



# ROUND 12

## Sunday 17 July 2022

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## Presidents Report

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After a much needed 2 week break, it was great to have footy back. Mike Kenny was at its usual buzzing best, albeit with a couple of gaps due to unfortunate forfeits in U13s and YG18s. With 5 round remaining we have nominated to host finals for those teams who qualify and we should know in the next week if we get offered week 1 and or week 2 games.

During the 2 weeks break, footy didn't stop. We had our U8s and Auskick at half-time of the Swans v Bulldogs game and also Kian Brown from our U15's play and participate in the Multicultural AFL Leadership programme. Some more details on the programme [here](#) and [here](#). Congratulations Kian.

Football is such a rewarding and yet a cruel game... As mentioned, the YG18s unfortunately had their opposition forfeit Sunday. This was to be a major milestone game, with Keeley Waldron scheduled to become the 1<sup>st</sup> Westbrook junior female reach the 100 game milestone. Complicating matters, Keeley had season ending surgery this week and will mostly likely end on 99 games. Our thoughts go out to Keeley and family and we wish her well with her recovery. The club will find an alternative and appropriate recognition of Keeley's contribution in due course.

A big thank you for team managers and parents with photos over the last couple of Sunday's. By all accounts this has run really smoothly with everyone's cooperation truly appreciated.

### Milestones

50 Games - Campbell Gason U12s

Good luck teams with round 13 games. As a reminder with more wet weather in play, keep across <http://www.wetweathercheck.com/GroundList> for possible ground closures.

See you all back at the Kennel in round 14

## Round 13 – 24 July 2022

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Round 13 – 24 July 2022

Round 14 – 31 July 2022

Round 15 – 7 August 2022

Round 16 – 14 August 2022

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## CLUB SPONSORS

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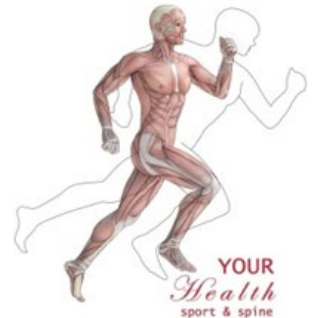
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# MATCH REPORTS

## ROUND 12 | Sunday 17 July 2022

### Westbrook u8 Reds vs Lane Cove Cats – Mike Kenny Oval

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The sun was out at the kennel and the U8 Reds had never looked this good. But this was the team photo, and we needed these smiles to last for 2 hours.

At the opening bounce, Lane Cove had the wind and were ready to play. The ball was bottled in early thanks to good positioning from EJ and Cruz and Ethan was showing some lightning leg speed.

It was the Cats that had the best loose ball pickups, as they begun tightening their grip on the first half. It was very difficult marking with the stiff breeze, but Mark's hands were as safe as ever. Oliver stood strong up forward and booted a few much needed goals to keep our game alive.

Coach Dave's half time speech sunk in quickly - school holidays were over and we needed some better passing to our team mates.

Ethan, Cruz and Mark in particular took the message to heart and generated some really attacking taps and handballs from the centre. Brody dodged two defenders and goaled from close range and EJ followed up with a couple more.

Then came a moment of brilliant team work. Ed was close to goal and surrounded by Cats. Out of the corner of his eye he spotted EJ free in the goal square and he did the most magnificent handball over his head and into EJ's arms for an easy goal. The crowd loved it. The team loved it. And Ed realised his backyard handball practise in the holidays was totally worth it.

In the last quarter Oliver took control of the middle and created plenty of angles for the forwards to work with.

Jed took a mark right on the final siren and lined up for the final kick of the morning. His slow run up added some drama before it sailed through the big sticks and it was high fives all round for the Dogs.

Lane Cove played in great spirit and really taught us some lessons about leading to space in the first half. Very pleasing to see the U8 Reds encourage each other on the field and improve each week.

**Report by:** Steve Toohey

**Coaches:** Dave Van Ryswyk, Steve Toohey

### Westbrook u9 Blue vs Hornsby/Berowra – Mike Kenny Oval

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With the school holiday break feeling like an eternity for some, the team were excited to be back at the kennel to take on Hornsby's Red team. With the eaglet's light on numbers, 3 of our pups were needed to flip each quarter to even the numbers. The first quarter after the long break was a slow grind, although we managed to keep the ball in our forward half for most of the quarter. A break and run by Michael saw a deep kick forward to find brother Rhys who scored the only goal this quarter. Quarter 2 continued in much the same way. With Archie, Isaac and Blake midfield we worked hard to get first hands to the ball. The boys worked well together with some accurate kicking and handballs to move the ball forward. Hornsby's defence was strong (thanks to having a couple of our players) and managed to spoil several shots at goal. Not giving up, the boys continued to attack with Michael eventually kicking a goal and keeping Hornsby scoreless at the half time break.

After an orange fix at half time, both teams were recharged and ready to go. Hornsby moved some of their taller players into the mid and they dominated the ruck at every ball up. They were able to take possession early and move quickly to their forward third. With Mitchell and Tyler on loan for the quarter, they found good hands with Mitchell scoring two and Tyler one,

leveling the score. The pups never gave up and a late surge and defensive pressure from Clive forced a turnover and we were able to slowly move the ball our way, eventually finding Patrick who found position and scored.

In the final quarter, we had Niki in the midfield and he was determined to get the ball. With support from Harvey and Clive, they were able to continually push the game forward. Leo, Jonny and Isaac were eagerly waiting up forward and once the ball found them, they worked together to move the ball around until Ryan was able to find the cracks in Hornsby's defence and score two for the team. Hornsby still had some fight and with the competitiveness of Blake, Archie and Rhys on loan, they too were able to get some action in their forward zone. Our defence was strong, with William spoiling a couple of scoring attempts before a free saw Rhys line up and kick their only goal for the quarter.

A great contest to watch, and so pleasing to see the boys happy to be back and excited to be playing footy. Every week a number of our players are asked to play for smaller opposition teams, and all do so willingly and with the competitive spirit as intended. This saw our mighty bulldogs kick and score all bar one point for the opposing team. Well done team!

**Goals:** Michael, Mitchell (2), Patrick, Rhys (2), Ryan (2), Tyler

**Report:** Daniel Greenwood (Coach)

## Westbrook u10 vs Lane Cove Cats – Mike Kenny Oval

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### Westbrook u11 (13.10-88) vs Lane Cove Cats (0.0-0) – Mike Kenny

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Today saw the ladder leading dogs back home to MKO on a bright and sunny morning. The Blue Dogs fielded a team of 16 with 4 boys being out due to illness and one on holiday. The Cats matched the Dogs with the maximum 15 on the field and it allowed for an open running game of football with plenty of space.

The first quarter saw the dogs up and about early with 4 goals kicked in the first quarter. The second quarter saw something very similar with the dogs adding 3 more by the main break. The third quarter saw the Dogs continue the pressure and add on 4 more goals before the mercy rule was invoked and the dogs sat down 3 players at the 3 quarter break to even the game. Credit to the dogs in the last quarter adding 2 further goals keeping the opposition scoreless.

This week saw the team given one simple overall goal and that was marking. To be fair our marking effectiveness stills needs more work with a lot of simple marks not taken cleanly. This will be a focus at training as will the area of leading to space. Kicking accuracy seemed to be on the improve this week and given a little space the team progressed the ball downfield to convert into points in a very elegant way. Our structure and work out of the middle is getting better and better and our kicking accuracy is good.

This week was really pleasing as some of our newer and less experienced players really started to convert their potential into effectiveness. Connor and Aston kicked their first goals of the season and Flynn kicked his first goal of this footballing career.

**Goals:** Hayden, Rohan, James, Jaxson, Connor, Jai, Aston, Flynn

**Best on Ground:** Jaxson, Jett and Rohan S

**Finger Bun Award:** Connor

**Report By:** Manager Matt

## Westbrook u12-2 (10.13-73) vs St Ives Saints (1.3-9) – Frank Grey Oval

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After a few weeks off during the school holidays, Last Sunday saw the return to footy with our Round 12 match scheduling us to play an away game against the St Ives Saints. This was not a game we could not take lightly as they had come down from Division 1 and, as our U/9 and U/10 experiences had taught us, can be a challenging opponent. In addition to this, Round 12 2022 also saw Campbell Gason play his 50<sup>th</sup> AFL game – Congratulations Campbell on this fantastic achievement.

During the school holiday break we had held a pizza night which included a strategy session where we discussed and viewed actual AFL footage around some key elements of the game. In the pre-match address we revisited these strategies to ensure we focussed on executing against them:

1. Get first hands on the ball and be strong in the contest – especially at the centre bounces where we must win the centre clearances to get the attacking advantage
2. Second efforts – getting a kick or handball away is sometimes not enough, make sure you follow up to help out a teammate with a shepherd or receive a handball if the ball is still in your area
3. Ensure we keep our forward line open so our forwards have room to move in and centre the ball to the top of the goal square when chances of scoring a goal are low (either far out or on the boundary)
4. Make sure we are accountable for our direct opponent when they have the ball, spoil if we cannot mark and rush a behind or get the ball over the boundary when under pressure for the opposition.
5. Communication

Right from the opening bounce we asserted our dominance in the game, led by our strong bodywork in the contest and working as a team. With Leonard competing strongly in the ruck, Darcy and Ryan working at the bottom of the packs as usual to win the ball and Samuel's and Charlie's fast run and long kicking, our Mids quickly took control of the centre clearances. As such most of the first quarter was played on our forward half, giving us the opportunity to establish a strong early lead by quarter time of 4 goals to none.

At quarter time we spoke about continuing the same commitment and applying the same pressure, not resting on our four goal lead, and the boys did just that. Whilst the last 3 quarters did not see us replicate the same score as the first, this was mainly due to the oppositions forward line creeping up the ground to get into the play and crowding our forward half, making it more difficult to score. Nevertheless we were able to add 2 goals in each of the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarters to end up with 10 for the game. What was most satisfying to see was the conscious efforts the players displayed in trying to execute the focus areas we discussed before the game. It was evident that our communication levels were high with good use of handball, we were stronger over the ball than the opposition and, whilst the ground was heavy which meant all players tired more quickly (although this did not seem to effect Adam who was as fast and elusive at the end of the game as the start) , there were many courageous second efforts throughout the day.

Whilst again we have been able to kick a big score, I would like to highlight how impressed I was with the efforts of our backline. While kicking goals is important, just as important are the goals that are saved, either through intercepting and repelling opposition attacks, or putting opposition forwards under pressure to effect their disposal so that goals are missed. While every goal adds 6 points to our score, every goal scored against us either reduces our lead or increases an oppositions advantage by 6 points. As such, from a scoring perspective saving goals is just as important as kicking them with both providing a net 6 point benefit to our team. The pressure applied by our backline of Cory Mardling, Riley Lam, Jake Wheadon, Adam Saddick, Hamish Cranwell and Campbell Gason were superb last weekend, ensuring the opposition score did not reach double figures through 4 quarters of awesome defensive pressure – a massive well done guys!

Overall, it was a great game by the Westbrook U12 Div. 2 team, maintaining our position in the top four whilst gaining a percentage boost that could be advantageous come the end of the home & away season. However, we cannot rest on the good performances of the last few rounds, as we have some must win games coming up against a tough opponent, Balgowlah Suns who, like us, are one of three teams looking to secure the last two available finals spots. I am confident that we can continue the great form of the last few weeks and bring our A-game this coming weekend to secure the win.

**¼ by ¼:** Q1 4.1 v 0.1, Q2 2.4 v 0.1, Q3 2.7 v 1.0, Q4 2.1 v 0.1, FINAL 10.13-73 v 1.3-9.

**Goals:** Samuel Lean-Fore (2), Josh North (2), Charlie Andrews, Tom Cooper, Mitch Gryst, Marcus Jayashekar, Ben Rayment, Leonard Watson

**Best:** Cory Mardling, Darcy Gason, Samuel Lean-Fore, Charlie Andrews, Adam Saddick, Campbell Gason, Ben Rayment, Josh North

**Report by:** Peter Gason (coach)

## Westbrook u12-3 (1.0-6) vs Lane Cove Cats (6.15-51) – Mike Kenny

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## Westbrook u13-2 (90) vs East Sydney (0) - Forfeit

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## Westbrook u14 (3.12-30) vs East Sydney (1.8-14)

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In the U14s push to make finals we were keen to take on a team, which for the past two seasons has been too good for us to beat, in a game that was a must win if we want to stay in the race. A big thank you up front to Felix and Kale who stepped in to help from the 13s. Both are really class players and played big roles in helping us getting away with the win on the day.

Q1 opened with Easts kicking with the wind. Our mids and backs did a brilliant job ensuring that we limited Easts opportunities. Our ability to keep them to two scoring shots and 7 points, really ended up being the difference on the day.

The second quarter again saw our mids and backs working hard to keep the ball in our half. Unfortunately, our forwards were letting the team down and failing to put an acceptable level of pressure on the opposition, which was allowing Easts to rebound out of defence far too easily.

This was called out to the boys at half time and credit to our forwards they responded in the second half. We "stacked" the backline in the third as we knew Easts would come hard, but inaccuracy and pressure from our boys meant their attempts were ineffective only kicking 5 points for the quarter.

Kicking with the wind in the last, we needed the effort to continue, as in previous encounters Easts had run over us in the last, but in a dominant quarter we kicked 2 goals, 5 behinds to close out the game and seal the result. After a game where it looked like both teams were playing with a ball made of soap, the boys were able to celebrate the win with pizza and a game review on the big screen in the clubhouse. It was great to be able to show examples of three areas of focus being accountable footy, "stepping-in" and talk, as we continue to push for our opportunity to play finals.

¼ by ¼: Q1 0.4 v 1.1, Q2 1.2 v 0.1, Q3 0.2 v 0.5, Q4 2.5 v 0.1 FINAL 3.12 (30) v 1.8 (14)

**Goals:** Noah (2), Kale (1)

**Best:** Henry, Ryan, Nicho, Isaak, Noah, Isaac, Tyler

**Report by:** Sam Dinsmore (Coach)

## Westbrook / Hornsby u15-2 (9.4-68) – Miranda Bombers (5.3-33) – Mike Kenny Oval

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After a 3 week break due to the holidays and a bye we prepared to take on the undefeated Bombers. Conditions were sunny and dry however there was a strong breeze favouring the carpark end.

Miranda won the toss and kicked with the breeze in the first quarter and got off to a good start kicking 2 goals in the first 5 minutes. Then our midfield group of Eamon, Cooper, Matt and Mauro started to get on top and we were able to lock the ball in our forward half for the rest of the quarter however inaccuracy in front of goal was proving costly, kicking 1 goal 6 behinds for the quarter. The positive from the bench was our effort.

In the second quarter Lauchie was moved forward and had an immediate impact kicking 3 goals and spearing another pass to Lukas who kicked another. This quarter showed the benefits of an open forward 50. Akira was dominant off half back using and was well supported by Cameron, Hugh, Fin, Sam C and Jake.

The second half was more of the same with the boys continuing to apply plenty of pressure, help their teammates and use their hands. Last quarter highlights included a goal each from Hayden and Charlie. Kian has been building his game week by week. Sunday he played off the wing and had his most consistent four quarter game for the club using his pace and sure hands to win plenty of the ball. This is the first game of the season where we got an even four quarter effort from the entire team. Our last three games of the season are all against the other teams in the top four so there are plenty of challenges ahead.

**Goals:** Lauchie 3. Lukas 2, Hayden, Charlie, Akira, Nic 1

**Report by:** Phil Irwin, Coach.

## Westbrook / Hornsby u17-1 (90) vs East Sydney Bulldogs (0) - Forfeit

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**North West Lightning YG u10 vs Forest Lion – Mike  
Kenny Oval**

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**North West Lightning YG12 Blue (8.7-55) vs North West Lightning  
Red (5.4-34) – Mike Kenny Oval**

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**North West Lightning YG14 (5.9-39) vs Forest Lions (0.3-3) – Rofe  
Park**

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**North West Lightning YG16-3 (2.10-22) vs East Bulldogs (0.6-6) –  
Trumper Oval**

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**North West Lightning YG16-1 (6.2-38) vs Manly Bombers (5.8-38)  
– Ern Holmes Oval**

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**North West Lightning YG18 (60) vs Penrith Giants (0) – Forfeit**

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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*