



# THE WESTSIDE BUZZ

Official Newsletter of Westside Strikers FC

MAY 2019 | ISSUE 2

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome everyone to our second edition of the Westside strikers FC newsletter.

It has been a frustrating start to the season with some issues, which have been out of the club's control.

The ground sharing arrangement with George Cross SC have been of issue due to the delay of George Cross vacating the grounds. Council has now informed the club that George Cross will be leaving on 17th June. Fingers crossed.

The other issue, which has been very frustrating for all, has been the team uniforms. This year the club supplier has been Umbro, which is a very well known sports company owned by Rebel Sports.

As requested, the club placed our order by the first week of December 2018 for a March 2019 delivery; yet we had delivery problems. I have spoken to quite a few other clubs who have also had major problems with their playing gear. We have been in constant touch with the supplier and hopefully all issues have been resolved.

On behalf of the club, I apologize for any inconvenience this has caused.

On a brighter note, with a third of the season gone, it is very pleasing to see the improvement and development of all our teams, especially some of our boys and girls teams who are challenging for their respective championships. Credit to the players and coaches for the hard work and commitment; keep it up.

Finally I would like to mention WSFC's first family Pizza/Pasta night on the Saturday 6th July 2019. In the next week you will see the fundraising committee coming around handing out flyers with all the details. Please let's all attend and make it a great family night.

Until next month. UpUp the Strikers.

Sam Raniolo  
Westside Strikers FC - President



## Upcoming Club Events

### JULY

**PIZZA & PASTA  
SATURDAY 6<sup>TH</sup>  
6:30PM  
71-79 KYLE RD ALTONA NTH**

### AUG

**POKER NIGHT  
SATURDAY 3<sup>RD</sup>  
6:30PM  
63-65 REBECCA DRIVE  
RAVENHALL**

**TRIVIA NIGHT  
SATURDAY 24<sup>TH</sup>  
6:30PM  
TABCORP MELTON**

### SEPT

**LAST MAN STANDING  
SATURDAY 7<sup>TH</sup>  
6:30 PM  
63-65 REBECCA DRIVE  
RAVENHALL**

### OCT

**SENIOR PRESENTATION  
SATURDAY 26<sup>TH</sup>  
EVENING  
LUXOR RECEPTION CENTRE**

**JUNIOR PRESENTATION  
SUNDAY 27<sup>TH</sup>  
LUNCH  
LUXOR RECEPTION CENTRE**

# MOTHERS DAY HIGH TEA

On Saturday May 4 2019, more than 60 guests attended the Westside Strikers Football Club's Mothers Day High Tea function.

It was a wonderful social event that celebrated the amazing work mums do.

All guests dined on freshly baked scones, pastries, savouries, homemade desserts, gourmet sandwiches with a glass of sparkling wine plus unlimited coffee and tea all served in beautiful vintage crockery.

Many thanks to the Events Team and volunteers who organised and hosted this delightful event. Thank you to all those who attended, including our wonderful sponsors.



# FEMALE FOOTBALL WEEK

Our Westside Strikers Football Club girls had a celebratory night for Female Football Week.

Female Football Week (FFW) is an initiative that celebrates the growth of women's football and acknowledges the important role women play in developing the game both on and off the park. It is a time for the Victorian Football Community to bring focus to an area of the game that provides football with its greatest opportunity.

We at the Westside Strikers are pleased to support Female Football Week.



# WILLIAMSTOWN SC GALA DAY

Most of our teams did not have a scheduled game due to the FFV catch up round. However it doesn't mean that our teams had the week off either. With most teams participating in the Williamstown Soccer Club Gala Day competing for the Perpetual Trophy. Thank you Williamstown SC for your competitive spirit and we look forward to our return bout.

Congratulations to Williamstown SC for winning the first Perpetual Trophy (13 wins - 12 wins). We will be back next year.

Some great results from our teams.



# MELTON CITY COUNCIL GRANT

The Westside Strikers Football Club would like to pass on our gratitude and thanks to the City of Melton council for their generous \$6000 grant to assist our football club.

It is hard being a grass roots club but with the support of Cr. Steve Abbs - City of Melton Cr Lara Carli, Bob Turner and a great working relationship with the Melton City Council, we can achieve our purpose of providing a football club to be a positive influence in our community.



## STRIKERS CAFE

Training nights are a nightmare for some of us parents. The ones that work will know what I mean, you work the whole day, rush to pick up your children from school, and then without having the time to prepare a nice dinner, we rush back to soccer.

It is cold and sometimes even wet to be standing outside; trying to be brave to watch your child. Children are training they don't feel the cold as they are running and learning and most importantly having fun. Why not come to the clubroom grab a hot coffee, a hot jam donut or even some hot food, and sit and enjoy the TV and socialise with one another.

Strikers Cafe introduced Kebabs and HSP snack packs last month as an addition to the menu, so if you're stuck with what to cook why not come and pre-order your dinner before your training session ends.

We also introduced the team dinners on Thursday nights. Not only is this the opportunity for your children to bond with their teammates, it is also a good opportunity for parents to have dinner with your team parents.

The best way to get to know somebody is by having a meal or a cup of coffee in our heated clubroom at Brookside Reserve, so why not come in and take a seat, watch the TV, read your book or even better get to know one another. Looking forward to seeing you all.



*Our U16 boys enjoying their dinner at Strikers Cafe thank you boys and parents that came along for your support to the club.*

### Westside Strikers Merchandise

Get your Westside Strikers merchandise over at Brookside at the regular office hours. We have beanies, scarves, hoodies and caps, to keep you warm over the cold winter period.

Further information on pricing is available on our [Facebook Page](#). Payment is by cash only. If you are interested in anything off our merchandise stand, please see Antoinette.

Music - Raffle - Prizes  
Drinks at Bar Prices

# PIZZA PASTA Night

6<sup>th</sup> of July  
6.30pm to Late

Adult - \$30  
Child (u12) - \$20

Pre-Purchase tickets at Brookside  
RSVP - Rose F. 0481253387

Italian Social Club 71 -79 Kyle Road Altona North

## GROUND CLOSURE

Due to significant rainfall and forecasted wet weather, all Melton City Council grass sporting grounds were closed. Closures were effective Monday 3 and Tuesday 4 June, with no training conducted during this time.

The decision was made as usage on the grass reserves may have caused damage and result in grounds being compromised for use over the weekend.

Whilst the rain pours sometimes you just need to think outside of the box, which is exactly what some of our teams did as an alternative to training.

Thank you to locations such as Beat Fitness 24/7 & Reformer Pilates Ravenhall, HITFIT Boxing gym Melton and Tullamarine Indoor Sports Centre for accommodating our teams.



## AROUND THE GROUNDS COACHES' REPORTS

It's been an interesting year for my Under 8 Wallabies Team. The step-up from Under 7s was a welcome evolution with the addition of proper goals, rules and team structure.

From trials last year, our team saw the addition of four Under 7 Joeys and three new players who had never played soccer before. The biggest challenge was finding positions that best suited each player with an aim to have each player able to perform in different positions.

As a coach, my focus is constantly on individual and team development with a focus on the curriculum and team exercises based off each game. This allows me and the parents to see the development every week and working on specific elements of the game to keep building on our foundations.

I love the challenge of working with players who are still learning the fundamentals of the game as they are always open to trying new things and just excited to have the chance to play. As a coach the most satisfying part of my role is to see the players developing every week and incorporating team plays on games. At this age, they are still learning how to utilise each other during passages of play so it's always amazing to witness these early stages of fantastic teamwork whether it be defending as a team or attacking and scoring goals as a team.

I am extremely proud of the team's efforts and their continual development and looking forward to what the remainder of the season holds for the team.

*Nick, Under 8 Wallabies*

This year Westside Strikers FC created a second U12 Girls team of 15 players, 14 are new to the club, and 9 of which have never played soccer before!

The strategy from day one was to build a strong team spirit/friendships, focus on understanding how to play soccer, and improve the skill level both individually and as team.

Though the preseason was very short, we had to adjust quickly as a team to learn the game rules, playing positions and get match fit. So far this season the girls have shown that they can rival playing any of the teams in this league, and they have made big strides in their performance at training and on game day.

Despite being unlucky with some results not going in our favour, we have experienced one draw and one win this season, which has boosted the girls' confidence. The team is focused on taking our game to the next level by improving on our performance and staying united. Their motto this year is: WE CAN DO IT!

*Joe, U12 Girls Wallabies*

The Under 12 wallabies are tracking along well. Despite the results not going their way their performances have been quite good. Big things to come from the boys who are still learning to gel together.

*Rob, Under 12 Wallabies*

The Under 7s Wallabies have made a solid start to the season with another hard-fought win against Spring Hills on the weekend.

The kids are getting more comfortable in their positions and their skill set is always improving.

We have a great team of kids; girls that run like the wind and are tenacious like a bulldog. Kids that kick the ball so hard they might put a hole in the back of the net, and kids that never give up and are always cheerful.

My goal for the u7s is to get them to develop the fundamental skills of the game while having fun and making friends.

Keeping the kids focused is a challenge and often we are up against firetrucks with lights and sirens going past, insects needing to be chased and shoelaces needing to be tied up. Soooo many shoelaces needing to be tied up.

Our focus over the next weeks will be to quickly transition from offence to defence and work on kicking accuracy. Oh and on tying shoelaces, if only there were shoelaces that didn't come undone.

*Kai, Under 7 Wallabies*

This year we set our goals high. We decided that anything less than promotion to the A's wouldn't be what we hoped for. With that said we agreed to start pre season mid January to give ourselves the best possible opportunity to achieve this.

We now head into the last round before the midseason return legs begin and find ourselves on top of the ladder with only one slip up along the way.

The boys have come a long way considering there were 5 new additions to the squad this year. They have all gelled well together and it is evident on the field. Playing some amazing football beyond their years!

Keep up the good work boys!

*Coach Simon & Assistant Coach Hayden, Under 13s*

As coach of the Under 9 Joeys at Westside Strikers FC, I must say it has been an amazing journey already. This is the first year for both Coach: Frank Prestinenzi and Assistant Coach: Tyrone Candido and we have loved every moment of it. Our team itself has come a long way, from half a team that hasn't played football before and not starting off the best, to a team who has bonded great and has managed to continually shock us both with a Win, Win, Draw, Win record over the last 4 weeks is simply great.

Overall we are very happy with how far the team has come and how much they have developed since the start of preseason. We will continue to focus on developing our team and prepare them for the rest of this season and future seasons to come.

*Frank Prestinenzi, Under 9 Joeys*

## AROUND THE GROUNDS COACHES' REPORTS

I have been very proud of the commitment and effort put in by our Under 15/16 Girls, so far this season. Their effort and determination has not gone unnoticed by the all the coaching staff, parents and friends that have come to watch them train and play matches over the cold nights and weekends that have gone by.

Preseason started soon after trials and team selection, with a F45 fitness session the week before Christmas. With a two week break the girls were out on the grounds training and developing their skills for the upcoming season. Hi-Intensity Interval Training provided by Joella, and a run on the Botanical Gardens Tan Track did wonders for their fitness and endurance.

Three pre-season games were organised, with convincing wins. In each, set the girls with high expectations for the upcoming season. The season started and resulted in four losses against the four top league leaders with very close margins; and a win against a weaker opponent that to our credit, was managed with a team, that due to Easter Celebrations, had enough players just for the field and no substitutions.

Our most impressive game was a 2:1 loss against the league leaders Spring Hills, whom were managing to score an average of 7 goals against all their other opponents, but could only manage 2 past our girls.

Despite the hard work the girls have put in to training, and the drills they have been performing to work on the technical aspect of the game, we have not had the desired results we hoped for. However, heads need to be held high because they have been a passionate hard working group, whom have shown the love of the beautiful game, and have been improving week by week.

Well done girls and looking forward to the rest of the season.

*Tom Clantar, Under 15/16 girls*

Probably the luckiest team at Westside Strikers. The team has not one but two coaches and one rookie manager. Nothing rookie about the Head Coach Rob Nosal, though. A thorough professional both on and off the field, his commitments to the boys of the team are a testament to his love for the game but also his love for the kids he coaches.

Not only does he pass on the wisdom and the skills of the game, but also life skills of playing fair, having each other's back and enjoying the game.

Nads, our Assistant Coach is a firm believer in playing fair and teamwork. He loves working out various game scenarios and always has a smile on his face even in the coldest of weather. The kids love their coaches and the attendance at our training is testament to this.

The U10 Wallabies is an eclectic group of boys, with backgrounds from various cultures and countries almost as diverse as the United Nations.

Some of the boys have been together since the past 2 years and have really matured together as a group with conversations including Fortnite and EPL teams and players.

Our part-time goalkeepers, Ryan, and Abhey also double as our strong defenders. Artiol being the anchor fullback with powerful clearances and goal kicks. Denzyl, deceiving stature is fast and rarely gives up an opponent challenge, Jacob, a silent assassin with the ball with match saving clearances make up the robust backline.

Our Mid-field consisting of Sebastien, the brain and excellent ball skills Meabe, our Fortnite tragic and Christian, who has consistently scored goals with his powerful and accurate shooting, form a very consistent strategic ball movement providing defence support and feeding the wingers, Mason, fast, game maker, unselfish and Dylan, a pocket rocket, skill showcase, and our youngest player. Zak, our striker is fast and accurate and a danger to the opposition with his speed, ball skills and shooting accuracy.

The mums of the boys also seemed to have gelled together with a recent dinner that was organised for a gossip catch-up, which leaves the Dads having to decide on the catch-up venue.

Overall a fantastic group of boys and parents that share one passion, Soccer and playing at the Westside Strikers!! Go Strikers!!!

*Josh Pinheiro, Under 10 Wallabies*

It is a fabulous and exciting time to be part of the under 12 Kangaroos team. Being on top of the ladder and undefeated, the girls have a lot to smile about and I'm one proud coach.

The under 12 Kangaroos have a variety of different players who all contribute to the team's success in our competition.

My core focus is to have a solid defence. If you have a solid defence structure you are already winning. The key defenders for the team are Alex as Goal Keeper, Caitlin, Sabra and Gabriella.

Next in line are the midfielders. Emmy, Tayla, Emma, Ashleigh and Sasha strengthen the defence structure and assist in regaining possession and keeping the ball at the final third.

Sophia, Madeleine, Isabel and Danielle are the attacking players. In combination with the midfielders the team displays creativity, pace and opportunities at goal.

The girls will continue to be challenged to further develop their skills. I will be organising friendlies against NPL U12 Girls to get them ready for the new structure next year.

*Simon, Girls Under 12 Kangaroos*

# SPONSORS PAGE

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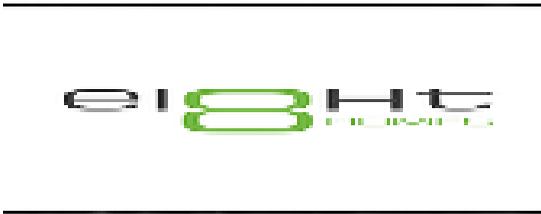
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