



DE LA SALLE OLD COLLEGIANS AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB

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

ROUND EIGHT MATCH REPORT

Another good day out. Seniors record narrow win in crucial clash to cement second spot. Reserves lower their colors to ladder leaders but remain entrenched in the four. Thirds still undefeated and another trifecta for the unders as all three Under 19 teams get the points.

SENIORS

With the teams separated only by percentage near the top of the ladder this was a crucial game and a real 8 pointer in the context of the season. Having first use of the breeze going towards the playground end we opened brightly and with 4 goals to 1 nearing the 20 minute mark looked like taking a decent lead into quarter time.

Unfortunately the Blues pulled a couple back late and reduced the lead to 10 points at the first change. A disappointing aspect was that their goals seemed to come far too easily. It was evident early on that this was going to be a tough physical contest and both teams looked happy for it to unfold in that manner.

They were all over us in the second quarter, dominating general play and finishing their work with accurate kicking for goal. On the other hand we struggled to generate forward entries and squandered opportunities when we did, registering just 4 behind for the quarter to trail by 12 points at the half. As often happens the breeze abated somewhat in the second half but was still worth goal or two. With 2 of the first 3 goals of the second half the visitors built a handy lead. For a time they looked like running away with it but we hung in and long-range efforts from Keely and Indovino got us back in the contest.

Still trailing approaching $\frac{3}{4}$ time, and with the Blues having last use of the breeze we looked in strife but a late hit on Jake Williams seemed to be the spark that willed the players to a greater effort. From the subsequent mark Pickett kicked a beauty from the boundary about 50 out followed soon after by Jake Williams who dusted himself to land a nice goal on the run. We had a chance to take the lead right on the bell when Harrison marked near the point post but his shot from a tight angle hit the woodwork. The lead had been cut to a point and with tempers frayed coach Satterley implored the players to make the ball the object in what promised to be a frenetic final quarter.

The last quarter was an epic contest with players of both sides bravely throwing themselves at every contest. The Blues kicked one early but we replied soon after through Xavier Murphy. Some smart work by Pickett saw us hit the lead and when Indovino snapped truly we led by 10 points.

Having not paid a deliberate out of bounds all day we appeared a touch unlucky to have 3 of these decisions go against us in the closing stages and a goal from one of those reduced the margin to 4 points. The final minutes of the game were brutal for the players and excruciating for the spectators. With the ball almost permanently locked in their forward zone we hung in and repelled attack after attack. They had a

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couple of shots for the lead but registered only behinds and with players out on their feet we mustered one last effort and were able to hold the ball along the Waverley Road wing as the siren sounded.

In a day when the rub of the green often seemed to go against us this was a very brave win. A few other factors beyond our control also proved a distraction so in the end we happily take the 4 points and move on. Due to the physical nature of the contest a tense atmosphere existed for much of the second half which saw a few minor pleasantries exchanged. No harm done but on reflection not a great look for either club.

Next week we reach the halfway point and the final game before a much needed week off. We venture out to St Bernards, a venue we have not won at since the returned to 'A' section in 2012. On each occasion we have been right in the game until the final siren and will be desperate to go one better next week.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
De La Salle	4.5 - 29	4.8 - 32	9.11 - 65	12.12 - 84
University Blues	3.0 - 18	7.2 - 44	10.6 - 66	12.10 - 82

Goal Kickers: S. Pickett 2, D. Keely 2, A. Indovino 2, J. Williams, T. Nicholls, X. Murphy, L. Harrison, A. Forato, J. Vickers

Best Players: J. Williams, A. Forato, X. Murphy, H. Nicholson, J. Vickers, B. Close

RESERVES

Round 8 and we welcome the ladder leaders Uni Blues to Waverley Park. We are second on the ladder so top spot was up for grabs. Conditions were difficult for both teams. Uni Blues started better and went into quarter time with a ten point lead and were playing the conditions better. We tended to overuse the ball and the decision making was questionable.

We went into half time with a two point lead but still had lots to do. We knew that the Blues would come out hard but as it turns out we played our best quarter for the day and went into three quarter time huddle with a three goal lead.

At the break I urged the boys to keep running and be accountable when they had the ball. For three quarters we were able to put ourselves in a winning position but sadly, and to the Blues credit, we didn't fire a shot in the last quarter. When the game was there to be won we just couldn't get our hands in the ball. We lost our structures and the bigger bodies of the opposition got on top and we couldn't stop their momentum.

They went onto kick four goals nine behinds to our solitary point to win by 11 points. A disappointing finish by our boys. Still we look at the positives and move onto next week. Some of our better players were Hamish Curtis, Ed Clinch, and Andrew Walker while Sam Brooks and Nick Hyland worked hard down back. We go out to St Bernards next week and hope to redeem ourselves, which I am sure we will.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
De La Salle	1.3 - 9	4.6 - 30	9.7 - 61	9.8 - 62
University Blues	3.1 - 19	4.4 - 28	6.5 - 41	10.13 - 73

Goal Kickers: H. Curtis 2, B. Humphrey 2, C. Dooley, E. Clinch, J. McGAW, S. Vawser, J. Hockey

Best Players: H. Curtis, A. Walker, E. Clinch, S. Brooks, N. Hyland, S. Harrington

THIRDS

The unusual nature of the Premier 'B' Thirds draw meant that we came up against Ajax for the 2nd time in just a few weeks. They are a good side and we expect we will have to get past them to taste success this season.

We started well and for much of the game seemed in control however they came hard in the third and the margin was just 7 points at the last change. We were able to steady and with a 6 goal to 1 final term ran away to record a fairly comfortable 38 point win. Gary Johnstone dominant with 5 majors while Josh Oakley and Dan Pendergast continued their solid form.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
De La Salle	4.2 - 26	6.4 - 40	7.4 - 46	13.7 - 85
Ajax	1.3 - 9	2.5 - 17	5.9 - 39	6.11 - 47

Goal Kickers: G. Johnstone 5, D. Pendergast 2, S. Lowe 2, R. O'Brien, J. Hanley, B. Mannix, J. Oakley
Best Players: G. Johnstone, J. Oakley, D. Pendergast, S. Lowe, B. Mannix, W. Agar

19 BLUES

De La Salle Blues took on winless University Blacks for a chance to further develop game plans and tweak strategies even though the wind and rain hampered our preferred run-and-carry style. We kicked some lovely early goals with that plan when conditions were relatively drier. Once the heavens opened up, it took a while to adapt to longer kicking, quick breakaways and resolute non-stat style of forcing of the ball forward. We must now take this into the harder games ahead.

Smaller blokes like Sam Pennell, Will Mackie, Dave Marchese and Liam Bisognin constantly threw their bodies in regardless of consequences and lazy umpires. Virtually all players responded to the call at some stage, gradually dismantling the opposition more and more. A big shout out to the younger and newer players who are emerging as really competent and reliable players individually and collectively: Chris Gherzi, Sean O'Callaghan, Tom Deftereos, Wade Wright, Chris Northey, Zak Hawker, debutant Cooper Morris, Xavier Morgan, Aaron Trusler and Trent Shannon.

Well done to the Colts and Golds who continue to get the job done away from home in wet conditions with depleted teams and much soreness from too much footy. Big thanks to all our parent helpers, supporters and coaches who all contribute to a fantastic junior club-within-the-club due also to great support from Brian, Macca and so many senior officials. Looking forward to exciting weeks ahead.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
University Blacks	3.1 - 19	4.3 - 27	5.3 - 33	6.6 - 42
De La Salle	5.0 - 30	7.4 - 46	10.6 - 66	16.9 - 105

Goal Kickers: A. Trusler 4, X. Morgan 3, M. Saunders 3, T. Shannon 2, D. Marchese, M. Martinez, Z. Hawker, C. Gherzi
Best Players: S. Pennell, W. Mackie, D. Marchese, M. Griechen, M. Martinez, L. Bisognin

19 GOLDS

A cold, wintry day on the windswept Fearson reserve on the foreshore of the Williamstown beach was the venue that greeted the Golds who fronted up to the 4th placed Williamstown in a game where neither team kicked a goal after half time.

At the end of the game we were able to sit back and reflect that we now stand at 7 wins as we approach the half way point of the season which is testament to the efforts of the players to play with and for each other and to buy into the game style.

A little undermanned at the start of the game given injuries and school study commitments we were still able to get a fast start and hold onto a lead all day, and were perhaps a little unlucky that we did not increase our lead given some opportunities late in the game.

The game was defined by a blustery and cold wind that pushed the ball across the ground forcing the players to look for ways to get the ball to the open or attacking side of the ground. Ironically, when we were able to get the ball to the attacking side of the ground we scored and moved the ball very well - the only difficulty being getting the ball back from the dead side of the ground against that prevailing wind.

We were well served by all players in what were some pretty dismal conditions for footy which were not improved by some perplexing officiating (highlighted by one official's free kick count measuring 17 to 1 in favour of the home team after quarter time) and despite the final margin giving us a 19 point win it was a pretty strong result and one which the players should be very pleased with.

Both sets of players are to be applauded for their willingness to keep their focus on the ball in trying conditions, particularly as the game was a rolling maul for long periods and on occasions the mastering of basic skills became a raffle, with the outcome that the game was played in very good spirits by all participants.

Thanks to Peter Morris and Andy Cowan for helping on the day along with Stewie Mac the team manager doubling up as boundary umpire.

Next week we tackle Old Xaverians at home in the 11.40 game in what no doubt will be a high quality, high intensity encounter as we approach the mid point of the season.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Williamstown CYMS	0.3 - 3	3.4 - 22	3.7 - 25	3.8 - 26
De La Salle	4.1 - 25	6.2 - 38	6.5 - 41	6.9 - 45

Goal Kickers: J. Bailey 2, M. Simons 2, Q. De Luca, M. Howard

Best Players: H. Morris, H. Jarvis, A. Monkman, M. Horrigan, M. Laoumtzis, J. Galbraith

19 COLTS

After a great win last week and lots of changes to the side due to illness and injury, it was important to capitalise on last week's win by working hard against an improving Oakleigh who play well on their own turf.

We appeared a bit too jovial prior to the game and boys were quickly given a wakeup call with Oakleigh kicking 4 straight and looking dangerous. We also needed to make further changes to the midfield after Adam M was injured early and out of the game.

Back on track in 2nd quarter with an improved effort both at the ball and building pressure on the opposition resulted in 6 goals for the quarter and a handy 24 point lead at the main break.

After a very poor third quarter where we lacked structure the game was on at ¾ time with the Oakleigh boys fired up and looking at inflicting an upset win. After a bit of a reset at 3/4 time, the boys played a great quarter of footy kicking 7 goals quickly before the heavens opened up and made the ball very wet and slippery.

Great to see a number of boys step up and play important roles through the midfield with Frank McCormack playing a blinder with his pace and ball usage. We were well served by Riley, Nick and Jon up forward who kicked 11 goals between them. Jack Squires in the Ruck and Harry Bowen across the centre were dominant and provided numerous entries into our forward 50.

Great to see another from the school, Tom O'Kane debut for the club and thanks to Jakesy and Jordan for running water and organising the rotations. Andrew Mullaly wore the trainers vest to assist Phil who was still very busy treating our boys but unable to run after recent ankle surgery.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Oakleigh AFC	4.0 - 24	5.1 - 31	7.1 - 43	7.2 - 44
De La Salle	2.4 - 16	8.7 - 55	9.10 - 64	16.14 - 110

Goal Kickers: R. Watson 5, N. O'Sullivan 3, Z. Grundmann, J. Mullaly, H. Bowen, J. Ingram, O. Gunning

Best Players: F. McCormack, H. Bowen, Z. Grundmann, J. Squires, R. Watson, M. Riley