

2023

**St Marys
Football
Club**



YEAR BOOK

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Neil Graham

Hello everyone,

2023 was a great year for St Marys Football Club both on and off the field. After the three toughest years in the history of the club(two years of Covid and one of floods) we finally had a normal season and back at our home fields.

We again ran our Miniros Kick Off program for 3-5 year olds and had many enrolments. The program ran for 10 weeks and budding new stars got their first introduction to our great game early on Saturday mornings. Thanks to all club members who made this such a resounding success.

Our Miniros in the Under 5 to Under 7's had a fantastic time this year and lots of smiles were seen around Potter Field as these teams learn the game under their dedicated coaches. They were given great support from their enthusiastic parents and it was great to see them having fun.

Our Under 8 teams moved onto the bigger fields this year as did our Under 10's. They adjusted well to the changes and played some great football. All of our teams in the U8 to Under 11 age groups improved under their coaches and were a credit to their coaches and the club. It was great to watch them play and see them enjoy the game so much.

I also had the great pleasure of attending Gala days featuring our U7, U8 and U9 teams this year. The skills of these young players and the dedication of their coaches was a treat and they represented the club in all the right ways and were a credit to us.

In the junior competition age groups all teams performed well and gave 100% every game. All teams improved throughout the season but in particular our U13 boys coached by Phil Allen played some outstanding football in the back end of the season. Our U12's had a difficult start to the year but improved as the year went on and they played with great spirit. Next year promises more. Our U13 girls had a fine season placing in the top four and are a team to keep an eye on in the next couple of years.

Our U15's were in Division 1 and were highly competitive all year. They were unlucky to be on the wrong end of the result in some close games but with a little more luck next year will be their year. Our U16 team played some fine football under Walter and qualified for the semi finals where they were unlucky to lose to Warradale in extra time. These young guys are the future of our club.

Our seniors flew the flag for the club this year in competition football. All five teams made the semi finals with four going on to make the Grand Final. St Marys FC was the most represented club on senior grand final day.

Our new Ladies team did the club proud and finished second after the home and away rounds which is a great achievement. They agonisingly lost a penalty shoot out in the semi denying them a deserved spot in the GF. They have great team spirit and will be hard to beat next year.

We were fortunate to have two all St Marys grand finals this year at Jamison Park with our AA7 & AA9 teams dominating their leagues this year. Both games were classics with plenty of goals and in the end went to extra time. In the AA7, St Marys White got the chocolates with a last minute penalty and were worthy winners after being runners up last season. The Black team also had a fantastic year and were a credit to the club as they always have been.

The AA9 game was a pulsating affair in front of a large crowd with a couple of stunning goals and after 90 mins and extra time the teams could not be separated. The game went to the dreaded penalty shootout with St Marys Black prevailing over the Whites who had claimed the minor premierships. Both teams had great years and a share of the spoils was reward for both teams who had excellent seasons.

Off the field the club remains in a strong position with playing numbers steady and our financial position remains strong. Healthy sponsorships and the canteen being open again have helped the bottom line and hopefully the club will remain fiscally sound in the years to come.

As for me my time as President is up and I leave the club with it in far better shape than when I assumed the role 4 seasons ago. At that time the club was floundering, losing numbers and with ever diminishing numbers of teams. Morale was low and the club was still operating as it had 25 years previously.

Together with innovative committee members such as Rebecca Borg, Brad Taylor, Jasmin Hodge, Kevin Zoutendijk and Daniel and Aiden Branik we dragged the club into the 21st century, utilising all the technology to make the club better and operate more effectively. One of my proudest achievements of my term was the introduction of the new logo, reflecting our future, football for everyone of both sexes.

Two seasons of Covid 19 and a season of floods were the most challenging years community sports in NSW had ever faced. But the changes we made allowed the club to absorb these hurdles. Our club was a leader in the Association when it came to Covid controls and many of the changes we made to the running of the club have been adopted by other clubs within Nepean.

I leave the club in a strong position financially, operationally and with record sponsorships. These sponsorships are in place for the next few years and will provide income that can be invested in the club and its members. I'm hopeful that the new committee will be able to complete some new sponsorships in the next few weeks which will further help the club.

This club has been a big part of my life for the last twelve years. As a player, coach, parent and administrator I have enjoyed every role. I love this club and I'll always be green at heart. But I haven't had kids play here for 3 years now and Covid and the floods have taken a bit of a toll. But I was delighted to have a normal season again and to see two all St Marys FC grand finals capped it off. I'll still be involved in the game and I'll say g'day if I see you.

I'd like to thank all the members over the years who've made this club such a great place.

Go Saints!

Neil Graham
President
St Marys FC

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Rebecca Pressick

Playing Season

After 2 long years of Covid, followed by a year of weather issues, which left us with 3 straight years of disruptions & set-backs, it was so nice to finally be back on the fields and playing a full season of football. And what a season of football it has been. Not only have we grown the number of senior teams in our club,, from 2 teams last year to 5 teams this year. All 5 seniors teams had resounding success, having made the semi-finals, with 4 of them progressing to play in an all St Marys FC grand final. Let me tell you, what an amazing feeling it was watching both St Marys FC vs St Marys FC grand final matches, both of which went down to the wire, one in a penalty shoot out following extra time & the other in the last minutes of extra time.

Congratulations to all teams on a great season.

Female Football

All Age Women's team – 2023 has been an exciting year for female football for our club. After many years absence, SMFC have finally fielded an All Age Women's team, and what a year it was! What started out as just a random bunch of ladies coming together to have a kick & a bit of fun, turned out to be a super tight knit group of friends & serious contenders in the finals, having finished 2nd on the ladder. I personally have loved running along side of these amazing women & cannot wait to strap on the boots again for the 2024 season.

All Girls team – 2023 saw the return of our clubs first all-girls team for their second season. It is pleasing to see female participation increasing at our club after such a long absence. I personally had the privilege of being the team coach. I must say I am super excited that girls are getting involved with the greatest sport in the world & I love nothing more than watching them get enjoyment from playing, growing in confidence & improving every single week. Hopefully this is the start to more girls enjoying our sport and the continued growth of all girls & women's teams at our club.

MiniRoos Kick-off Program

This year was our second year running the MiniRoos Kick-Off Program, which is as an introduction of basic soccer skills for 3 to 5 year old's. As was the case last year, it was a resounding success. Nothing is better than seeing the huge smiles on the kids faces every week & seeing their confidence grow.

A big thank you to our Junior Coaches

Chloe Harris, Isabella Pressick, Alak Ajou, Gurnoor Ghuman, Luke Allen, Ryc Phillips, Koshin Kandregula, Gabriel Pulliese, Aaditya Naicker & Toshani Naicker who provided assistance to run the program for 10 weeks. We couldn't of provided this program without you.

Fundraising & Sponsorships

A massive thank you to our major sponsors Raine & Horne St Marys & St Marys Leagues Club continued supporting our club into 2023. Without the support of our sponsors, we could not continue to provide the necessary equipment & affordable registrations to our members.

Play for Purpose Raffle

Last year we signed up to partner with Play for Purpose which is an online not-for-profit raffle that helps hundreds of Aussie charities and sporting clubs like ours fundraise while giving you the chance to win some amazing prizes. A whopping 50% of all ticket sales go directly to support our club. The best part is, this gives our supporting members the opportunity to win big with a \$250,000 + prize pool 4 times a year &, at the same time support our club by providing a year-round income. It's a win win! I encourage you to jump online & take a look.

Senior Trivia Night.

This year our main fundraising event was a Senior Trivia night held at St Marys Leagues Club. What a super fun night it was. Not only was it fun, but we also managed to raise nearly \$2,000, due to the generosity and "for the club" spirit of the members who attended this night. I would like to say Thank You to each and everyone of you. You are what makes our club great.

Donations

I would like to give a big shout out and say a massive thank you to all of the local businesses who have supported our club with their generous donations of goods and services, which we have been able to use as prizes at our fundraising events and raffles. Please get on board and support the businesses who support us. A full listing of all of the businesses who have made donations or sponsored our club this season is at the back of this yearbook.

Thank You

I would like to say a massive thank you to all the parents who volunteered to be Coaches & Managers of our teams this year. It has been particularly hard trying to get the families engaged & participating, especially following 3 long years of disruption. Without your time & efforts we could not put kids on the field, it's as simple as that. Also, to the mums, dads & grandparents that got their kids to training & games week in and week out & were there cheering on the sidelines to support their child's team, thank you to you too. Your kids really appreciate you being there. And finally, to my fellow Committee members, thank you for all you do to make this all happen. There is a massive amount of work that goes on behind the scenes that most members do not see or even know about. Without volunteers like yourselves, we would not have our Club today.

I hope everyone has a happy & safe off season & I hope to see you all again next year.

Sincerely
Bec Pressick
Secretary SMFC

REGISTRAR'S REPORT

Satya Naicker

Wow, another season has come and gone! 2023 exceeded our expectations and was a great year for our Club. We had anticipated a big loss in player numbers this year due to the significant disruption of rain, which had our home fields out of action for most of the last season. But the Club actually grew in numbers in 2023. After a long time our senior numbers actually doubled, whilst our juniors numbers were down.

Special thanks to all members of our committee who assisted in the registration process. Special thanks to Rebecca, Nicole and Jaz for assisting with registrations both at our home fields and also at Inflatable World. Every member assisted in some way and your efforts are very much appreciated. Shout out also to Aiden for all his work behind the scenes.

We moved all registrations to dribl this season which seemed to work well for both players and the Club.

We had a total of 268 registered players at our club for 2023 compared to 265 last year – having lost some juniors and gained senior players.

We started with 20 teams, but had to merge two teams after we lost some players from a team, so we had 19 registered teams in the end. We had 1 X U5, 1 X U6, 2 X U7, 2 X U8, 1 X U9, 1 X U10, 1 X U11, 1 X U12, 1 X U13G, 1 X U13B, 1 X U15B, 1 X U16B, 1 X AAW, 4 X AAM.

A big thanks to our Secretary who worked tirelessly to get an All Age Women's team onboard. We haven't had a women's team for a long time, so this was a great development. We can only build from here



**Finally thank you all for taking pride in being associated with ST MARYS FOOTBALL CLUB.
Let us always strive to improve ourselves and encourage everyone we meet to feel they
are appreciated.**

**WITH DUE CARE PLAY AND LET EVERYONE PLAY
Satya Naicker
Registrar
St Marys Football Club**

COMPETITION SECRETARY'S REPORT

Satya Naicker

2023 has been a great year for SMFC

Without doubt, it's been the best year since I have been the Competition Secretary. All our competition teams (All Age Women's 4, All Age Mens 9 (Black & White), All Age Mens 7 (Black and & White) U16 Boys, U15 Boys, U13 Girls, U13 Boys and U12 mixed made the second phase of play. And even better, 4 teams made the grand final day with 2 eventual winners.

Special thanks to our coaches and managers (Victoria & Rebecca AAW4, Chris & Dylan AAM9 White, Shane & Victor AAM9 Black, Peter & George AAM7 White, Aiden & Nathan AAM7 Black, Walter, Charmaine & David U16, Natalie & Satya U15, Lisa & Rebecca U13G, Phil & Bek U13B, Vinay, Chris & Victor U12M, without your time and effort this would not have been possible.





After 3 really bad years on the trot, 2023 was a great surprise package. We didn't have a single washout weekend. Whereas barely any teams had a home game in 2022 due to the impact of wet weather on our field, this year we didn't get a single game washed out.

A big thanks to our Secretary who worked tirelessly to get an All Age Women's team onboard. We haven't had a women's team for a long time, so this was a great development. We can only build from here.



Again many thanks to Linda Cerone (General Manager Nepean), Alicia Green and Cheryl Lynch (Competition Manager Nepean) who never shied away from assisting throughout the season. Was great to see Linda Cerone at our fields during the main competition rounds.

Trials

It was great to have some trial games before the main competition started. Trials are always hard to organise as we never get access to our fields until the week before the main competition begins as the fields are also used for cricket. Nonetheless we were able to organise trials at away fields.

Thanks to Emu Plains FC, Band Club FC, St Clair FC, Bligh Park FC, Rooty Hill FC, Blacktown St Patricks SC, St Marys Convent FC and Lowland Wanderers FC for hosting us for the trials. Sincere appreciation for your assistance

MiniRoos Kick-off Program

What's this program about?

The MiniRoos Kick-off program is all about the kids having fun, whilst learning the basic skills of football. It helps the parents in choosing which sport to have their children involved in in coming years. Giving the kids an opportunity to try out the sport and their families some insight into the

game and how a winter club soccer competition works. The program is aimed at young kids aged 3-5 and to give them a taste of football.

It was another good year for our MiniRoos kick-off program. Our Secretary organised all registrations, kits and equipment and it was left with myself to organise the game day essentials. Phil Allen assisted as and when his team wasn't playing away. Thanks for all your assistance. Without which we would not be able to run the program so smoothly.

The kick-off was pushed back by a week due to wet weather and started on 6th May. We started with more than 30 kids and the numbers then fluctuated due to the weather and other commitments each week. The objective, first and foremost, is for the kids to have fun. The four main components we were practising were first-touch, running with the ball, striking the ball and small-side games.

Massive thanks to everyone that helped out as game leaders (Isabella, Gurnoor, Alak, Chloe, Emma, Kosin, Aaditya, Toshani, Tanvi, Gabriel, Luke, Ryac & Malakai) we couldn't have run the program without your help and you allowed the program to run smoothly.



The Real Competition

Let's take a quick look at all our teams for 2023:

U5 Foxes. Foxes had a great run under Kristen and Charmine. Both of them travelled an hour to get to the fields on time everytime. Great effort by both and also the team really gelled well together.

U6 Sharks. Tonischea and Nicole got the team going. Tonischea really held the team together while Nicole was away. Great effort. Fortunately we had players added to this team as some became unavailable.



2 U7's teams: Tigers and Panthers. Both teams continued from last year with some players added. Tigers looked after by Lisa and Leigh and Panthers by Krystle and Faye. Fantastic effort as teams also took part in Gala Days.

2U8's teams: Blues and Reds. These players got a taste of bigger playing fields and more player numbers. Blues looked after by Allan and Steve and Reds by Russell and Daniel.

U9 Reds were looked after by Daniel and Natalia. These teams also participated in Gala days.

1 U10's and 1 U11's. Under 10's were looked after by Kevin and Brooke. Kevin back to Minis after coaching competition teams for a few years. And U11 looked after by ever-present Nathan and Nicole. They have coached and managed this team for the last 6 years.

We had a **U12's mixed team** coached initially by Chris and taken over by Victor and managed by Vinay. Great effort by Vinay as when Chris was unavailable and later by Victor in assisting the team. Thanks Victor for taking the time and effort to coach the team.

U13 Girls was coached by our Secretary Rebecca Pressick and managed by Lisa. Was a great effort to continue with the girls team. Thanks to all the girls, parents and everyone else who assisted to keep this going. See you again next year.



We had a U15, Div 1 team. What a change we had in this team, last year we struggled to have 11 players in the team and this year we had to leave players off the team list. The team was managed by Natalie and coached by myself. The team participated in the State Cup and as well as the Nepean Cup.



U16 DIV 2 team. The team was dropped back to division 2 as requested as we had struggled with numbers previous year. The team performed above and beyond expectation, with so many new faces in the team. The team was looked after by Walter as coach and David and Charmine chipped in as managers.



All-Age teams. We had 5 all-age teams after a very long time. One all-age women's team and 4 all-age mens teams. Their achievements are second to none. Thanks again for all your effort.

All together we had 19 teams. We had to reshuffle players around at times to make some teams in lower age groups. And also competition teams were able to borrow players unlimited times as of change in rules.

A very heartfelt thanks to all coaches and managers who volunteered their time so generously for the kids in general. Especially our Miniroos teams with some parents volunteering for the first time. Learning the ropes on the job. All of your effort is very much appreciated. Thanks also to all parents, carers , siblings and families who assisted the coaches and managers at training and also on game days.

To all coaches and managers, a very big thank you for your efforts, NO CLUB CAN OPERATE WITHOUT SELFLESS VOLUNTEERS LIKE YOU. WE'LL NEED YOU AGAIN NEXT YEAR.

Communications

Communications has been ever improving from previous years. We continued with the WhatsApp group with all managers, coaches and committee members. This has made it much easier to correspond with all and vice-versa. It became much easier to pass information to all members/players via coaches and managers.

Keep up with good work. Thanks to all.

Electronic Match Sheets (EMS)

We continued with Dribl from previous years. Another year for the Electronic Match Sheets (EMS) full time, with the exception of any network outages, when the use of paper match sheets is allowed. All coaches and managers had to get their heads around using the system. It was trialled for the first 4 weeks without any fines being issued for errors, but plenty followed afterwards. Communications and reminders really helped in ironing the issues out. Great effort by new managers and coaches to get themselves across the system. The EMS has really made life easier with upgrades, notification of suspended players, recording extra data if the team wants and also statistics collection. One of the great things about Dribl was that the updates went to everyone involved. Keep Dribling!!

Game Leaders

As mentioned earlier, thanks to all our young players that helped out with the MiniRoos Kick-off program as Game leaders - Isabella, Gurnoor, Alak, Chloe, Emma, Kosin, Aaditya, Toshani. Tanvi, Gabriel, Luke, Ryac, Malakai assisted throughout the program.

Then we also had a group of kids who were Game leaders in our minis games. This is a mini step into refereeing full games in the future. Namely thanks to: Aleks, Isabella, Gurnoor, Mammeet, Alak, Chloe, Emma, Toshani, Luke, Ryac, Gabriel. Without the help of these kids the games would be in chaos.

Cadet Referees

The Club has a work in process of having a group of referees fully trained and qualified and available to be called on to officiate games when NRG refs are not available.

Fields & Game Day

Firstly thanks to all parent helpers, coaches and managers for assisting in setting up fields for their games and packing up after the games.

Fields were duly marked every 2-3 weeks for the games. I was assisted in marking fields by my brother Arjun and Narayan most of the time. Very much appreciated.



Finally I would like to thank all those volunteers, parent helpers, parents, families, siblings, and carers who have assisted in any way to contribute to a very successful year for SMFC.

Thank you all for taking pride in being associated with ST MARYS FOOTBALL CLUB. Let us always strive to improve ourselves and encourage everyone we meet to feel they are appreciated.

**WITH DUE CARE PLAY AND LET EVERYONE PLAY
SEE YOU ALL AGAIN 2024**

**Satya Naicker
Competition Secretary
St Marys Football Club**

Our 2023 Teams

AGE

Under 5

Under 6

Under 7

Under 7

Under 7

Under 8

Under 8

Under 9

Under 10

Under 11

Under 12

Under 13 Girls

Under 13 Boys

Under 15

Under 16

All Age Women

All Age Men White

All Age Men Black

All Age Men White

All Age Men Black

DIVISION

Foxes

Sharks

Tigers

Panthers

Tigers

Red

Blue

Red

Green

Division 3

Division 3

Division 2

Division 2

Division 1

Division 2

Division 4

Division 7

Division 7

Division 9

Division 9

St Marys Football Club Life Members

**Maureen Ruby
Gladys Starr
Sue Hartas
Kerry Whitfield
Ken Brooke
Dianne Skuthorpe
Ray Dunn
Genelle Youssef
Glenn Lawson
Jamie Dettmer
Maryanne Moore
Alan Youssef
Namatjira Skuthorpe
Malcolm Ruby
Vince Thorpe
Michael Hartas
Keith Whitfield
Bruce Bailey
Cheryl Dunn
Nick Bruzzese
Joe Youssef
Brad Taylor
John Witherby
Luke Dunn
Brendan Malzard
Michael Clarke
Maria Feleks
George 'Glory' Osaghae**

Club Persons of the Year

Jamie Dettmer Junior Club Persons of the Year

Isabella Pressick

- * **Demonstrating leadership skills, encouraging and supporting players in the team.**
- * **Being reliable, attending training and games, on time and ready to go with a soccer ball and drink bottle.**
- * **Playing the game in the right spirit, including demonstrating respect for the referee, coaches, managers, supporters as well as the opposition.**
 - * **Demonstrating sportsmanship**
- * **Assisting the coach and manager and club with tasks, this may include things such as cleaning up witches hats, fields and rubbish during or after training and games.**
 - * **Any other matters that the coach or manager may consider.**

Isabella is consistently down at the clubhouse helping out wherever she is needed. She does Junior Coaching for the Miniroos Kick-off program for the 3-5 year olds, does game-leading for the junior games (Miniroos U5 to U11) as well as helping with set-up and pack-up of the canteen and fields both Saturdays and Sundays most weekends. Bella' also assist with regular clean ups / sorting of the training equipment, including pumping up balls so teams have them ready for training and anywhere else she can help. Isabella is also a big supporter of all the players in her team, always giving encouragement, cheering them on and keeping morale high.

Club Persons of the Year

Carol Leavey Club Person of the Year

Victor Chavez

The Carol Leavey Club Person of the year award is presented annually to a senior member of SMFC for exceptional contribution to the club. The candidate is someone who makes regular and valued contributions for the overall benefit of the club and fellow members. A senior member is any person 18 years and over, who is a player, coach, manager, committee member or Parent / Guardian of a Player.

Victor has been volunteering his time consistently throughout the season, offering specialised goalkeeper training to our junior teams as well as taking on the coaching of the u12's team when theirs fell through. Victor doesn't even have children playing, yet he dedicates his time to developing so many kids across the club. Without him, the U12's would not of been able to take the field for much of the season.

Years of Service Milestones

CLUB MEMBER

YEARS

Arjan Singh Ghumman U9 RED	5 Years
Jake Mee U11	5 Years
Andreas J Sanchez U11	5 Years
Gurnoor Kaur Ghumman G U13/2	5 Years
April Vocalan G U13/2	5 Years
Isabella Pressick G U13/2	5 Years
Manmeet Singh U13/2	5 Years
Safi Anwar U16/2	5 Years
Ryan Green U16/2	5 Years
Harjot Singh U16/2	5 Years
Lachlon Lansdell AA9	5 Years
Nathan Pressick U11	5 Years
Aiden Branik AA7	5 Years
Ryan Johannsen U15/1	10 Years

Under 5 Foxes



Congratulations to the under 5's Foxes for a fantastic season!

This was their first experience at a long term team sport, and they surpassed expectations by miles. It was my first time as a coach and Charmaine's first time as a manager. My aim was to develop their understanding of working together as a team, enjoying each other's company, enjoying the time they spend at training/during the game, and to develop their fundamentals in football.

They began the season as shy individuals who were not so understanding of the game, or what it was like to be in a team. We started off our first few training sessions mainly with fun team games and then introduced activities to build on their fundamentals throughout the season. These fundamentals included a lot of time dribbling with the ball, fun agility circuits, a bit of passing, a bit of shooting and a lot of fun games like tip, bullrush, sharks and minnows etc.

Through mix of time, practice, curiosity, enthusiasm, hard work and fun - they grew to love coming to each training session and each early Saturday morning game. As a result, they were one of the strongest teams in our competition. They learned so much and showed us that they are capable of more than we could imagine if we give them the chance to explore and do things for themselves. They made all of the parents and I proud of what they were able to accomplish within a span of a few weeks.

They truly are a great group of kids who were very positive, lovely, friendly, and silly. I thoroughly enjoyed being the coach and I am so privileged to have been part of this team. I am most proud of how much they bonded with one another throughout the season, and how despite not always having positive moments, they genuinely enjoyed each other's company. As a result, they enjoyed learning and playing football with each other.

I hope they continue to strive to become better versions of themselves each day, to find meaning in what they do, and most importantly to find joy in the things they do and with the people around them as they did throughout our season.

Thank you to the parents and families for your trust, commitment, time and support for the team; to the siblings for joining during training; thank you to the committee for enabling our team to thrive with organising and providing access to the field and utilities; and thank you to the team - Angad, Helena, Jaycob, Johnathan, Malachi and Oliver - for a fantastic season. You will all be dearly missed!

Coach Kirsten
SMFC U5's Foxes



Under 7 Panthers



I want to thank all the kids in the Panthers, what an amazing year you guys have had, the teamwork is incredible, you play hard, play fair and have so much fun I love seeing those smiles the whole game and afterwards. Not to mention winning all but 3 of our games all year.

Thank you to the parents for coming to all the games and cheering on our little legends. Under 8 Reds players, parents and coach for letting us join in on training sessions we all had so much fun learning from you all.

Thank you so much to my manager Faye for being my right-hand lady.
I can't wait for bigger and better things next year.

Krystle (Coach)

Congratulations to all the U7 Panthers - Acacia, Zaim, Maddison, Hussain, Sidney, Parees and Chase. We have had such a fun and enjoyable soccer season, watching all of you grow in skills, confidence and sportsmanship.

Our teamwork improved, leading to us winning majority of our games.

The celebratory aeroplanes after each goal never failed to bring smiles and added a special touch to every game. Your teamwork and support for one another was truly special to watch...so was seeing how much game could be played while on the ground instead of standing!

Our parent vs kids training games were a highlight for both big and little people. The laughter and banter created togetherness that created friendships beyond teammates.

A huge thank you to the Panthers' parents, friends and family for their loud and enthusiastic support every game. Each of you were essential to our team and it meant a lot to each Panther to have you in their corner. We wouldn't have a team without you! Special thank you to coach Krystle for another year of awesomeness that goes beyond soccer skills.

**Supporting the Panthers this season has been an absolute pleasure. I am excited to see what next season holds!
Faye (Manager)**



Under 7 Tigers



A team of kids that didn't know each other but became friends fast, they showed up every week, they encouraged & supported each other, listened, learnt new skills & implemented them in the game all while having fun. They were a quiet bunch but soon turned strong together as a team by the end of the season.
An absolute awesome bunch of kids!



Under 8 Bears

2023 saw a return to a normal year of football, minus the rain and the pandemic... and it was great. The team saw the introduction of new faces - Tee, Sammy & Ercan, as we progressed from mini to 'big kids' soccer. New rules included bigger goals with 6 players on the field and a goalkeeper required each game. We needed to learn throw ins, goal kicks and corners. We needed to learn how to space this new, big field. And I must say, as a team, we did a fantastic job!

Conner added to his game this year, showing he was just as good in midfield as he is at the back and he played both positions well this year. Conner can run all day and is a great tackler, often chasing back and saving the day.

Jordan was such a consistent figure at the back all year, ensuring no team has easy passage to our goal. He was always in the right position to come across and make a crucial tackle. Jordan was also able to dribble the ball out of defence well and set up attacks at the other end.

Tehan made the change from an attacker to a defender this year and he made it look so easy. This is what Tehan does, effortlessly able to prevent the other team from scoring one end and setting up the attackers in the same play.

Heidi showed such improvement as the year progressed it was a shame to see the season end when it did. When Heidi trained well, she played well and her increased involvement at training throughout year, showed up on game day, especially later in the year.

Charlie it was great to see Charlie become more and more engaged as the year progressed. Whether that be on the field or in goals, when Charlie applied his best effort, he was a great contributor to the team.

Lucy did a great job with her positioning as a forward throughout the year and was able to help create many goals for the team. Her tackling also improved as Lucy showed no fear against any opponent.

Tee instantly showed his skills on the field. But it took a few games before I realised he had a hidden talent – he was also a super goalkeeper. I encourage you to continue growing your skills in both positions, because you have a talent.

Sammy also showed me straight away what he was about with his skills and ability to dribble the ball in tight areas on the field. Sammy had an eye for goal and was able show his strength in his tackling, nearly always winning the duel.

Ercan showed his talent in the middle of the field. Whether it was defending or attacking Ercan used his powerful right boot to great effect many times. The key for Ercan now is to slow down a little bit when he's on the field and look for the right option, instead of the big boot.

Jacob had a great year in the middle of the field or up front. Scoring goals or getting back and saving them, Jacob was always full of running looking to get involved. Each game meant a lot to him and he was determined to win each moment when he was out there.

It was a pleasure coaching the team again this year. I'd like to say a big thank you to Stevie, the team manager for all the work he does for the team each week, a lot that goes unnoticed. To all the parents thank you so much for your support and help on match day. Whether it's getting the kids to the game despite the cold, helping with the goals or just encouraging the kids, having so many engaged family members on the sideline each week is an inspiration for the kids and I am sure they appreciate.

Alan.

Under 8 Reds

2023 was a great year for the Reds, with the kids looking like a completely different team by the end of the year. The kids have come a long way from a quiet and shy bunch to improve in their individual skills and confidence, as well as a close supportive team making all of us very proud!

It was an absolute pleasure to watch the kids develop and was the highlight of everyone's week!



Honnesh - the big bulldozer who could take the ball from anybody! He was always running the field making plays for his teammates.



Ranaa - the challenger always stealing the ball from the opposing team and kicking it away from them with her big kick! Also a star goalie who waited till the last game to show it!



Jayda - great teammate with a heart of gold who was always talking to her team encouraging and directing the play! Improved out of sight throughout the year and loved being goalie!



Tyrese - the dribbling machine who was everywhere on the field! Always at the right place at the right time helping his team defend or set up a goal.



Lucas - the long-range goal scoring machine who could take a shot from anywhere on the field! Also a tough as nails defender who stopped other teams in their tracks with massive kick returns.



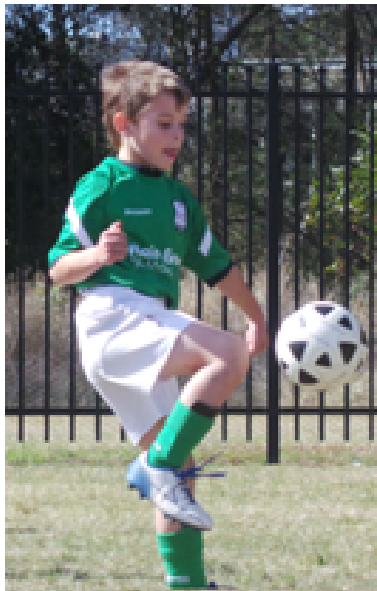
Kiara - a great defender who was always clearing the ball at the right time with her big kick and a great ability to be in the right place at the right time!



Jarraah – epic ball runner who can dribble though whole teams and smash goals with either foot! He also has great speed which allowed him to be everywhere on the field defending and attacking.



Andy - always supporting his teammates and making big runs down the field! A defenders worst nightmare in the goals scoring plenty and he loved being goalie.



Eddy - a great defender and our sweeper extraordinaire! It was like having two goalies out there when he was on the field, and he also got a well-deserved goal in the final game!



Calvin - the littlest big guy on the field. He could charge through the defenders with ease while leaving a path of destruction! Calvin was also a fearless goalie and midfield speed machine.

We would also like to extend a special thankyou to all the families involved and guest appearances at training from the U7 Panthers and everyone's brothers (I cant wait to see you in full time action next year Tiger and Ayden!). We also really appreciate Jayda's pop as the stand in Ref, Ally for always having half-time treats for the superstars, Dale for always lending a hand at training and all the parents for covering the canteen and field set ups making this year so easy.

We all really enjoyed the year and cant wait to do it all again next year – GOOOO REDS!!!

Under 10 Green

2023 was a challenging season for our under 10 team. The team was made up of a wide range of players and skills, from kids that have never played before to kids who have played for years. In addition to a lot of new players, we struggled to get numbers to the games, especially away games, which made it much harder for the kids.

We ended the season with a draw against Cranebrook in the teeming rain and a nerve-wracking win against Band Club, which was particularly pleasing to those kids who went to school with members of the other team!

Our team this year was:-

Max - our little goal keeper who threw himself at everything and kept us in games almost every week. He was not afraid to let the team know where they stood!

Amel - a defender with a huge boot on her, Amel's biggest strength was her ability to read the play and get to the ball first.

Malav - small in stature but big in determination, when he was on his game he would throw himself into tackles without fear.

Mia - our defensive leader, always calling and encouraging her fellow defenders and clearing the ball miles up field. Her season got better as she began to work out her role.

Hunter - who also played midfield. His biggest strength was his engine, he ran all day and chased the ball until he fell down. This was his first season and he will be better for the experience.

Aahil - a left footer with a good boot, Aahil naturally played a defensive midfield role where he hung back and helped the defenders. However, he was not scared to do his fair share of hard work.

Jayden - another player new to the game, he was arguably the most improved player throughout the season. He was not scared to make a tough tackle. Also played up front.

Sean - small in size but an engine that defied belief, he just ran and ran and at a speed that left most players for dead. He also started scoring goals at the end of the season.

Nigam - arguably our most consistent player, Nigam was also our top scorer and set up a number of other goals during the season.

Ali - Ali missed a few games through illness but was a key player in our best results scoring both goals in our draw with Cranebrook and the winner against Band Club.

Fawaz - another willing runner, Fawaz missed a number of games but the ones he did play he made up for by chasing every ball.

Andrew - out centre forward whose best skill was his ability to hold the ball up and set play up for his team mates, Andrew was also our motivator in chief!

Hopefully the kids will all come back next year and we will be better for the run!

Thank you to all those parents and family who helped set up and pack up those horrible goals that were always tangled and who took the kids to the games and training.

Thank you especially to our manager Brooke who did all the running around on game days and made life so much easier!

**K. Zoutendijk
Under10s coach**



Under 11 Division 3

Well what a season our boys had! Commencing the season in division 7 and finishing in division 3.

Finally a full season without interruptions, our team did such an amazing job playing as a team and developing their skills throughout the season.

The boys have really built their team work to finish the season with only 2 losses and 3 division changes.

Nathan and I are very proud of the entire team and their commitment to develop the team, working together, learning to communicate whilst also developing their individual skills in the different positions on the field.

Our season started off with a whole new team combined of returning players, new players and younger players - however, it wouldn't be known because of the way the team came together and played like a well oiled football matching winning machine.

The boys continually built upon their skills throughout the season and were persistent in their skills in their preferred positions in the first few matches which highlighted their teamwork through communication, passing and overall mateship.

Nathan as the coach and Myself as the manager, We've seen huge improvements in each of the players. They have continued to learn how to put their skills into practice in a way that helps each other to get the job done and win their games.

Each player as an individual has shown amazing leadership skills and football skills.

Thomas C - has shown his love and skills in the goals all season long. His ability to save goals and position his team to get the ball up the other end is second to none - he has been attending weekly goalie training thanks to Victor and it has really shown - not only can he kick the ball over half way he can also throw it! Each and every game he is happy to assist his team in the goalie position as well as have run on the field providing support to his team.

Dallas and Kayleb - were new to the game of football and despite being nervous at the beginning of the season, by the end of the season it was as if both had been playing since the beginning.

Dallas developed his skills in the midfield with the ability to attack and defend, working on his dribbling he makes quite a few good breaks resulting in some amazing goals with the assistance of our forwards.

Keyleb is our quiet achiever as an allrounder his skills in defence benefited the team greatly with his ability to read the play and be in the correct positions to prevent movement of the ball into our goal.

Jake, Jayden and Declan - well what a power trio their speed, agility and skills to control the ball caused a lot of heart ache for opposing teams. They appeared little on the field however they played with all their heart each and every game they all listened, learned and scored!

Jake and his long legs managed to make it around a number of players linking up with his team sometimes like you would see in a FIFA game, his passing and shooting has come so far and will be unstoppable next season.

Jayden was a little whippet; he was anywhere and everywhere involved in nearly every play every game. Jayden has a big boot on him too with the ability to defend and get the ball back to our forwards resulting in a number of goals and assisting the team to a win.

Declan was an inconspicuous little player; he was there in the opposition's way all the time giving them grief with his defence and footwork. He has developed the skill to read the game and whizz past the opposition with his ball control and speed.

Kaiden, Andrew and Reuben - well what a season they had! Like a well oiled machine our forwards knew how to strike that ball! With their team there to support them and as all rounders themselves they got the job done. They are extremely intelligent players who use their skills to knit the team together. Whether in midfield or the forward line or backs. The opposition players found it extremely difficult to get the ball off them.

Kaiden has proven his position as an allrounder with the ability to play any position Nathan slotted him into with a love for scoring goals. We knew no matter what position he was in he would get the job done. He has developed his footwork and dribbling whilst being able to attack and pass at will to his mids and forwards or to be able to make his way from one goal box to the other and put it in the net several times throughout the season, to stopping goals in the backs and when playing goalie.

Andrews skills have continued to grow this season, his attack and defence skills led to numerous wins as well as his ability to be goalie. Andrew does an amazing job communicating with his team and has shown huge improvement as the year wore on with his all-round ability.

Reuben was determined to make his mark this season. Being new to the team but not to the game he has proved his ability to run with the older team. His fancy footwork and ball control was something to be admired, linking up with the others on his team in attack is a skill he showed



Under 13 Girls Division 2



U13/2 Girls – from Coach Rebecca Pressick

Here we are again, at the end of another great season, and what a season it was for these girls. We went into the season with the hope of having as much fun as we did last year and hopefully continue to improve our game, as both individuals, and as a team and progress up the ladder a little further.

Well, these girls well and truly exceeded our hopes & expectations on both fronts. They went from coming near the bottom of the ladder last year to finishing out the season this year in 3rd place. They confidently beat teams that they really struggled against last season & even drew with last years competition winners in the trials.

None of this would have been possible without all of the hard work the girls put in at training & on game days. I have really enjoyed every second of watching you girls grow and develop as a team, and improve your skills every single week.

I love nothing more than watching you all play every Saturday. I really do look forward to it & will miss it immensely in the off season. You girls are absolutely amazing & I feel blessed & privileged to be a part of this team.

A massive shout out & thank you to our Manager Lisa for everything she has done for us all this year. We could not do it without you. Also a big thank you to all of our families who got the girls to training and games every week & for being the best cheer squad around. I know the girls absolutely love your support and enthusiasm.

I really hope to see you all return again next year.

Your biggest fan!

Bec

U13/2 Girls – from Manager Lisa Harris

Under 13 Girls, what a season. I command you all.

This season you have shown that working together as a team, utilizing your individual skills and strengths, builds a strong team. You have all come so far and should be proud of yourselves.

A massive thank you to Bec, you were there every week and made training fun and challenging. You have been a great mentor to these girls & lead them through a fantastic season.

Thank you all so much for allowing me to be part of the team, sharing many laughs, experiencing friendships grow & watching you all shine.

You are an amazing team.

Lisa



Under 13 Boys Division 2

This year was an interesting one. We started the year off with a couple of key players leaving and a number of new players joining.

So it was no surprise that the kids struggled at the start losing 5 straight games. However the encouraging thing was that you could see signs of them gelling as a team.

This translated onto the field and they proceeded to become much more competitive, managing to win or draw almost all their remaining games.

This included becoming the only team to take points off the eventual division winners Blue Mountains. The most encouraging thing for me was that as the season progressed you could see them improving, both as individuals and as a team.

They started passing it around a lot more, working a lot harder, covering for each other in defence and generally trusting their team-mates.

There obviously is room for improvement but I can see a team starting to emerge that will be a delight to watch and will prove hard to beat next year.

Under 15 Division 1

Coach: Satya Naicker
Manager: Natalie Bradbury

After a tough year in Division 1 last year, we were a bit surprised to find ourselves still in Div 1 for 2023. With a few players not returning, the Club welcomed a few new players but we were struggling for numbers as Round 1 approached. Then we had a late influx of 6 new players – all friends – who were looking for a new team.

So, whilst the core spine of the team had played together the last few years, we had a really new team dynamic and the boys had to get to know each other and work out how to play together as a team.

This was helped by lots of trial games, organised by Coach, which helped us to sort out each players strengths and start trying out some different position options and combinations. The boys also trained exceptionally hard, putting in 2 hours twice a week in training.



After a bye in Rd 1, we had a good win in Round 2 against Blue Mountains. Close losses in Rounds 3 and 4 (3-2) were followed by a more comprehensive loss against Convent in Round 5. The boys bounced back big time though to pull off a 1-1 draw against Colo in Rd 6.

Highlights of the season included a fantastic home ground win (3-2) against eventual grand-finalists Springwood in Round 11 and a comprehensive win (4-2) over the very strong Convent side in Round 12.

So whilst it was a mixed season, we were certainly proved ourselves a competitive Div 1 team, finishing up the main rounds with 4 wins, 1 draw and 7 losses to finish 5th on the table.

The boys also played in both the State and Nepean Cups. We were knocked out in the first round of the State Cup, by the eventual competition winners, Forrester-Killarney FC (3-0). We had more luck in the Nepean Cup, victorious over Colo 16s in Round 1 (5-4), before being knocked out by Springwood in the second round. All good experience for the boys!



Congratulations to the boys for their hard work, character and resilience shown this season. It was wonderful to watch you all grow as young men, develop as individual players and also gel together as a team. It was a privilege to work with such a respectful and decent group of young men. We hope to see you back next season – it will be exciting to see what you can achieve together!

Big thanks to our Coach, Satya for all his efforts training the boys and working on their fitness and managing game day each week.

Thanks also to all our parents (and siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles and many other supporters) for getting the boys to training and games and supporting the boys week in and week out.

Finally, thanks to the Club and the Committee who always do wonderful work supporting the Club and the players and making SMFC a great place to play.



Under 16 Division 2

U16/2's are a true definition of underdogs. We started the season off with some new comers Matt and Riley and some returning members such as Julian. We started out with a trial game win against 17/1's and immediately we knew we were at team not to mess with. The boys took a couple games to gel, but we put up a fight against season favourites Werrington Croatia with a 2-1 loss.

After our fourth round we had to farewell our Keeper David as he moved interstate. With his departure we welcome our CB Aleks to be our new Goalkeeper. The boys started picking up the pace with multiple wins a single loss in 5 matches. While in our roll, we faced current 1st place, Pitt town. Our training had come down to this day, and after an exciting game we came out with the win 5-1. After the win the team carried themselves to another 2 wins. Round 12 we faced Warradale, possibly our greatest threat in the competition, the boys fought hard but the game ended a 1-0 loss.

The next weekend we were up against Werrington Croatia again. Once again we put up a fight and pushed them to the limit but also ended in a 1-0 loss. We were in a 3 game losing streak after our 2-1 loss against Colo but we faced Henry Lawson next. The boys played brilliant and we beat them 15-1, the highest goals scored in a game within the entire comp.

We then won our next 2, getting revenge on Emu Plains and showing up Pitt town once again. It all came down on our last game, if we won or drew against Blue mountains we would qualify 3rd or 4th, but a loss would put us out of contention. We showed true grit and fight, at the end of the game we won 5-0 with many thanks to Harjot with a hatrick to put us through to the semi finals against Warradale.

We went into our semi final ready to push them to their limits, and that we did. When the full time whistle blew it ended 1-1. So it went to overtime with a team who have done the absolute impossible and made the whole club and everyone who has watched the team proud. We tried and fought our hearts out but went down 3-1 after extra time. Thank you boys for an amazing year. Thank you to all the boys for showing up to training and working your hardest each training and game. You have made everyone proud and even jealous of us. We have proven our team and club are more than meets the eye. We have done the impossible and we are the true definition of underdogs.

From your captain & GK, Aleks

All Age Women Division 4



Our season started with a couple of strangers registering to play soccer for the 2023 season. Our experience in playing the game varied. Some of us having played for 20 + years, others maybe kicked a ball around for 20 seconds at some point in time.

We lost both our trial games and decided this season would just be for some fun and laughs. As the season progressed, we began winning some of our games and thought maybe we were not the number one contenders for the wooden spoon after all. Skills developed, bonds grew stronger, and some new players arrived ... WE HAD SUBS! It was coming up Goblins! We finished our season in second place and were unfortunate to miss our opportunity at the grand final. We are going to "pump it up" in the 2024 season and finish that next place higher. Watch this space, The Mighty Goblins will return.





All Age Men White Division 9

End of Season Report: Triumph after Adversity

The journey of our soccer team this season has been nothing short of remarkable. Despite facing initial setbacks with some losses, the team displayed unwavering determination and resilience, ultimately culminating in an astounding 12-game unbeaten streak that propelled us to clinch the league championship.

The season began with challenges that tested our players' mettle and the coaching staff's strategic prowess. Initial losses were a testament to the team's commitment to growth, as each defeat was treated as an opportunity to learn and adapt. With a steadfast focus on improvement, the players consistently exhibited remarkable discipline and camaraderie, gradually transforming the losses into stepping stones toward success.

As the season progressed, a palpable shift in momentum became evident. The players' hard work and perseverance started yielding positive results, as tactical adjustments and enhanced teamwork began to pay dividends on the pitch. The unbeaten streak was a testament to the collective efforts of the players, coaches, and support staff.

One of the defining factors behind this impressive turnaround was the team's ability to maintain a strong sense of unity and shared purpose. The locker room camaraderie and mutual support were integral to fostering an environment conducive to both individual growth and collective achievement. This sense of togetherness translated into a cohesive and formidable force on the field, enabling us to overcome challenges and emerge triumphant.

The coaching staff's adaptability and innovative strategies also played a crucial role in our success. Their keen understanding of the game, coupled with their willingness to experiment with tactics and formations, allowed the team to exploit opponents' weaknesses and capitalize on opportunities. This dynamic approach kept our competitors on their toes and bolstered our confidence as we faced each new challenge.

In the end, our journey from initial losses to league champions serves as a testament to the power of perseverance, teamwork, and a shared commitment to success. The lessons learned throughout the season will undoubtedly serve as a foundation for future achievements. As we celebrate this well-deserved victory, we acknowledge that the true measure of our success extends beyond the trophy, encompassing the growth, resilience, and unwavering spirit that defined our remarkable journey.

All Age Men Black Division 7



A second season with most of the lads in this team down. While it didn't end in success, I speak for myself and i'm sure many others when I say it was one of the most enjoyable seasons yet.

A season where we actually got to train regularly, not have wash outs and most importantly, enjoy our football.

We kept most of the team together but a few what turned out to be brilliant additions to the squad both as players and as people. Here's a few words about everyone in the order Dribl gives me.

Riley - A new addition to the squad this season and what an addition it was. He came to the first training session saying he was a striker, within a couple games he filled in at right back and whether he liked it or not (sorry) that's where he stayed. Relentless in harassing the opposition, the best slide tackles in the side and week in week out putting his body on the line for the team. He was definitely missed towards the end of the season

Tim - Thanks for turning up for the grand final, you need a new job that doesn't work Sundays.

Vikram - Our captain. Incredible season from our leader, probably the best season i've seen him play in our many years playing together. Always there for his team vocally, physically, whatever it takes. Playing through injury many times or after 3 hours sleep from work, love you Vik.

Ezekiel - One of the great success stories from this season, Eze improved drastically game on game. An absolute rock at left or right back standing up to everyone who came up against him regardless of size. And how can I not talk about the dribbling!?! At least one nutmeg from is now famous drag backs every game, which then developed into roll overs, step overs, full field dribbles and legging it from one side of the field to the other for reasons still unknown. There will be a full field dribble and goal one day.

Shiva - A colossus at the back, Shiva was the definition of putting your body on the line for the team, proven by the grand final as well. He could only play roughly half the season but he showed his importance every minute he was on the pitch. Even with his ankle swollen and purple, he still had a smile on his face.

Liam - My personal vote for most improved player this season. It took a few games for Liam to work out where his position in the side would be. A goalkeeper by trade, over time found his home on the left wing and became a goalscoring machine. Some crucial goals/assists and always committed to the team whether vocally, training or on game day.

Ethan - In another world i'm not writing this. EJ started the season not registered as he thought he'd be out for the season injured. Thankfully he came good and despite starting the season late, still finished our top goal scorer, including 2 goals in the grand final, showing how crucial he is to the side.

Nathan - COACH! Another person who I may not have been writing this, Nathan started the season thinking he'd only be coach due to injury. As time went on he came good and ended up registering. While I need not say more for Nathan's dedication and enthusiasm for the team with his words, he also ended up being a crucial addition to the side on the field, filling in at probably every position possible. We all love you Nathan and a well deserved winner of the players player of the year. KNOCK KNOCK!

Zaid - Our signing of the season. Player of the season. Most enjoyable player to watch and probably the nicest guy in the squad. Zaid I could write many a paragraph about what you've brought to the squad. The way you play with a smile on your face is infectious and is a big reason I think we all caught onto that and enjoyed our football so much. A huge reason why we got to where we got to. You can tell you're enjoying your football again and i'm glad it's with us

Jay - After the first training session with us, I knew he'd be great for our side. We are glad you got permission in the end to play and another player key to everything we did with Zaid in midfield. Another player who just got better as the season went on and was often MOTM in the big games. Please don't play O35s, we love you.

Raj - Very unfortunate season for Raj who spent most of it out injured, but even in his limited games managed a couple of goals and endless running.

Dave - Our most improved player as voted by the people, as he did last season played as if he was half his age most weeks, another key part of our defence. I would usually write something like he always has a smile on his face and never gets angry.. but we saw Angry Dave! That was probably your best game of the season so maybe that's the key. Keep doing your thing Dave.

Abdul - A late signing compared to the rest but was another key part in our midfield, popping up with a respectable amount of goals and assists, including a grand final assist. Emerging/disappearing into the shadows before and after games and training like a wizard.

Rahul - Ahhh Rahul.. That goal will come mate don't worry. Mr versatile in our team, many great shifts put in for the side in almost every position. Some huge performances towards the back end of the season with endless running and pressing. Despite what you may think, a huge performance in the grand final as well.

Tyron - Goalkeeper turned midfielder turned false 9. Ty managed good minutes on the field this season putting in big shifts for the team and really unlucky to not have a goal to his name. Some typically great goalkeeping performances as well to go with.

Coyte - This could of almost just been a one liner of 'he played 15 minutes and got injured', but towards the back end of the season he made his comeback to play in goals and put in a few game winning performances in an unfamiliar position.

Aman - Our coach in the end. Unfortunate with injury (though still scoring a banger), Aman ended up being our mastermind on the sideline, making some key tactical tweaks in big games. Last seasons yearbook I called you the Indian Thiago, and while unfortunately the injuries make that even more true, next season maybe you can be the Indian Jurgen Klopp.

A shoutout as well to our supporters. Parents, Girlfriends, grandparents etc that came week in week out through the cold, hot, rain and all. We all appreciate you.

Thank you all again for a brilliant season and hope to see you all again next season. We have unfinished business.

Love your manager,

Aiden

St Marys Football Club

Coaching Philosophy

The aim of coaching at St Marys Soccer Club is to create an environment where every player can have fun, flourish, develop skills and fulfill their potential.

We recognize, every player will have different abilities, learning styles and aspirations.

Coaching at St Marys Soccer Club will be:

Positive

Instructive

Encouraging

We seek to develop members to be:

·Hard working - Praising Players because they work hard will see them seek to work harder.

·Brave - Encouraging Players to take risks will see them try new skills and not be afraid to use them on the field.

·Good team players - This can cover everything from communicating with one another to standing up for each other.

·Players with a passion for and enjoyment of the game.

Players should receive equal playing time and be given equal opportunity to play different positions on the field (particularly when they are young). For mini-roo's teams, Coaches are encouraged not to pigeonhole players into one position, this means, we will produce versatile players with a rounded skillset. We want all players to feel comfortable on the ball and skilful with the ball at their feet. Coaches should be prepared for teams to lose in the short term with a view to long term improvement

To support our coaching Philosophy St Marys Soccer Club commits to:

1.Implement a coaching application process, where during our registration period all applications to coach are reviewed, with consideration to coaching qualifications, willingness to grow as a coach and uphold the coaching Philosophy of the club.

2.Implement Assistant Coaches for all teams to provide support to both the Coach & Players

3.Ensure all Coaches have a Working with Children's Check prior to commencing the first training session.

4.Ensure all Coaches attended relevant training, including covering the associated financial costs. Grassroots Football Certificate for 5-9yo, Skill Training Certificate for 9-13yo, Game Training Certificate for 13-17yo, Senior Coaching Certificate for 17+ yo, Goalkeeping Certificate.

5.Provide all necessary equipment for Coaches to undertake training and game day activities.



St Marys Football Club 2023