



DE LA SALLE OLD COLLEGIANS AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB

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

ROUND FIVE MATCH REPORT

ANOTHER GREAT DAY FOR THE CLUB. FOUR OF THE FIVE TEAMS SALUTE WITH THE SECONDS, THIRDS, 19 GOLDS AND 19 COLTS REMAINING UNDEFEATED. SENIORS MOVE TO SECOND SPOT ON THE LADDER AFTER A HARD FOUGHT WIN AT HOME.

SENIORS

In what shapes as being one of the most even competitions for years, wins against teams that are similarly placed will prove crucial and today's match-up against Old Melbournians was one such game. They sit in 3rd place having lost just one game by a narrow margin to the highly fancied Uni Blues. Their ladder position may be a surprise to some but not to us. We witnessed their talents in our final practice game when they turned on a scintillating first half so no chance we would underestimate them today.

The strong breeze going towards the scoreboard end that influenced the Reserves match had abated somewhat by the start of the main game but still provided some advantage. We had first use but struggled early on to make any impression on the scoreboard. The visitors opened the scoring and were successful in locking down play and restricting our forward entries. After about 15 minutes we broke the shackles and finished the quarter in impressive style. A four goal lead probably about par but some very positive signs. This continued into the next with the first 20 minutes of the second quarter some of our best for the year. Slick ball movement and some terrific pressure acts from the forwards saw us open up a commanding lead. Youngster Tom Nicholls in just his second senior game teamed well with Pickett and Indovino and together they formed a dangerous combination up forward. OM's managed a couple against the run of play late in the quarter to cut the lead but after an indifferent start we would be well pleased with the 46 point margin at the long break.

OMs started the third quarter brightly with a major from the re-start but once again we got on top as the quarter progressed. A winning defence and hard running midfield provided plenty of opportunities and we had extended our lead to 52 points at the final change. Full credit to OMs who had the better of the last quarter. With players of both teams out on their feet in the unseasonably warm conditions the visitors kept coming. With 3 quick goals and with plenty of time on the clock they looked threatening. We were under increased pressure right around the ground but some good work around the stoppages and some adventurous play saw us wrestle back the momentum. We were prepared to run hard and soon had it back on our terms. Goals to Rayson and Gotch closing it out and in the end a hard fought 39 point victory.

This was a game where we were exceptional in patches rather than consistent across 100 minutes and the scoreboard probably did not reflect the tightness of the contest.

Jack Vickers and Sam Haslem have been very solid performers all season and were again amongst the best. In defence Tom Humphrey continued his stellar season while Brendan Close in his first senior game for the year was rock solid. Aaron Kneebone had his best game for the season and Damien Rayson's dare and skill was again on display. In attack under 19 graduate Tom Nicholls booted 4 while Sam Pickett and Adrian

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

Indovino always looked dangerous with 3 each. With recognised ruckmen Ant Forato on VFL duties, Oscar Persson done for the season and Tom McMahon still on the sidelines, the athletic combo of Nick Curwood and Steve Hogan shared the ruck duties and battled gamely.

In keeping with the theme of Premier division there is never an easy game and next week we are back at home to take on Uni Blacks. They are fresh off a big win over the highly fancied Old Xaverians so another tough encounter awaits.

The 33 point margin probably did not reflect the effort but was a fair measure of the skill differential as the home side were far more efficient with ball in hand. Next week another big game as we take on Old Melburnians at home. The Redlegs also sit at 3 – 1 and this already looms as something of an 8 point game. For the first time all season the entire season group – seniors, reserves and thirds are all at home on the one day.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
De La Salle	5.5 - 35	10.9 - 69	14.11 - 95	16.15 - 111
Old Melburnians	1.1 - 7	3.5 - 23	6.7 - 43	10.12 - 72

Goal Kickers: T. Nicholls 4, S. Pickett 3, A. Indovino 3, D. Rayson 2, S. Hogan, J. Gotch, L. Wood, L. Harrison

Best Players: J. Vickers, S. Haslem, T. Humphrey, B. Close, A. Kneebone, D. Rayson

RESERVES

Round 5 v Old Melburnians was always going to be a good game with DLS second on the ladder and OM's third. Our boys were slow to get out of the blocks, which was obvious when the quarter time score line showed 4.3.27 to our 1 behind with the visitors having first use of a strong breeze. We were still 17 points down at the main break after a poor first half. We were second to the ball, tended to over use it and just seemed to wait for someone to give the team a lift. Then along comes Luke Williams. In the third quarter kicking into the breeze we kick 5 straight with Luke kicking 3 of them – an outstanding quarter of footy from Luke. The whole team lifted, we ran and tackled harder and just wanted the ball more. At three quarter time the scores were level and it was game on. Our back line was magnificent in the third quarter led by Tyson Parker, Nick Hyland, Joel Matisse and Hamish Ramsay. They defended well and were a real springboard of attack.

We were confident going into the last quarter that we had the legs to run the game out. Our captain for the day Harry Haley kicked two inspirational goals. Ryan McDonough kicked 3 with the sealer coming from a tight angle on the boundary with Cal Dooley also dangerous up forward. We recorded a six goal win after at one stage being 5 goals down. The boys were challenged today and after half time outscored them 11.2 to 2.4. Very pleased with the effort today. Many teams would've given up but not these boys. Well done to all and see you at home again next week when we take on Uni Blacks.

Let's not take things for granted as we still have room for improvement.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
De La Salle	0.1 - 1	3.5 - 23	8.5 - 53	14.7 - 91
Old Melburnians	4.3 - 27	6.4 - 40	8.4 - 52	8.8 - 56

Goal Kickers: R. McDonough 3, L. Williams 3, H. Haley 2, C. Dooley 2, S. Harrington, L. Bull, J. McGAW, H. Curtis

Best Players: L. Williams, C. Dooley, H. Haley, R. McDonough, N. Hyland, T. Parker

THIRDS

Finally on our home deck with a solid 4-quarter effort resulting in a comfortable victory. In recent weeks we have tended to take our foot off the pedal late in the game so pleasing that the last quarter was perhaps our best for the game.

Some club stalwarts amongst best today with Luke Jarvis, Josh Oakley and Gary Johnstone particularly impressive. Also great to see Nick Stewart back in the Blue & Gold after a long absence from the game. He booted 3 and was amongst the better players while legendary 'Warrior' Tom Kovarik also kicked 3. While we could use a few more players' things are rolling along nicely in the Thirds after some very tough seasons.

A bye next week than back with the Senior group as all teams travel to Bulleen to take on Carey.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
De La Salle	4.3 - 27	6.9 - 45	9.12 - 66	14.17 - 101
Old Trinity	1.3 - 9	2.4 - 16	5.8 - 38	6.10 - 46

Goal Kickers: N. Stewart 3, T. Kovarik 3, J. Mannix, G. Johnstone, M. Nankervis, J. Oakley, N. Fyfield, J. Mallas, S. Moloney, S. Morwood

Best Players: L. Jarvis, J. Oakley, G. Johnstone, N. Fyfield, M. Nankervis, N. Stewart

19 BLUES

De La Salle Blues went to Old Scotch hoping to climb back into the four. For the first time this season our effort and perseverance could be questioned as we lapsed too often and allowed a good but not brilliant team to get away. We had issues with missing players and injuries in the game but should have been able to manage better.

Once again we rarely ran and carried in the preferred ways and sometimes lacked our usual ferocity in the contests. We will find players who are more desperate and care enough to play with sustained desire for the jumper. Lack of training together is crippling our skills and teamwork. We do get our share of the ball and unaccountably miss targets, turn over the ball and make poor decisions.

Looking forward to welcoming some valuable inclusions next week and finding ways to harness and maximise our undoubted talents. Congratulations to the Colts and Golds who continue to play attractive, aggressive and creative footy without key players and to instructions.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Old Scotch	4.7 - 31	5.9 - 39	9.11 - 65	14.12 - 96
De La Salle	1.1 - 7	4.3 - 27	6.4 - 40	10.7 - 67

Goal Kickers: A.Trusler 2, Z.Hawker 2, D.Roberts, T.Shannon, S.Pennell, H.Bowen, W.Mackie, P.Cook

Best Players: W.Taylor, M.Lvovsky, A.Lvovsky, D.Marchese, S.Pennell, N.Catrice, Z.Hawker

19 GOLDS

A day which saw the game played in quite unseasonably warm conditions and a very stiff breeze favouring the bowling club end of the ground saw the Golds put in a very strong and disciplined four quarter effort to eventually overrun a determined Old Scotch team by 84 points.

The first quarter gave no indication of the end result given that Old Scotch kicked 2 goals in a bright opening against what was a pretty stiff breeze, and it certainly looked like the Golds would need to be at their best to keep their unbeaten run going.

The second saw the running game of De La test the home side and the Golds were well rewarded for their willingness to run and carry and take risks by kicking 5 goals to 1 to effectively set up what was a match winning lead.

The second half saw the game continue along the same lines where the Golds continued to run, harass and look to build upon the good things they had put in place in the opening half and Old Scotch were struggling to stay in the game, but continued to battle away against some pretty big odds.

The game from a De La perspective was characterised by hard running, a willingness to chase, harass and smother the opposition and the player's ability to work together to help each other look good. With Matt Horrigan and Michael Canny, along with a cameo from Matt Howard, giving us first use the mids led by Harry Morris, Paul Kony, Stef Taranto, Josh Galbraith, Rob Davis, Harry Jarvis, Cooper Morris & Quinn De Luca, were able to clear the ball and give the De La forwards plenty of scoring opportunities.

With Old Scotch being under siege for long periods of time it was pleasing from a De La perspective that the team continued to play what was a very disciplined brand of footy characterised by selfless running, giving the ball to a player in a better position and looking to take to the game on and score by bringing the ball through the middle.

What was pleasing was the commitment of the players and the willingness to put their bodies on the lines - none more so than James Bailey who had the courage to back into a pack to make a contest from where we won the ball, Liam McCluskey who on the stroke of half time flung himself into a contest with his opponent to stop a certain Old Scotch mark and leave both him and his opponent sprawled on the turf and Michael Laoumtzis who suffered a very big knock which resulted in him with a permanent reminder of it with a busted nose.

What is pleasing to us all in the under 19's is the continued development of the group particularly as the Golds made 6 changes to the team, but given the joint commitment to the game style across the 3 teams we have so far been able to cover those changes each week and continue to play good footy.

Next week is another huge test for the Golds who make the short journey to T H King where they play a resurgent SKOB who have been building some very impressive momentum over the last 4 weeks.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Old Scotch	2.1 - 13	3.4 - 22	3.4 - 22	5.9 - 39
De La Salle	6.5 - 41	11.7 - 73	15.13 - 103	18.15 - 123

Goal Kickers: M. Simons 3, J. Bailey 2, M. Horrigan 2, D. Melissinos 2, Q. De Luca 2, P. Kony 2, M. Canny, H. Morris, S. Taranto, R. Davis, C. Morris

Best Players: M. Horrigan, J. Galbraith, C. Morris, D. Melissinos, T. Deftereos, J. Bailey

19 COLTS

Another long road trip to Bundoora, but thanks to Parade for being very welcoming and providing an excellent after match with free plates of food and very cheap drinks (\$2 beers!).

We started really well against the breeze and dominated play without gaining the scoreboard pressure we deserved. We opened up the forward line in the 2nd qtr and this enabled the boys to kick six goals for the quarter and gain a well deserved lead at the main break. Our run and carry was terrific throughout the whole match, highlighted by a Ricky Rando run, where he had 4 involvements and we gained 120 metres and a shot on goal.

The second half on the scoreboard was a close tussle but we did control large parts of 3rd and 4th quarter but we kicked too long into our forward line which played into Parade's hands who were taller, bigger and stronger in the air. We need to work on keeping forward line open, lower our eyes and break the lines which will make scoring a lot easier for our forwards. Good jobs by Riley Watson and big Jon against bigger opponents and your shared 5 goals was vital to the outcome of the match.

Another great job by backs despite giving away plenty of kilos and inches, mids were terrific all day and our forwards when given a chance hit the scoreboard. Great to see some of the newer players to the team play really good footy, well done Tom Harrington and Tom McDonald both strong down back and Ollie Gunning and Mitch Riley strengthening our midfield with top games. Parade are a dangerous side with their height and size, so away wins against these teams are vital to gaining a good ladder position at the end of the year.

Thanks to Chris Harrington, for doing the running, looks and moves like a gun athlete and to my younger brother Cameron for running the boundary.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Old Paradians	1.1 - 7	4.1 - 25	6.3 - 39	7.5 - 47
De La Salle	2.4 - 16	8.7 - 55	10.8 - 68	13.10 - 88

Goal Kickers: J. Epifanidis 3, P. Hounihan 3, M. Riley 2, R. Watson 2, B. Melissinos, C. FERRIS-McDONALD, R. Rando

Best Players: O. Gunning, M. Riley, Z. Grundmann, J. Roberts, P. Hounihan, R. Rando