

# NEWS FROM THE NEST

Official newsletter of the Belconnen Magpies Football Club



## Strong start continues

It was another good weekend to be a Magpie, with the club collecting 5 out of 7 wins across the grades.

Up in Gungahlin it was a clean sweep, with the 1st grade men and women, 2nd grade men, and Rising Stars all coming out with emphatic victories over the Jets.

Back at The Nest, it was great to see the 2nd grade women notch their first win of the season in a gutsy display over Woden.

This coming weekend marks two very special occasions for the club: Lexie Bennett is set to play his 269th first grade game, breaking the club record held by his dad Dave Bennett; and Ned Gatenby, after a club record 198 second grade games, will be playing his final game after announcing his retirement this week. A huge congratulations to Lexie and Ned, two Belconnen Magpie greats!

## COVID-19 UPDATE

Following current ACT government restrictions, spectators will be prohibited from attending matches this weekend. We look forward to welcoming supporters back to our games, and we will keep you updated on when this will occur.

# GINNINDERRY

*Sponsor of the Month*



Ginninderry has been a sponsor of BMFC since 2018 and a strong supporter of our men's, women's and juniors' football programs. With COVID-19 restrictions now easing, you can walk the streets of the GX Display Village which is again open every Friday to Monday from 10am – 4pm. Here you can explore 18 homes from 13 leading builders plus two Flexi-living homes, the Mini-G Tiny Home and sustainability and local art trails. You can also head over to The Link Sales and Information Centre and meet the team who are onsite 7 days a week. To find out more about how Ginninderry is inspiring a new way of living right in our Belconnen backyard, head to the [website](#).

## *Volunteer of the Week: Kylie McKay*

This week's BMFC volunteer of the week is Kylie McKay!

Kylie has consistently been a positive force around the club supporting our women's teams for a number of years now. This past weekend provided yet another example of her great work, with Kylie taking the extra time to individually package halftime lollies for the players in order to ensure that everyone got their energy boosts while respecting the COVID-guidelines. Great stuff Kylie!



# CONGRATULATIONS LEX AND NED!

*Lexie Bennett is set to break the club record for 1st grade games played this weekend, while Ned Gatenby is retiring after a long and distinguished career*



The first grade men's match against Tuggeranong this weekend is set to mark a special moment in BMFC history - Lex Bennett will break the first grade games record with his 269th game.

Lex will take over from his dad David Bennett, who has held the record since the early 1980s. This is another great achievement for Lex in a fantastic career, which has seen him captain the club for many years, win two premierships, and many other awards including a Best and Fairest and several Most Courageous awards. Congratulations Lex!

The club would like to congratulate Andrew 'Ned' Gatenby on a wonderful senior football career after he announced his retirement from footy following this week's game against Tuggeranong.

Ned has made an invaluable contribution to the senior club both on and off the field since making his senior debut in 2005. Ned made his first grade debut against Tuggeranong in Round 17 2008, and finishes with 9 first grade games and 198 second grade games (the club record). Ned has been a distinguished player on the field, with 2 best and fairest awards and a premiership. On the coaching side, Ned has contributed strongly as a playing coach for second grade in 2018 and 2019, and will continue as a first grade assistant coach.

We thank Ned for his outstanding contribution to the club and wish him well for his post-footy life, which will no doubt involve many hours on the bike.



## WEEKEND RESULTS

1st Grade M	21.17-143	defeated	Gungahlin	5.4-34
1st Grade W	28.18-187	defeated	Gungahlin	0.0-0
2nd Grade M	20.17-137	defeated	Gungahlin	0.1-1
2nd Grade W	3.6-24	defeated	Woden	3.1-19
Rising Stars	8.19-67	defeated	Gungahlin	0.1-1
3rd Grade M	6.7-43	lost to	Woden	17.10-112
4th Grade M	8.4-52	lost to	Woden	11.7-73

## FIRST GRADE MEN

*Brock Weston*

The 1st Grade boys headed to Gungahlin on Saturday to take on a new look Jets outfit. The forecast rain stayed away and we were treated to a fine day and perfect conditions for footy. Off the back of a solid performance against Ainslie last week it was important to make an early statement against the success-starved Jets and things looked to be in order after a reasonable first quarter. Once again our midfielders worked well and our clean ball movement and well constructed forward entries gave us an early lead. First gamer Nick Eynaud slotted perfectly into the middle with JB and Mitch Maguire and our forwards were looking dangerous.

### Round 2

vs Gungahlin @ Gungahlin

**BMFC 21.17-143 def GJFC 5.4-34**

**Goalkickers:** M Maguire 5, L Mckay 4, D Jordan 2, T Simpson 2, M Monaghan 2, A Dess 2, M Kelly, O Smyth, J Bennett, A Bennett

**Best:** M Monaghan, M Maguire, L Mckay, J Bennett, R Turnbull, B Chapman

The second term was a different story with the Jets able to control the ball for long periods, and a failure to capitalise on our part. At half time we reassessed and emphasised the importance of pressuring when not in possession and maintaining composure when we had the ball. Our midfielders regained the ascendancy and along with good decision making across halfback we started the scoreboard ticking away. At the third break the overwhelming message was to finish strongly and the group obliged with 10 last quarter goals. Pleasingly we debuted another 3 players this week with Thomas Simpson, Nick Eynaud and Oscar Smyth all making strong contributions. Simpson and Eynaud both spent some time in the midfield and Ozzy cleaned up across half back and snuck forward late to kick a goal and get off the nudie run. Max Monaghan showed he has elevated his game to another level and Luke McKay was at his damaging best with a solid 4 goal effort. Mitch Maguire once again showed class with 5 goals, 4 of which coming in the final term. This week we head south to Greenway to take on Tuggeranong who will be keen to respond after a heavy defeat at the hands of Eastlake. We have plenty to improve on from the weekend and will be looking for a more committed four quarter performance.

# FIRST GRADE WOMEN

*Bobby Moroney*

Our Round 2 clash against Gungahlin gave us the opportunity to welcome Claire Koski for her first game with the club, while Adol Aboui, Hayley Kemp and Sarah Tutt all came into the side for their first games of 2020. In Round 1 we felt we lost focus at times and became complacent once we had control of the game, so the aim this week was to remain disciplined and stick to the process for the entire contest. Kaitlyn Bailey and Ally Morphett controlled the ruck from the start, and our entire midfield worked hard to win the 50/50 contest and deny Gungahlin any easy disposals. Ciel Georgievski and Emily Pease picked up where they finished last week and are developing a dangerous combination of strength and speed across the ground.

## **Round 2**

**vs Gungahlin @ Gungahlin**

**BMFC 28.18-187 def GJFC 0.0-0**

**Goalkickers:** H Walleth 9, S Tutt 6, M Dwyer 4, E Zouch 3, E Pease 2, A Morphett, A Aboui, C Georgievski, Z Allen

**Best:** J Spence, C Georgievski, E Zouch, E Pease, A Morphett, M Dwyer

Jacqui Spence demonstrated the discipline we spoke about before the game. In a best on ground performance, Whippet was ferocious at the opposition from siren to siren and easily won the most hard ball possessions on the night. Her quick hands and ability to get the ball moving out of congestion were crucial in setting up numerous forward entries. Considering the number of times that the ball entered our forward line, our girls could easily have become undisciplined with everyone looking to get a goal. Instead, our forwards maintained space and presented multiple options all night. Maddie Dwyer consistently provided a strong target, while Emma Zouch was outstanding either on the ground or on a quick lead. Hannah Walleth finished the night with 9 goals, but it was her leadership inside forward 50, the way she protected her team mates and looked for players in a better position that will be so important for us as the season progresses. Regardless of the final score, the best win for us was the way with which we contested right up until the final siren. With one minute remaining, our team were still directing each other to maintain structures and control ball movement. Well done girls, now on to Round 3!

# SECOND GRADE MEN

*Lachie O'Sullivan*

Our 2nd grade side played the Jets and were able to come away with a big win. The first half saw us take the game away from the opposition with clean ball movement and forward 50 entries. It was really pleasing to see the midfield use the first option and reward the rebound running of the backline.

## **Round 2**

**vs Gungahlin @ Gungahlin**

**BMFC 20.17-137 def GJFC 0.1-1**

**Goalkickers:** D Posch 8, L Redfern 3, S Young 3, B Ochieng 2, C Johnson, N Hay, L Haddrill, B van Zomeren

**Best:** J Battel, L Redfern, D Sim, C Johnson, J Rees, B Ochieng

Unfortunately during the 2nd half we let ourselves down, particularly in how we lead and created space for each other. We were unable to combat the Jet's spare. Our accuracy at goal was also disappointing kicking 6.12 in the 2nd half. On a more positive note, there were plenty of standouts across the day. CJ who played a near perfect half forwards game in terms of leading up at the ball and delivering the footy quickly and with accuracy. Jordy Battel and Sam Young also impressed in just their 2nd game for BMFC as well as young Dan Posch who booted a bag! Lastly, a big well done to Oz, Thommo Simpson and Nic Eynaurd on their 1st grade debuts!

# SECOND GRADE WOMEN

*Stephen McCaskill*

A hard fought victory against a determined opponent. Our backline was superb & worked well as a unit & repelled many attacks. The midfield although out muscled by bigger opponents fought hard & held their own all day. The forwards were on top for most of the day but failed to capitalise on some good ball movement forward but this is something easily rectified at training. A very good team performance from all with a number of ladies playing their first game of footy. I was very impressed with how our leaders all stepped up & lead from the front which helped bring the new girls along.

**Round 2**  
vs Woden @ The Nest

**BMFC 3.6-24 def WBFC 3.1-19**  
**Goalkickers:** S Mihaljevic , L Knox, P Jones  
**Best:** K Priestly, A Staib, T Tahlia, C Russell,  
S Crakanthorp, P Jones

# RISING STARS

*Jason Kidney*

The rising stars played their 2nd game in 4 days on Saturday against the Jets.

While the game looked like it was an easy victory, the game was challenging in the 1st half. After half time, the team played some outstanding football but the only downside was the finishing in front of goal. If accuracy was better, the guys would have had a larger victory which would have justified all their hard work during the game.

**Round 2**  
vs Gungahlin @ Gungahlin

**BMFC 8.19-67 def GJFC 0.1-1**  
**Goalkickers:** R Murphy 2, Z Smith, L Smith,  
M Smith, B Taylor, J White, I Xirakis  
**Best:** R Murphy, B Taylor, M Smith, A  
Vincent, J Connell, J Read

This season has been different from past seasons as player numbers are high so the pressure is on for players to hold their spots in the side so we are hoping for another team effort this week. One thing that impressed the coaching staff was the discipline of the team. While the opposition tried to start fighting, our guys focussed on going at the footy which was pleasing to see. A much better game for the team with no one really standing out which was a great sign given the result from round one. Onwards and upwards for the rising stars.

Next game is on Sunday 2nd August against Tuggeranong.

# THIRD GRADE MEN

*Brendan Trevaskis*

Round 2 again didn't go the way we would have liked with a 69 point loss. The team is starting to play as one with some positives coming out of the game. As there are a lot of new players to all grades, we are all still getting to know how we play. Woden got out to a quick set 2 goals in the first couple of minutes, this put us on the back foot. Woden kicked 5.1 to our 0.1 in the first quarter with a dominating quarter.

## **Round 2** **vs Woden @ The Nest**

**BMFC 6.7-43 def by WBFC 17.10-112**

**Goalkickers:** H Warden 2, B Collins, S Cummins, J Iemma, C Lee

**Best:** S Cummins, S Telfer, A Stricker, B Burke, H Warden, A Wenke

Second quarter saw us take a little bit of the control back from Woden. The midfield started to work together with good centre clearances. The forwards started to pepper the goals with six scoring shots kicking 3.3 in the quarter. The backline sorted out their match up and was starting to put some good pressure

on their forward line. Third quarter was a hard fort battle with Woden taking back control of the game. We were putting a lot more pressure on the ball carrier, Woden was not getting any easy footy. We were struggling with getting some clean hands on the ball, which would turn the ball over to the opposition and make us pay for it. Woden scored 4.5 to 1.0. Fourth quarter was a very even battle, with both teams having five scoring shots at goal. Woden kicking 3.2 to our 2.3. It was good to see that the team did not give up at any point in the game, even though the game was over by third quarter time. I would like to thank Josh Connell and Lucah Conlar who backed up from the Rising Stars, great effort from a couple of young men up against some bigger bodies.

# FOURTH GRADE MEN

*Drew Somerville*

The second week into a delayed season saw the Men's Fourth Grade receive some new faces around the training track prior to this week's match. This came at a crucial time to make up the numbers in a 5-6-5 game-day format. With very little cohesion practiced prior to the first bounce, a clear plan was formulated to move the ball long against the more experienced Woden Blues. The first quarter saw Woden kick ahead early but were unable to break the game open with both sides registering 2 goals per quarter for the remainder of the afternoon.

## **Round 2** **vs Woden @ The Nest**

**BMFC 8.4-52 def by WBFC 11.7-73**

**Goalkickers:** D Somerville 3, R Markham 2, J Conlan, J Avila, A McShane

**Best:** D Somerville, J Bink, J Garrard, Z Dolliver, R Markham, K Robinson

Jacob Bink and Todd Trevaskis held the backline together while Zac Doliver, Jaedin Garrard and Zac Forostenko transitioned the ball with ease through the midfield before Zac pulled up sore with hamstring tightness. Rory Markham and Josh Avila were able to hit the scoreboard combining for multiple goals with Rory on occasion pushing into the backline to take contested marks at crucial times. Special mentions to first gamers Johannes Conlan and Kurtis Robinson. Giving away a clear weight advantage in the ruck, Johannes was able to jump over his opponent and push forward to kick a major. Kurtis is new to the game since coming over from Ruby and was able to slot in the backline under the guidance of the senior team members to have a positive influence. A great effort for all involved. We showed that we are more than capable of matching teams this year. Finally, a special thank you to Jason Kidney, who generously volunteered to fill in and umpire!

# THIS WEEK'S FIXTURES

Grade	Date	Time	Opponent	Ground
1st Grade M	2nd Aug	1:35pm	Tuggeranong	Greenway
1st Grade W	2nd Aug	4:30pm	Tuggeranong	Greenway
2nd Grade M	2nd Aug	11:25am	Tuggeranong	Greenway
2nd Grade W	1st Aug	10:00am	Eastlake	The Nest
Rising Stars	2nd Aug	9:15am	Tuggeranong	Greenway
3rd Grade M	1st Aug	2:30pm	Eastlake	The Nest
4th Grade M	1st Aug	12:10pm	Southern Cats	The Nest

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

## SPONSORS



# 1st grade Men's Jumper Presentation

Prior to our round 1 game against Ainslie, a number of players were presented with their first grade jumpers ahead of their club first grade debuts. A big congratulations to Brendan Egan, Seb Quirk, Mackinley Miller, and Mitch Maguire!



Mackinley Miller receives his jersey from Andrew Smith (top left), Mitch Maguire receives his jersey from Brock Weston (top right), Seb Quirk receives his jersey from Steve Mahar (bottom left), and Brendan Egan who received his jersey from Isaac Taylor (bottom right).