President: John Taylor

Secretary: Hagop Tchamkertenian

Treasurer: David Attard Edition: 11/12 April '15



AROUND THE GROUNDS

Welcome to the 2015 season. The weekend started under cloudy skies with a few showers but turned into a beautiful day enjoyed by everyone. Well almost everyone, sorry about the beer Ian.

To all those players returning to Lugarno, welcome back. It was great to see so many familiar faces on the weekend and from the committee we would like to wish you all the best for the season ahead.

To our new players, parents, coaches and managers along with the spectators - welcome to Lugarno FC. I am sure you will enjoy watching the games and supporting the team in orange.

Lugarno FC is your club and has been for over 50 years. If you would like to know anything about the club or have any questions, please talk to any committee member and we will be happy to answer any questions.

There will usually always be someone around the canteen area, it is because of the great food, so come up, introduce yourself and let us know what's on your mind.

The club is always grateful for your support and please remember we are here to help, don't be afraid to ask us any questions. We will always do our best to accommodate our players, coaches and managers and parents requests.

We hope you enjoy the year ahead and good luck to all our teams.

- John Taylor (President)

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Match Results:

Saturday					Sunday				
AG/Div	Home Team	H	A	Away Team	AG/Div	Home Team	Н	A	Away Team
AA/C1	Banksia Tigers	1	0	Lugarno	AAW/B	Kogarah Waratah (1)	2	7	Lugarno
AA/D	Lugarno	1	4	ASOW	AAW/D	Lugarno	12	0	Forest Rangers (2)
AA/E	Lugarno (1)	4	2	Bexley North	O35/C	Lugarno	4	4	Connells Point
AA/E	Ramsgate RSL	2	1	Lugarno (2)	PW/AAW/ A	Lugarno	0	4	Connells Point (1)
AA/G	Lugarno (1)	0	2	Kogarah Waratah (2)	U12G	Oatley RSL	1	0	Lugarno
AA/G	Lugarno (2)	3	0	Connells Point (2)	U16G/A	Lugarno	7	1	Arncliffe Aurora
PL1/1	Lugarno	2	1	Hurstville Glory	U16G/B	Sans Souci	1	7	Lugarno
PLR/R	Lugarno	2	4	Hurstville Glory					
U13/A	Lugarno	1	0	Bexley North					
U13/C	Oatley RSL	1	6	Lugarno					
U14/B	Bexley North (1)	3	9	Lugarno					
U15/B	Ramsgate RSL	2	1	Lugarno	Friday				
U16/A	Lugarno	0	2	Connells Point	O45/A	Connells Point	1	0	Lugarno

Match Reports:

6 Bee 2 v Hurstville Glory





9 Fox v Hurstville ZFC

Our first game of the year at Carss Park this season saw the Foxes with a late kick off. The recruiting team worked overdrive in the offseason recruiting new team members Emmanuel, Daniel, Tom and Michael. Adding to the Fox team members backing up from last year - Finlay, Mitchell, Owen, Lucy, Anthony, Hunter and Nicholas.

Unfortunately, Mitchell, Hunter and Tom were unavailable for our game this week, but the remaining Foxes were pumped for their first game

Although Hurstville scored more goals than us this week, there were promising signs, the highlight being Lucy's strong goal in the second half. Finlay was strong in goals, putting his body on the line to keep scoring to a minimum.

Nicholas and Owen were rock solid in defence and, with Daniel and Michael's skills in attack, the Foxes were unlucky not to score more goals. Emmanuel and Anthony had a few long range shots, moving momentum up and down the park ensuring Hurstville's fitness levels were challenged throughout the match.

A HUGE thanks to Hamish for stepping in as coach this week. The Foxes are on the road again this week and going by the performance last week, are sure to be competitive this year and keep the crowds entertained.



9 Bee v ASOW

POTM: Anthony

The weather was kind to us with the rain stopping and the sun coming out 15 mins before kickoff. After finding our groove in the trial games and some great practice sessions, the U9Bee's looked smart and played smart against ASOW.

Willis took the first shift in goal and was fantastic when the opposition got close, saving every shot they made. He was assisted in defence by Callum who is always in great position to stop any attack. The team found space across the field with some good passes through traffic to open players. Emily is certainly the master at finding open space, unmarked and made some great forward runs in the midfield. Cameron was also key in the midfield taking the ball off the opposition on numerous occasions. Anthony seemed to be everywhere and had some great shots on goal. He was unlucky not to have one find the back of the net with a few near misses. Bailey got in some close contests for the ball and made some key kicks into space and a good shot at goal, but it was Peri with a controlled kick - chase run up the sideline, who scored our first goal of the season. A great effort.

Cameron was our goal tender in the second half and, like Willis, kept the opposition scoreless. Ashton joined in the close battles and also has a powerful kick when given some space. After some fancy footwork, Willis made his way toward the goal with some nice dribbling, finishing it off to score our second goal of the game. Both goals came from kick-chase runs with good ball control to get around the opposition. It was a great game to watch, and a great effort by all players. Bring on next week.



10 Bee 2 v Bexley North

11th of April and the morning of the opening game for the winter season 2015.



The under 10 Bee 2s opening game was at our home turf – Gannons Park Midi. Not even the light rain could dampen the excitement of the team and you would not have been far off to mistake the playing surface to be as good as the current Master Golf Tournament over in Augusta, USA with all the resurfacing that was done in the off season.

With the wet weather we took the opportunity to use our dressing room for a team talk and a discussion on how we would run the opener. With this out of the way and our first stage of the warm up done we went out to meet the opposition.

Coin toss sorted, teams settled and away we went. For our first game we showed very good early signs of ball movement and team cohesion as we moved the ball around well and showed good positioning and space – based off the platform set it allowed our first goal as one of our forward raids saw a ball pushed through to Daniel who finished it well and opened our account for the year 1-Nil. With that, it gave our boys a spring in their step and we continued to push with Jonathan, Cody and Sean feed both our front runners Zack and Luke plenty of ball which led to our next goal as Zack neatly beat the keeper and slotted the ball into the back of the net 2-Nil. This brought us to the break.

A position shuffle saw the opening of the second half, this half started a little slower and with an early push from our opponents gave them the first goal of the second half, 2-1. This changed our approach as Liam, Nathan and Ross started to get hold of the ball and make strong contributions to promoting the ball and based off this support saw our next 2 goals, the first from Jonathan with a strong finish and closing the game out with Nathan finding the back of the net to leave the score at 4-1.

It was great to have a win for the start of the year but more pleasing was the skills and the confidence shown by the boys as we won several challenges under the high ball, small triangle passing combos and throw ins – it is nice to win but it is equally as nice to see the development of our boys.

All in all a great start to the year, a special thanks to Ross, Daniel and Cody for assisting our opponents with numbers throughout the game.

11 Bee v Connells Point

Goals scorer: Markus 2

This was a solid first up effort by all the U11B players winning 2-0 against Connells Point.

Alex, Dylan and Dion were great in defence keeping the opposition scoreless. Markus scored the two first half goals with his committed, attacking runs. Logan and James ran hard and were unlucky not to score several more goals. Ryan was denied two scoring opportunities by the crossbar and a great save by their keeper. Jayden continually pressured the opposing defence with his fast, long range attacks, whilst Jacob covered lots of ground in thwarting many of the opposition raids. Well done all!

12 Girls v Oatley RSL Lost 0 - 1

POTM: Charlie Argent

The girls looked excited but a bit nervous as they gathered to listen to the pre-game instructions being handed out by super coach Raf.

Some 14 players were on hand for the first game of season 2015 out of a team of 16 players. Two players were missing due to injuries - Kiera and the Orthodox Easter Taylah. More could have been missing for the game but fortunately they managed to attend earlier Easter services and were available for the opening game being played against Oatley RSL away.

With half of the team comprising of new players, the first game was always going to be challenging but, to the team's credit, they played well and were very competitive throughout the game.

While the first half was dominated by Oatley RSL, the resolute Lugarno defence comprising at different times of Charlie, Nadine, Alana P, Angela and Simone managed to repel the Oatley RSL attacks and provide good protection and cover to first half goal keeper Madelen. However as the legs started to tire Madelen was forced to make a number of good saves. Despite the determined Lugarno defending Oatley RSL managed to break away and score the opening goal 17 minutes into the first half.

The later period of the first half saw the team push forward and the midfield players comprising of Luci, Tamar, Zena, Capri and Mia were attempting to feed the ball to the attackers Alanna C, Jade, and Alanna Cogle. A number of corners were won from the effort but the decisive equaliser did not arrive and the team went into the half-time break down 1-0.

The second half was an even affair with Oatley RSL dominating the early phase before Lugarno started to assert themselves and dominate the second part of the half. Second half goal keeper Simone, after some earlier saves, was able to watch the game from a distance as Lugarno camped themselves in the opponent's half during the dying moments of the game. But, despite creating two chances, the team was unlucky not to equalise after the final effort from a cross narrowly missed the stretched leg of Tamar just meters out from the goal.

With the referee blowing his whistle the team suffered a narrow loss. The positive thing is the girls left the field with smiles on their faces and with the full knowledge that they will only get better as the season progresses. The team spirit remains exceptional and the girls will enjoy playing football as their skills develop further over the course of the season.

13C v Oatley RSL Won 6 - 1

Goal Scorers: Jayden M 2 / Billy / Michael / Anthony / Alex

A wet, coldish day kicked off the season at Renown Park that was full of drama with the other team missing 2 player cards, a field that was poorly marked (and Ref nearly calling off the game because of it) and where, during the warm up alone, two cars lost control on the slippery road as they took the turn down towards the park.

Our boys had a number of chances before a midfield free kick from Mikey was neatly trapped by Jayden, our striker, and then volleyed it to the back of the net from just inside the 18-yard box. Alex was unlucky not to take us 2-0 up after slicing a ball off his left foot.



Oatley, against the run of play capitalised on an error and equalised through a tidy little chip over our keeper.

The game was squarely in our hands and we dominated the majority of possession with the second half being no different. The boys, full of confidence, took to the field and began to impose themselves again on the match. They began to show some confidence with good short passing and looking for the 1-2 down the sidelines, opening up the Oatley defence.

A flurry of goals came with Anthony scoring after a nifty move down the left side of the field, Billy's shot was helped along by an Oatley defence that left the goalkeeper wrong footed; Michael's cross goal mouth shot found its way under the keeper's hands; Jayden found the next again from his left foot and Alex was at the right place at the right time to tap the ball in from close range. Michael had an opportunity to score a brace from the penalty spot after being tripped, but unfortunately the keeper saved it.

Big effort from our defenders Jaden, Kevin, Louis, Conner and Jordan all working hard to shut down their opposition and showed great efficiency at it, ensuring that Peter didn't have to work too hard in goals, other than trying to see the box markings!!

The midfield of James, Cooper and Michael powered through and created many chances up front.

We look forward to welcoming Lachlan back next week for our double header against Connells and Kogarah.



14B v Bexley North (1) Won 9 - 3

Goal Scorers: Mitchell Trajkovski 4 / Kane Spiteri / Mark Martinovic / Haritha Jayaseekera / Issac Cagigas /

Mitchell Frost

POTM: Mitchell Trajkovski

The first game of season 2015 saw Lugarno face Bexley North away. The new additions to the team in Peter K and Kane and the return of Omar have helped strengthen the team in midfield and attack.

Having confidence in the team's attacking potential and ability to outscore their opposition, a 3-2-3-2 formation was chosen which saw Will start in goals; Harris, Jonah and Stephen comprised the defence. Mitchell and Alex played as right and left defensive midfielders; while Peter K was put in the role of right midfielder, Evander as central midfielder and Mitchell T occupied the role of left midfielder. The attack comprised of Kane and Issac; while the reinforcements on the bench featured Raffi, Mark and Harry.

Missing on holiday commitments were Peter and Omar.

Following a bright opening it took Lugarno just 63 seconds to score the opening goal for season 2015 when an incisive run by Kane, following a pass from Stephen, resulted in a deep penetrating run into the final third and as Kane dribbled past the Bexley North defence he released a short pass to his support play, Mitchell T, and the opening goal was registered.

The opening goal allowed Lugarno to settle down fast and take control of the game, resulting in further goals to Mitchell T in the 5th minute and a cleverly taken goal by Kane in the 11th minute which featured great ball movement involving Jonah and Evander releasing Peter K on the sidelines. Peter K went past several Bexley North defenders before a great cross found Kane at the receiving end of the cross. Kane cut inside the Bexley North defender and kicked the ball past the exposed Bexley North goal keeper to help Lugarno race to a deserved 3-0 lead.

With Lugarno in control of the game and the lead looking and feeling comfortable, positional changes were deployed to give some tiring legs a much needed rest. During this period Bexley North started competing strongly with Lugarno and some sustained pressure resulted in their opening goal courtesy of being awarded a penalty kick. Despite Lugarno coming close on a number of occasions the half-time score did not change and remained at 3-1.

A combination of a slow start to the second half by Lugarno, coupled with a determined start by Bexley North, saw the latter establish good position in Lugarno's end with the Lugarno defence of Harris, Jonah and Stephen being stretched to the limit at times. The pressure paid dividends and Bexley North scored their second goal when their striker, using his pace, broke away from the Lugarno defenders and placed the ball past Will for Bexley's second goal eight minutes into the second half. At 3-2 the game was once again close and coach Hagop made some positional changes to help change the game dynamics in favour of Lugarno.

Within five minutes Lugarno opened up a two goal lead when Mitchell T blasted a shot into the Bexley North nets. Two minutes later Mark scored Lugarno's fifth goal when a Mitchell T shot was deflected into his path by the Bexley North goal keeper. Mark who had kept running in anticipation of a goal scoring chance, kept his cool to score. Minutes later Lugarno was awarded a penalty of their own following a sweeping attacking play which was converted by Mitchell T to give Lugarno a 6-2 lead.

Twenty minutes into the half Issac scored a memorable, and in many ways an emotional goal, being his first ever. Receiving a well-timed pass from Raffi, Issac progressed into the Bexley North penalty area, and despite being surrounded by multiple Bexley North defenders Issac managed to perfectly place the ball into the left hand corner - well beyond the stretched arm of the Bexley North goal keeper.

To their credit despite being down 7-2, Bexley North continued their attacking play and grabbed their third goal before goals from Harry and one from Mitchell with less than a minute of play left helped produce a 9-3 score line. Mitchell deserved to score the final goal as he had come close to scoring on two other occasions from great headers.

The final score line was in many ways a true reflection of the game and represented a resounding victory for Lugarno. There were pleasing phases of passing and ball movement during the game; attempts at switching play; support play was great and overall positional play was satisfactory. Given that a number of players were deployed in new positions the overall team performance was exceptional. Had it not been for some excellent saves produced by the Bexley North goal keeper, the winning margin would have been much greater.

Another pleasing and noticeable aspect of the team performance was that the goals were shared amongst six players even though Mitchell T managed to grab the lion's share of the goals with four superb goals.

Game stats

	Bexley North (1)	Lugarno FC		
Total shots	9	20		
Shots on target	5	15		
Goals	3	9		
Corners	2	5		
Possession	39 per cent	61 per cent		

14Girls A

14 A girls 3 points and we didn't even raise a sweat...

We had a bye haha!



PWL/AAW A v Connells Point (1) Lost 0 - 4

A slow start to the season – not unusual for the Lugarno PWL. Unfortunately the score was not the best reflection of the effort that the girls put into the match. The girls should have confidence that we will improve significantly in the next few weeks, we just need a bit more time to gel as a team. Many thanks to Jess, Jasmine and Georgie for backing up after their games to give us a few extra reserves!

AAG (2) v Connells Point (2) Won 3 - 0

Goal Scorers: Vlado / Jehad / own goal

Despite missing our fearless Assistant coach/player Eddy and JP (enjoying an overseas holiday!), the AAG2 team went into the game quietly confident.

First game jitters crept in as the kick-off whistle sounded, but we started strong. The first half was dominated by LFC with good subs interchange and strong pressure all around the park. LFC took an early lead courtesy of a long range strike from Vlado (with a little help from the keeper's howler!)...1-0 LFC.

Moments later, the Connells Pt keeper made a meal of a clearance with the ball landing to Striker Pete just beyond the 18-yard box. Unfortunately, Pete was caught by surprise and couldn't convert!

Soon after, LFC deservedly doubled their lead. Je pounced on the Connells Pt keeper's spill from a corner, smacking the ball home from close range...2-0 LFC.

On the stroke of halftime, Little Frank spotted the keeper off his line. His audacious 30 metre strike cannoned off the cross bar! Unlucky!!

Connells Pt started the second half strong, putting pressure on the LFC defence. LFC managed to create a chance from broken play, Sam combining with Frank down the right wing, before a cross into the box was skewed ever so slightly by Striker Pete, flying just over the crossbar.

LFC finally killed off the game with the 3rd goal. Yare took on a defender and shot (crossed?) from the edge of the 18-yard box...the ball deflecting off a defender into the net. The ref called it an own-goal! Poor Yare... Still looking to break his 15yr goal drought!!! The match ended 3-0 to LFC.

Although our midfield got a little weary (Bernie and Vlado were standouts), our defense - Pete G, Nesh and Coxy all had very strong games. Our keeper kept a clean sheet with a good performance and one spectacular save + 'sweeper's' run towards the corner flag for a safe clearance!

Overall a good positive first game, a few laughs and much room for improvement!!

O45A v Connells Point Lost 0 - 1

6pm on a Friday is a bit much when you have to "work" (say all of us!). We hear that 2 other teams forfeited ... or maybe that was just Greek Easter!

Is the Club gear steward reading this? Beautiful shirt design! And good luck in your thankless task of fitting out some weirdly shaped people! I have a feeling of déjà-vu about what I'm about to say, going back to 1988. Thanks for the socks, but even Ivan didn't fit into the kids ones! Also can we please have more tent poles for the shirts we have - then we can use them. What is a Medium? (I know it's an intermediary to the afterlife - I tried it, didn't work for me). Seriously, we need more shirts (16 is not enough for a team of 21 players), shorts and socks, but then I do know how much juggling is involved in your job so I'll try to make an appointment some time.

After our initial 'fittings' were over (of course Ivan got the fittest!) we were either ready to set sail (no wind luckily) or pitch our shirts up somewhere on a chilly Scarborough Park (Teamer is a great program but did you know there's a Scarborough Park in Chicago? - Google Maps does!) or was it Scarborough Fair?

Sorry, no, that's Simon & Garfunkle and no, we were not to be going to the Fair!

16 players who'd actually turned up on time with plenty of time to kick off was a refreshing start to the season and so it was at 6pm on the dot Steve the ref blew us away... (You gotta expect the odd pun! Comedy is so hard these days!).

A virtually new team (yes the old injuries were still there but they were left on the sideline for a moment) started the game, at least some didn't play last year, and at first the game was reasonably even. From my illegible notes of the game comments like "Morlo gets a touch"/"Attack on"/"Glen corner faded into the distance" as Morlo right in front of the CP goal - hits the crossbar and over it goes.

It was hotting up and we had a lot of possession early... Tony on the penalty box... "Have a shot!" "Oh no! Ok pass it to the keeper". He also had some good runs and was beating the defense, as was Paul.

A few changes sees Ivan behind the cage, or was he cooling off in the bushes?

Danny and Paul were giving impressive juggling exhibitions at one time, head foot knee between the two - we had control!

But there were a few tense moments and CP always looked dangerous in attack especially on the break - but the defense of Warren/Theo/Geoff/Tino/Dom and Carlos (where is Carlos? - everywhere as usual!) kept them at bay - not to mention the externally small but internally big keeper, Marty, who pulled off some great saves.

The Midfield were holding it up - Mario/Ivan/Sam/Mark and Danny were being run a bit ragged by some skilful play from CP. They were putting good passes together at times.

Half time 0-0 - we'd hit the woodwork/metalwork (probably aluminium) and so had they! The nets had remained stationary.

Second half started and, on paper, (which was now getting wet from the rain) it was looking like a good team and positioning although 2323 turned into 442 (if you know what I mean) just like last year! Will these coaches ever learn?

More Marty saves came from a lot of CP pressure.

Then there was an almost billiards/pool like exchange in our 6 yard box that culminated in a Connells foot knocking it in (I don't want to give more credit than that!) after which the game went back to the previous tug-o-war exchanges.

The post match analysis was unanimous that the beer was cold and it was the one that got away (more déjàvu!)

Next week is against Forest Rangers who beat Oatley RSL 12-0 last Sunday!

17/4/2015 at 7pm Gannons 5 under lights! Pindari Rd side.

Sam made the following suggestion/observation...

We may need to stack the defense on Friday night (in between the goal posts). Carlos is Portuguese so he can render after we build a wall!



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