

NEWS FROM THE NEST

Official newsletter of the Belconnen Magpies Football Club



Magpies tame Tigers at The Nest

It was another largely successful weekend for the Magpies, with our 4 men's senior sides coming away victorious,

Another shoutout goes to our 1st grade men, who have continued their impressive run of form with a hard-fought victory over last years premiers. Congratulations also to our 3rd grade men, who managed to top competition heavyweights Woden, and in doing so perfectly topped off the occasion of Rory Markham's 300th game.

This weekend four of our sides will be taking on arch-rivals Ainslie, a match up that always makes for some fireworks. Our 2's women and 3's men, meanwhile, will play host to Molonglo at The Nest. We look forward to seeing you at the footy!

Upcoming schedule

Saturday May 21st

*1st grade men @ Ainslie, 1:15 pm
1st grade women @ Ainslie, 3:45 pm
2nd grade men @ Ainslie, 11:20 am
Rising stars @ Ainslie, 9:30 am
2nd grade women vs. Molonglo, 11 am
3rd grade men vs. Molonglo, 1 pm*

Saturday May 28th

*1st grade men vs. Tuggeranong, 1:15 pm
1st grade women vs. Tuggeranong, 3:45 pm
2nd grade men vs. Tuggeranong, 11:20 am
Rising stars vs. Tuggeranong, 9:30 am
2nd grade women @ Cootamundra, 11 am
3rd grade men @ Cootamundra, 1 pm*

WEEKEND RESULTS

1st Grade M	11.9-75	defeated	Queanbeyan	7.18-60
1st Grade W	2.6-18	defeated by	Queanbeyan	8.7-55
2nd Grade M	9.9-63	defeated	Queanbeyan	1.6-12
2nd Grade W	1.4-10	defeated by	Woden	4.7-31
Rising Stars	8.9-57	defeated	Queanbeyan	4.4-28
3rd Grade M	7.9-51	defeated	Woden	7.6-48

BMFC 2021 SEASON DATES

MAGPIES
BELCONNEN FC

2021 CALENDAR

SAVE THE DATE

- 17.04 | Rising Stars, 3rd Grade Mens, 2nd Grades Womens Season starts
- 01.05 | 1st Grade Womens 1st Grade Mens & 2nd Grade Mens Season starts
- 08.05 | Corporate Function - History Function/Book Launch
History Jerseys worn
- 22.05 | AFL Canberra Indigenous Round (R4)
- 29.05 | AFL Canberra Indigenous Round (R5)
- 05.06 | AFL Canberra Sockit2MND Round
- 31.07 | AFL Canberra RUOK? Round
- 31.07 | Function - 100 Game Dinner
- 09.10 | Presentation Night

Presented by:



VOLUNTEER OF THE WEEK

TASH MCKAY



This week's volunteer of the week for this year is Tash McKay!

Not only do our women's sides produce great footballers, they're also full of awesome volunteers, with Tash being a great example. Tash comes from a strong BMFC family, and has followed in her parents footsteps in generously donating her time to the club. Always happy to put her hand up to work the canteen or the gate, Tash has also recently taken on the role of team manager for the Rising Stars, and plays a big role in recruiting volunteers for them.

We'd like to thank Tash for all of the great things she has been doing to make our club a better place, and we're happy to present her with a gift from our pals at Scotto's Food Logistics to say thank you!

1ST GRADE WOMEN MATCH REPORT

Bobby Moroney

Tough day at the office for our BMFC Women's First Grade.

Confidence was certainly high coming into the game against Queanbeyan with our team looking to continue their strong performances through the first two rounds. Unfortunately, an uncharacteristically slow start from our group had us on the backfoot early. To Queanbeyan's credit they were much harder at the contest and outplayed us around stoppages, and a 16 point deficit at quarter time could have been much worse had it not been for the inspiring defence of Maddie Dwyer.

The second quarter saw us lift our intensity, but we were still second to the football and lacked the run and carry for which we've become known for. To compound problems, serious injuries to Teagan Germech and Melissa Pellow forced the out of the game and we were down to 18 players for the second half.

We have prided ourselves on our ability to work through adversity and embrace any challenge thrown at us. With backs to the wall we knew we had to put in a much stronger performance despite less players being available to share the load. Kaitlyn Bailey was strong in the ruck all game, and our midfield were much more accountable around her after half time. We started to win more clearances and finally got our running game working. Natasha Mckay and Victoria Thompson's work rate through the middle and around stoppages provided the 50/50 wins we desperately needed, while Maggie Gorham's move to defence started to deliver some drive off half back. Amber Allen pushed repeatedly from contest to contest to repel Queanbeyan's attack, and Ruby Giampaolo continue to demonstrate the importance of attacking with intent, taking some crucial contested marks across defence and in the forward line. Unfortunately, we weren't able to capitalise on our opportunities with some wayward kicking into our forward 50 combine with some missed shots in the third quarter.

Despite the loss, we can take solace from our efforts in the second half to never walk away from the contest. With another tough opponent next week, we will be looking to start the game with much more intensity and set the platform early in order to get back on the winners list.

Round 3

vs Queanbeyan @ The Nest

BMFC 2.6-18 def by QTFC 8.7-55

Goalkickers: E. Zouch, H. Wallett

Best: M. Dwyer, V. Thompson, K. Bailey, N. Mckay, A. Allen, R. Giampaolo

1ST GRADE MEN MATCH REPORT

James Bennett

In Round 3, we had our third home game in a row, hosting Queanbeyan in an early top of the table clash. From the early rounds, Queanbeyan look like a real contender this year, so this was a good test for where our side. We welcomed back Max Monaghan, Seb Quirk and Macca Miller from Giants Academy duty, with Jack Baker missing with concussion.

As has been a theme of ours over the first few games, we went in focussed on playing our role within the team and playing the team game. We started better this week, and controlled parts of the first quarter. Queanbeyan also came out firing and played their best footy of the day in the first. Both teams missed opportunities to score, and we went in to the first break down by 9 points.

In the second quarter, we needed to make a couple of adjustments and generally play better across the ground. We managed to get our hands on the ball around the stoppages and got our forward entries to more dangerous spots. We played the game on our toes rather than our heels in the second, and took control of the game, kicking 3 goals to Queanbeyan's 5 points.

We continued our good play in the third, kicking 4 goals to 2 to build a nice lead. Our backline were fighting hard and kick-starting a lot of our attacking play. Sam Cooper and Brad Hoffmann were holding down the key spots and winning their matchups, with Luke Wharton, Rhys Healy and Oscar Smyth were giving us drive. Tariku Fitzgerald-Holmes showed he is the best small defender in the competition, while Macca Miller had his best game in first grade, taking intercept marks and using the ball well.

In the forward half of the ground, Andrew Dess was giving us a great contest in the air and on the ground, continuing his excellent start to the year. Tom Simpson and Max Monaghan were also leading the charge and looking dangerous.

We went in to the final break leading by 14 points and won the final quarter to finish as winners by 15 points. This was another strong effort from the team. Most pleasing was the even spread of contributors we had across the field and guys continuing to play their individual roles well. Mitch Mooney finished with 5 goals in another great performance, while Blake Chapman and Tom Simpson chipped in with 2 goals.

Round 3

vs Queanbeyan @ The Nest

BMFC 11.9-75 def QTFC 7.18-60

Goalkickers: M. Mooney 5, B. Chapman 2, T. Simpson 2, J. Bennett, A. Dess

Best: B. Hoffmann, A. Dess, S. Cooper, M. Monaghan, T. Fitzgerald-Holmes, M. Mooney

2ND GRADE MEN

Round 3

vs Queanbeyan @ The Nest

BMFC 19.12-126 def QTFC 2.6-18

Goalkickers: D. Posch 3, B. Slack 2, F. Miller, L. Smith, J. Taylor, C. MacLeod

Best: F. Miller, P. Horan, T. McInnes, A. Wenke, J. Taylor, D. Bloomfield

RISING STARS MATCH REPORT

Nick Eynaud

In round 3, the Rising Stars Men had our 3rd consecutive home game, hosting the Queanbeyan Tigers on an icy morning at The Nest. Queanbeyan had come off a big win in round 1 and a tight loss to Ainslie in round 2, so we knew it was going to be a tough contest from start to finish. We regained James White and Captain Addie Vincent and both were important injections into the side, while losing Lucah Conlan and Alex Harrison for the round 3 clash.

Queanbeyan were off to a fast start, whilst our boys looked like they had just gotten out of bed and the Tigers led us 25-7 going into the first break. Our transition running and ball use were poor early and allowed Queanbeyan to score a couple easy goals. However the parts of the quarter where we were composed and we used our run and carry, were very promising.

In the second quarter, our boys made the adjustments required both mentally and physically, and placed the game back on our terms pretty quickly after quarter time. We managed to kick a few quick goals early in the quarter, and our transition running and ball movement had been taken to another level. We looked like a completely different side. We went into half time leading 33-27, only allowing the opposition 2 points for the quarter.

It was important to continue to press and move the ball fast and that's exactly the attitude the boys took into the 3rd term. Angus Walker, after having a couple goals kicked on him in the first quarter, really tightened up his defence on the oppositions most dangerous forward, and got us back into the game with his role. Some run and carry from our wingers Matt Rickard and Lachlan Smith proved to be important in attack, whilst Tom Itter, James White, Addie Vincent, Will Axelby and Josh Day continued to control the balance of the game for our side through the middle of the ground. We led going into the final break 47-29, again only allowing the 2 points for the quarter.

Our pressure and hunt around the ball, never dropped away after quarter time and this was led by small forward Josh Connell, who created a lot of opportunities for us in front of goal through his tackling. Our back group of Leigh Mckay, Will Thomas, Kyle Day Rea, Ryan Murphy, Matt Burgess, Jade Schumacher and Ethan Mcnevin, all played a really important role in shutting their opponents down and then driving the ball forward by foot and hand. Our forward pressure was important with Elijah Witchalls. Ben Garrett, Alex Monaghan, Chris Meacham, Luke Wiencke and Harry Ryan Baker all giving us options ahead of the football, creating a contest, and allowing for shots on goal. The final score was 55-36 in an impressive 3/4 Quarter effort from our Rising Stars.

After beginning the season with a win and a loss both on our home deck, it was important to take advantage of the 3 early home games and take our record to 2-1. Our boys have showed impressive signs, having the ability to follow a game plan and instruction, as well as to respond to other teams best footy and never be out of the match.

Round 3

vs Queanbeyan @ The Nest

BMFC 8.7-55 def QTFC 5.6-36

Goalkickers: W. Axelby 2, C. Meacham 2, H. Ryan-Baker 2, T. Itter 2

Best: T. Itter, J. White, A. Walker, J. Connell, A. Vincent, W. Axelby

3ND GRADE MEN MATCH REPORT

Sam Telfer

The Third-Grade team had another crucial mid-table clash against Woden this week. A day that was full of great occasion with Rory Markham notching up his 300th game for the club.

In a game that never saw more than a two-goal lead break out we were helped to a hot start with milestone man Rory kicking the first and lead by 8 points at the first break.

Woden were able to hit back and win the second quarter with some late goals to lead half-time in a game that was really heating up. I was really impressed with how, as a group, we were able to compose ourselves and understand football isn't perfect. Previously fighting back momentum has proved point of struggle for us and we were able to fight it.

The second half became a grind for both teams, Alex Wenke and Ryan Goldsworthy were pivotal points for us down back as we restricted Woden to just one point in the third. Connor White who was playing out of position in the ruck was outstanding for us all day providing great fight at every contest and floating down back.

The final result was a three-point victory helped by some creative play off half back and some tough and desperate football to come out on top. We have had a few serious injuries this year, so I implore the group to stick together and step up when it's their turn.

If you're not travelling to the footy at Ainslie, get down to the Nest to watch the guys and gals test it out against Molonglo!

Round 5

vs Woden @ EPC Solar Park

BMFC 7.9-51 def WBFC 7.6-48

Goalkickers: H. Warden 2, J. Sammann, O. Rabak, D. Sim, C. White, R. Markham

Best: C. White, B. Palmer, A. Wenke, R. Markham, H. Warden, R. Goldsworthy

2ND GRADE WOMEN MATCH REPORT

Steve McCaskill

A hard fought loss this week, we let them get away early and they had the better of us in the first half, after half time we got on top and had the ball camped in our forward half but was unable to capitalise on our great pressure. Sadly Ruby broke her leg and required surgery but amazingly she walked herself off the field - that's as tough as it gets.

Round 5

vs Woden @ EPC Solar Park

BMFC 1.4-10 def by WBFC 4.7-31

Goalkickers: L. Knox

Best: L. Knox, A. Thomson, C. Russell, K. Croker, M. McCaskill, S. Hoffmann

ROUND 10 GIANTS V EAGLES BIG, BIG CELEBRATION



As a part of our Big, Big Decade we are celebrating the anniversary of our 1st ever game at GIANTS Stadium on Sunday May 23rd against the Eagles and we want you to be there to enjoy the day with us!

It will be a great family day out with loads of fun activities at the Fan Zone, plenty of giveaways and don't forget to record your favourite GIANTS memory on our Big, Big Moment couch while you're there.

So come along with your friends and family for a great afternoon of fun and Footy as there is always plenty to see and do at a GIANTS game.

As friends of the GIANTS we are offering a \$10 ticket as a part of our Big, Big Celebration.

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To celebrate 50 years in men's and 20 years in women's Australian Football in the ACT, Rob Goddard and the Belconnen Magpies Football Club's History Committee will soon be publishing an impressive near-280 page book that covers and celebrates 50 years of football in Belconnen.

You can order your copy for \$50 by emailing Emma at:

football@belconnenmagpies.com.au

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THIS WEEK'S FIXTURES

Grade	Date	Time	Opponent	Ground
1st Grade M	Sat 21st May	1:15 pm	Ainslie	Alan Ray Oval
1st Grade W	Sat 21st May	3:45 pm	Ainslie	Alan Ray Oval
2nd Grade M	Sat 21st May	11:20 am	Ainslie	Alan Ray Oval
Rising Stars	Sat 21st May	9:30 am	Ainslie	Alan Ray Oval
2nd Grade W	Sat 21st May	11am	Molonglo	The Nest
3rd Grade M	Sat 21st May	1pm	Molonglo	The Nest

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

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