

NEWS FROM THE NEST

Official newsletter of the Belconnen Magpies Football Club



A wake up call on the eve of finals

It was a tough weekend for the Pies, with only 1 win out of a possible 7. Our 2nd grade men continued to be the bright spot, grinding out a tough win over Queanbeyan to remain undefeated.

Last weekend also marked the season end for our 2nd grade women, and 3rd & 4th grade men. Though they won't be playing finals, all three teams have plenty to be proud of and will no doubt return next season hungrier than ever for finals footy.

This weekend is the last game before finals for our remaining teams, and also our first encounter with Eastlake in 2020. It will also be a big game for 1st grade men and women, as a win for each will secure a top 2 position for finals!

To all our valued BMFC supporters

Season 2020 has thrown many challenges at us, particularly in relation to how we operate as a football community. Unfortunately, crowds are still discouraged in the ACT and as a result we must continue to restrict the number of people attending our games.

This means that BMFC must limit entry to the Nest on game day to:

- Players listed on team sheets
- Team staff listed on team sheets
- Match Officials/Umpires
- Restricted list as per ACT Government protocols

Anyone else will not be granted entry to the venue.

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

POPE'S ELECTRICAL

Sponsor of the Month



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Volunteer of the Week: Sally Gurney

This week's BMFC volunteer of the week is Sally Gurney!

The logistics of successfully getting through the 2020 season have been very difficult and have involved a host of new roles that have needed filling from our wonderful volunteers. This week we'd like to thank Sally Gurney for her recent efforts, as she has generously stepped up to fill the role of COVID officer during the last few weeks at The Nest. It's not the most popular job, but it's crucial in our efforts to finish this season in a safe and successful way, and so we are very grateful to Sally for her work! Thanks Sally!



WEEKEND RESULTS

1st Grade M	6.3-39	lost to	Queanbeyan	15.19-109
1st Grade W	1.2-8	lost to	Queanbeyan	12.8-80
2nd Grade M	8.7-55	defeated	Queanbeyan	7.8-50
2nd Grade W	2.3-15	lost to	Queanbeyan	6.6-42
Rising Stars	4.6-30	lost to	Queanbeyan	8.11-59
3rd Grade M	4.6-30	lost to	Googong	10.8-68
4th Grade M	7.8-50	lost to	Googong	16.15-111

RISING STARS

Tom Simpson

The Rising Stars were faced with a must-win match against Queanbeyan this week. Needing a win to secure the fourth and final spot in the Rising Stars finals series, the boys were pumped and filled with excitement before the bounce. Missing regular midfielder James White, we emphasised the need for a strong effort from the midfield. Captain Mitchell Fitzpatrick took on the challenge and got the boys revved up. The boys started really strongly with some really positive signs in a tough first quarter, in particular Leigh McKay's two way running. However, the second quarter was disappointing with Queanbeyan dominating, taking a 20-point lead into half time.

Round 9

vs Queanbeyan @ The Nest

BMFC 4.6-30 def by QTFC 8.11-59

Goalkickers: L Conlan 2, S Heins, T McInnes

Best: M Fitzpatrick, J Jones, M Smith, J Schumacher, J Day, J Walker

After a decent spray from the coach at half time, they came out strongly and took it to Queanbeyan but failed to capitalise on the scoreboard. The boys were full of belief and confidence as two early goals in the last quarter narrowed the margin. Unfortunately, Queanbeyan showed some class and kicked away as our boys fatigued late in the last quarter. A great showing from the team for two and a half quarters wasn't enough to get the job done. Mitchell Fitzpatrick led from the front as skipper with a dominant best on ground display while Leigh McKay had his best game for the season and Jack White filled the void that his younger brother left in the midfield. Jordan Jones fought gallantly all day, keeping his dangerous opponent to a single goal, which occurred late in the last quarter and Zac Smith showed his class in yet another silky performance. The Rising Stars are still a slim chance to make finals but will need to have a complete four-quarter performance against a strong Eastlake side and will need to win quite comfortably to have any chance of getting that fourth spot. Good luck boys!

FIRST GRADE WOMEN

Bobby Moroney

With top spot on offer just ahead of the finals, our BMFC Women's First Grade team were determined to play with the pressure and intensity that we want to see throughout the last month of the 2020 season. We have prided ourselves on our attack at the contest all year, and the first quarter on Saturday was one of our best. Despite an early goal to Queanbeyan, the pressure from our midfield and defence was outstanding. Zoe Allen repeatedly forced turnovers at stoppages, whilst Amber Allen, Melissa Pellow and Natasha Mckay set up multiple attacking options from intercept marks. For a large portion of the quarter we controlled possession and kept the ball in our half, and by the end of the quarter we would have more entries inside 50 and more tackles. Unfortunately we were not able to turn that on-field pressure into scoreboard pressure. In contrast, our opposition were cleaner and able to kick 3 goals from their first 3 forward entries.

Round 9

vs Queanbeyan @ The Nest

BMFC 1.2-8 def by QTFC 12.8-80

Goalkickers: E Pease

Best: N Mckay, A Allen, H Wallett, M Dwyer, E Pease, J Spence

Our pressure dropped off a lot in the 2nd quarter and we got caught too many times on the rebound. To make things worse, our structures fell apart defensively and we provided too much space to the opposition who made the most of it. Our tackle count was down and in the blink of an eye Queanbeyan had got out to a 9 goal lead. At half time we wanted to ensure that we regained control of our structures, pressure acts and the tempo of the game. We spoke about committing more to the contest, not turning the ball over easily and maintaining our efforts for the whole second half. Ultimately, we wanted to get our football back to the levels that we showed in the first quarter, and to our girls' credit that is exactly what they delivered. Kaitlyn Bailey and Ally Morphett worked hard in the ruck to provide us first use of the ball, while Maddie Dwyer provided a strong defensive against a difficult forward line. Emily Pease worked tirelessly all game and, after repeated forward entries through the middle part of the 3rd quarter, her efforts were rewarded with our first goal of the game. Unfortunately, that was all we were able to generate for the night. 3 goals to 1 in the second half was a good response but we need to be much better. One thing is for certain. This result will not define us. We'll pick ourselves up, dust ourselves off, review, adapt and prepare for a huge game against Eastlake knowing that a win will secure a semi-final spot. Go Pies!

SECOND GRADE WOMEN

Stephen McCaskill

Another tough Friday night game against a very good side.

We had a lot of the footy but couldn't capitalise our chances. We matched Queanbeyan in every department but several free kicks in front of goal was in the end our downfall.

It was really pleasing to watch our ladies keep trying until the final siren.

Best players: everyone a total team effort.

Round 9

vs Queanbeyan @ Allinsure Park

BMFC 2.3-15 def by QTFC 6.6-42

Goalkickers: N Abuoi, P Jones

Best: A Thomson, P Jones, S Krushka, A Doyle, M McCaskill, I Reid

FIRST GRADE MEN

Brock Weston

There's not much that can be said about our 1st grade performance on Saturday afternoon at Kippax. Coming off a win against Tuggeranong, which was barely a pass mark, we were looking to lock in top spot against a solid Tigers outfit, a task made more difficult after losing midfielder Nick Eynaud to a knee injury last week, as well as experienced stars Lexi Bennett and Ryan Turnbull. The 1st term started positively and was hotly contested. The first 10 minutes or so was end to end footy with neither team being able to impact the scoreboard, however by qtr time Queanbeyan had managed to have several effective inside 50s and piled on 7 goals to our 1. The 2nd term was much tighter as we endeavoured to wrestle back the momentum. JB and Max were busting a nut in the middle and Mags was getting some ball around the edges and used it well. Unfortunately our forward entries were constantly repelled by a slick Tigers defensive unit and their rebound work was very hard to control. Although we improved slightly Queanbeyan extended their lead at the main break to 46 points.

Round 9

vs Queanbeyan @ The Nest

BMFC 6.3-39 def QTFC 15.19-109

Goalkickers: A Dess 2, B Egan, J Bennett, M Maguire, L Hadrill

Best: J Bennett, J Buchanan, B Hoffmann, M Monaghan, L Hadrill, A Dess

Once again, a half time spray was employed to incite a response but Queanbeyan also lifted their intensity making it difficult for us to get a run on. Our back 6 were working over time as Queanbeyan doubled our inside 50 count for the 3rd quarter in a row and thankfully they were wayward kicking 4.8 to our 3.1, with the 3 qtr time margin out to 59 points. The instruction for the final term was to roll the dice and play on at all costs. When it worked it looked great and we moved the ball with ease, however occasionally we transferred pressure to our team mates and enabled Queanbeyan to turn the football over. Our midfielders continued to work tirelessly and the positional flip of Josh Buchanan forward and Daniel Jordan back showed us a couple of positive signs. Once again the Tigers were inaccurate in front of goal and added another 3.6 to our 1 goal blowing the final margin out to 70 points. Although it was a very disappointing loss and we lose top spot, there were some positive patches of play and some good individual efforts. JB put in another best on ground performance and Max Monaghan again provided plenty of grunt inside. Mitch Maguire is getting back to his best after a long lay off with injury and import Josh Buchanan continues to improve and play with a confidence and flair from a book that his teammates can definitely take some pages from. This week we take on Eastlake to keep a top 2 spot.

SECOND GRADE MEN

Trent Hopkinson

After a close contest with Queanbeyan, we knew finals had come early and would need to produce a team effort to get the job done. The Tigers started well out of the blocks, winning 1-on-1 contests and multiple forward entries. After the early grind, the midfield started to get on top, with Dr. Jones dominating in the ruck and providing for Djaji, Luke and Chip. The forward line made the most of their opportunities with goals to Moons, Posch, Cal, and 'Golden Boot' Bailey Burke. The arm wrestle continued in the second quarter with the backline continuing to hold strong with Tiny, Coops, Joey Kenna, and Paddy Horan leading the way and putting their body on the line and killing Queanbeyan's momentum.

Round 9

vs Queanbeyan @ The Nest

BMFC 8.7-55 def QTFC 7.8-50

Goalkickers: D Posch 4, M Mooney 2, B Burke, C MacLeod

Best: R Bradley, D Posch, S Young, A Jones, J Kenna, M Mooney

Our only goal of the quarter came from fast & direct ball movement from a backline counter, with the ever improving Sam Young's multiple efforts putting it on a platter for Dan Posch for his 2nd goal of the day. After a few structural changes early in the third, Fraser and McQueen found themselves in different roles and showed they were able to adapt for the team. Great defensive pressure forced slow and wide ball movement from the Tigers. Paddy Horan had his best game of the season, not only dealing with the task of Queanbeyan's key forward but also rebounding the ball out of defence. Dominating the ruck all day, Jonesy and Hammer continued to provide for the midfield, and through some slick pieces of play we were able to convert on the scoreboard (even if it was 2.5 for the quarter), with Dan Posch finishing with 4 goals. Overall a great team effort, after a good start we continued to grind away, even when things weren't going our way. We are looking forward to finishing the regular season strong this week against Eastlake.

THIRD GRADE MEN

Brendan Trevaskis

Last game of the year we had to travel to Googong to take on the Hogs. This was always going to be a hard game, as we had seven 4th graders backing up from the game before.

First quarter saw us get off to our usual slow start again, kicking only one goal to Googong's 3.5-23. With our backline putting a lot of pressure on their forwards, the Googong forwards were not able to kick any easy goals.

Round 9

vs Googong @ Rockley Oval

BMFC 4.6-30 def by GHFC 10.8-68

Goalkickers: H Warden 2, I Xirakis, C White

Best: S Telfer, H Warden, A Watt, J Fitzpatrick, A Stricker, C Lee

Second quarter was much like the first, with us only kicking a further 2 points to Googong's further 2.2. Due to having seven players backing up, their legs were getting tired.

The third quarter saw Googong kick 6 goals to our 1.1, and it was becoming a very hard game for the boys on a big ground with tired legs. But they did not give up at all.

In the fourth quarter we were able to keep Googong to only 1 point and we kicked 2.3. This was a great effort from the boys to be able to beat Googong in the last quarter. It shows that the boys have a never say die attitude, and that their hearts are as big as Phar Lap's.

FOURTH GRADE MEN

Drew Sommerville

Another tough week at the office for the Men's fourth grade coming up against the Googong Hogs who were celebrating a couple of milestone games for their older players.

An extremely fast start by the Hogs saw an even quicker reply from the Magpies to just about square the ledger by quarter time. The second quarter saw us goalless and trail the main break by 22 points.

Josh Brittliff became a ball magnet, snagging three majors and commanding the ball from maiden player Brendan Trevaskis as he lined up for his only shot on goal for the year (Selfless till the end Stan!!). The Hogs proved too good by the end of the day but struggled with accuracy throughout the second half with the backline that has suffered from barrages all year. Hats off to the solid back six for having an amazing year with very little lead up to the season for managing such a stella season.

We will have something to celebrate this weekend in the form of Silly Saturday! Congratulations to making it to the end of the season gents, it has been a hard slog but COVID-Ball is finally done.

Round 9

vs Googong @ Rockley Oval

BMFC 7.8-50 def by GHFC 16.15-111

Goalkickers: J Brittliff 3, R Goldsworthy 2, D Somerville, A McShane

Best: J Brittliff, R Goldsworthy, D Somerville, A McShane, J Bink, O Rabak

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 (left), and Rory Markham & Jo Foster receive their jerseys from club president Scott Reid (right).

Over the past weeks, the club has been 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 sponsored 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. Rory Markham was also awarded with one of our women's heritage jerseys in appreciation for Adero Law's generous sponsorship of these jerseys. 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.

THIS WEEK'S FIXTURES

Grade	Date	Time	Opponent	Ground
1st Grade M	19th Sep	1:35pm	Eastlake	The Nest
1st Grade W	19th Sep	4:30pm	Eastlake	The Nest
2nd Grade M	19th Sep	11:25am	Eastlake	The Nest
Rising Stars	19th Sep	9:15am	Eastlake	The Nest
2nd Grade W				
3rd Grade M				
4th Grade M				

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