

NEWS FROM THE NEST

Official newsletter of the Belconnen Magpies Football Club



A tough Saturday in Ainslie

After a few undefeated starts to the season among our senior sides, the Magpies found tougher conditions against Ainslie and Molonglo on the weekend.

Both our 1st and 2nd grade men went down to our cross-town rivals in disappointing losses, while our 2nd grade women and 3rd grade men also suffered defeats against the Juggernauts at The Nest. Our 1st grade women and our Rising Stars were bright spots however, bookending our day at Ainslie with two strong victories.

This weekend we celebrate indigenous round in AFL Canberra, and we are excited to have our 1st grade men and women running out in a special jersey that pays tribute to Ngunnawal country, the land on which our football club sits. Keep reading for a sneak peak at these jerseys, and come along to The Nest on Saturday to see our Magpies wear them with pride!

Upcoming schedule

Saturday May 29th

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

Saturday June 5th

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

WEEKEND RESULTS

1st Grade M	8.8-56	defeated by	Ainslie	10.10-70
1st Grade W	12.7-79	defeated	Ainslie	1.8-14
2nd Grade M	5.5-35	defeated by	Ainslie	9.8-62
2nd Grade W	2.2-14	defeated by	Molonglo	8.5-53
Rising Stars	9.18-72	defeated	Ainslie	4.3-27
3rd Grade M	5.7-37	defeated by	Molonglo	12.18-90

BMFC 2021 SEASON DATES

MAGPIES
BELCONNEN FC

2021 CALENDAR

- 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

SAVE THE DATE

CELEBRATING INDIGENOUS ROUND



In round 5 AFL Canberra is celebrating Indigenous Round, coinciding with the Sir Doug Nicholls Indigenous round in the AFL. We are proud to be marking this important occasion with brand new jerseys for our 1st grade men and women to wear this weekend!

The senior men's playing group spent some time this week learning about the significance of the jersey's design, and reflecting on the importance of acknowledging the custodians of this land. The jersey reflects and pays tribute to Ngunnawal country, the land on which we live and play football. It depicts the mountains that surround Ngunnawal country, as well as the fact that we live in a traditional meeting place, where the Ngunnawal people have welcomed visitors from far and wide for at least 20,000 years.

Thanks to Djali Bloomfield, ArrowFM, and Bellchambers Barrett for their support in launching these jerseys, and to Luke Penrith Arts & Designs for the terrific design!

Presented by:



VOLUNTEER OF THE WEEK

MICHAEL MCQUEEN



This week's volunteer of the week is Michael McQueen!

After winning a 2nd grade premiership last year, 'Lightning' McQueen decided to hang up the boots for a well-earned break to focus on his work and personal life.

However, you can't keep a great clubman away for long, and Queeny has already returned to the club to help us out however he can - managing the 1st grade men's team, serving on the player function committee, and even doing the little things like volunteering to help keep The Nest clean and tidy. Rumour has it you may even see him running around on the field filling in for the 2nd grade men from time to time!

We're lucky to have a guy like Michael at our club, and we appreciate all of his dedication and hard work. To say thank you we're presenting him with a gift from our pals at Scotto's Food Logistics!

WE NEED YOUR HELP!



We are looking for volunteers to share the timekeeping duties for our Senior Men's 1st & 2nd grade games.

After many years, our long-standing timekeeper Paul Gunn is winding back the many games that he covers, opening up some room for anyone who has been wanting to volunteer within the club. We would like to thank Gunny for his ongoing efforts to assist the club in multiple areas and being a helping hand to all!

In the meantime, if you are interested in helping us out with timekeeping, let us know by emailing football@belconnenmagpies.com.au or sending us a message on our Instagram or Facebook pages.

1ST GRADE WOMEN MATCH REPORT

Bobby Moroney

With a desire to quickly rebound and get back on the winners list, the focus for our BMFC Women's First Grade was to get back to basics and trust our instincts. Our intensity at the contest and repeated pressure acts are something we pride ourselves on, but we've lacked some consistency so far this season. This definitely wasn't the case against Ainslie.

Our midfield were outstanding early and set the tone for the entire contest. They were ferocious at the 50/50 contests and were clean under pressure. Their physicality and endeavour to be first to the ball ensured they provided our outside runners with continued opportunities to send the ball into an open forward line. A 14 point lead at quarter time was reward for effort, but we were after a complete performance.

After quarter time, our side really clicked. The selfless work to get the ball moving to our advantage, the support behind the ball, and the determination to constantly raise the bar on our opposition resulted in 9 goals to nil after quarter time and an emphatic 65 point win. There were winners across the ground all day. Teagan Germech's run and carry off half back continued even when she relieved in the ruck. Jacqueline Spence was back to her best, constantly winning the hard ball, whilst Tiarne Reid provided the space on the wing to set up the switch and provide quality forward entries.

But there were three standouts. Hannah Walleth continued her hot streak with another 5 goals to take her tally to 13 from 4 games. But it's Wally's leadership and direction in the forward line that's creating multiple avenues to goal. Amber Allen's game has been slowly improving, and Saturday was a stand out. With rotations limited, Amber was called on to play extended minutes through the midfield which she did perfectly. Her commitment to transition from attack to defence provided constant support to our backline, before pushing herself forward of the ball and be a link option back into attack. One huge positive from our game was the emergence of Lucy Anderson. In her best performance for our club, Lucy added another dimension to an already physical midfield. Her blocking, tackling and constant pressure created many turnovers, and two goals capped off a brilliant game.

Go Pies!

Round 4

vs Ainslie @ Alan Ray Oval

BMFC 12.7-79 def AFC 1.8-14

Goal Kickers: H. Walleth 5, M. Gorham 2, L. Knox 2, L. Anderson 2, E. Zouch

Best Players: A. Allen, H. Walleth, L. Anderson, J. Spence, T. Germech, M. Dwyer

1ST GRADE MEN MATCH REPORT

James Bennett

Round 4 saw us travel to Alan Ray Oval to take on Ainslie. We had 6 changes from the week before, with Monaghan, Miller, Quirk, Jordan, Egan and M Kelly out.

We were happy to welcome back Sam Glyde and Jack Baker from injury. They were joined by Ryan Bradley and Paddy Horan for their first games for the year. We also had two debutants in Fraser Miller and Addie Vincent.

It was a nice moment pre-game as Fraser was presented his jumper by brother Charles with their family watching on. Unfortunately for Fraser it was a debut to forget, suffering an ankle injury which ruled him out for most of the game.

Addie Vincent started this season as captain of our Rising Stars and has been in impressive form throughout the pre-season and early games. They become the 606th and 607th players to play first grade for BMFC.

While there was great enthusiasm for these debuts, unfortunately we put together a really poor performance, easily our worst for the year. We led by 1 point at the main break and went into the final quarter with the scores tied. We had the opportunity to push for an ugly win but couldn't find a way to get our hands on the ball and didn't meet the challenge.

After a great win last week, we found ourselves outplayed by a side that seemed to have more energy and competitiveness, and beat us to the footy across the game. Our midfield was well-beaten, which meant our forwards weren't given much opportunity. We ended up going down by 14 points.

Despite the poor game, we had some good performances, especially from our backline. Our best players across the day were Rhys Healy, Tariku Fitzgerald-Holmes and Sam Cooper. These three defenders have strung together some quality games and are forming an important part of our backline. Oscar Smyth and Paddy Horan contributed well across half-back, while Blake Chapman fought well in the ruck. Sam Glyde was the only bright spot in the forward line, finishing with 4 goals.

This is a game we would like to leave behind us and gives us a number of areas to improve on as we move on to face Tuggeranong in an important opportunity to rebound quickly.

Round 4

vs Ainslie @ Alan Ray Oval

BMFC 8.8-56 def by AFC 10.10-70

Goal Kickers: S. Glyde 4, M. Mooney 2, J. Bennett, T. Simpson

Best Players: R. Healy, T. Fitzgerald-Holmes, S. Cooper, P. Horan, O. Smyth, B. Chapman

3ND GRADE MEN MATCH REPORT

Sam Telfer

The 3rd Grade side were able to make their season debut on The Nest this week in taking on a tough Molonglo outfit. We went into the game undersized and undermanned but had the approach to have to grind all day to perform well.

Molonglo were unfortunately able to start with some quick ball movement which gave their tall forwards easy goal-scoring opportunities. A four-goal quarter time deficit was representative of our lack of communication and want to be first to the ball.

A few positional changes that saw Alex Wenke moved down back where he does his best work for us and Hamish Warden and Rory Markham trying their hand at rucking assisted us to sure up defensively and start our attack from defence. Our midfield group started to win the contested ball with Owen Rabak showing his union background and being tough at the football at stoppages. A better quarter meant that at half-time we went down 5 goals behind.

A warm day and a few sore bodies, we needed to grind the game out to stay in the contest. Throughout the game we struggled to make clean forward 50 entries, but David Sim is providing great options for us this year with hard repeat efforts. Ryan Goldsworthy has been making great improvements this year and solidifying his spot in our back 6, performing on bigger bodies for us and was at his best on this day.

The end result wasn't what we were after and Molonglo kicked goals that were determined by the bounce of the ball. It proves as another good building block for our new group in which we are taking great strides forward.

We take the long bus trip to Cootamundra this week in what always proves to be a great challenge for the boys. Good luck to all teams this week and hope for a clean sweep of wins!

2ND GRADE WOMEN MATCH REPORT

Steve McCaskill

A very impressive display from our team playing last years premier we took the game to them and matched their ferocity in the contest. We played our best game of footy for the year and controlled large portions of the match holding them goalless in the 3rd quarter. Every player stood up today with several breakout performances. The final score not a true reflection of the closeness of the contest.

Round 6 **vs Molonglo @ The Nest**

BMFC 2.2-14 def by MJFC 8.5-53

Goalkickers: L. Knox

Best: I. Rees, I. English, C. Russell, T. Doblinger, R. Terrey, Z. Broughton

2nd Grade Men - Round 4 **vs Ainslie @ Alan Ray Oval**

BMFC 5.5-35 def by AFC 9.8-62

Goal Kickers: D. Posch 3, L. McGilvray, J. Taylor

Best Players: M. Fitzpatrick, Z. Macdonald, N.

Kelly, D. Bloomfield, J. Kenna, A. Wenke

Rising Stars - Round 4 **vs Ainslie @ Alan Ray Oval**

BMFC 9.18-72 def AFC 4.3-27

Goal Kickers: H. Ryan-Baker 2, C. Mecham 2, L. McKay, R. Murphy, W. Axelby, J. Schumacher, T. Itter

Best Players: J. White, T. Itter, Z. Smith, J. Schumacher, L. Smith, J. Day

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THIS WEEK'S FIXTURES

Grade	Date	Time	Opponent	Ground
1st Grade M	Sat 29th May	1:15 pm	Tuggeranong	The Nest
1st Grade W	Sat 29th May	3:45 pm	Tuggeranong	The Nest
2nd Grade M	Sat 29th May	11:20 am	Tuggeranong	The Nest
Rising Stars	Sat 29th May	9:30 am	Tuggeranong	The Nest
2nd Grade W	Sat 29th May	11am	Cootamundra	Cootamundra
3rd Grade M	Sat 29th May	1pm	Cootamundra	Cootamundra

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

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