

# NEWS FROM THE NEST

Official newsletter of the Belconnen Magpies Football Club



## A weekend of close calls

As is often the case when Belconnen and Ainslie get together, our 7 clashes with the old enemy led to a number of tight contests across the grades.

Highlights from the weekend included a clean sweep for our women's teams, with our 1st grade women consolidating their top 2 spot on the ladder. The 2nd grade men also chalked up an impressive win over the Tri-colours to maintain their unbeaten record under young coaching prodigy Lachie O'Sullivan.

Unfortunately for our 1st, 3rd, and 4th grade men and Rising Stars the weekend brought some very close losses. However, the coming weekend will provide a great opportunity to get back on track as we rapidly approach finals footy!

### UPCOMING 1ST GRADE FIXTURE

Rd 8 vs. Tuggeranong

Rd 9 vs. Queanbeyan

Rd 10 vs. Eastlake

# POPE'S ELECTRICAL

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## *Volunteer of the Week: Samantha Collins*

This week's BMFC volunteer of the week is Samantha Collins!

The club is always looking for ways to show our appreciation to our sponsors for their generous contributions, and one way we do this is to distribute certificates of appreciation. Samantha stepped up in a big way for this important project, volunteering to frame all of the certificates for distribution to our sponsors. Thanks for your hard work Samantha, we appreciate it!



## WEEKEND RESULTS

1st Grade M	8.7-55	lost to	Ainslie	8.16-64
1st Grade W	12.7-79	defeated	Ainslie	2.2-14
2nd Grade M	7.6-48	defeated	Ainslie	3.7-25
2nd Grade W	4.16-40	defeated	Ainslie	0.0-0
Rising Stars	5.7-37	lost to	Ainslie	8.3-51
3rd Grade M	7.7-49	lost to	Ainslie	7.9-51
4th Grade M	8.9-57	lost to	Ainslie	10.6-66

## FIRST GRADE WOMEN

*Bobby Moroney*

It was great to be able to get back out and playing some footy after missing last week. Our BMFC Women's First Grade team knew that the Round 7 clash against Ainslie was going to be a tough test and would give us a great indication of how much we've improved since Round 1. Ainslie came out hard with some very strong physical pressure and two quick goals to have us on the back foot early. In the face of relentless pressure from the opposition, our girls worked hard to get numbers to each contest, and rebound from defence into attack. Jacqui Spence continued her excellent month of football, always fighting to win the hard ball and provide our outside runners with numerous opportunities to send the ball forward.

### Round 7 vs Ainslie @ Ainslie Oval

BMFC 12.7-79 def AFC 2.2-14

**Goalkickers:** E Zouch 4, R Giampaolo 3, M Gorham 2, H Wallett 2, M Dwyer

**Best:** J Spence, A Allen, M Gorham, N Mckay, H Wallett, E Zouch

Despite holding a 7 point lead at quarter time, we felt that we had a lot more to give and wanted to ensure that we raised our intensity at every contest. Amber Allen's leadership has been faultless in 2020, and in her best game of the year she certainly thrived in the tough conditions. Amber led by example with her fierce attack at the ball and the ball carrier, setting the standard for the rest of team to follow. Her constant pressure created multiple turnovers, allowing Natasha Mckay, Melissa Pellow and Claire Koski to rebound any attempt by Ainslie to score and keeping them goalless for the remainder of the game. Maggie Gorham is building towards a huge September and was dangerous every time she was near the ball. Her clean skills around stoppages and congestion consistently provided us with a clear avenue into attack, while her ability to stay calm under fire will be an important asset in the weeks to come. Pleasingly, our forwards continue to click as we work towards finding our best set up. With another four multiple goal kickers, including four goals from Emma Zouch, the variety our forward line offers is going to be so important. Now it's on to Tuggeranong and our first game at home for 2020. Go Pies!

# FIRST GRADE MEN

*Brock Weston*

A perfect day and a dry deck greeted our first grade boys at Ainslie on Saturday as we looked to maintain our unbeaten run in season 2020. A couple of late changes paved the way for another two debutants, taking our season tally to 14 as Tom Fekete and Benson Ochieng came in for Blake Chapman and Andrew Dess. Two key positions but two very capable boys. The opening stanza was fiercely contested as we traded inside 50's with neither team able to impact greatly on the scoreboard. The second term was much of the same however Ainslie seemed to have the momentum heading into half time. The players were asked to respond in the third quarter and they promptly obliged with some hard running football and some positive inside 50's.

## Round 7

**vs Ainslie @ Ainslie Oval**

**BMFC 8.7-55 def by AFC 8.16-64**

**Goalkickers:** M Kelly 2, L McKay 2, J Buchanan, B Ochieng, T Simpson, D Jordan

**Best:** B Hoffmann, J Bennett, J Buchanan, M Monaghan, R Turnbull, R Healy

JB and Max looked to take control around the stoppages and with the injection of star halfback Ryan "Rabsy" Turnbull into the midfield we looked to take the game away from Ainslie. With our backline steadfast in defence, repeatedly repelling Ainslies forward movement, we were in a strong position to come away with our 6th win on the trot. However, we were outplayed in the last term and seemed to run out of legs, and the coaching group ran out of ideas as Ainslie finished over the top of us by 9 points. There were many positives to take out if the defeat with some promising individual efforts from Brad Hoffman and Josh Buchanan. Josh also has the Mark of the Year sewn up with a remarkable hanger in the third quarter that happened to be captured by keen photographer Jack Read. Max Monaghan and JB were solid again in the midfield and Tom Fekete showed glimpses of his talent in the ruck. Luke McKay looked dangerous across half forward and Rhys Healy did a great job deep in defence and kept one of their key forwards very quiet. This week we play our first game of the season at the nest. It's been a long time coming and we are very much looking forward to coming home...

# SECOND GRADE MEN

*Trent Hopkinson*

After a wet weather week off Magpies headed to Ainslie for a grudge match for our Round 7 match and milestone game for Brad Posch playing his 100th Reserve Grade game. Pies also welcomed back Jacob Taylor, Hamish Healy and Gus Collins for their first games of the season. Pies started the game slowly, being second to footy all around the ground, individual efforts from Joey Kenna, Gus Collins and Paddy Horan saving Pies on multiple occasions. Second quarter pies came out with a lift in intensity and pressure lead by our midfielder in particular Cal, Fraser and Zac who provided repeat efforts that resulted in turnovers.

## Round 7

**vs Ainslie @ Ainslie Oval**

**BMFC 7.6-48 def AFC 3.7-25**

**Goalkickers:** J Taylor 2, N Hay, C Johnson, L McGilvray, M Mooney, B Burke

**Best:** J Kenna, J Taylor, C MacLeod, D Bloomfield, A Collins, H Healy

Around the ground we started to play with speed and we're a lot more composed with ball in hand and this was lead from our experienced players Djali, Jacob Taylor and Moons. In the third quarter Pies went to another level and there were contributors all around the ground. Lenny and Lukey Mac found their groove attack with great supply from Hammer in the ruck. The defensive pressure from the forward line and continuous pressure and repeat efforts from the backline, allowed Magpies to enter the final quarter with a 6 point lead. Few structural changes sent Cam Johnson to the goal square at the start of the final quarter and Cam delivered presenting well on multiple occasions before being rewarded with a goal. Pies were able to maintain their intensity and defensive pressure for the majority of the last quarter, to run away with a 23 point victory. Great team effort by the lads with plenty of contributors and considering the number of changes week in week out has been quite an achievement to be 6/6. Congrats again to Brad Posch on his 100th Reserve grade game and looking forward to being back at the Nest for the home straight of the home and away season.

# THIRD GRADE MEN

*Brendan Trevaskis*

Wow what a difference from the last time we played at Kippax. Instead of getting wet feet we got sunburnt. The ground was very heavy under foot, which made it hard to run on. First quarter saw us heading into a slight breeze. Our first quarter we usually get off to a slow start, but this game we were able to keep up with Ainslie in a hard fought contest. At the end of the quarter we had held Ainslie to 2.2-14 to BMFC 1.1-7. Second quarter saw us start to pick the pace up a bit. The mid field was starting to get good hands on the ball, which made it easier when delivering it to the forward line. The backline held strong as usual with only letting Ainslie kicking three points to our two goals straight in this quarter. Ainslie 3.4-22 BMFC 3.1-19.

## **Round 7** **vs Ainslie @ Holt**

**BMFC 7.7-49 def by AFC 7.9-51**

**Goalkickers:** H Warden 3, J Iemma 2, J Connell, S Cummins

**Best:** T Rankin, J Connell, A Wenke, S Cummins, C Lee, D Sim

Third quarter saw us go back to our usually selves, with a very slow start to the quarter. Ainslie hit the ground running and had us chasing our tails. With the breeze, Ainslie was able to kick 3.3 in this quarter and they held us scoreless. To win this game it was going to take a big last quarter. Fourth quarter saw us with a slight breeze, as I said the team at  $\frac{3}{4}$  time the wind doesn't kick the goals you have to. The team was looking very tired after running on the very heavy ground for  $\frac{3}{4}$ . I also said to them to get the first couple of goals and the tired legs will go away. The team hit the ground running with scoring the first goal. The momentum had turned our way, with us having 10 scoring shots to Ainslie's 3. We had kicked 4.6 to Ainslie 1.2. We had fought back to get in front with only 6 minutes to go on the clock. Ainslie's only goal for the quarter came at the 21 minute mark which saw them take the lead by 2 points. This was the final winning margin as there was no time left on the clock for us to try and respond. It was a great effort from the team to nearly snatch a victory in the last dying minutes. Scoring 30 points to Ainslie's 8 points in the last quarter was a great never say die attitude.

# FOURTH GRADE MEN

*Drew Somerville*

After a 2 week break due to a cancellation against Batemans Bay and a washout from Mother Nature, the boys came out firing on all cylinders. 5 goals in the first gave us a three-goal lead going into the break. As a wise man once said, "one good quarter doesn't win you a game" and boy was he right. This aggression and pressure on the ball was not able to be replicated during the following three quarters, allowing our lead to gradually slip away to a barrage of scoring by Ainslie deep into the 4th quarter.

## **Round 7** **vs Ainslie @ Holt**

**BMFC 8.9-57 def by AFC 10.6-66**

**Goalkickers:** D Somerville 2, O Rabak, B Sainsbury, B Dwight, M Owen, R Markham, J Halliday

**Best:** O Rabak, S Tynan, J Halliday, D Somerville, G Mchutchison, J Bink

It wasn't all doom and gloom after the 1st quarter, we saw Matty Owen open his goal kicking account and hopefully celebrated to the full extent, enjoying his home brew that was promoted by one Ernest Hogan throughout the week quoting 'ehh, it's drinkable'. Big shout out to Trent Fernandez in his first game of the year, no doubt one of many. We also had Glenn McHutchison, who has not been sighted since last year after an injury ruled him out of the Premiership side, shoot into the side and straight into the votes playing a role on the wing. It was the closest we have come to the chocolates all year but a little more cohesion and attendance at training will see us reproducing our first quarter on a regular basis.

# SECOND GRADE WOMEN

*Stephen McCaskill*

A very impressive win today. Although we might need some goal kicking practice this week. Everybody contributed & got involved. Our ball movement was the best it's been with a number of kick handball chains ending in a scoring opportunity. Big shout out to Elleni Penfold for being a great team member thank you very much.

## **Round 7** **vs Ainslie @ Holt**

**BMFC 4.16-40 def AFC 0.0-0**

**Goalkickers:** L Knox 2, C Halse, P Jones

**Best:** N Abuoi, C Halse, M McCaskill, A Staib, P Jones, A Thomson

# RISING STARS

## **Round 7** **vs Ainslie @ Ainslie Oval**

**BMFC 5.7-37 def by AFC 8.3-51**

**Goalkickers:** R Murphy 2, T McInnes, L McKay, J White

**Best:** M Fitzpatrick, Z Smith, T Itter, B van Zomeren, R Murphy, J White



Jacqui 'Whippet' Spence shows off her speed during the 1st grade women's victory over Ainslie.

## YOUNG MAGPIE FLIES HIGH



Josh Buchanan takes an outstanding mark in the 1st grade match against Ainslie.  
Thanks to Jack Read for capturing the moment!

## PAST ANNUAL REPORTS NOW ONLINE

We are happy to announce that we have recently uploaded all of the club annual reports, dating from 1973 to the present, to our website.

You can also find a copy of *The First 25 Years*, a documentation of the first 25 years of the Belconnen Football Club by R. F. Goddard, for your reading pleasure!

All of the past reports, newsletters, and *The First 25 Years* on our website at: <https://belconnenfc.com.au/resources.html>

# THIS WEEK'S FIXTURES

Grade	Date	Time	Opponent	Ground
1st Grade M	5th Sep	1:35pm	Tuggeranong	The Nest
1st Grade W	5th Sep	4:30pm	Tuggeranong	The Nest
2nd Grade M	5th Sep	11:25am	Tuggeranong	The Nest
2nd Grade W	4th Sep	6:30pm	Tuggeranong	Football Park
Rising Stars	5th Sep	9:15am	Tuggeranong	The Nest
3rd Grade M	5th Sep	2:30pm	Cootamundra	Clarke Oval
4th Grade M	5th Sep	2:10pm	Yass	Yass

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

## SPONSORS

