



DE LA SALLE OLD COLLEGIANS AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB

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

ROUND SIX MATCH REPORT

After such a positive start to the season the club received a bit of a wake up call this round with only two of the six teams getting the points. The seniors go down by the narrowest of margins. The Reserves drop their first game while the 19 Blues and 19 Golds are humbled at St.Kevins. Thirds and Colts fly the flag and remain undefeated.

SENIORS

Uni Blacks have had a somewhat inconsistent start to 2016 but seemed to get their season back on track last week with a big win over the highly fancied Old Xavs. The Blacks have a slightly different look about them this year but are loaded with talent including a number with AFL and VFL experience. We had two very torrid battles with them last year and with a couple of prime movers still missing from the line-up today would be another big challenge.

Blacks had first use of the strong northerly blowing to the scoreboard end. We were immediately under siege as they racked up the forward entries and bombarded the goals. We defended well and forced plenty of stoppages but had enormous trouble clearing our defensive zone. They dominated general play but were taking their shots from wide out, which probably accounted for their first quarter return of 3.8. From minimal entries we managed to get a couple back against the run and considering the weight of play we were very pleased with the quarter time score line that showed we trailed by just 12 points.

We took our turn with the breeze but battled to get any system going early. The visitors scored first to extend the lead and we simply could not get our hands on the ball. We persevered and slowly things turned our way. We then enjoyed a very good patch and with four unanswered goals had edged in front by the 20 minute mark and were sniffing a handy half time lead. Unfortunately our last three scoring shots for the quarter registered behinds and we went into the sheds with a 7 point lead.

The wind had abated somewhat by the start of the second half but was still providing some advantage. We got on top around the stoppages and our hard working forwards managed to keep the ball in our attacking zone for longer periods. Probably our best quarter for the game as we restricted the visitors to 3 goals and with 3 of our own looked to be going the better and held a slender 3 point lead at the last change. Sadly we just could not get anything going in the last. Full credit to the Blacks who managed to keep possession and provide repeat opportunities for their forwards. They managed an early goal to put us under pressure and despite some solid defensive efforts we could not make inroads with forward entries rare. As time ticked by Indovino snapped his third to get it back on level terms. The stop start nature of the play was making things difficult, not helped by some turnovers and poor decision making at crucial times. Blacks worked it forward and a mark close to goal saw them lead again. A few points to the visitors saw the margin out to 6 points with about two minutes to go. A desperate passage of play saw us work it forward into the hands of Steve Hogan who bombed a nice goal from long range to tie it up. A free from the re-start saw the Blacks back go and mark about 50 out. The shot fell short and from there we managed to work the ball along the wing and into our forward line. We perhaps should have made more of the opportunity but a tough call went

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against us resulting in a Blacks free on our half forward line. They were good enough to run it forward and after several stoppages scrambled the go ahead point with just seconds remaining. From the kick in we won possession in the middle of ground just as the siren sounded.

Sam Williams and Dan Keely were outstanding and did all they could to get us over the line. As always Steve Hogan gave 100 % effort while Tom Humphrey, Hugh Nicholson and Adrian Indovino were good performers all day. Some other good contributors but overall we had too many players who had little impact. This was a game in which we seemed to be under pressure from start to finish, both from the efforts of the opposition and our own inability to execute our skills. We played well in bursts and enjoyed a couple of good periods but could not sustain the effort.

There can be little doubt that the better side won but with several opportunities to score late in the game there is still a sense that this one got away. A one point loss is never easy to stomach but was made a whole worse when Joe Black, one of our most popular and important players, went down late in the game with what appears to be a serious knee injury. While the prognosis will not be known until later in the week initial reports suggest that the news is not great. A couple of injuries to some boys in the reserves in-line for a senior recall capped off an ordinary day all-round.

We need to regroup next week when we travel to Bulleen to take on Old Carey. They have been struggling and will be desperate to put up a good showing on their home deck.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
De La Salle	2.2 - 14	6.5 - 41	9.7 - 61	11.8 - 74
Uni Blacks	3.8 - 26	4.10 - 34	7.16 - 58	9.21 - 75

Goal Kickers: A. Indovino 3, S. Pickett 2, T. Nicholls 2, H. Ramsay, S. Hogan, L. Wood, J. Williams
Best Players: S. Williams, D. Keely, S. Hogan, T. Humphrey, H. Nicholson, A. Indovino

RESERVES

Not a good day for our reserves team this week. We entered round 6 against Uni Blacks winning five straight games and Blacks not having a win for the year but by the end of the day we were embarrassed. To Blacks credit they had a very impressive win by 6 goals. They were hungrier and harder than our boys all day.

The game was won in the first quarter where Blacks with the aid of the breeze kicked 7.2.44 to De La 1.1.7. We were chasing the game from quarter time and from that point we managed 7.6 to Blacks 7.3. As always there were some positives to come out of the game. Great to see returning senior players Ben Humphrey, Eddie Clinch and Matt Moore play their first games for a while. They all will be better for the run.

As disappointed as we are with the result, there is no need to panic. We are five wins and one loss and are in good shape. Looking forward to see how the boys respond and I'm sure we will bounce back next week.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
De La Salle	1.1 - 7	5.3 - 33	6.4 - 40	8.7 - 55
Uni Blacks	7.2 - 44	8.3 - 51	12.5 - 77	14.5 - 89

Goal Kickers: M. Moore 2, R. McDonough 2, C. Dooley, S. Vawser, N. Beaumont, J. Mattiske
Best Players: A. Walker, N. Hyland, H. Haley, B. Humphrey, R. McDonough, E. Clinch

THIRDS

The multiple changes to the make up of Premier B Thirds have been somewhat exhausting. The original game against Marcellin became a bye and following another re-draw the bye became a match against Ajax. The normal Saturday fixture was in fact a Sunday game, which then became Thursday night when some club contacts allowed the game to be played under lights at Warawee Reserve, home of the Oakleigh Chargers.

Against good opposition, certainly the best we have encountered so far, we found ourselves behind at quarter time and were struggling to impact the scoreboard. We had it back on level terms by half time and a better second half saw us record a good 4 goal win. We had to work hard against spirited opposition and if we expect to have success this season there is little doubt we will need to overcome them later in the season.

Gary Johnstone and Jackson O'Brien very good and Luke Jarvis rock solid in defence. Dave Trotter with 3 and Ben Cranage with 2 led the scorers. Great to be with the senior group next week as all sides travel to Bulleen to take on Carey.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Ajax	2.6 - 18	4.7 - 31	5.7 - 37	6.9 - 45
De La Salle	0.3 - 3	5.5 - 35	8.6 - 54	10.9 - 69

Goal Kickers: D. Trotter 3, B. Cranage 2, S. Harrington, D. Davis, N. Fyfield, S. Moloney, T. Kovarik
Best Players: G. Johnstone, J. O'Brien, L. Jarvis, J. Oakley, M. Stinear, J. Mannix

19 BLUES

De La Salle Blues travelled to St.Kevins with some good new players and prospects of returning to very near the top four. Although there were patches of great effort and admirable solo performers, the sad fact is that we under performed. Regardless of the result, we did not represent the club as well as we should. Congratulations to the backline who soaked up enormous pressure and rebounded with minimal reward.

In coming weeks we will be looking to reward players who follow the game plan and are prepared to give everything for the club and jumper. The Run & Carry game plan will be fully pursued over the next two easier weeks and we will fine-tune our strategies. Hopefully we can get 24 hard, tough, disciplined players who will bleed together and not look for easier ways.

I have every faith in our potential to maximise our strengths and claim a spot in the finals as we slowly but surely play the good footy of which we are capable. We will take responsibility for our errors and not make excuses. We will become one of those good teams who manage to deal with difficulties and find ways to win.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
St Kevins	2.0 - 12	5.2 - 32	6.7 - 43	8.10 - 58
De La Salle	3.2 - 20	3.3 - 21	3.8 - 26	3.11 - 29

Goal Kickers: S.Michael 2, Z.Hawker 1
Best Players: M.Martinez, S.Pennell, A.Lvovsky, M.Lvovsky, N.Catrice, S.Burnell

19 GOLDS

Another warm day with the wind favouring the Malvern/Waverley end of the ground greeted us at T H King where we confronted SKOB. Given the substantial football program that St.Kevins have in place it was always going to be a big test for the Golds, and one that initially was being well managed. In the 1st quarter we were defending into a very stiff breeze and despite the ball spending the vast majority of time in the home teams forward line our backs were defending really well and repelling our opponents quite effectively.

At 1/4 time we were relatively pleased, and at the 5 minute mark of the 2nd we looked well poised, however there must have been something in the water because the game seemed to flip on its head. We stopped - they ran, we were second - they were first, we were content to allow the opposition to have the footy and we asked permission to have a look at it occasionally. It was like watching the smaller brother being beat up by the bigger brother and we were just swatted away like pesky flies.

The second half the boys tried to be much more effective, continued to work at the game style and continued to look to bring the ball up the ground in numbers but the damage was well and truly done. That said, to their credit they kept at it and at the end we reflected that it was one game, and as such we need to consider that after 6 games to have 5 wins was a positive and that this result would be an anomaly and not the norm.

To the defenders they endured a tough day, but their efforts were terrific, but they were like the boy with his fingers in the dyke - they were fighting a losing battle.

There were some things that as a group we just don't want to see - an abandonment of the game style along with some horrendous skill errors and an inability to master the basics for the whole day by a number of players. This was compounded by the home side enjoying themselves immensely kicking goals by kicking blindly around corners and watching them bounce through, long bombs, kicks with players floating out the back, party tricks in the centre clearances it was all on show, but it could be argued that winners make their own luck.

Next week we are at home and we take on Old Geelong during the lunch-time game at home as we look to get back into the winners circle.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
St Kevins	2.6 - 18	6.9 - 45	11.11 - 77	15.13 - 103
De La Salle	0.0	2.1 - 13	3.2 - 20	9.3 - 57

Goal Kickers: M. Simons 2, Q. De Luca 2, M. Horrigan 2, J. Galbraith, D. Melissinos, M. Howard

Best Players: T. Deftereos, H. Jarvis, L. O'Callaghan, H. Morris, A. Wood, J. Galbraith

19 COLTS

Melbourne High School provided a great setting to play footy on another unusual warm and windy day. Our effort all day was fantastic, we were not always clean with our work but persisted and kept at it for the 4 quarters.

The real pleasing aspect was that we had 36 shots on goal, although we need to nail our chances and not kick two points to every goal. Our wayward kicking at times could be result of having shots too far out and leading too wide rather than hitting the corridor 30mtres out from goal. We also need to carry the ball further into forward line rather than kicking and this should help us have more running shots at goal.

Dan and Jack were great in the ruck giving us first use of the ball, our half back line of Roberts/Squires/Tyquin were terrific all day, Riley Watson gave us real grunt and strength at CHF, Nick O'Sullivan continues to kick goals (and points) and Zac read the play as well as ever. Ollie continues to improve and give us plenty of drive from the wing, Chris Busetti was great across ½ forward and on the ball, and Harry Bowen and Pat Hounihan did lots of grunt work and set up many attacks.

A huge game this week against the unbeaten Parkside, let's get to training and prepare well for what will be a huge challenge this week. Thanks to Brian Watson doing a great job as team manager and doubling up as boundary umpire as well.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
MHSOB	0.0	2.2 - 14	2.5 - 17	5.7 - 37
De La Salle	4.6 - 30	7.12 - 54	9.20 - 74	12.24 - 96

Goal Kickers: N. O'Sullivan 4, J. Epifanidis 2, C. FERRIS-McDONALD 2, F. McCormack, J. Roberts, P. Hounihan, R. Watson

Best Players: C. Busetti, O. Gunning, P. Hounihan, Z. Grundmann, M. Tyquin, H. Bowen