



DE LA SALLE OLD COLLEGIANS AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB

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

Five from Six!

Another solid day out for the club with five of the six teams in action today recording wins. To go 3 from 4 against Old Xavs is quite an achievement as they have long been the competition benchmark by which we measure club depth. The Colts and Thirds also chalking up impressive wins.

Seniors

A massive challenge today as we travelled to Toorak Park to take on early premiership fancies Old Xaverians under lights with the now traditional triple-header becoming a quadruple header. Old Xavs journeyed to St Bernards last week and dismantled the reigning premiers. They have recruited well adding 7 or 8 top liners to an already strong side so despite our good showing in round one we were clear underdogs today.

Something extraordinary happens when these clubs meet and both games last year were decided by less than kick. In Round 3 we trailed all day only hitting the front when Leigh Harrison goaled after the siren to snatch the points while in the return game Xavs turned the tables when a late De La run ended with the visitors 5 points to the good.

On the back of years of Xavier dominance this has been regarded as one of the toughest road trip in the VAFA. But we always seem to fare pretty well against them, chalking up regular wins during recent home and away seasons including a few at this venue. A good number of our lads came through our U19s and participated in one or more of the five grand finals contested by these clubs between 2006 and 2012. (With the Lasallians saluting on 4 of those occasions). However we need no reminding that they have been better in the games that matter and took the points in three tight senior finals matches in 2009, 2010 and 2012.

We could not have made a worse start. Two men down inside 10 minutes and four goals down within 20. They were getting full value from their forward entries and while we were winning plenty of possession, we kept coughing it up. The home side were much cleaner with the ball in hand and despite breaking even across the ground we went into the first break trailing by 24 points and without a major on the board. Having to reel in a decent quarter time lead with minimal rotations was going to be a big ask.

A more positive mindset in the second as we got our running game going. We did not register our first goal until the 14 minute mark but it sparked a brilliant 6 minute patch that saw us bang on 4 quick goals. Another before the break saw us lead by 6 points at half time. Rayson and Harrison instrumental in getting us back on terms while Jake Williams was outstanding. The ebb and flow continued into the second half with Xavs having the better of the third quarter. We had chances but our finishing was disappointing. Having come home the better last week we still felt confident despite the 9 point deficit.



DE LA SALLE OLD COLLEGIANS AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB

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

We were under pressure early in the last with Xavs having most of the play. They goaled from the pocket at the five minute mark following a contentious 'out of the full call' to extend the margin to 16 points. We came back hard and Harrison's third tightened it up. Soon after Pickett snapped a beauty on his left from the boundary to reduce the margin to 3 points. We peppered the goals for the next 10 minutes but five gettable shots registered only behinds.

Entering time on Haslem's set shot from 30 just missed and we led by a solitary point. After squandering so many opportunities you had a sense that the next Xavier entry would result in a goal and it looked like going to script when they marked dead in front 35 out at the 28 minute mark. Fortunately for us the shot drifted wide, missing everything and we clung to the 1 point lead.

Despite several more entries we managed to keep them at bay and hung on for fantastic win. A much different game to last weeks free flowing shoot out but taking into account all the circumstances this was probably more satisfying. We had plenty of really good chances to extend the lead and Xavs almost always make you pay when you don't take your chances. A sense of relief to go with the 4 points.

The Williams brothers were exceptional across halfback and Ant Forato was fantastic in the ruck against a quality opponent. Tom Humphrey and Nick Curwood repelled wave after wave of Xavier attacks and Damien Rayson got us back into the game with his run and preparedness to take the game on. Pickett and Harrison showed their class with crucial goals when required.

Thanks to all past and present players and supporters who came to Toorak Park in huge numbers to cheer on the boys.

Finally a home game next week when we take on Collegians. They will be buoyed by a convincing win over 2015 Premiers St Bernards so another big challenge awaits.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<u>Old Xaverians</u>	4.1-25	4.3-27	8.6-54	9.8 -62
<u>De La Salle</u>	0.1-1	5.4-34	6.9.45	8.15 -63

Goal Kickers: S. Pickett 3, L. Harrison 3, A. Indocin, D. Rayson

Best Players: J. Williams, S. Williams, A. Forato, T. Humphrey, D. Rayson, N. Curwood

Reserves

Round two and we head out to Toorak Park to face our fierce rivals in Old Xavs. Big ground, big day and a big game. We came into the game with a positive frame of mind and it showed in the first quarter as we kick 5.1 to 2.2 against the breeze with Ryan McDonough kicking 3 first quarter goals. Our intensity was outstanding as we



DE LA SALLE OLD COLLEGIANS AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB

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

tackled hard and made them earn every kick. At half time we lead 8.3 to 5.2. Our leaders were doing all the hard work. Tom Curry was in everything, Dan Close and Brendan Close gave us plenty of ball and our defenders were doing a great job. Big Dazza and Steve Hogan were dominant in the ruck in what was a very pleasing first half.

We knew that Xavs would come at us hard in the 3rd quarter and that's what they did. They kick 4 goals to 1 and take a lead of 2 points into the last break and it was game on. We urge our boys to run, run and run so no surprise that's what we did. In the end we kicked 6.6 to 1.1 in the last quarter. Tom Nicholls and Ryan McDonough kick 5 goals each and Cal Dooley 2. Really pleased with all the boys efforts. It was a hard game with a few injuries so pleasing to leave Toorak Park as winners. Looking forward to our first home game next week against Collegians. We must keep working hard and take nothing for granted. Go De La

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Old Xaverians	2.2-14	5.2-32	9.5-59	10.6-66
De La Salle	5.1-31	8.3-51	9.3-57	15.4-94

Goal Kickers: T. Nicholls, R. McDonough 5, C. Dooley 2, E. Clinch, S. Vawser, D. Close

Best Players: T. Curry, E. Clinch, B. Close, D. Close, R. McDonough. T. Nicholls

Thirds

Wins have been few and far between for the 3s in recent years so it was good to get one on the board. In the wide-open and wind swept expanses of Tatterson Park, Keysborough we dominated general play but struggled with the swirling breeze, evidenced by a return of 3.10 in the first quarter.

Despite wasteful kicking for goal but we always looked comfortable and the inclusion of some experienced players certainly helped. Tom Brasher, Nathan Beaumont (3 goals) and Jesse Hockey the best players in pretty even performance.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Beaumaris	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.15-51
De La Salle	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.21-87

Goal Kickers: N.Beaumont 3, T.Kovark, S. Morwood 2, N.Fyfield, J. McGaw, J. Oakley. R.Breda

Best Players: T.Brasher, N. Beaumont, J. Hockey, J. Stinear, N. Fyfield, J. McGaw

CORRESPONDENCE PO Box 561 Bentleigh East VIC, 3165 | Email: president@delasalleocfc.com.au | secretary@delasalleocfc.com.au



DE LA SALLE OLD COLLEGIANS AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB

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

19 Blues

Despite an enormous effort from the Blues this week against a very classy Old Xavs, we just want to apologise for ruining the Club's perfect start to 2016!

Congratulations to all the club coaches and fitness staff with well-deserved rewards so far for hard work.

After bouncing into our game with the first three goals, there were good signs of a really competitive match. We constantly got first use of the ball with Matt Colak dominating and forwards finishing well. Mason Martinez was marshalling the backs brilliantly even though they had some very good marking players. Unfortunately once Old Xavs could get some space, they marked well and kicked long goals. Seven goals in 15 minutes of the second suddenly changed the game.

Our continued effort, desire and perseverance till the final siren was fantastic as we pressured matched Old Xavs all the way. It was great chance to discover some areas of improvement required in these big games. It also provided new players a vital introduction to the greater intensity at this level to which they will adjust. Also wonderful to welcome Andrew Walker to the group. Looking forward to bouncing back against St. Bernards this week.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<u>Old Xaverians</u>	3.3-21	10.5-65	13.9-87	15.12-102
<u>De La Salle</u>	3.0-18	4.1-25	7.5-47	9.5-59

Goal Kickers: A Trusler 4, T Shannon 1, M.Colak 1, M.Griechen 1, W.Mackie, D.Marchese

Best Players: M.Martinez, S.Pennell, H.Persson, A.Trusler, M.Colak, D.Marchese, A.Walker

19 Golds

A highly entertaining and skilful performance by the Golds kicked off what was the first of the unprecedented quadruple header at Toorak Park against rivals Old Xaverians on a sunny autumnal day. Leading at every change the Golds put together a very strong performance highlighted by strong running footy and a willingness by the players to back themselves against their more fancied opponents.

The win was set up by the players willingness to commit to taking the game on through the use of attacking handball, the willingness of the players to run to assist their team mates and by looking to play the game on our terms where we could express our attributes of speed and slick ball movement over the stronger marking



DE LA SALLE OLD COLLEGIANS AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB

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

style of the home team. What was really pleasing was the way that the team played out the whole game and ran as hard in the last minute as they were in the 1st minute of the game.

Highlights included the run and dash of a number of our younger players who are still at the college in Gheresi, Northey & Ahearn ably supported by Wade Wright, Adam Monkman and Stefan Taranto. With Matt Horrigan and Michael Canny giving us a contest in the rucks and Harry Morris and Harry Jarvis working inside we were able to win our fair share of the footy and get the ball to our runners who fed some hungry forwards with quick and precise footy. McCluskey, Cook and Vance our marking forwards were working well and with our crumbers actively hunting for loose ball in the forward line it was the sort of performance that was putting our opponents under increasing pressure.

The backs were very good and they needed to be as the Old Xaverian full forward had some ability and early doors was getting his hands on the footy, but Woody fought back well to more than break even and limit his influence in what was an absorbing battle between the two.

Well done to the team - they have set a standard and should now see that as the template we need to get to each and every week. Thanks to parents and friends who came to watch - we need your support and enjoy having you there.

Next week St. Bernard's away and we need to refocus our energies to make sure we continue this rich vein of form.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<u>Old Xaverians</u>	3.3-21	7.5-47	7.7-49	10.8-68
<u>De La Salle</u>	5.3-33	8.5-53	11.7-73	18.11-119

Goal Kickers: P. Cook 3, L. McCluskey 3, C. Gheresi 3, J. Vance 3, Q. De Luca 2, J. Galbraith, B. Ahearn, W. Wright, C. Northey

Best Players: C. Gheresi, J. Galbraith, L. McCluskey, C. Northey, B. Ahearn, A. Wood

Colts

An early morning start to head across town to Latrobe Uni, boys confronted with a large ground with same dimensions as the former AFL Park, a ground the boys have never heard of.

As could be the norm, the early quarters were played in wet dewy conditions, 1st qtr saw the boys having plenty of the ball but as we bombed it long, we didn't hit the scoreboard for all the work and effort. The boys addressed this at qtr time, and in 2nd and 3rd qtrs, played great run and carry footy, dropped their eyes and found leading



DE LA SALLE OLD COLLEGIANS AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB

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

targets up forward and were rewarded on the scoreboard. Our backs did a fine job, tightening up on their taller opponents then providing lots of run when we won the ball. Late in 3rd qtr we were beginning to run out of manpower with a few injuries and boys cramping, but despite all being extremely tired persevered with the run and still managed to run out the last quarter and quell an early last quarter response from Latrobe.

Great to see Jaksey and Zac, controlling and marshalling the backs, Mitch Riley and Josh getting plenty of it on the wing, Jordan G and Adam M working hard in an under, the run of Ricky, Pat and Ben, Nick O'Sullivan providing a leading marking target and Jon Epifanidis playing his first game who provided a goal kicking target deep forward.

Let's all try to hit the training track this week, plenty to work on in preparation for this week's game against St John's. Thanks to Jack McDonald for volunteering early Saturday morning to be runner and assist with coaching and to all the parents volunteering to help out.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<u>Latrobe Uni</u>	3.0	3.1	3.1	5.2-32
<u>De La Salle</u>	1.3	5.7	9.7	11.10-76

Goal Kickers: J. Epifanidis 3, N. O'Sullivan 3, A. Martuccio 2, J. Gregory, H. Bowen, P. Hounihan

Best Players: P. Hounihan, R. Rando, J. Gregory, A. Martuccio, N. O'Sullivan, M. Riley