scarlett Pringle - Another great year getting to know scarlet. She's a very talented girl, who brings ferocity and intensity that not many other girls in the competition do. Tough as nails, a great runner and tackler. I've really enjoyed how you try and take the game on, you play on and try to bounce it. Sometimes it pays off, sometimes it doesn't- but it's great that you try to do. All the best with footy career!

Immy Teal - Immy was one of our two rocks down back this year. A very talented footballer who always gave it her all. She trained hard and played hard on the weekends. It was terrific to see her play in the midfield for a few quarters and then up forward where she had a ripping game. You definitely got the skills to play. Lots of votes this season. Well done Immy.

Chloe Dillon - Chloe is a terrific player and each week plays with passion and has a fantastic set of skills. She can take a strong mark, defend, run and attack. She's put on some of the biggest tackle that I've seen which has been a delight. Well done on another great season Chloe and all the best for the future.

Maggie Mahoney - This girl wins the most valuable player award. For the 8 games that she played, she polled top votes 7 of them. And of the 1 game she didn't poll top votes, she still got votes, after being carried off in late in the second quarter. She polled 11 votes in the league and dominates the game. One thing I really enjoyed seeing this year was not only her skills, but her maturity and leadership. Well done on another season coming 4th in our BNF.

Skye Emery - This player is one of the fastest and most agile players of the team. She's extremely polite but is tough as nails on the footy field. She is very warm and positive and is well liked by her peers. An extremely consistent year, only missing 1 game. Well done for winning runner up in our BNF.

Emma Johnston - Last but not least, we come down to our winner of the BNF for the season. This player is the most courageous in the team. She's the first to the ball, she's first to get smashed but she's the first to get back up and then go in again. An extremely selfless player who is gifted and talented at all sports. Well done to Emma Johnson for an amazing season. Congratulations.

I'd like to say some special thanks – mainly to the parents. To Ronnie, Dave, CJ & Andrew, Natalie, Meg, Natasha, Mellissa, Darren, and all the trainers. Thank you to Rob Teal, Gerald Betts & Ronnie for coaching the U15s in the middle of the season.

Lastly a big thank you to Michelle Emery for her extraordinary contribution to the girls this season. You're a superstar Michelle, thank you very much.

Henry Starkins - Coach





2022

THANK YOU
