DE LA SALLE OLD COLLEGIANS AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB

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

ROUND THIRTEEN MATCH REPORT SENIORS

Games between Old Xaverians and De La Salle are among the most keenly anticipated on the VAFA calendar. Little wonder when you consider the extraordinary recent record with margins of 1, 5, 3 and 6 points across the last 4 encounters. Recent form was on the side of the visitors who have won three on the trot while our last two outings in have resulted in defeats. Another loss today and we would likely lose our spot in the four.

On a perfect day and with a big crowd in attendance the scene was set but unfortunately the contest did not match the hype as we turned in a very disappointing performance. A fairly even start and a nice Nicholls goal tied it up after Xavs opened the scoring however a run of 6 unanswered goals from the mid way point of the first quarter until late in the second was where the game was won and lost. We were well beaten around the stoppages and their skill execution was at another level to ours. Despite another resolute effort from the back six the weight of possession was being reflected on the scoreboard. Humphrey and Pickett combined cleverly for a late second quarter goal to give us some hope but the 30 point half time margin probably flattered us.

Some good signs early in the second half with Harrison goaling within a minute of the re-start. We threatened a couple of times and had a few decent opportunities to close within 3 goals but skill errors and poor conversion snuffed out any chance we had. As if the task was not difficult enough we gifted Xavs a number of goals from free kicks right in front. Despite a better effort their superior conversion (6 straight for the quarter) saw them extend the margin to 47 points at the last change. We managed to outscore the opposition in the last quarter but the damage had already been done. A more competitive second half and a positive was that we fought it out to the end. While they managed just three more scoring shots the final margin of 38 points was a pretty fair indication of their dominance across the 4 quarters

Tom Humphrey, Jake Williams and Brendan Close were clearly our best with Harrison, Clinch, Walker and Pickett also solid performers. Once again too many players had little or no impact with an ordinary day compounded with a number of injuries. Sam Brooks, who kept the dangerous Brendan Goss goal less in the first half, sustained a hand injury and in his absence Goss finished with 6 second half goals. Leigh Harrison, one of our better players on the day, received 12 stitches post game following a head clash late in the match.

A few weeks back we were confidently eyeing the double chance but we are now in battle for survival and for the first time all season have dropped out of the four. We simply have to respond next week when we travel to the Uni to take on top side Uni Blues.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
De La Salle	1.4 - 10	2.7 - 19	5.9 - 39	9.14 - 68
Old Xaverians	3.4 - 22	7.8 - 50	13.8-86	16.10 - 106

Goal Kickers: A. Forato 2, L. Harrison 2, S. Pickett, J. Gotch, E. Clinch, J. Williams, T. Nicholls **Best Players:** T. Humphrey, J. Williams, B. Close, L. Harrison, E. Clinch, A. Walker









RESERVES

We are clinging to spot in the four by a thread as like the seniors we dropped our third game in a row. While undermanned in our most recent losses we could offer no such excuses today. We put out a decent side today but were simply outclassed by a far more desperate and superior team. Dan Anastasiou was fantastic in defence with Luke Williams and Nick Roberts also good contributors.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
De La Salle	2.2 - 14	4.2 - 26	6.5 - 41	6.7 - 43
Old Xaverians	6.3 - 39	10.5 - 65	14.5 - 89	17.7 - 10

Goal Kickers: R. McDonough, C. Dooley, S. Taranto, D. Close, L. Williams, J. Bull **Best Players:** D. Anastasio, L. Williams, N. Roberts, T. Brasher, D. Close, R. McDonough

THIRDS

For just the third time this year we had the opportunity to be part of a home game triple header and got the day off to good start with a big win. A four quarter effort shored up top spot on the ladder with Hanley, McGraw and Fyfield leading the scorers with 4 each. In an even team performance Fyfield, Oakley and McGraw the standouts.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q 4
De La Salle	5.2 - 32	11.3 - 69	16.6 - 102	21.11 - 137
Beaumaris	4.0 - 24	5.3 - 33	8.4 - 52	8.5 - 53

Goal Kickers: J. Hanley 4, S. McGraw 4, N. Fyfield 4, H. Zaia 2, D. Pendergast 2, D. Millwood, S. Morwood, P. Monaghan, A. Kanellopoulos, J. Mallas
Best Players: N. Fyfield, J. Oakley, S. McGraw, D. Pendergast, J. Hanley, S. Morwood

19 BLUES

Fifth placed De La Salle Blues took on last placed University Blues at their very uneven, patch confined paddock and promptly kicked exactly the same score as we kicked against them last time!!! However this time we reduced them to a minimal score and turned an 18% lag to Old Scotch into a 12% lead and fourth spot, proving that the size of wins really matters!!

Twelve different goal kickers and more young recruits (including the laconic and lanky Sudanese for his first Blues game) into the mix hopefully demonstrates a rosy future. Many players fought their way into the game in the second half as we shook off the post-BYE lethargy and our opponents inevitably tired. We definitely should have kicked more goals but certainly completed the job we came to do.

Next week's game against St.Kevins at home could really set up something special if we dig in for the contest of our lives and give the whole competition a fright.

Thanks to Daniel Charles for his stats support as well as the great support from Andre Catrice and Lauren and Swoop at an away venue that we don't tend to like!!! Looking forward to big numbers at training and a massive tilt at the final four.









	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q 4
University Blues	1.0 - 6	2.2 - 14	2.3 - 15	2.3 - 15
De La Salle	5.6 - 36	8.11 - 59	14.16 - 100	22.20 - 152

Goal Kickers: G. Nagle 4, M. Griechen 3, X. Morgan 3, A. Nyanjok 2, D. Marchese 2, M. Lvovskiy 2, W. Mackie, H. Bowen, S. Michael, Z. Hawker, M. Colak, H. Persson

Best Players: H. Persson, W. Mackie, S. Michael, D. Marchese, P. Burnell, A. Nyanjok

19 GOLDS

Travel brochures paint lake Como in Italy as an idyllic spot - Como Park in Sth Yarra was anything but for the Golds on Saturday in their 45 point loss to Old Geelong. A complete failure to play across the 4 quarters was the undoing of the Golds on Saturday in their game against finals aspirants Old Geelong who dominated the first half to establish a match winning lead that proved too hard to reel in.

An extremely flat dispirited and disjointed performance where the Golds kicked 1 goal to 8 in the 1st half, leaving themselves a mountain to climb and despite slightly winning the 2nd half by a couple of points were met by a team who played well and were rightly the winners of this game.

It was a performance littered with skill errors where handballs were missing targets, kicks fell short or were horrendously delivered; to ankles, over heads, to family members on the wrong side of the boundary, tackles were not applied with any venom, decision making was poor, coupled with a lack of pressure on opposition players and yet somehow we were still able to reflect upon the fact we won the 2nd half 5.5 to 5.2.

There were a couple of freaky bounces which resulted in 3 goals to the opposition, 2 which bounced at freakish angles over the heads of defenders (Yoss in the 2nd and Zac Grundmann in the 3rd) and the 3rd which somehow dribbled through a sea of legs to the lone lazy forward standing in the square to pop through an unlikely goal, but it certainly doesn't explain the lackadaisically, slipshod and at times lamentable effort by a number of players in a miserable first half performance.

The pleasing aspects were the efforts of Nathan Monaco who played under duress and was terrific given that his grandfather had died the previous night, rangy defender Zac Grundmann, who were 2 players who could look back on a four quarter game. Adam Monkman tried to give us a spark with some run from the back line, Dean Krelle had a much better 2nd half and despite kicking 1 goal 5 straightened us up, Jimmy Tran got his hands on it in the middle, Daniel Melissinoss kept running and used the ball well, the undersized backs of Aiden Wood, Ben Ahearn, Josh Galbraith and Michael Laoumtzis fought well in the face of a constant barrage.

Lets hope that is the nadir, and we can look forward to improving upon that.

With better weather, the prospects of finals and some increased competition for spots as we approach the latter parts of the season numbers at training and the quality of training should improve.

Next week we are at home against the table topping SKOB and they are building up some real momentum, so our work will be cut out for us, but all we look for each week is a concerted 4 quarter effort from all players no matter the result.









	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Old Geelong	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.7 - 91
De La Salle	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.10 - 46

Goal Kickers: M. Simons 3, A. Monkman, R. Davis, K. Tran

Best Players: N. Monaco, Z. Grundmann, D. Melissinos, k. Tran, B. Ahearn, J. Galbraith

19 COLTS

It was evident well before the first bounce that St Bede's were up for the game, they were already warming up whilst we had only 7 players at the ground. Only 7 players being at the ground, 1 hr before the game is not the preparation required and needs to be addressed in the coming weeks.

It was not long after the first bounce of the ball, that it was game on and it felt like a finals game. The pressure was hot, the game played in tight and close on the small ground, with many tackles being applied. It was no surprise to be 25 points down at qtr time and we were lucky that St Bede's were inaccurate in front of goal.

The boys rallied in the 2nd qtr led really well by Trent and Jordan on the ball and we managed to have the game back on level footing at half time. The first 20 minutes of the 3rd qtr was a mirror of the 1st qtr, with the game played in their forward line until Riley Watson in the ruck and Trent in the middle broke the game open with quick running clearances from the middle and we kicked 3 goals in the last 5 minutes of the qtr. However, we went back into our shells in the final term, kicking down the line with slow ball movement that resulted in the ball rebounding deep into the St Bedes forward line time and time again. St Bedes dominated the last term and came away with a well deserved victory.

We need to learn from the game, work on a few areas that we let ourselves down in and realise we must take the game on, handball, run and carry as long kicking slow ball movement is not the way the Colts play footy. Looking forward to getting back to our game plan this week at home.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
St Bedes / Mentone Tigers AFC	5.7 - 37	5.9 - 39	6.15 - 51	9.23 - 77
De La Salle	2.1 - 13	6.3 - 39	9.4 - 58	10.5 - 65

Goal Kickers: N. O''Sullivan 4, J. Gregory 2, A. Martuccio, J. Bailey, T. Shannon, R. Watson Best Players: T. Shannon, J. Wheatley, R. Watson, C. Busetti, J. Roberts, J. Gregory







