

President: Mark Booth  
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 Edition: 26/27 June '09




# AROUND THE GROUNDS

Upcoming Events:

## Team Photo Day – Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> August

<u>Results 27/06/09</u>					<u>Results 28/06/09</u>				
<u>Div</u>	<u>Home Team</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>Away Team</u>	<u>Div</u>	<u>Home Team</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>Away Team</u>
U09 / C	Lugarno	1	2	Banksia Tigers	U12G / B	Lugarno	1	3	Sans Souci
U12 / B	Carss Park	1	1	Lugarno	U10G / G	Bexley North	0	2	Lugarno (1)
U13 / C	Lugarno	1	2	Bexley North (2)	U16G / B	Lugarno	0	3	Bexley North
U11 / C	Lugarno	3	0	Penshurst West	U12G / A	Ramsgate RSL	2	0	Lugarno
U11 / B	Lugarno	4	1	Carss Park	AW / A	Oatley RSL (1)	5	0	Lugarno
U13 / A	Lugarno	1	2	ASOW	U10G / G	Lugarno (2)	0	7	Connells Point
U10 / D	Carss Park	1	3	Lugarno	O35 / B	Lugarno	3	1	Banksia Tigers
U15 / B	Lugarno	2	1	Bexley North	U14G / A	Connells Point	1	2	Lugarno
U14 / C	Lugarno (2)	2	3	Hurstville Glory	U16G / A	Forest Rangers	2	0	Lugarno
U14 / C	Connells Point	0	0	Lugarno (1)					
PLR / R	ASOW	2	5	Lugarno					
U10 / A	Bexley North	0	3	Lugarno					
AA / C	Lugarno	2	5	Arncliffe Aurora					
PL / 1	ASOW	1	1	Lugarno					



Local Heroes 

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## **Canteen & Field Set up Duty Roster for the week:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Sat Morning Canteen &amp; Field setup 7:00 – 12 noon</b>	<b>Sat Afternoon Canteen &amp; Field pull down 12 noon - 5:00 pm</b>	<b>Sunday Morning field setup only</b>	<b>Sunday field pulldown only</b>	<b>Fields required</b>
<b>Sat 4<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>PL 1</b>	<b>U13 C</b>			<b>Fields 5, 6 &amp; Midi</b>
<b>Sun 5<sup>th</sup> July</b>			<b>U12B Girls U10G (1) &amp; (2)</b>	<b>AAC (field 5) PL 1 (field 6) U10G (1)&amp;(2)</b>	<b>Fields 5 &amp; 6 Midi</b>

## **Match Reports:**

### **6 Dolphins 1 vs Bexley North**

**Goal Scorers:** Zoe 1 / Jack 1 / Alana 1 / Tom 1

**POTM:** Tom Pitkethley

This was a fast paced game from beginning to end with much action happening. Zoe scored a goal early on. She kicked the ball directly towards goal from quite a long distance which was brought to a halt by one of the opposition's hands. This gave Lugarno a penalty kick and Zoe immediately scored a goal.

Shortly after, Jack also scored a goal and managed to defend a goal being scored by the other team. There was plenty of running up and down the full length of the field by everyone, making it a very invigorating game to watch. Alanna was right in there and kicked a goal, shortly after followed by Tom who scored our fourth goal. Tom continued to be in command of the ball whilst he was on the field. The Dolphins were leading 4-3 at half-time and were thrilled to be in front.

Second half there was still lots of movement on the field and much interchange of the ball. Braedon worked very hard constantly chasing the ball and turning it around. Noah kept up the pace with his fast running and managed to shift the ball towards the other end of the field with his long kicks.

Overall, it was a rigorous game with lots of energy expelled and good defence by all. Bexley North were the better team on the day scoring four more goals second half, which brought the score to 4-7.

Tom's control of the ball earned him the Person of the Match Award. A great effort by all and we're hoping to see Jamie-Lee back next Saturday.

Thanks again to Simon for refereeing the game.

### **6 Possums 1 vs Carss Park**

**Goal Scorers:** Cooper / Kieran / Ben / Ivan

**POTM:** Kieran Beadon

Sensational day of soccer, finally after all the washouts we were able to play – grounds open and sun peaking out from behind the clouds. The early timeslot didn't deter the Possums solid fan base, and they gathered on the hill for some more Possum Magic. From the kickoff it was apparent that this was going to be a strongly contested game, as both sides fought hard to gain possession of the ball. Our titans of football weren't put off by a quick attack at the goal from Carss Park, and quickly asserted their normal dominance of the field.

Carss Park had some dangerous players, and Kieran's defensive play held our line time after time, and his determined attack, and a spectacular long range goal, earned him Man of the Match, and the coveted free Macca's meal.

Cooper had a fantastic game as always, fleet in attack, often running down the opposition in defence, scoring plenty of goals and always a big smile. A bang on the head didn't stop him, he just needed to let us know he was ok before going back to demolishing the opposition.

Ivan continues to amaze, he seems to have a connection to the ball that is far advanced for his age. His precision is great, often taking mid-range running shots, which seem to ride a rail to the back of the net.

Dylan missed his mid-field chat friend Ryan (away sick), but maybe that's why he got more involved, stopping one certain goal attempt with a great clearance.

Ben had another good game, he uses his speed well, able to run down most players, though his natural position is hunting for goals.

We had heaps of chances at the goal, and the score line could have been embarrassing, but all credit to Carss Park as they kept at it and fought back to finish within one or two goals of us.

Roll on next Saturday is all I can say!!

### **7 Koalas 2 vs Forest Rangers**

**Goal Scorers:** Thomas 2 / Andrew 1

A cold winter's day greeted the Koalas 2 for their first local derby against Forest Rangers. The warm up was great, so much so that we were late on the field. We started with great purpose and were pressuring the Rangers goal repeatedly. With Adam and Jayden M ensuring our defence was solid we broke away and Thomas scored a goal. The boys were excited and our confidence grew. Then from a corner by Andrew struck hard to the near post Thomas slammed the ball home in a set move that would have not been out of place at "Old Trafford". We were up at half time and the boys were very excited.

The second half started with Lugarno again pressuring the Rangers goal. Jaden A and Marcus were very busy in midfield and Jack just missed a chance. Then from pressure on the goal Andrew cracked a goal. Rangers then hit the post twice in a lucky escape for Lugarno. We hung on to claim our maiden win for the season. Well done to all the boys, their efforts again this week were fantastic, with the biggest improvement being in marking the opposition players when we are not in possession.

Congratulations to the boys and thanks to the Koalas cheer squad.

Many thanks to Katherine Montoya, for washing the jerseys this week.

### **7 Goanna 1 vs Peakhurst United**

**Goal Scorer:** Christian 2

**POTM:** Adam

After a number of weeks rest, the Goannas were fresh and fired up. And our best result of the year was achieved, although we lost 3-2 we equalled our highest goals scored in a game and won the second half 1- 0 running up the biggest hill ever seen.

Christian scored both goals after fine team build up from deep in our own half and we fought till the final whistle. Adam was outstanding in defence and continually got back to cover even though he had just attacked.

We finally took our first strategic kick off and did not kick the ball directly back to Peakhurst while our goal kicks and kick ins mostly went down the line and not across goal. A great team effort and most pleasing is we are finally taking our training into the games.

Well done boys.

## **8 Fish 1 vs Hurstville Minotaurs**

**Goal Scorers:** Erik 1 / Brennan 1

**POTM:** Peter

We knew these guys were going to be competitive when I saw the whiteboard hanging from the coach's bag.

The match started well with possession shared and it took 15 minutes before Erik, who had been combining well with Brennan, opened the scoring. Hurstville then scored just before the halftime whistle and then directly after.

The match then turned into a tense struggle as neither side gave an inch until, in the final seconds, Brennan grabbed an equaliser. Peter earned our MOTM award with a gutsy display at the back. Nathan, Tyron, James and Jack all worked hard in a good team performance.

## **9C 1 vs Banksia Tigers 2**

**Goal Scorer:** Declan

Finally after a long break due to inclement weather, the boys got onto the pitch to play some football and they were up against the team that is sitting on top of the table.

From the whistle the boys started strong and with commitment, Declan made some good runs in the box but to no avail, with their defence stopping him from scoring. Our defence was strong also with George, Alex, Jack and David putting in some good tackles and clearing the ball. Darcy was solid in goals, our midfield was working hard with Ivan as always making some good runs, as did Declan and Peter looking to support Dean up front.

But in the 10<sup>th</sup> minute, against the run of play, Banksia came up and scored the 1<sup>st</sup> goal. Not long after that a through ball to one of their players who was clearly off-side, and with the referee letting play go on, made it 2-0.

The boys didn't put their heads down and started to lift. A good play from Declan and Dean playing the one-two with Dean taking a shot at goals, only for the ball to ricochet off the goalkeeper, going over his head and, as we thought the ball was going into the back of the net, it hits the cross-bar and goes out for a corner. A minute later the good play payed off as Declan made a good run and scored to make it 2-1 at half time.

In the second half the boys started with the same commitment, Dave was the goalkeeper and Darcy went up front with some good runs and strong challenges. There were waves of attacks from the boys with Banksia hardly seeing the ball and with Ivan again making some good runs. Banksia were frustrated and started going in with hard tackles, there was also a clear hand-ball in the box but the referee let play go on. Again, Banksia started to lift and made runs towards our goals with Dave making some excellent saves to keep us still in the game. Dean was a sub and when he came back into play made some good runs and had another good shot at goals, only to see the ball just going over the cross-bar. The game ended 2-1.

Despite the score and some decisions going against us, I haven't seen the boys play with such courage and determination as they did against Banksia. You can all hold you heads high and if we can all play like we did today for the rest of the season I'm sure we will be there with a good chance in the finals.

A special thanks to Zack for helping out in the absence of Ryan who also had a very good game.

Well done...

### **10D 3 vs Carss Park 1**

**Goals Scorer:** Rachel Cassar 2 / Julian Enriquez 1

**POTM:** Julian

Finally back on the park after missing last week's match and virtually no training for two weeks. And what a 'mouth watering' contest it promised to be as teams 1 & 2 on the ladder faced off.

Just to background this, when we played these guys in round 1 they led 4 zip after 10 minutes. Our kids fought back to finally go down 5 / 3. We had to wait 7 weeks for a return shot (not to necessarily win, but we knew we were better than that.)

So, we arrived in enemy territory (Parkside Drive) and, just saying 'Hi' you could feel the tension ... not the kids but us parents! Just to add some more spice we had no ref, but to be fair their guys did a good job.

Both sides started a little tentatively and, unfortunately, our kids paid the price conceding a soft early goal after five minutes. Did our kids have the belief? Or were they starting to think back to round 1? Did they what!! From the kickoff, our kids lifted the tempo and some of their passing was a joy to watch. In the backline James, Samuel, Danny (switched from the forward line after 'Handy Andy' was ruled out with the flu) and Joanna worked overtime repelling the Carss raids, with keeper 'Seano' on his feet and taking care of anything that penetrated the backline.

In the midfield Matty, Emily and Julian pushed the ball forward with determination and purpose allowing Rachel and Fletch plenty of quality ball. Fletch was 'running amuck' on the right side of the field and received some heavy attention but each time dusted himself off and kept probing.

By the break Rachel (although well marked) had managed two goals to swing the pendulum in our favour. Carss hit the crossbar just on halftime.

Coach John gave the kids some calm words of encouragement at the break and it was on again. Early in the second half Julian scored a third to break the game open. We could have had a fourth when James also hit the crossbar (at least the football gods were playing fair). Carss also had moments but our kids repelled them with determination and held on for a great victory.

Julian received our POTM award. He was given the task of marking 'Blondy', which was no mean feat, and did a fantastic job as well as scoring that important 3<sup>rd</sup> goal. After 50 minutes he was out on his feet. What was so satisfying about this match was seeing 10 kids playing out of their 'skin'. Top stuff 10Ds!

### **10 (1) Girls 2 vs Bexley North**

**Goal Scorers:** Rachel Cassar 1 / Hayley Matthew 1

Well, another action packed game with plenty of ball movement and no love loss between us and the opposition.

The first half saw us spending a fair bit of time in our own half with some good clearing kicks by the opposition.

We had several attempts at goal narrowly missing, with one by Hayley rocketing into the goal post for a near miss.

Our defense team was earning their money, denying the opposition any goals. Special mention to our goalies. Some fantastic saves by Georgia in the first half, and Lucia in the second half.

Ashley was like a little terrier at the back chasing down any ball that came her way and launching some great goal kicks. Jade had strong game chasing balls down, and getting some good kicks away.

Lauren played one of her strongest games this year, showing some great skills in the mid-field. Sophie and Gabby, as always were menacing in the mid-field and provided the attack of Staci, Hayley and Rachel with some great opportunities.

It was late in the first half that Rachel inevitably provided us with our first goal of the game. The

second half saw us more dominant and controlling the ball better with some inspirational passing between our players, this in turn allowed Hayley to pop the ball into the net for our second and final goal.

A fantastic effort by the girls, considering the lack of training and match play over the recent weeks.

Every week there is a marked improvement in the skills of each individual player. All the girls should be proud of their achievements thus far.

It should be a very exciting in the finals.....

### **10 (2) Girls 0 vs Connells Point 7**

Once again, Supercoach Tony had the girls primed for a big game and although it seemed like we haven't seen each other for months (bloody rain) the girls were confident of a good showing.

The game started well with plenty of enthusiasm from the girls, with Alicia and Tess attacking well before a runaway Stefanie almost scored a beauty. Gabby was very strong at the back and Jo had her best game of the year in defence as well, with all the girls defending very well. Talara made some important saves in goal to keep us in the game but a late 1st half goal saw the score 0-2 at half time.

Unfortunately, with only 1 reserve (vs their 3) we were unable to maintain our fitness and the girls tired a little and allowed a few goals to sneak in against a very good team. Maddie and Erin were solid in the middle again and Sunetra and Jess moved the ball well up front. We are still sitting in 5th place and need a few wins now to make the semis but we can do it!

### **11B 4 vs Carss Park 1**

**Goal Scorer:** Dylan 2 / Carl I / Michael 1

**Team Award:** Anthony Marneros

This was the top of the table battle for the 11B competition and this time the whole team was there (first time since early in the competition). Last time the team played Carss Park there had been only 10 players and the team just scrapped in with a 1-0 win. After so many weeks without training and match time, the boys were sluggish in the first half. Tough battles for the ball ensured with the strikers Carl and Dylan, midfielders Dion, Michael and Zachary striving for the first goal. The two Jacks (C & R), the two Matthews (C & E), Ramazan and Anthony kept the ball away from James in goal. The ball came towards the goal and the defenders pursued the ball but so did James and a gap opened up to allow Carss Park to go up 1-0. This was the first field goal that had been scored against the team all season. Ramazan pursued the attacking ball from Carss Park and made numerous last ditch saves by either kicking the ball out or sending it up to the midfielders to use. Carl, Dylan and Anthony made a number of attempts at goal but the first half ended with no further score. Coach John, in his mild-mannered way, asked the boys to play the way he knew they could and not play into Carss Park's hands.

Well it worked! Michael's attempt hit the post and bounced off the goalie's head to go out. Dylan's cross to Carl also came off the goalpost. Then Dylan got serious. He took the ball up over half the field and scored the first goal (1-1). James, now in as defence, fought tenaciously for the ball and sent it up for Zachary whose passes to the strikers were just too far. Matthew E won the ball, got it to Dylan, who with great control got the ball around the defenders for his second goal (2-1). He was so confident that he even did a little back pass to Zachary who sent it to Michael for another shot to the goalie. Carl decided that he wanted some action and took his time as he went towards the goal and put the third goal in (3-1). The final goal saw Michael kick the goal as he was literally falling to the ground (4-1). While this was occurring other great plays included a good header from Jack C to stop the ball getting past him; Matthew E, Dion, James and Anthony winning the ball off the Carss Park players; Ramazan and Matthew C putting the ball way up the other end of the field and Jack R confidently defending the goal. Carss Park team was shocked at the turn around in the game and just couldn't match the 4 goal spree even though they played hard all game. Special mention goes to

Matthew C, who although unwell and in tears at times, was determined to make sure he played a part in the win.

Anthony Marneros deservedly won the Team Award as he not only played his usual role as the central midfielder but took on the role of defender when Matthew C had to leave the field. He won the ball many times, took the ball up the field on great runs and also ran back and stopped many attacking runs by the opposition by either winning the ball or kicking it out.

### **11C 3 vs Penshurst West 0**

**Goal Scorers:** Mathew Lakos 2 / Billy Manousiadis 1

**POTM:** Sebastian Brooks, Luke Bonanno

Another good result which secures us the no. 3 position. Our defenders continue to create a solid platform for our midfielders to build on. Our forwards are now starting to convert the opportunities that are presenting in front of goal.

POTM to Sebastian for his huge improvement this season and Luke for his excellent week to week work in defence.

### **12A (Girls) 0 vs Ramsgate RSL 2**

**MWOTM:** Jennifer Wood

For the first time in many weeks, the 12GA's looked out their bedroom windows to see a sunny, cloudless sky. First confusion, followed by disbelief then excitement!!

Everyone arrived at Scarborough Park full of anticipation and looking forward to running the cobwebs out of the muscles. First order of the day was to select a suitable match reporter from amongst the parents. After a heated debate and vigorous wrestling over the blue clipboard a charming, good looking and highly intelligent scribe was selected from amongst an otherwise non-descript group. This will teach me to turn up early!

Anyway, onto the game...

The gallant Lugarno warriors were playing against the competition leaders and the early exchanges were very bright. The Lugarno girls put together several passing movements and were unfortunate not to turn a great run by Alex into a goal. On the 6 minute mark a great passing movement involving Olivia, Jessica and Jen also resulted in a narrow miss.

The girls were playing well and the competition leaders knew they had their work cut out. The game settled into a tense struggle as both teams put together high quality passages of play.

Lugarno launched several more promising attacks through Georgina's tireless lead up work and, together with Bethany, continually bought the ball forward through the midfield and a late chance fell to super-sub Ivana, who had already scored in the 12GB's match, only to see the ball go wide again.

Lugarno went into halftime down 0-2 as the opposition took full advantage of their infrequent visits to the Lugarno goal.

The second half was more of the same as Annika in goal, Emma, Isabella, Sandra and Staci turned attack after attack away. The Lugarno midfield led by Olivia, Georgina and Alex worked with Kiarne, Tiana and Amelia to find that elusive break through goal. Unfortunately, it never came despite the team putting together many high quality passing movements.

The girls played well but somehow the goals wouldn't come. They showed that they could more than match it with the competition front runners, but for an ounce more luck in front of goal could have had a better a result.

Many thanks to all the reinforcements who helped cover for illness and injury in the team.

### **12B (Girls) 1 vs Sans Souci 3**

**Goal Scorer:** Ivana

Although due to wet weather, the girls hadn't trained for a couple of weeks, they gave a gallant effort against Sans Souci. They were eventually defeated 3-1 however, that does not reflect the quality of play. Sans Souci had not had a goal scored against them this season!

Ivana scored Lugarno's only goal, but what a goal, kicking high over the head of the keeper! All the girls played well and Pamela and Maree saved many potential goals from the other team.

Hannah, Eliza, Bianca and Sarah played an extraordinary game in the midfields, kicking hard and long, whilst Sasha and Ivana motivated by a hungry score, tried to keep the ball as close to our goal as possible. Georgia, Caitlin, Marie and Pamela played great in defence with Caitlin helping the goal keeper to save goals. Well done and better luck next week!

### **13A 1 vs ASOW 2**

**Goal Scorer:** Chris Ilardo

Game number 7 for the boys was against the league leaders ASOW at Gannons Park. ASOW remain undefeated and are clearly the team to beat this year.

The pitch was extremely slippery underfoot despite a week of no rain and whilst it played a little havoc, the game was of high quality with the boys trying their hardest. In fairness, ASOW dominated large parts of the game but we fought back after being 1 goal down and went into half time locked at 1 – 1 thanks to a great effort by Chris to get to the ball before a charging goal keeper and knocking it in under pressure. ASOW ended up getting us 2-1 in a close one.

Player review as follows:

Matthew Burt – played strong as always and went in hard for the 50 / 50 balls.

Alex Griffiths – defended stoutly as always against quick forwards.

Chris Ilardo – played between mid and forward and ran hard as he always does. Picked up a nice goal as mentioned above.

Brandon Kubiak – played forward but didn't get a lot of chances this week thanks to the defence.

Jake Kubiak – again, Jake tried hard but limited chances forward this week.

Alex Pezzutti – very solid as usual and ever reliable.

Damian Price – ran for everything and had lots to do defending against quick forwards.

Jarrold Radcliffe – sparked the mid field when he dropped back from forward and tried hard to create opportunities.

Daniel Reale – good effort as goalie in the 1st half and ran well at right wing in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half.

Matthew Roth – solid at the back in the 1<sup>st</sup> half and some nice saves as goalie in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half.

Billy Tsoukalas – typical fullback performance, tight and tidy against much bigger boys.

Brandon Williams – solid again in the middle and always competes hard for the ball.

Despite the quality of the opposition, the boys toiled hard and despite losing the game, everyone tried their best which is all we can ask. Well done boys.

### **14C (1) 0 vs Connells Point 0**

**POTM:** Dimitri Maroungas

The boys dominated once again from start to finish, creating a multitude of goal scoring chances (more than 20) throughout the game. We hit the post four times, scored, only to be told by the Ref that the ball didn't cross the line, and gave the Connells keeper nightmares for the rest of season. We

deserved a win but need to start taking our chances in front of goal. There were many positives to be taken from the game. The defence maintained a clean sheet.

Brendan, Hayden, Jordan, Billy and Rohan organised themselves well against two very capable Connells forwards. The passing and communication between the defence and midfield was a pleasure to watch. Rob/Seb/Alec/Matty/Bryce/Daniel controlled the game in the midfield and the Hayden/Daniel/Brendan combinations down the right thrilled the spectators in the second half. Jake, as always, tried his guts out up front and Dimitri had his best game of the season. Unfortunately the game was marred by a sub-standard referee who didn't award an obvious goal, missed numerous handballs, gave conflicting offside decisions and awarding goal kicks to Connells instead of corners to Lugarno on a number of occasions.

Connells had one last ditch effort in the dying minutes of the second half that nearly added to our woes but Hayden, Jordan and Billy barrelled the Connells forward, forcing him to skew his shot wide.

Jim 'Rafa' Varikos has developed a twitch in his right eye, together with a touch more salt and pepper (wisdom) in the sideburns, after Saturday and is on a mission this week to find the Soccerroos Mozambique Witch Doctor ahead of the coming double-header weekend.

Heads up boys. Let's lift the intensity and show our fighting spirit yet again. There are plenty of points up for grabs...

## **15B 2 vs Bexley North 1**

**Goals Scorer:** Matt D 2

Great to be back playing again after Noah decided to pull his scaffolding down and leave site, still a little boggy in places but I don't think many people cared!

The coach issued a challenge to the boys since our last game, "how about we aim not to lose another game this season?", this game turning out to be crucial if the team is to challenge for a semi-finals berth.

The referee was known to be a stickler for detail and proved this by penalising any slight twist of the body whilst throwing in; this did have an affect on the game with both sides not able gain any momentum due the constant stoppages.

Bexley are a dangerous side if allowed to possess the ball for too long, and we had to defend to our best to repel a few early raids on our goal. Unfortunately, possession was given to the opposition in front of goal following a corner, and a simple tap in put us behind one nil. This did not deter the boys though, and Matt T found himself nicely lined up to slot one home but didn't connect. Back down the field and a loopy shot against us should, by rights, have gone in but luckily for us shaved the crossbar. Lugarno just lacked control of the ball when in possession, as though we were panicking. Nick put one good cross over and found Tom's head, another found Liam in space....but no goals. A nice free kick from Matt Danskin went straight through everyone into the keepers arms. Tom put the bit between his teeth and went on a forage, beating three players only to shoot wide. Another attack saw Jye parry the ball before keeping hold to deny the visitors. The first half ended leaving the spectators slightly worried.

The second half started in a lively manner, Jye punching away a corner to set Nick off on a run up the middle, only to shoot wide under pressure from the defence. Two more corners to Bexley put the tally to at least 7-0 on that score.

In the ninth minute, a lovely one-two between Liam and Matt D put Matt in a great position to calmly place the ball to the keepers left...goal, one-all.

Tim Drury, back from injury, chased well and showed some nice pace. At last, we got a corner which Matt D overcooked but then another one saw Andrew's shot blocked and then Tom's rebound went over the bar. Tom then found himself through but hit the shot wide of the keeper. Another Matt D free-kick went begging, Tom's cross onto Liam's head was also saved, Matt T crossed nicely for Tom, it was nearly there, just not quite being finished.

6 minutes from time Matt D finally broke through on a solo run, beating the defence and placing another fine shot passed the keeper.

Full time was a relief, a win....scratchy, but three points nonetheless. Well done boys.

### **16A (Girls) 0 vs Forest Rangers 2**

An example of the old saying 'United we stand, Divided we fall' and we fell with a resounding thump. Say no more.

Again, we thank Yasmin from the 16Bs and Sam, Sarah D and Mia from the 14As who helped us out today. Much appreciated girls.

### **Premier League 1sts 1 vs ASOW 1**

**Goal Scorer:** Callan

A really tough game on a very heavy Oatley Park surface. With a couple of regulars missing, Mitchell made his 1st grade debut and he didn't look out of place at all. The playing surface made it very difficult to control the ball and there was always the fear that a defensive error could lead to a goal. Unfortunately, it was a Lugarno error which led to ASOW taking the lead mid-way through the 1st half. The rest of the half was a battle, with both sides not creating a lot of goal scoring chances. However, on the balance of the play, we were probably a shade lucky to go to half-time only 1-0 down.

Coach Irish calmed the lads down at half-time and we returned after the break a different team. It was all Lugarno and the sustained pressure finally paid off when Callan equalised after 10 minutes following some excellent lead-up work by Ronnie. We certainly had the better of the play for the rest of the game and could have snatched a winner with better finishing. In the end, a 1-1 result was probably a fair outcome for the effort and quality of play (given the conditions) that was put in by both teams.

With a few 1st Grade players missing in coming weeks and a double-up round next weekend, this will be a real test for the team. But if we can reproduce the 2nd half effort and spirit shown in this game, I'm sure we can come out of this period with our position in the top 4 comfortably maintained.

### **Premier League Reserves 5 vs ASOW 2**

**Goal Scorers:** James 2 / Con 1 / Louis 1 / Tory 1


Reserves made it 6 wins in a row with a comprehensive 5-2 win over ASOW. Despite missing a few regular players, the team got on top early and had things in control for most of the game. The 1st half was highlighted by some excellent team soccer by Lugarno, even though the mud and slush at Oatley Park wasn't ideal for playing quality soccer. We led 2-0 at half-time after two excellent goals from Con and James, both resulting from some great team work and interchange of passing.

The 2nd half continued with Lugarno on top and James soon made it 3-0. It looked like a walk in the park for the last 30 minutes, but a lack of discipline saw us have a player sent off and it was backs to the wall for the rest of the game with only 10 players on the field. There was some concern when ASOW made it 3-1 but goals to two of our young replacements, Tory and Louis, made it 5-1 and despite a late goal to ASOW, we ended up comfortable winners 5-2.

Overall another great effort by the team, despite having quite a few changes from the side that has been so successful over recent weeks. This highlights the strength of our Premier League squad and the competition for places in both 1sts and Reserves is positive for both teams.

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