

# NEWS FROM THE NEST

Official newsletter of the Belconnen Magpies Football Club



## Magpies with 2 chances for premiership glory

The preliminary finals of the past weekend brought both highs and lows. It was terrific to watch the 1st grade women and the 2nd grade men both notch impressive wins over Eastlake. Unfortunately our 1st grade men weren't able to follow suit, suffering a defeat at the hands of Queanbeyan.

Though they weren't able to secure a grand final berth Brock and his players can hold their heads high, as in the face of unprecedented adversity they always strived to play a brand of football that BMFC supporters could be proud of.

We wish both our teams the best of luck for their grand finals this weekend, and we look forward to celebrating two more premierships for the Belconnen Magpies Football Club!

## Attending the grand finals

This weekend's grand final day at Gungahlin enclosed oval will be a ticketed event, meaning that spectators will need to secure a ticket online prior to being admitted to the venue. Spaces are limited, so if you would like to get a ticket please use one of the following links:

**2nd grade men grandstand:**

[www.eventbrite.com.au/e/123978323503/?discount=Belconnen](http://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/123978323503/?discount=Belconnen)

**2nd grade men hill:**

[www.eventbrite.com.au/e/123978323503/?discount=2ndBelconnenHILL](http://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/123978323503/?discount=2ndBelconnenHILL)

**1st grade women grandstand:**

[www.eventbrite.com.au/e/123978323503/?discount=BelconnenW](http://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/123978323503/?discount=BelconnenW)

**1st grade women hill:**

[www.eventbrite.com.au/e/123978323503/?discount=WBelconnenHILL](http://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/123978323503/?discount=WBelconnenHILL)

# MUTUAL BROKERS

*Sponsor of the Month*



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*Volunteer of the Week:*  
*Pete Dunn*

This week's BMFC volunteer of the week is Pete Dunn!

We are happy to announce Dunny as the first repeat winner of our volunteer of the week for this year, given that he could probably win it every week with all that he does for the club. If you ever find yourself wondering how the Nest stays so clean and tidy, or who is the one pumping up footballs, filling water bottles, and mixing up the the best gatorade this side of The Brindabellas, the answer is inevitably Pete Dunn. Thanks for all of your hard work Dunny!



# WEEKEND RESULTS

1st Grade M	11.7-73	lost to	Queanbeyan	17.13-115
1st Grade W	9.7-61	defeated	Eastlake	4.7-31
2nd Grade M	6.6-42	defeated	Eastlake	3.9-27

## SECOND GRADE MEN

*Trent Hopkinson*

After the disappointment of last week, the boys were pumped to have another opportunity to secure a place in the Grand Final. After a tough contest only a few weeks before, it was going to take a consistent four quarter effort to get job done against the defending premiers in Eastlake.

Fek started like he does most weeks by dominating the ruck taps and providing first use to Chip, Fraser, and Djali. The backline were outstanding early, defending numerous entries and some great run being provided by Oz and Paddy. The forwards played in front early, with Beno and Youngy getting the two goals for the quarter, whilst small forwards Moons, JT, and Nic Hay applied relentless pressure causing multiple Eastlake turnovers.

Into the wind in the second quarter, we knew that we needed to grind it out. Like they have all year, the backline delivered with numerous intercept marks and repeat efforts, making Eastlake earn every shot inside 50. Gus Collins and Oz were outstanding linking up across half back, which allowed us to play with speed. Fraser continued his hot run of form in the back half of the season by attacking the footy and applying relentless pressure, and Daniel Jordan in his return from injury worked tirelessly to provide a focal point at half forward.

In the third quarter the game started to open up with the hot day taking its toll on many, however the wing rotation of Zac, CJ, and Cal really stood up and provided some vital repeat efforts that resulted in forward entries. The backline continued to defend well and link up in the rebound, and through numerous opportunities we were able to go into the final quarter with a 3 goal lead thanks to goals from JT, Djali, and Poschy.

Hot and heavy it was going to take one big effort in the last quarter, and Lach threw Moons into the middle to apply some extra pressure at stoppages. Fek and Poschy provided some real honest contests at stoppages, whilst Chip and Fraser continued to work tirelessly at stoppages getting front position to prevent Eastlake clearances. CJ was outstanding in the last quarter providing numerous efforts dropping back to help the backline and then providing run on the rebound. Again our backline were outstanding taking on every challenge that was thrown at them and working as a cohesive unit, as the boys went on to keep Eastlake goal less in the last quarter.

The boys are excited for the opportunity that presents itself this Saturday and the 22 selected will do the club proud. This team is so much more than the 22 that do play however and we would like to recognise everyone who has contributed to the club this year. All the best to the Women's team and hopefully we are celebrating multiple premierships on Saturday night.

### **Preliminary Final vs Eastlake @ Gungahlin**

**BMFC 6.6-42 def EFC 3.9-27**

**Goalkickers:** D Posch 2, J Taylor, D Bloomfield, S Young, B Ochieng

**Best:** O Smyth, M Mooney, D Posch, R Bradley, P Horan, D Bloomfield

# FIRST GRADE WOMEN

*Bobby Moroney*

After a delayed start to the season, restrictions on training numbers, uncertainty about when or if the season would get started, ground closures and games being abandoned due to rain, and not playing our first game at home until September! We finally have a shot at redemption and a great opportunity to honour all the women who have played football for Belconnen in the last 20 years.

Our BMFC Women's First Grade team will take on Queanbeyan in the Grand Final after an outstanding 5 goal win against Eastlake in the Preliminary Final. We placed a lot of emphasis on how we wanted to start the game, knowing that our sluggish start really cost us the week before, and our girls responded right across the ground.

Our defence was strong all game. Maddie Dwyer continued her exceptional form in defence holding the league leading goal scorer goalless until midway through the last quarter. Shae Krushka followed up with another solid performance in an unfamiliar role, while Claire Russell and Victoria Thompson maintained a high level of pressure when their moments arrived. Melissa Pellow attacked everything in sight all night and intercepted regularly, while Natasha McKay repeatedly provided dangerous attacking efforts from half back to set up forward entries.

Our wings continue to improve every week. Adol Aboui played her best game of the year, with Hayley Kemp and Tiarne Reid's outside run crucial in getting the ball moving forward. In the midfield we welcomed back Emily Pease from the AFLW Combine, and together with Jacqui Spence, the two consistently won the 50/50 contest and enabled our runners to get first use out of congestion. Zoe Allen also found some form and provided some ferocious tackles and bumps throughout the game. Ally Morphett's confidence is peaking at the right time of year, and with Kaitlyn Bailey as her tag team partner, the two were able to outwork the opposition as the game progressed.

Hannah Wallett, Emma Zouch, Sarah Tutt and Maggie Gorham were always going to be a tough task and their team first approach, sacrificial efforts and ability to quickly move the ball around the forward line caused many headaches for the opposition defence. Despite so much experience and quality in the forward line, Alex Staib was able to find space and compliment the others with her tough attack at the footy that ultimately resulted in her first goal for the club.

Finally, Amber Allen led the team superbly all game. Her communication to settle the defence, physical presence through the midfield, and her efficiency delivering the ball around the ground set the standard for every one of our players.

We have an amazing team ready for any challenge put before them. Every one of them will be ready to bring their absolute best on Saturday in our attempt to bring the 2020 premiership home.

Go Pies!

## **Preliminary Final vs Eastlake @ Gungahlin**

**BMFC 9.7-61 def EFC 4.7-31**

**Goalkickers:** H Wallett 3, S Tutt 2, M Gorham, A Aboui, E Pease, A Staib

**Best:** E Pease, A Morphett, M Gorham, M Pellow, M Dwyer, H Wallett

# FIRST GRADE MEN

*Brock Weston*

After a stirring win against Ainslie in the Semi Final our first grade boys were very much primed to take on Queanbeyan in the Prelim. Whilst we ended the season proper in a bit of a form slump we believed the win against Ainslie could be the catalyst to fully turn our form around and we were confident that we had some momentum.

The day started quite differently with an invasion of plovers nesting on the oval and not wanting anyone to access the playing surface so our game was delayed by two hours, resulting in many of us pacing around GEO.

Our first quarters had been very slow so our focus was squarely on making a statement early and coming out firing with fast, aggressive and precision footy keeping Queanbeyan to only one goal at quarter time whilst kicking 4 with the breeze.

The second term saw Queanbeyan come out looking to claw back the lead and they were dominant across the field, maintaining possession easily, but our work-rate and pressure slowly ramped up and our defensive unit made it very difficult for them to kick goals.

At half time we spoke about maintaining our intensity and effort and urged each other to continue to outrun and outwork Queanbeyan. The third term saw highly contested footy with neither team able to really gain the ascendancy. Our midfield continued to crack in but our forays forward often ended in turnovers as our ability to finish our hard work was starting to show.

With the wind all but disappearing, the final message was to keep fighting and making each moment and each contest count. Unfortunately it was evident early in the term that we were running out of legs and Queanbeyan were getting their second wind. The final quarter was a demolition job as they piled on 10 majors and completely took the game away from us. After leading by 14 points at the final term we went down by an astonishing 42 points leaving us all scratching our heads trying to understand where it all went wrong.

We cannot fault the boys' effort, it just was not our day.

Award winners for the game were: Brindabella Award: Thomas Simpson; Magpies Golf Award: Max Monaghan; BZ Burger Award: James Bennett; Subway Award: Mitch Maguire; Dominos Awards: Andrew Dess and Brad Hoffman.

Whilst we fell just short of another Grand Final appearance, from a club perspective our 2020 season was success. Despite all of the challenges we faced with preseason bushfires, global pandemics, ground closures and substantial injuries, we managed 15 debutants across the 9 games, many of those looking to be promising first grade footballers in the coming seasons. Our Rising Stars fell a game short of finals whilst our second grade men showed the depth of our list winning through to a Grand Final show down against Ainslie. Our 1st Grade women also won their way through to the big one with a comprehensive victory. All in all the season can be given a pass mark as we all look forward to this weekend and ultimately season 2021.

It has been a pleasure to coach this team and I look forward to working with the players, coaches and volunteers to go even further in 2021.

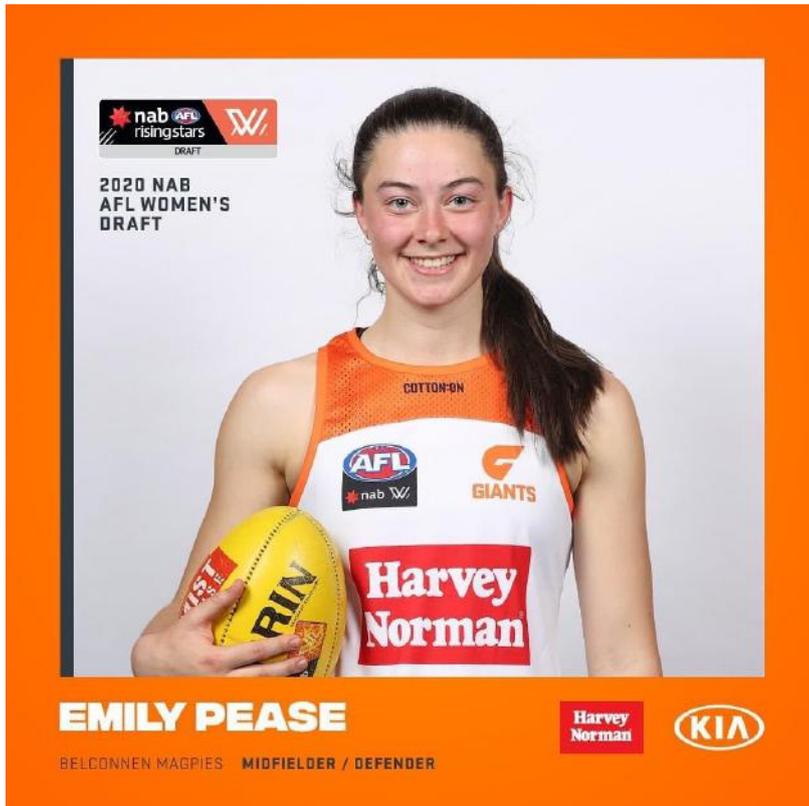
## **Preliminary Final vs Queanbeyan @ Gungahlin**

**BMFC 11.7-73 def by QAFC 17.13-115**

**Goalkickers:** S Glyde 3, T Simpson 3, A Dess 2, J Bennett 2, S O'Sullivan

**Best:** J Bennett, T Simpson, M Monaghan, A Dess, M Maguire, B Hoffmann

# HIGH FLYING MAGPIES



The club would like to congratulate Emily Pease on being selected at pick 29 by the GWS Giants in the 2020 AFL Women's draft!

BMFC women's coach Bobby Moroney had this to say: "Emily is a dynamic footballer who is able to quickly transition from a defensive situation into an attacking opportunity. Emily has been great to coach because she is constantly looking to challenge herself in all facets of the game. She never settles for average, is always looking to compete, and will be a name we hear about for years to come."

Teammate Maggie Gorham is confident that Emily will adapt quickly to the AFLW environment: "The GIANTS girls are all very welcoming and i'm sure they will all look after her in Sydney. Peasey can definitely keep up with the physical aspect of things and she also has the personality that any team would be lucky to have. I can't wait to see her develop not only on the field but off!"

Fellow teammate Amber Allen emphasised how lucky we have been to have Emily as a part of our club: "Em is an amazing part of the Belconnen Magpies family, her elite mindset and unreal skills inspire everyone around her to be the best they can be. Em is a humble, kind and caring person and this accolade couldn't have gone to anyone more deserving. Congrats on an amazing footy career so far and all the best from your Pies family!"

Congrats also to Dan Posch, who won the league best and fairest medal in the 2nd grade men, as well as winning the league goal kicking medal!

Team mate Brad Posch had this to say about Dan's achievement: "It was great to see Dan's impressive season rewarded with his 2nd league best and fairest award, a real reflection of the hard work and dedication he has put in to getting his body right in the off-season. Well done Dan, hopefully this will be enough to earn you the promotion to the backline that you've been longing for."



# THIS WEEK'S FIXTURES

Grade	Date	Time	Opponent	Ground
1st Grade M				
1st Grade W	10th Oct	6:30pm	Queanbeyan	Gungahlin
2nd Grade M	10th Oct	12:15am	Ainslie	Gungahlin
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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