

NEWS FROM THE NEST

Official newsletter of the Belconnen Magpies Football Club



A successful homecoming

1st grade football made it's long-awaited return to the last Saturday, and we were able to celebrate this with four resounding victories over Tuggeranong.

A great state to come out of the weekend was our 1st grade women, 2nd grade men, and Rising Stars conceding only 4 goals between them, further proof that you can always find the club's finest in the backline.

After a couple of tough interstate losses, our 3rd and 4th grade men will look to finish their seasons on a high note against Googong this weekend. Meanwhile at the Nest, clashes with Queanbeyan present finals dress-rehearsals for our 1st graders, while our Rising Stars are faced with a must-win game against the Tigers as finals draw near.

To all of our valued BFMC supporters

Season 2020 has thrown many challenges at us, particularly in relation to how we operate as a football community. Events and game day experiences that we once took for granted have had to change due to restrictions put in place to protect everyone from Covid-19. Unfortunately, crowds are still discouraged in the ACT and as a result we must continue to restrict the number of people attending our games. Police have been undertaking inspections across many venues and we are strongly committed to the health and safety of our football community and adhering to the rules set by the ACT Government.

One positive to come out of this season is the strong bonds between our playing groups. For this reason we have made the decision to allow our players (and opposition players) to stay at the venue to support their clubmates after their matches. We have also agreed to allow 20 guests from each club to attend matches. This means we will need to turn people away on game day unless they are a player, an official, listed as team staff, or one of the 20 guests. We thank you very much for your continued support and encouragement and hope that in season 2021 you will return to watch us wear the BMFC jumper proudly.

Scott Reid, President

HERITAGE JERSEY PRESENTATIONS



Jo Foster, Peter Bradley, Daryl Read, Andrew Smith, & Wayne Read with their Belconnen heritage jerseys



Brendan Read is presented with his heritage jersey by reserve grade coach Lachie O'Sullivan

During the past week, the club was very pleased to present heritage jerseys to a number of BMFC stalwarts as an acknowledgement of their tremendous service to the club.

The Read family generously provided the sponsorship that has allowed us to play this season in our brand new Belconnen heritage jerseys to mark the 50 years of the Belconnen Football Club. Wayne, Daryl, and Brendan are all former club champions both on and off the field, and so it was great to be able to show our appreciation for all three.

Jerseys were also presented to Andrew Smith, Jo Foster, and Peter Bradley, in recognition of their many years of service to the club - in particular the significant work of all three on the licensed club board.

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Volunteer of the Week: Jesse Weston

This week's BMFC volunteer of the week is Jesse Weston!

Last weekend against Tuggeranong was the first time this year that we hosted four grades at the Nest, and so we needed all hands on deck to make sure it went off without a hitch. Luckily for us, young Jesse Weston stepped up in a big way, volunteering in the canteen for the entire day. Alongside fellow volunteering superstar Jorja Simpson, Jesse ran a tight ship and made sure our first home game was a great success! Thanks Jesse!



WEEKEND RESULTS

1st Grade M	18.15-123	defeated	Tuggeranong	9.9-63
1st Grade W	21.11-137	defeated	Tuggeranong	0.1-1
2nd Grade M	18.9-117	defeated	Tuggeranong	2.3-15
2nd Grade W	7.7-49	defeated	Tuggeranong	2.2-14
Rising Stars	16.11-107	defeated	Tuggeranong	2.5-17
3rd Grade M	6.4-40	lost to	Cootamundra	10.9-69
4th Grade M	0.1-1	lost to	Yass	16.19-115

RISING STARS

Rickie Dolliver

Great win against Tuggers last week after a disappointing loss the previous game against Ainslie.

Two games in a row now we have played some pretty good TEAM footy. 3 goals each from Saxon, Tom McGuinness and Harry Ryan-Baker was a good result.

Our backline continued their good form, and our mids continue to improve with Tom Itter and Jack White in very good form. We had a few guys out, and our ability to continue to cover for each other was outstanding.

This week we need to beat Queanbeyan to get into a finals position! Let's continue our good form and turn the table's on the Tigers. Go Pies.

Round 8 vs Tuggeranong @ The Nest

BMFC 16.11-107 def **TVAFC** 2.5-17

Goalkickers: S Heins 3, T McInnes 3, H Ryan-Baker 3, R Murphy 2, A Vincent 2, W Thomas, L Smith, L McKay

Best: H Ryan-Baker, T Itter, Z Smith, T McInnes, A Vincent, J Read

FIRST GRADE WOMEN

Bobby Moroney

This week our BMFC Women's First Grade team celebrated Claire Russell reaching 50 games and Isabella Rees making her first grade debut. With three home games to close out the home and away season, our girls wanted to ensure that we set our highest standard of team work and discipline as we build towards the finals. This season we have prided ourselves on our pressure acts and our attack on the contest, but felt that we let ourselves down during some key moments last week. Against Tuggeranong we wanted to make sure that we got back to our strengths, and challenged ourselves to outwork the opposition at every opportunity. After a very good first quarter where we kicked 5.4 to nothing, we could have become more focussed on kicking goals than maintaining discipline and structure. Instead, our team played their best quarter of the season adding a further eight goals and going into half time with decisive lead.

Round 8

vs Tuggeranong @ The Nest

BMFC 21.11-137 def TVAFC 0.1-1

Goalkickers: H Walleth 7, S Tutt 4, E Zouch 3, M Dwyer 2, H Kemp, T Reid, M Gorham, K Bailey, A Abuoi

Best: N Mckay, M Pellow, M Gorham, A Allen, H Kemp, H Walleth

Every player committed themselves throughout the first half to moving the ball as quickly and efficiently as possible into a forward line that was consistently providing numerous avenues to goal. Under pressure, our midfield remained composed and repeatedly chose the best option to get the ball out of congestion. Maggie Gorham and Amber Allen provided a lot of the physicality, while Emily Pease, Hayley Kemp and Adol Aboui hit targets all game with high efficiency. On a night when our defence could have taken it easy, it was great seeing every one of them commit to their roles, rebound everything that came their way and quickly turn defence into attack. Melissa Pellow provided security across half back, either intercepting or providing the first option out of defence, while Natasha Mckay put in a best on ground performance with her attacking runs off half back, while her penetrating kicks set up countless forward entries on the way to a huge win. Hannah Walleth continued her amazing 2020 season with another 7 goals. Wally leads the league goal kicking with two games to go, but our forward line collectively continue to shine. Their efforts to support and protect each other, and get the ball to the right person in the right spot will make them a deadly combination in the weeks to come. Restrictions are making it difficult to see games this year, but make every effort to send some support down to the Nest this week as our girls come up against Queanbeyan in a top of the ladder clash with finals just around the corner.

SECOND GRADE WOMEN

Stephen McCaskill

Another very solid performance from our ladies this week. The extra goal kicking practice did help.

Our defence again was outstanding while the midfield unit was on top all night reading their rucks hit outs perfectly & the forwards are combining really well and creating opportunities for each other.

The one very big negative from the night was Christina one of our most loved personalities breaking her ankle but we will all rally around her with love & support.

Round 8

vs Tuggeranong @ Football Park

BMFC 7.7-49 def TVAFC 2.2-14

Goalkickers: L Knox 3, C Halse 2, P Jones, A Staib

Best: C Halse, L Knox, R Terrey, C Perman, A Staib, S Crakanthorp

FIRST GRADE MEN

Brock Weston

Saturday marked our long awaited return to the Nest and the wait was worth it. After the 2nd grade juggernaut did their demolition job on Tuggers, 1st grade looked to bounce back from a disappointing outing against the reigning premiers the week before and steady the ship as finals loomed. 5 changes, including the addition of some experience and class, meant we went into the game full of confidence, hell bent on a strong start. However, an incident at the very first bounce left everyone deflated as star midfielder Nick Eynaud suffered a serious knee injury. Already a man down after 5 seconds our players went about generating some energy and did their best to put the incident behind them. A 5 goal to 3 1st term seemed to have us on par but our cleanliness around the contest wasn't great and Tuggeranong had too many easy exits from our forward 50. The 2nd term was once again an arm wrestle and whilst the scoreboard showed we were on top Tuggeranong outplayed us around the contest, and had it not been for some solid defending the score may have told a different story.

Round 8

vs Tuggeranong @ The Nest

BMFC 18.15-123 def TVAFC 9.9-63

Goalkickers: L Mckay 4, T Simpson 3, D Jordan 3, M Monaghan 3, A Bennett 2, S Glyde, A Dess, J Bennett
Best: M Monaghan, J Bennett, L Mckay, D Jordan, T Simpson, T Fekete

The half time score was 62 to 40. The half time message was to regroup, focus, and respond to the challenge Tuggeranong had laid out for us. The response was great. Whilst we only scored 5 goals to Tuggeranong's 2 in the 3rd term our intensity around the footy lifted, our cleanliness with the ball improved and our energy and excitement was where it need to be. JB implored his troops to come with him as he lead from the front in the midfield, and once again young gun Max Monaghan showed talent and maturity beyond his years. The game opened up and we started to get on top. As the heat left the game our forward entries became less pressured and our key forwards were able to make better use of our forays forward. DJ, Max, and Thomas Simpson all hit the scoreboard as we took the game away from our opposition. A 4 goal to 1 final term saw us eventual 60 point winners, a result that many would have predicted, although Tuggeranong's persistence, hard spread and go-forward football meant that we struggled to get the game on our terms. When we managed to move the ball freely and play our game style there were many positive signs and things to build on. Highlights for the day included long awaited returns from injury for Lenny Hadrill, Sam Glyde and Mitch Maguire, and the senior debut for speedster Nick Hay. Our hearts and thoughts go out to Nick Eynaud after a season ending knee injury. Get well soon mate.

SECOND GRADE MEN

Trent Hopkinson

Round 8 provided us with our 1st game at the Nest vs Tuggeranong. We welcomed back several players from 1s and from injury, as well as the late inclusion of Mitchell Fitzpatrick for his first 2s game. Lachie highlighted the need to start fast, an area the team wants to improve come finals. The midfield asserted dominance via Brendo and John Rees, providing quick ball to the forwards who converted on these opportunities. After getting the fast start we sought, we continued to dominate in the middle in the 2nd quarter. Great ruck work from Hammer and Tiny allowed the partnership of Egan & Rees to continue blossoming, whilst Luke McGilvray and Chip joined the action, allowing the forward line to bubble with Benson and Dan Posch working in tandem, and the composed Jacob Taylor impacting the scorecard.

Round 8

vs Tuggeranong @ The Nest

BMFC 18.9-117 def TVAFC 2.3-15

Goalkickers: J Taylor 5, B Egan 4, B Ochieng 4, D Posch 3, M Fitzpatrick, C Baker

Best: B Egan, J Taylor, L McGilvray, J Rees, S Cooper, A Collins

Like most weeks, the backline continued to be relentless in defence with Coops, Gus and Oz leading the charge. At half time we spoke about being slicker with the footy and continuing to take the game on. The run and carry from half back improved early with McQueen, Paddy Horan and Zac Lindsay allowing the game to be played on our terms. Although some entries weren't pretty, the forwards adapted and found ways to score goals, in particular the goal from 1st gamer Fitzzy who snagged a beauty from the boundary line. Luke McGilvray had his best quarter of the year, taking the game on and breaking lines, setting the example of the type of footy we want to play come finals. 4th quarter was much of the same - the bromance from John Rees and Brendan Egan finished the game nicely cooperating around the ground, with Brendo registering a 4 goal haul. Charlie Baker went forward and had immediate success, whilst the backline continued to defend and rebound as they have all year. The boys have again responded well to the number of changes occurring weekly, adapting and building combinations. We are all looking forward to the test of Eastlake next week, and congrats to Nick Hay on his 1st grade debut and Mitchell Fitzpatrick on his reserve grade debut.

THIRD GRADE MEN

Brendan Trevaskis

This week saw us having a bus trip to Cootamundra to have a grand final rematch from last year. First quarter we got off to our usual slow start. With Coota kicking 3.1-19 to our 1.2-8. We need to start the game with more intensity and get the opposition on the back foot, not us having to come from behind to win games. Second quarter saw Aidan Wenke being concussed, with him hitting the back of his head on the boundary fence.

Round 8

vs Cootamundra @ Cootamundra

BMFC 6.4-40 def by CBFC 10.9-69

Goalkickers: J Iemma, C Page, B Collins, Z Forostenko, B Palmer, S Telfer

Best: C White, H Warden, S Telfer, W McInnes, E Hogan, J Iemma

An ambulance was called for Aidan and while I was calling his father to inform him of what was happening, Alex Wenke came off the field with a broken collarbone, trying to outdo his brother's injury. The game was still going on as Aidan was off the ground. Having both the Wenke boys out of the game it through the boys off their game. Coota ended the quarter 8.2-50 to no change to our score. 1.2-8. Third quarter saw us starting to play some good footy, we can't start to play footy half way through a game, as the game maybe over by then. We held Coota to only kicking 3 points to our 3 goals 2 points. Coota 8.5-53 BMFC 4.4-28. Fourth quarter was a very even contest, with Coota kicking a further 2.4 to our 2 goals straight. The second half of the game saw us win these two quarters. You cannot win a game of footy just playing two quarters of footy. Aidan Wenke was checked out of hospital and was given the all clear and was sent home with his brother Alex. Alex saw a surgeon on Monday and will require an operation to fix his collarbone. The team wishes both a speedy recovery.

FOURTH GRADE MEN

Drew Sommerville

On the back of a valiant effort against Ainslie, the Men's fourth Grade were up against it from the first bounce against Yass.

With a home ground advantage and reading the dramatic cross wind early, Yass structured up with a bigger bodied team and were noticeably dominant all day. The backline performed admirably in stopping the barrage of scoring opportunities that may have had the scoreboard look even more lopsided than it was at the end of the day.

Ryan Goldsworthy was the standout in the backline, defending meticulously alongside the two staples in the awards each week in Jacob Bink and Kurtis Robinson. The midfield, through Johannes Conlan and Josh Brittliff, won majority of the contested battles but saw a lot of rebound off our half forward line.

This week will be our last chance to put ourselves in the winner's column so we will be expecting the most from the boys to dig in for 88 minutes, a final 4 quarter effort to cap off the season.

Round 8

vs Yass @ Yass

BMFC 0.1-1 def by YRFC 16.19-115

Goalkickers:

Best: R Goldsworthy, J Bink, K Robinson, D Somerville, J Brittliff, J Conlan

THIS WEEK'S FIXTURES

Grade	Date	Time	Opponent	Ground
1st Grade M	12th Sep	1:35pm	Queanbeyan	The Nest
1st Grade W	12th Sep	4:30pm	Queanbeyan	The Nest
2nd Grade M	12th Sep	11:25am	Queanbeyan	The Nest
2nd Grade W	11th Sep	6:30pm	Queanbeyan	Allinsure Park
Rising Stars	12th Sep	9:15am	Queanbeyan	The Nest
3rd Grade M	12th Sep	2:30pm	Googong	Googong
4th Grade M	12th Sep	12:10pm	Googong	Rockley Oval

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