

# NEWS FROM THE NEST

Official newsletter of the Belconnen Magpies Football Club



## Magpies taste premiership glory

What a weekend!

After the dust settled at Gungahlin Oval, the Magpies were making their way back to the Brindabella with two premiership cups in hand.

The 2nd grade men kicked off the day with a bang, holding off Ainslie in a scrappy affair to cap off an exceptional season, in which the team won 12 out of a possible 13 games.

The evening then brought the 1st grade women's grand final. Although they went in as major underdogs, the girls showed they were up to the challenge from the first bounce. In a thrilling back-and-forth contest, the Magpies eventually prevailed by 10 points.

In such a challenging year, it was an extremely proud moment for the club to come away with two flags. Congratulations to all involved!

## Off-season newsletter schedule

During the offseason, the *News from the Nest* BMFC newsletter will revert to being published monthly. However, though the season may be finished, keep reading the newsletter for information on upcoming events, pre-season training details, and other club news!

And if you know someone out there who might appreciate joining the newsletter mailing list, get them to send an email to [info@belconnenmagpies.com.au](mailto:info@belconnenmagpies.com.au) to sign up!

# WOMEN'S GRAND FINAL SNAPS



Thanks to Dave Pease for the great photos!

# 2ND GRADE GRAND FINAL SNAPS



Thanks to Jack Read & AFL Canberra for the great photos!

# MUTUAL BROKERS

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*Volunteer of the Week:  
Paul Gunn*

This week's BMFC volunteer of the week is Paul Gunn!

For our final volunteer of the week for 2020, we couldn't go any further than club favourite Paul Gunn! For years now, Gunny has been one of our most generous and dedicated volunteers and the 2020 season was no different. Gunny capped off a stellar year of timekeeping for our women's teams last weekend, stepping up to do the timekeeping for both of our grand finals. A great part of winning a premiership is being able to share the success with our volunteers, as it's folks like Gunny that put the club in the great position that we are in! Thanks Gunny!





# 2020 PRESENTATION NIGHT

**BELCONNEN MAGPIES FOOTBALL CLUB INVITES  
YOU TO CELEBRATE THE 2020 SEASON**

**SAT 7 NOV | 6:00 FOR 6:30PM | \$70 PP**

**WR ENGINEERING  
ROYALTY** **SOUTHERN CROSS CLUB WODEN**

**RSVP MON 2 NOV | FOR TICKETS**

**CONTACT [FOOTBALL@BELCONNENMAGPIES.COM.AU](mailto:FOOTBALL@BELCONNENMAGPIES.COM.AU)**

To secure your ticket, email Emma Simpson at  
[football@belconnenmagpies.com.au](mailto:football@belconnenmagpies.com.au).

Payment can be made to the BMFC account:

Name: Belconnen Magpies Football Club

BSB: 082 968

ACC: 526 709 989.

We look forward to seeing you all there to celebrate our fantastic 2020 season

# GINNINDERRY'S MONTH OF WILDLIFE

## A Month of Wildlife

Now, more than ever, it is important to appreciate the ecosystems that surround and support us.

Join the Ginninderry community and the Conservation Trust this Spring to deepen your understanding of our local wildlife.

**17 Oct 5pm–8pm**

Frogwatch by the fire

**7 Nov 9am–11am**

Bird and plant walk in the Conservation Corridor

**19–25 Oct**

Birds in backyard count

**8–15 Nov**

Wild pollinator count

**1 Nov 9am–10am**

Waterwatch: Turtles, bugs and other creatures on the deck

**19 Nov 6pm–8pm**

Our place in nature: Dinner discussion

# GINNINDERRY'S MONTH OF WILDLIFE



17 Oct 5pm–8pm  
*Frogwatch by the fire*

Join us at The Link building to learn from Anke-Maria, Frogwatcher extraordinaire, listen to frog calls and learn how to count them. Supper will be provided. Family friendly.

\*Fire subject to current restrictions.

1 Nov 9am–10am  
*Waterwatch: Turtles, bugs  
and other creatures on the deck*

Join us on the deck behind The Link building for an early morning coffee and morning tea from Cafe Stepping Stone while we learn about how vital healthy water systems are and what creatures need clean water for habitat, with Bruno from Waterwatch. There will be bug-catching and turtle watching!

8–15 Nov  
*Wild pollinator count*

A nation-wide event where you have the chance to contribute to science by undertaking a simple pollinator count in your own backyard. Go to the website and join in! [wildpollinatorcount.com](http://wildpollinatorcount.com)

19–25 Oct  
*Birds in backyard count*

A nation-wide event where you have the chance to contribute to science by undertaking a simple bird count in your own backyard. Download the app to join in. [aussiebirdcount.org.au](http://aussiebirdcount.org.au)

7 Nov 9am–11am  
*Bird and plant walk in  
the Conservation Corridor*

Join Nicki Taws from Greening Australia on a walk in the Conservation Corridor identifying the numerous birds who call the corridor home and the plants starting to put on a show for Spring.

19 Nov 6–8pm  
*Our place in nature:  
Dinner discussion*

Join former Conservation Council Directors, Clare Henderson and Larry O'Loughlin, for a dinner discussion about our role as custodians in our land. Delve into the privilege and responsibility we have as we live in the landscapes that we call home.

Clare and Larry are an engaging pair who you will have you laughing as we tackle some of these tough questions together.

They will share their own journey of learning how to live lightly on the earth, in an urban setting, and answer questions on how you can do so too.

To book email [community@ginninderry.com](mailto:community@ginninderry.com) or look up each event on [www.eventbrite.com.au](http://www.eventbrite.com.au)

# 1ST GRADE WOMEN MATCH REPORT

*Bobby Moroney*

What an amazing team. What an amazing win!

Going into this week's Grand Final our BMFC Women's First Grade team needed to overcome losing 11 of the last 12 matches against Queanbeyan that dates back to mid-2018, including last year's Grand Final. During the week we discussed what we were worried about and what excited us about playing in a Grand Final. It gave the team a chance to clear the heads and think about what was most important. Our captain, Amber Allen, described it best when she talked about how much she loved the group and was prepared to do everything possible in order for them to achieve success.

Our theme this year was captured perfectly on the banner; To achieve something you've never had, you must do something you've never done. In the pregame address we stressed this point. We knew that the pressure was going to be high all game, and that we needed to play with a level of intensity and desire like never before. Our girls delivered!

In a tight first quarter where every possession was under pressure, it was our side that managed to control possession and first use of the football. There was rarely a moment where the opposition had time and space to use the ball. When Queanbeyan were able to move the ball forward, our defence worked brilliantly together. Melissa Pellow and Natasha Mckay consistently intercepted attempted forward entries and quickly transitioned from defence into attack. Emily Pease and Zoe Allen were ferocious in the middle, creating numerous turn overs, and it was Zoe's forward entry to Hannah Walleth that resulted in our first goal of the night and a 7 point lead at quarter time.

We anticipated that after being held scoreless, Queanbeyan were going to come out more determined than ever. They started to get more of the ball in the midfield which resulted in multiple forward entries and scoring opportunities. Each time they scored we were able to respond. Goals to Tiarne Reid and Emma Zouch in the second quarter were crucial, but it was Queanbeyan's four-goal quarter, including the last two of the half that saw our 7 point lead turn into a 5 point deficit at half time.

The feeling at half time amongst the group was extremely positive. The girls knew that they were playing some great football, but the reality was that we needed to be better. We couldn't settle for a good half, and it was stressed that whilst our efforts were good, we still needed to do more if we wanted to take home the title. We pleaded for our forwards to lift the pressure, and challenged the midfield to take control of the game.

A Maggie Gorham snap early in the third following another great tackle from Natasha Mckay put us back in front, before Queanbeyan hit back with their own. Ally Morphett has been really good for us all year, but in the second half she lifted her game to another level. Ally dominated the ruck contest, provided a physical presence around any 50/50 contest and was unlucky not to kick a couple of goals in the third quarter. Her set shot from 50m out would have brought the house down but agonisingly landed on the line. But it was Wally's second late in the quarter that had us take a two point lead at the last break.

The final quarter felt like the longest 18 minutes ever! The game was played mainly between the 50m arcs, until Zoe stood up and kicked a goal to put us 10 points up. With 7 minutes to go, our defence was enormous. Amber Allen, Maddie Dwyer and Shae Krushka were superb and created some important turnovers, whilst our midfield provided grit and determination to repeatedly exit the ball out of Queanbeyan's forward line all the way up to the final siren. UNSW Women's First Grade Premiers – our Belconnen Magpies!

It was a complete performance by every player and a deserving reward for all the hard work that was put in to a challenging season. No doubt it is a moment that will inspire many junior girls to follow in their footsteps.

Bring on 2021!

## **Grand Final** **vs Queanbeyan @ Gungahlin**

**BMFC 6.5-41 def EFC 5.1-31**

**Goalkickers:** H Walleth 2, M Gorham, T Reid, Z Allen, E Zouch

**Best:** A Morphett, M Gorham, E Pease, A Allen, M Pellow, H Kemp

# 2ND GRADE MEN MATCH REPORT

*Lachie O'Sullivan*

Relief and pure happiness, these were the two main emotions displayed by BMFC faithful after the final siren sounded at Gungahlin Enclosed Oval only a week or so ago. In true 2020 style, the build up to the grand final was rocky and uncertain. Wet weather, ground closures and fitness tests were all minor hurdles we had to overcome in order to prepare for the big day. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Emma Simpson and Charles Miller for all the time and effort they put in to finding the boys a venue to train.

The theme for the week was 'Trust & Belief' – we knew that if we could trust ourselves as individuals, trust our process and have full trust in our teammates that we believed we would win. The game plan was kept simple and consistent from the previous few months – be first to the footy, have maximum effort and pressure and lastly to enjoy every moment; this is why we play footy. From the very first bounce our attack on the footy was ferocious and clean which lead to Brendan Egan's goal coming within the first 16 seconds of the game, what a start!

Our midfield battled so hard all day and refused to allow Ainslie any time and space. Tom Fekete and Hamish Healy competed well in the ruck, both undersize did their job outstandingly. After a Dennis Rodman-like week off, Luke McGilvray played his best game of the year hitting the ball with speed and taking the 1st option. Other mids Chip Bradley, Djali Bloomfield & John Rees continually put their head over the ball in a tough display of finals footy.

We went into half time up by a goal feeling full of confidence and belief. We knew that if we bought the same level of intensity and effort from the first half that we could run away with the game. To Ainslie's credit however they continued to come back at us. We were able to rise again and continuously produce inside 50s and lock the ball in our forward half, although we weren't marking everything all the forwards did a fantastic job of competing and bringing the ball to ground. We headed into ¾ time up by 13 points, Ainslie were going to have to double their score to win.

The feeling at ¾ time was one of calmness and pure belief, everyone was focused and in the moment. The message was simple – be composed and when it's your turn to step up and have your moment; take it. I've watched the last quarter a few times now and I think the best way to describe it is 'gutsy.' Since 2009 the 1s and 2s have lost a combined 9 grand finals for 0 wins, we could've rolled over and coughed another one up, but we refused. Whilst the whole game was an amazing showing of teamwork and effort a few guys stepped up like I had never seen before. Dan Posch played predominately the last quarter in the ruck and competed over and over again, gutsy. The entire backline refused to give up and repelled over 20 (I think) inside 50s to our 5 in the last quarter, gutsy. Joey and Tynan both not normally known for their cool heads put their bodies on the line time and time again and were able to be composed enough to intercept the ball and then deliver it to a teammate on a number of crucial moments. Lastly, Ozzie Smyth played the game of his life off half back. We all knew he was capable of delivering a complete performance like he did, and to see it come to fruition in the biggest game of the year was just a pleasure to watch.

To all of the BMFC volunteers, supporters, sponsors, board and families I would just like to take this opportunity to thank you on behalf of the team. Without your support and dedication we would not have got to share such a special moment of BMFC history with you. To Bobby and the Women's 1s congratulations on your premiership! The atmosphere in the stands were like nothing I've ever experienced and will be something I'm sure will stay with many of us for a very long time.

I hope to see you at presentation night in early November, have a safe and happy summer, see you for another year in 2021!

## **Grand Final vs Ainslie @ Gungahlin**

**BMFC 4.4-28 def EFC 3.5-23**

**Goalkickers:** D Posch, Z Lindsay, B Egan, M Mooney  
**Best:** O Smyth, R Bradley, T Doyle, D Bloomfield, D Posch, P Horan

# THIS WEEK'S FIXTURES

Grade	Date	Time	Opponent	Ground
1st Grade M				
1st Grade W				
2nd Grade M				
Rising Stars				
2nd Grade W				
3rd Grade M				
4th Grade M				

Check out all competition ladders and results here: <https://aflcanberra.com.au/fixtures-results/>

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