



# DE LA SALLE OLD COLLEGIANS AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB

FOUNDED 1955, AFFILIATED, V.A.F.A  
REG. NO. A0001867L ABN 42 381 867 521

## ROUND ELEVEN MATCH REPORT

### SENIORS

A trip to Albert Park to take on Collegians who are a game out of four and desperate for a win to stay in touch. There is no polite way of saying this – the ground was horrendous with rain during the week compounded by a blocked drainage system leaving the playing surface covered in ankle deep mud. We would need to adapt as it was apparent that this would be a dour, slogging affair. No excuses as the conditions were the same for both sides.

On top of an already long list of injuries and unavailability we saw another five forced changes this week and the team that took the field today bore no resemblance to the side that ran out just a few weeks back. In fact seven of today's 22 had played a total of six seniors games between them this season. Fortunately we have the benefit of a well performing reserves team but pinching a quarter of the team left Jack McDonald's two's very undermanned.

The home side was quick out of the blocks and had two goals on the board before we had managed a forward entry. We then clawed our way back into the contest and with 3 unanswered goals hit the lead. In fact we might have led by a bit more as we wasted a couple of decent chances. Unfortunately we gave up a soft goal right on the quarter time siren and just 3 points separated the sides at the first change. Collegians again looked the better side early in the second and we had to work very hard to keep them at bay. About half way through the quarter we clicked into gear and with the last 4 goals of the quarter held a handy 23 point lead at half time. To be fair they probably had the better of general play but we were able to hit the scoreboard whereas they were not. Taking into account the conditions and balance of play this was both a flattering and satisfying margin.

We just could not get anything going in the second half. They were simply all over us and only stout defending kept us in the game until late in the last quarter. You got a sense that it was only a matter of time before they would run over the top of us and an 8 goal to 1 half illustrated that this is exactly what happened. We were flat footed and persevered with dry weather football when yardage was the name of the game. Full credit to the opposition - they played the condition far better and simply wanted the win more.

Under pressure all day Brendan Close, Tom Humphrey and Sam Williams were resolute in defence, Hugh Nicholson was a winner across the midfield while Tom Nicholls and Ed Clinch always looked threatening up forward. Some other good contributors but overall far too many players who had no real impact. No chance to wallow as we travel to the Uni next week to take on third placed Uni Blacks with indications that the playing deck will be similar to what we confronted today.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<b>Collegians</b>	3.2 - 20	3.7 - 25	6.10 - 46	11.12 - 78
<b>De La Salle</b>	3.5 - 23	7.6 - 48	8.6 - 54	8.6 - 54

**Goal Kickers:** H. Nicholson 2, S. Pickett, T. Humphrey, E. Clinch, X. Murphy, T. Nicholls, D. Keely

**Best Players:** B. Close, H. Nicholson, T. Humphrey, T. Nicholls, S. Williams, E. Clinch

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## RESERVES

We arrive at Harry Trott Oval and are immediately under the pump – the conditions are atrocious, the clubrooms have no power and we only have two on the bench. This being due to player's overseas, work commitments, plenty of injuries and quite a few being promoted to the senior side. We just urge the players to go low and hard and just crack in.

We start in a positive way and kick the first two goals but the home side then start to run the footy and we struggle to go with them. At halftime there's 8 points in it and the players are warned to expect them to come out full of run. That's exactly what they did kicking 5 goals to 1 for the quarter. Their use of the ball was very impressive, especially taking into account the very sloppy conditions. At three quarter time the players are urged not to wave the white flag. Down by 7 goals and with no bench they extend the margin by just a further goal. A really tough day for all but the boys had a crack. After a difficult week we go into next week with some confidence on the back of pretty brave effort.

On the upside good to see so many players who have performed well at this level across the first half of the season getting an opportunity in the seniors. With number set to improve over the coming weeks I am sure we will return to the winner list soon.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<b>Collegians</b>	3.0 - 18	5.4 - 34	10.4 - 64	12.7 - 79
<b>De La Salle</b>	3.1 - 19	4.2 - 26	4.3 - 27	5.4 - 34

**Goal Kickers:** E. Murphy, R. McDonough, H. Curtis, S. Lowe, C. Dooley  
**Best Players:** H. Haley, H. Curtis, A. Kneebone, J. Hockey, D. Anastasio, C. Dooley

## THIRDS

A few club 'legends' stepped up boost the numbers and in the end we assembled a pretty decent side.

A solid four-quarter effort resulted in comprehensive victory highlighted by an 8 goal second quarter. A good spread of goal kicker led by Tom Kovarik with 5. Among the best were John Stinear and Simon Moloney who were playing their 100th game for the club. Other impressive performers were Dan Pendergast, Josh Oakley, Nick Fyfield and young debutant Ed Bourke.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<b>Fitzroy</b>	1.2 - 8	5.7 - 37	7.7 - 49	10.7 - 67
<b>De La Salle</b>	3.4 - 22	11.6 - 72	16.6 - 102	22.14 - 146

**Goal Kickers:** T. Kovarik 5, J. Mallas 3, N. Fyfield 3, S. Moloney 3, N. Stewart 2, J. Hanley 2,  
R. Breda, B. Mannix, J. Oakley, D. Pendergast

**Best Players:** D. Pendergast, J. Oakley, N. Fyfield, J. Stinear, S. Moloney, E. Bourke

## 19 BLUES

De La Salle Blues took on 4th placed Old Scotch in heavy and taxing conditions to stay in touch for the finals and produced one of our better performances for the year. Winning every quarter despite loss of critical players and many on the ground feeling ill or injured, the boys applied pressure, absorbed pressure and constantly showed character when needed.

It's pleasing to see so many players stepping up when required throughout the game, especially the prodigal son, Simon Marchese, whose efforts directly assisted a few crucial goals. Harry Jarvis was a great new acquisition and young players have held their nerve in the clinches really well.

So we are one game out with a better percentage and opportunities to grab and keep a place in the four. Thanks so much to our loyal helpers and congratulations to the Colts who continue to thrive without better players and the Golds who resurrected a difficult situation despite crippling injuries and reduced numbers. The future looks bright if we work hard and make some luck.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<b>De La Salle</b>	1.2 - 8	3.4 - 22	6.6 - 42	9.7 - 61
<b>Old Scotch</b>	1.1 - 7	2.2 - 14	2.6 - 18	4.10 - 34

**Goal Kickers:** Saunders 2, W.Mackie , M.Lvovsky , M.Griechen Z.Hawker,  
X.Morgan, S.Marchese , T.Shannon

**Best Players:** M.Colak, M.Martinez, H.Persson, G.Nagle, W.Mackie, S.Pennell

## 19 GOLDS

With all respect to the Dickens opus "A tale of two cities" this was a game of 2 halves with Old Scotch enjoying a better 1st half, but unable to sustain their form and the Golds, albeit depleted, overrunning their opponents and winning the game on the back of a stronger more disciplined display in the 2nd half of the game.

With a limited bench due to injuries and a number of players away the Golds took Josh Ingram away from his game in Colts to help give us a chance and he was a terrific contributor across the game. We also welcomed "A-J" back to the blue and gold fold and he gave us an added dimension with his height and athleticism which in the end was significant in the final result.

In the 1st half we were guilty of just kicking the ball up the line, to contests and unforgivably directly to our opponents, and having far too many players just wanting to coast on a day where effort would be rewarded. After a bit of a soul searching and a challenge from the coach the players threw the previous form out of the window and overran a gallant Old Scotch to run out winners by 15 points, which could have been more but for a couple of late Scotch goals. Credit to the players for taking ownership of what had transpired the opening half and they took the responsibility to change it.

A much better effort from all concerned in the 2nd half with mentions to Michael Laoumtzis for a couple of pressure acts in the front half, Adam Monkman for repeat efforts at crucial times, Jack Vance for a much better overall effort and Nathan Monaco who's tackling and desperation across the game was vital.

It is pleasing to see we are getting contributions across the group with Daniel Melissinos and Zac Grundmann and A-J Nyanjok being very good 4 quarter players on a day where we really needed a win to get the season back on track.

To the casual observer and based on ladder positions and form it could be considered a routine win, but given the past 2 results this may turn out to be a more significant result than the players realise. Coupled with a minimal bench as a result of injuries - Andy Cowan with a very sore noggin after a tremendous clash with an opponent, Quinn De Luca with a hammy, Yoss for taping up his bung shoulder again and a number of boys with the beginnings of colds and flu's and suffering from an overload of VCE SAC's a very good result for the team.

Thanks to Stewie Mac for running the boundary, Mick Ahearn for the goals and the prince of timekeeping Tim Wood. Our volunteers are vital for helping make to game run smoothly.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<b>De La Salle</b>	3.5 - 23	3.7 - 25	8.10 - 58	12.11 - 83
<b>Old Scotch</b>	2.1 - 13	6.2 - 38	6.6 - 42	10.8 - 68

**Goal Kickers:** A. Nyanjok 4, Q. De Luca 2, R. Davis, B. Ahearn, H. Morris, M. Laoumtzis, J. Yosiffidis, D. Melissinos

**Best Players:** D. Melissinos, Z. Grundmann, A. Nyanjok, R. Davis, H. Morris, M. Horrigan

## 19 COLTS

Back at home against Old Paradians and confronted with a wet and muddy home ground. Lots of changes due to injuries and holidays and we welcomed Charlie Bird for his first game who gave us plenty of run in the midfield and Jordy Brasher for his second game who was a great contributor down back.

We have made an effort of late to improve our starts and develop an effective wet weather game style. The boys achieved both these goals on Saturday and put in a solid and consistent four quarters of footy.

To kick 17 goals in wet muddy conditions was a great effort but all players contributed by keeping the forward line open to allow Nick, Riley, Liam, Josh and Ben to kick multiple goals. Jack Squires stood in as captain for the day and led brilliantly and backed it up with great display both at CHB and in the ruck.

Congratulations to the Gold team who responded brilliantly after ½ time and to the Blues who kept their season alive with a great 4 quarter effort against the 4th Placed Old Scotch. Thanks to Daz O'Neill who did a great job as TM and will continue to do so whilst Brian is overseas.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<b>De La Salle</b>	5.5 - 35	8.5 - 53	13.10 - 88	17.16 - 118
<b>Old Paradians</b>	0.1 - 1	1.5 - 11	1.5 - 11	2.5 - 17

**Goal Kickers:** N. O'Sullivan 4, R. Watson 3, L. O'Neill 2, B. Melissinos 2, J. Ingram 2, C. Bird, C. Buseti, M. Riley, J. Epifanidis

**Best Players:** J. Squires, R. Watson, N. O'Sullivan, M. Riley, L. O'Neill, T. Harrington