



PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Some 315 days or 7,560 hours after we packed up from our Fight MND fundraising activities at the Kennel we were back at it. A glorious day with 9 boys' games, 3 girls' games and Auskick to welcome us back to our home ground. And what a day it was... I won't spoil the results as I'm sure you'll be interested to read on the match reports below, suffice to say that the Westbrook and North-West Lightning song was sung loudly a few times.

A big thank you to our army of helpers. Running 2 grounds is no small feat, so it takes many hands to get games running and on time. To the u9s and 11s parents who were there early to help with ground, BBQ and canteen setup a very big thank you for your help!!! Speaking of canteen, we had one of our biggest days of takings, a testament to the hard-working team and parent support that is provided. This is crucial support to keep us operational and a ground in which teams love coming to for the environment and atmosphere. Among many things, some money goes into running our matchday operations, shown below

2022 match day operations:

Ground Manager – Tomas Kholhagen

+ support from Andrew Murdoch, Toby Mardling and others

Canteen Manager – Mikaela Macri & Family

First Aid/Physio – Your Health Sport & Spine, Dural (Alex and Team)

The week ahead will see some clubs seek re-divisionalisation of teams, this could be up or down, so we expect to see a few draw changes posted after next week. These will take affect from round 8.

With school sport now back in full swing, be sure to shout out any representative achievements for mention in our newsletter. Send details to comms@westbrookafl.com.au

Good luck teams with round 5 games and a very happy Mother's Day to all our mums and grandmothers who are part of the Westbrook family.

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MATCH REPORTS

Westbrook Bulldogs U9 Blue vs Pennant Hills Demons

ROUND 4 | 1 May 22 | Mike Kenny Oval

Arriving bright and early under clear skies at our home ground, the team were eager for the 8am bounce to take on the Pennant Hills Demons. Playing on a much larger field, and against a larger team, the boys were keen to stretch their legs and the extra time per quarter was a welcome challenge (for both the players and parents!).

As the game got underway, the boys did well to control the ball through the midfield in dewy conditions. The larger zones didn't deter with the boys using the extra space to their advantage. As the pack moved around to gather the ball, Archie and Patrick did well to gain control and move the game forward with some great handballs and kicking in slippery conditions. Working together, Blake, Michael and Niki were able to penetrate Penno's defence and each kicked a goal in the opening term.

Buzzing from such a strong start to the game, quarter 2 went much the same way. After a shuffle of positions, Spencer, Jonny and Ryan joined Archie in the midfield and pressured for the ball from the start, sticking to their marks and tackling for the ball. Working together to drive the ball forward, Isaac, Patrick and Rhys found themselves on the receiving end of some great play from our midfielders and were able to penetrate Penno's defence to score.

After the half time break, Pennant Hills came back energised and were keen to contest the ball. With the surface drying and the Sherrin not as slippery, this quarter saw the game spread more evenly across the field with all zones involved in play. William and Isaac worked our defensive line well, blocking Penno from scoring attempts and sending the ball back up the field with some long and accurate kicking. Leo and Tyler found themselves in the thick of the action midfield as the ball moved from end to end. With some great marking from Tyler, they were able to gain control and drive the ball forward finding Mitchell, who was ready to score.

In the fourth, Penno was not going to give up the fight, and again started the quarter with renewed energy. With great ball control through the midfield, they moved the ball forward quickly to score a couple of early goals. Not willing to concede, the determination of our mids influenced the remainder of the game as Patrick, Harvey and Jonny worked together to gather the ball and work it forward with some great kicking under pressure. Spencer and Ryan were ready to receive up forward and capitalised on these opportunities, each scoring a goal.

All players put in so much effort, and it showed with some impressive play and teamwork throughout the game. It was great to see them all enjoying themselves and taking advantage of the larger playing field and longer game time. Well done team!

Goals: Rhys (2), Mitchell (2), Spencer (2), Blake, Isaac, Michael, Niki, Patrick, Ryan

Report by: Daniel Greenwood, Coach.

Westbrook u10 vs Lane Cove Cats

ROUND 4 | 1 May 22 | Mike Kenny Oval

A beautiful morning greeted us for our first home game of the season and the pups looked the part as Coach Jarrod took them through their pre-match warm up. Thankfully our opposition had a full complement of players, which meant that we were able to field 12 players at all times, with 1 interchange player as well.

As the game got under way it looked like we may well be in for a tough day. Lane Cove dominated most of the first quarter, both in terms of possession and field position. Our back four, Archie, Andrew, David and Max were under constant pressure, however they held up admirably and managed to limit Lane Cove's scoring.

Eventually as the quarter progressed, we started to win some possession and in turn started to give our forwards some opportunities with the ball.

The team carried this momentum into the second quarter and we enjoyed a significant advantage in both possession and field position. This was certainly reflected in the number of shots on goal with Carter, Jake and Thomas all getting opportunities to kick it between the big sticks. None of this comes about of course without the mids first winning the ball and getting it forward.

Half time arrived and after a shaky start the pups were now looking very solid.

Quarter three, while we were not quite as dominant as quarter two, was another strong effort, and we saw several shots at goal that were due more the forwards hard work at the contest and winning the ball as they were anything else.

Most of the boys, once in possession, are very willing to run and take on the opposition, and while not always effective, it does demonstrate their growing confidence.

The final quarter played out much as the second had, with the ball mainly in our forward end. Our midfielders, Evan, Jake, Thomas, Billy and Max not allowing Lane Cove to transition the ball out of defence, and in then repeatedly winning back possession. This gave our forwards, Beau, Carter, Freddie and Hudson over 10 chances to kick goals in what was a very strong finish. The only downside being our defenders didn't really have much involvement in this quarter.

This week also saw the debut of our third new player for this season, James joining the team after having moved over from Perth. Welcome to the team James.

Report by: Jason Welch

Northwest Lightning YG U12 Blue 5.6.36 to Lane Cove 2.1.13 ROUND 4 | 1 May 22 | Blackman Oval, Lane Cove

With school holidays out of the way, the team gathered at Blackman Park for their second match for Season 2022. With a few extras from the Reds joining us, we had a few spare to loan to Lane Cove. Thanks to Alyssa and Agnes who played in the white and blue for the first half, and Harper and Lily who played a quarter each in the second half.

For the Lightning it was a strong start. Up front, Emily H, Annabel and Asha piled on the pressure early. Strong work in the midfield led by Evie in the ruck consistently gave the Lightning forwards plenty to work with.



After the first break, the Cats proved that it wasn't only in the carpark where Lane Cove's traffic was a challenge. They clawed back with a couple of quick goals and had the Lightning forced to regroup to see off the surge. This they did, with Brownney, Aliyah and Olivia leading the response.

From there, the team showed real grit – and the value of collaboration. After the half time break, two more Lightning goals staked out the team's claim some great kicking and marking along the way. Lane Cove didn't take a backwards step, and managed to find some real opportunities - but relentless defence led by Arlia and Khiara kept them at bay, holding our hosts scoreless for the 2nd half.

By the full time siren, the Lightning had caged the spirited Cats and secured their second victory for the season. Well done Blues!

By Qtr: 2.2.14 v 0.0.0, 2.5.17 v 2.1.13, 4.6.30 v 2.1.13, 5.6.36 v 2.1.13
Goals: Aliyah (2), Annabel (1), Alyssa (1), Asha (1)
Report by: Shane McLeod



Westbrook Bulldogs U11-3 (61) to Pennant Hills U11-3 (29) ROUND 4 | 1 May 22 | Mike Kenny Oval

It was a chilly start to the Autumn morning for an early game against Willoughby Wildcats at Mike Kenny Oval. With the school holidays completed we had a full squad of 20 eager and raring to go. A slightly smaller squad from Wildcats allowed some Bulldogs to throw on a green jersey to assist. Thanks to the great sportsmanship shown by those players.

It was a tight first quarter from both teams. Ball skills were up and we finished the quarter a goal behind. Both of their goals came from a familiar loan player to the 11/3s team. Rohan P was our only goal scorer. The pressure continued into the 2nd quarter with some fantastic defense and tackles from our opposition. Bulldogs were able to add on 2 unanswered goals from Sam and Hayden with the score not showing the tackling pressure from both teams.

The second half showed the Bulldogs opening up the game with 3 goals 2 to a single behind in the 3rd quarter. Another 3 goals in the final quarter including one from Rohan S playing in Green added to their total. Another great win for the Bulldogs with hard ball gets and competing for the ball areas that we will look to refine in training. With our 2nd solid win under our belts we've applied to move up to Div 2.

Result: Westbrook Bulldogs 9.7.61 v Willoughby Wildcats 4.5.29

Goals: Sam 2, Rohan P, Rohan S, Andre, Hayden, Ethan, Jai, Jax and Aiden

Best on Ground: Andre, Sam, Hayden

Finger Bun Award: Hayden and Flynn

Report By: Manager Ang

Westbrook U13-2 (win) v Macquarie (forfeit)

ROUND 4 | 1 May 22 | Mike Kenny Oval

I would firstly like to congratulate Harrison Ferns on his achievements last week at the National Athletics event where Harrison finished 7th in Australia for his age group. What a fantastic achievement! We are all elated with your effort! Well done mate!

This week we secured a win before the ball had even been bounced! Due to lack of numbers we received an automatic win as they had to forfeit the game. A little scratch match was played with 13 v 13 with two of our boys playing for the opposition.

First quarter was a bit of a right off. Understandably! Most took the game for what it was. Practice. We had to flip the board giving players opportunity to play different roles for the week. Giving the backs opportunity to play more of a forward mid role to get them involved. Especially after last week. They boys in the kids lead by Caleb and Alex E were quick to initiate control of the centre breaks. It was great to have Harrison back and to have his mate Cameron on each wing. These boys made an immediate impact and would do so all game! Isaac was the first to score taking a fantastic mark and kick a lovely goal from about 30 meters. Felix moved forward and as he always dose battled hard to kick the next.

We could only manage 2 goals for the quarter.

Second quarter - we asked for more of an effort and Kristian, after spending a quarter with the opposition came into the forwards along with Callum and they both made an immediate impression. Hard attack on the ball along with tackle pressure on the ball resulted in 3 goals between them. As he has done all year Kael presented the forwards multiple opportunities to score. Aiden in his first game for the team and the year was able to register his first goal. The second gamer Cameron Bloem constructed his first of the game. Better quarter with 5 goals 4 behinds v 1 point. 47 point lead at half time.

Third quarter we continued to control the centre with James taking over ruck duties and Lachie moving in to provide assistance. Great forward pressure from all saw goals from Caleb, Hayden, Felix and Callum. We would kick 4 goals 3 behinds for the quarter. The only blemish coming from one of our own, Kael. Who produced the goal of the game. Nice finish on the run after a bounce or two. Yes pleased to be seeing more of that!

The last was a little disappointing. We lost our first quarter of the year! Not the ideal way we wanted to finish the game and prepare for next week. Curtis was a standout providing great attack in and around the ball resulting in many possessions for the quarter. Kristian would kick our only goal for the quarter finishing

with 3 for the day! Happy Birthday Ingrid!! and apologies if I knew you were looking for 5 from him I would have kept him there for the entire game. Not a bad return for 2 quarters up forward. For the team playing only 2 serious quarters of footy and it being a scratch match, we would still win comfortably by 62 points.

Goals: 3 Kristian, 2 Felix and Callum, 1 Aiden, Cameron, Caleb, Hayden, Isaac.

Best: Kael, Cameron, Callum, Harrison, Caleb, Felix, Alex B.

Report by: Simon Macdonald

Westbrook U14-2 (58) vs Pennant Hills (39) ROUND 4 | 1 May 22 | Mike Kenny Oval

After Pennant Hills came to Mike Kenny Oval last year and gave us a bit of a touch up, the boys had been kern take them on again and make amends for the loss.

The first quarter saw us come out and make a statement. The boys were playing good, selfless football that meant we were able to dominate territory and hit the scoreboard. We saw examples of this right across the park, be it Henry passing to Ryan, who kicked long to Hudson, who then took the team first approach and centred the ball to Noah for a goal. There was Luke in the backline, who plays bigger than his size, keeping his feet in the contest and allowing us to rebound from defence. Or Zac, helping us out for another week, powering through the middle and driving us into attack. We also saw Boston back to his best, moving with pace, taking shots on goal and being very unlucky not to get rewarded with a major.

Penno wasn't going to let us have it all our way and responded strongly in the second quarter. Our situation wasn't helped by some inaccurate kicking in front of goal, but Penno started to out hunt us and simply want the ball more.

Isaac showed his usual courage, trying to spark our team into action by getting his head over the football and coping a very illegal shoulder charge for his efforts. He was thankfully able to play on and repeatedly stop Penno advance into the forward line. Max was working hard in the ruck and combing with Elliott through great use of quick hands in tight, overall, our mids were having a tougher time of it.

After a few changes at the main break the team got back into line, with Ryan continuing to use his improved agility to pressure the opposition and ended up getting rewarded for his work rate with a beautiful long-range goal. Thankfully we also saw players finally getting protected for putting their head over the football with Hudson converting to further help us stabilise the game. From the backline Tyler was again starring for us at half back, being strong over the ball and showing nice pace to break free of stoppages.

Penno again came at us hard in the last. The effort was there from our boys when they were in the contest, but a clear lack of fitness and tired legs from a couple of players that had run all day, meant we too often didn't have numbers at the ball and were putting pressure on their team mates to win the one on three, which simply doesn't work.

In the end we got the win, but we will need to increase our work rate and not get drawn into watching the man, if we are to continue our form against the stronger teams like Cronulla that we face next week. The potential is there right across the park. We simply need to run harder and "step-in" every time.

¼ by ¼: Q1 3.3 v 0.0, Q2 1.2 v 2.2, Q3 3.3 v 1.0, Q4 1.2 v 3.1 FINAL 8.10 (58) v 6.3 (39)

Goals: Hudson 4, Ryan 2, Noah 2

Best: Ryan Mardling, Henry Andrews, Hudson King, Noah Dinsmore, Luke McDermott, Max Baker, Tyler Evans

Report by: Sam Dinsmore (Coach)

Westbrook Hornsby U17-1 (12-9-81) v Manly (3-3-21)

ROUND 4 | 1 May | Mike Kenny Oval

The day started with 2 pull outs due to injury/sickness, and with injuries from the week prior saw a very different pack run out on the park this week. The loss from the week before had been a thought consuming event and the coaches knew something had to change.

To say the preparation for this weeks game was a polar opposite to that of the week prior was an understatement. And there was an eery staunch silence amongst the group. Skills seemed to be on and the talk was footy orientated. The 3 hours ahead was at this stage an exciting box of chocolates, like a great philosopher once said, you don't know what you are going to get.

At this point I want to congratulate the boys on their discipline, we all know the new directive from the umpires and although there were many a free kick given and a couple of 50's that were extended to the Beach boys, the dogs kept their chin to the grindstone and concentrated on their footy.

By the major break the Dog Eagles had shown their intentions but through inaccurate shooting had left a glimmer of hope for the Wax heads due to past experiences, one would think a 5 goal lead would be enough to ease the foot off the throat, but it has happened to us before, so the working dogs set to the paddock once more in the third, frustration started to seep from the salty sweat pours of the Dudes and a chin that had been to the grindstone was put to the fist, Manly were imploding with 2 cards given and the Talen's from the deformed Bulldogs started to rip at the throats of their now whimpering, gargling prey.

Not only did we beat the Boys of Summer, but under the front claws of the Rabid bulldogs you could hear the faint cries of "Mercy", but it was too late, the raw flesh of the Manly wax head surfer girl grommet dudes had been devoured.

Lets hope the Dogs switch on to how they can get the best footy out of themselves moving forward. 3 hours of a Sunday is all that is required.

Special Mention to Harrison that flew the flag due to rotations and kicked 3 for Mac Uni 17's and got in the best on's.

¼ by ¼: Q1: 4-2 to 2-1 Q2: 3-4 to 0-1 Q3: 2-1 to 0-0 Q: 4-2 to 1-0 FINAL 12.9-81 to 3.3-21

Goals: Squid 5, Corey 2, Pat 2, Stix, Silk, Cam M, Cam E 1 each

Best: Squid, Cory, Cam M, Stix, Silk, Willis's Chin and about 8 others

Report by: Jeff

WESTBROOK CLUB SONG

*Good old Westbrook forever,
We know how to play the game.
Side by side we stick together,
To uphold the Bulldogs name.
Hear the barrackers a shouting,
As all barrackers should.
Oh, the premierships a cakewalk
For the good old Westbrook.*

NORTH WEST LIGHTNING CLUB SONG

*Girls of Northwest
Yellow, Red and Blue
Hornsby, Penno, Westbrook
Lightning through and through
With a lightning flash, a lightning strike
We'll give our very best
You can't beat the girls from the lightning team
The mighty girls of Northwest*

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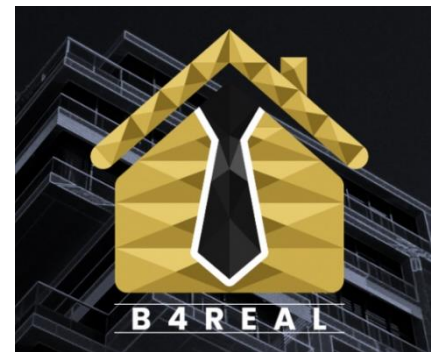
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