President: John Taylor

Secretary: Hagop Tchamkertenian

Treasurer: David Attard Edition: 12/13 July '14



AROUND THE GROUNDS

Upcoming Events:

- Trivia Night Saturday 19th July
- Team photos on weekend of 26th and 27th July

Competition:

Design the new LFC playing strip – to be released in 2015!! See the website for details.

The prize includes tickets to a major sporting/entertainment event.

Sponsor of the Week:



MAJOR SPONSORS





Match Results:

Saturday				Sunday					
AG/Div	Home Team	Н	Α	Away Team	AG/Div	Home Team	Н	Α	Away Team
AA/D	Lugarno	4	3	Connells Point	AAW/A	Forest Rangers (1)	1	2	Lugarno
AA/E	Lugarno	0	3	Ramsgate RSL	O35/B	Lugarno	0	2	Oatley RSL
AA/F	Connells Point	0	0	Lugarno (1)	PWL/1	Lugarno	10	2	Bexley North
AA/F	Oatley RSL	2	4	Lugarno (2)	U12/B	Lugarno	3	1	Sans Souci FC
AA/G	Kogarah Waratah	3	3	Lugarno	U12/C	Lugarno	1	5	Ramsgate RSL
PL1/1	Oatley RSL	1	1	Lugarno	U12G/B	Lugarno	0	0	Rockdale City Suns
PLR/R	Oatley RSL	6	0	Lugarno	U14G/A	Arncliffe Aurora	0	1	Lugarno
U12/B	Lugarno	1	0	Connells Point	U14G/B	Oatley RSL	3	0	Lugarno
U12/C	Lugarno	0	3	Sans Souci	U16G/A	ASOW	1	0	Lugarno
U13/B	Connells Point (1)	3	1	Lugarno					
U14/C	Forest Rangers (1)	3	0	Lugarno					
U15/A	Lugarno	4	2	Arncliffe Aurora (1)					
U16/B	Sans Souci (2)	1	11	Lugarno	Friday				
U17/A	Carss Park	7	2	Lugarno	O45/A	Carlton Rovers	3	2	Lugarno

Canteen & Field Set up Duty Roster for next weekend:

Date	setup 7am – 12 noon	•	Sunday morning field setup	Sunday field pulldown (& lock up posts)	•
Sat 19 th July	AA E	12 C			All
Sun 20 th July			12 Girls B	PWL 1	Field 5

Match Reports:

7 Bee 2 v ASOW

Goal Scorers: Jack 4 / Patrick / Max / Will

In the absence of a referee, Vin, the manager of ASOW team, agreed to take the whistle.



Our team members were a little rusty because of the school holidays (and maybe watching the world soccer games late at night). However they soon developed a rhythm in their game.

To the credit of the Oatley team members, their defence was excellent and all their players fell back to help in the defence. Lugarno had to keep attacking and chipping away time after time.

Eventually, because of the pressure of repeated attacks, the Oatley defence started to fall away in the second half. One of the main reasons we were able to sustain our attack is that we have always got two players on the sideline resting and ready to come on nice and fresh. Two players must be changed every 5 minutes so that our 4 players on the field are playing at their best.

The best feature of the game for Lugarno was the passing game. Every one was passing the ball to another player who was in the clear and who could then attack towards the goals.

Jack played a good captain's game and was rewarded with 4 goals. The captain has to wear the captain's brassard on his right arm during the game as you can see in the picture. Mat will pick a new captain at the end of each match. The captain's job is to help the coach manage the team by listening to instructions from the coach. Next week, Max will be the Captain. I wonder who will be next?

7 Bee 3 v ASOW

POTM: Ryah

3 of our players were unable to play today, but Patrick and Will from the 7Bee2 team kindly offered to help

We started off strong with a few missed attempts at goal. Vass nearly scored twice! The wind was not on our side though, and goals were hard to come by.

Patrick and Will were valuable additions to our team, with great passing and a few near misses at goal.

Jamie and Vinnie both played solid games in the mid field, getting the ball back to the front for Ryah and Vass.

Ryah was our player of the match today. She always gives 110% in defence and almost scored a few goals today.

We were unlucky to lose today in a closely fought match, but the main thing was that everyone had fun!



8 Bee 1 v ASOW

POTM: Bailey Plumer

Our midday game against ASOW began with us on the back foot early. Due to illness, we began the game short 1 player until Emily came to save the day. It was an ongoing battle though, against a good team with no reserves to replace some tired legs. Sebastian and Bailey are becoming more and more comfortable in the goal keeper position, with both having some great saves and good eyes in letting other balls over the line for a goal kick. Bailey also put in a super effort on the field in defence and has the most entertaining run up for goal kicks, so he gets this week's player of the match award.

Up front, Adam and Tomas were our strikers and played extremely well. Over the school holidays we had practice sessions, but no game, and so we took the opportunity to practice getting into a 3-3 formation and there were some encouraging position plays this week between Adam and Tomas. Tomas' speed was greatly appreciated in defence too, and he always seems to be there if the opposition breaks through. Anthony had heaps of energy and massive kicks (even competing with Bailey to get goal kick opportunities). Emily and Lily also seem to find space away from the crowd, waiting for passes to come their way, but they weren't scared of going toe to toe with opposition players to fight for the ball either.

Goals were hard to come by this week and credit needs to go to ASOW who played very well to keep us out. Although we were on the lower end of the scoreboard, I was really happy with the way the team played together, as well as the individual efforts they displayed. See you all at practice.

8 Fox v Sans Souci

Goal Scorer: Shared - Finlay Whitten & Mitchell Woods

POTM: Grace Witney

After weeks of rehab and long sessions in the hypobaric chamber, the Foxes returned to full strength with all the injury worries now resolved.

The venue was Claydon and from the kick off San Souci was on attack, with most of the Fox's half spent defending their goals, strong goal keeping from Fin was the talk on the sideline and with Owen and Anthony closing down play, Sans Souci's points were restricted to one goal.

In the second half the game opened up and the Foxes were unlucky not to score on a few occasions. Mitchell's corner kicks were hitting the mark and Alexia was unlucky not to score - drifting ever so close to the cross bar. Mitchell continued with his pin point corner kicks, which saw a rebound into the goals and

with Fin slamming the ball into the net - even the video ref couldn't tell who scored the goal.

Lucy was strong in attack and didn't let a goal in the second half, swift passing from Grace and long range kicks earned Grace the Player of the Match Award. Our everywhere man Hunter, also ensured Sans Souci were robbed opportunities to score. Nick stayed back supporting the goal keeper each half and kicked well up the field to put the Fox's in good attacking position.

The Foxes are going well thanks to the insights from the Sydney FC training session a few weeks ago and under close guidance from Coach Harry each week.



POTM: Mitchell Frost & Jonah Hopping

Fielding an almost full strength side including the new team recruit Mujahid Husamuddeen (MJ for short), Lugarno took on a Kogarah Waratah side coming second on the competition table.

A 4-1-3-2 team formation was chosen for this game which saw Will start in goals supported in defence by Mitchell, Issac, Jonah and Raffi. Mark occupied the defensive midfield position behind the other midfielders comprising of Harry, Mitchell T and Evander. The strikers for the game were James and Peter. The interchange players included MJ, Stephen and Alex.

Despite a good start to the game that saw Lugarno go on the attack from the kick-off, a counterattacking movement resulted in the opening goal to Kogarah Waratah after just 6 minutes of play when the Lugarno defence failed to recover in time to close down the attack.

The early set-back did not affect the team as they competed on equal terms with Kogarah Waratah for most of the first half, creating slightly better goal scoring chances than their opponents. As the game developed into a tactical battle at the middle of the park, the defence of both teams did exceptionally well to neutralise the attacking raids. Mitchell in his new position of right back was having a great game turning defence into attack; Issac and Jonah were alert in the middle of the defence, while Raffi was quick and solid on the left back. Will ensured no more goals were conceded having made a number of saves. Mark, Mitchell T, Harry, and Evander were industrious in the middle of the park, while upfront Peter and James were constantly chasing and pressuring the Kogarah Waratah defence.

MJ, the new recruit, was introduced to the game as a midfield player and combined well with his outside support to launch attacks, while Alex and Stephen were called upon to cover different positions as the half evolved doing a great job in the process.

Down 1-0 at half time the team was told at half-time that the game could be won in the second half if they became more clinical in front of goal and were patient with their ball distribution.

Second half action saw Kogarah Waratah continue to spread the ball from side to side playing an attractive passing game. The way they were playing reflected the fact that they could not go through the middle of Lugarno's solid defence and instead were trying to outflank the defence. Mid-way through the second half Lugarno changed the formation to strengthen the attack at the expense of the defence. The tactical change resulted in a number of goal scoring chances being created for Harry, James, Alex, MJ and Mitchell T. Unfortunately a combination of poor finishing and bad luck culminated in the chances not being converted into goals.

As more and more players were pushed up to get the elusive equalising goal, Kogarah Waratah exploited the emerging spaces at the back and, with 90 seconds left in the game, scored their second goal. With seconds left Lugarno had another goal scoring chance but yet again the opportunity failed to be converted and the game ended 2-0 in favour of Kogarah Waratah.

The 2-0 final score line fails to reflect how close this game was and with more clinical finishing this could have been a game that Lugarno could easily have drawn and even won through their efforts in the second half. But as we often say in football, the number of goal scoring chances created counts for nothing if you don't capitalise on the opportunities created. The loss now sets up an intriguing game against Peakhurst United the following day in this double header weekend. It is not often that a team can take much away from a defeat, but today's game proved that the team can match it against the best. Game stats:

	Lugarno FC	Kogarah Waratah		
Total shots	9	10		
Shots on target	5	6		
Goals	0	2		
Corners	4	6		
Possession	48 per cent	52 per cent		

Goal Scorers: Haritha Jayaseekera / Alexander Pejovski / Mark Younes

POTM: Evander Berroa & Mark Martinovic

The game against Peakhurst United took on extra significance as the team was two points ahead on the competition table meaning a win would place it a comfortable 5 points ahead in the race for finals football. With 3 players missing due to various commitments, coach Hagop had to dig deep to field a competitive side against an opponent that had won the round 1 encounter 3-1.

Two recruits from the 12B's, Mark Younes and Tony Elaro, allowed the formation of an interchange bench to match that of our opponents. Again opting for a 4-1-3-2 formation Will was given the gloves in goals, Mitchell, Evander, Mark and Raffi formed the defensive unit. Stephen played as defensive midfield, behind Peter, Mitchell T and Alex in midfield proper. Harry and James made up the attack, while MJ, Mark Y and Tony took up their positions on the interchange bench.

Running with a strong breeze, Lugarno was able to play most of the football in Peakhurst United's half, launching a number of attacks. Peakhurst United struggled to make progress in attack and relied exclusively on a number of fast counter attacks that tested the Lugarno defence but to their credit the Lugarno defensive players were able to repel the opponent's attacks though good communication and brilliant defensive skills.

With almost 20 minutes of the game gone and a number of goal scoring chances falling to Mitchell T, Harry, James and Peter, the score line was still locked at 0-0 when Lugarno launched an attack from inside their half, the ball movement released James in the clear and with Harry also running in support the shot from James fell perfectly in the path of Harry who scored from close range to give Lugarno a deserved 1-0 lead. The goal had the desired effect of lifting the team and, with momentum on their side, just four minutes later Harry and Alex combined in the Peakhurst United penalty area before Alex received the final pass from Harry and scored Lugarno's second goal.

Leading 2-0 at half-time, some positional changes were deployed to protect the lead and nullify the strong breeze advantage that Peakhurst United was going to have in the second half. The tactics worked perfectly and most of the second half was played with even possession despite Lugarno running against the strong breeze. During this period Lugarno created some good goal scoring opportunities but Stephen, James, Mitchell T, Harry, Peter and Alex all came close without adding to the score line.

In the 23rd minute of the second half Mark Y found himself 35 metres outside the Peakhurst United penalty area. As Peakhurst United cleared the ball following a Lugarno attack, Mark Y brought the high ball under control, progressed towards the penalty area, dribbled past two Peakhurst United defenders before blasting a shot beyond the goal keeper for Lugarno's third goal.

In the remaining segment of the game, Peakhurst United tested Lugarno's defence but great defending ensured the score line did not change until seconds before the final whistle. The opponent's last attack resulted in them being awarded a penalty kick which they successfully converted to make final score line 3-1 in favour of Lugarno.

The team rebounded strongly from their loss a day earlier to secure a critical win in what turned out to be a pivotal game on the road to finals football. Every player played a superb game. Will monitored playing conditions well and at times played more like a sweeper than a goal keeper, Mitchell playing in a new position once again excelled, Evander and Mark were solid at the back and remained focussed through the game; Raffi and Tony turned defence into attack; Mark Y was as normal very versatile in both attack and defence, Stephen, MJ, Alex, Peter and Mitchell T shared the midfield duties and showed great determination and commitment; Harry and James ran with great speed and determination and pressured the Peakhurst United defence into making errors.

The most pleasing aspect of the game was that despite missing 3 players; having to play players in different positions; and managing the incorporation of new additions to the team, the team played with great cohesion, followed the game plan thoroughly and played with great commitment. On a breezy day the attitude displayed by the team was something to be cherished.

Game stats:

	Lugarno FC	Peakhurst United
Total shots	15	8
Shots on target	9	5
Goals	3	1
Corners	5	4
Possession	55 per cent	45 per cent

<u>13 B</u> v Connells Point (1) Lost 1 - 3

Goal Scorer: Jonah Hopping **POTM:** Mark Martinovic

The game against Connells Point (1) saw the third placed Connells Point side playing the fourth placed Lugarno side. With just two points separating the sides, Lugarno knew that a win would deliver them the third position in the race to the finals given the favourable draw coming up.

Having almost a full team available as only one player (Harris) was absent from the team due to an overseas holiday, some hard decisions had to be made on the starting line-up. Opting for a 4-1-3-2 formation, Will started in goals behind a defensive unit comprising of Mitchell, Jonah, Evander and Raffi. Mark played as defensive midfield, while Peter, Mitchell T and Alex played in the traditional midfield roles. Up front were Harry and James, while MJ, Stephen and Issac started on the interchange bench.

The state of the field (Poulton Park No 1) was so bad with at best 30 per cent grass coverage and virtually no grass coverage in the centre of the field and in the penalty areas, that the referee had a close inspection of the field and reluctantly decided to proceed with the game.

Lugarno kicked-off and dominated the early exchanges establishing good field position and driving the opposition deep into their territory. During this phase of the game Lugarno had the first three shots on goal and came close to scoring. The pressure finally paid off when Evander was tackled just outside the Connells Point penalty area. Jonah moved up to take the free-kick and scored a magnificent goal in the 10th minute by hitting the ball in the right hand corner of the nets giving the opposition goal keeper no chance to save the shot.

In the 15th minute Raffi was forced off the field due to excessive bleeding from his right hand, becoming the first victim of the atrocious Poulton Park field. Issac was introduced into the defence playing as Raffi's replacement in the unfamiliar left back position for him. The opposition benefited from the reshuffled defensive situation and through a counter attacking play scored in the 18th minute following two successive defensive errors.

The rest of the first half was pretty even with both sides pushing forward and testing the defence. Great defending efforts from Will, Mark, Mitchell, Jonah, Evander, Stephen and Issac ensured no further goals were scored until the half-time break. Harry, James and Alex had some half chances in front of goal but there were no additions to Lugarno's score. Peter, Mitchell T, and MJ all looked forward to the half-time break after an active first half.

Instructions for the second half focussed on moving and playing the ball to the sides to open up spaces in the middle of the park for the faster Lugarno players to penetrate through. Playing a more compressed defence was also emphasised as a way of closing the spaces for the opposition attackers to run into.

While the first 10 minutes of the second half proved pretty even, Connells Point slowly started to gain the upper hand and their dominance became even more apparent when Lugarno started surrendering the middle of the park to the opposition. Despite some robust defending by Lugarno, the emerging spaces started being converted into goal scoring chances by the opposition and in the 19th minute a failure to clear the ball long gifted Connells Point their second goal. Four minute later, the opposition was awarded a penalty kick courtesy of sustained pressure which made the score 3-1. With less than 6 minutes to play and thinking of finals football, some positional changes were made to test players in different positions.

Having taken the lead after 10 minutes of play than surrendering it and the game through 3 defensive lapses provides the team with some valuable lessons to take away from the game as they prepare to hopefully play finals football against the same opponents in four week's time. By then, the team will be stronger from the experience gained from this game and by also welcoming back their specialist right back Harris from holidays.

The return of our specialist right back also affords coach Hagop with greater flexibility in his team formation enabling players to start playing in positions that they are more comfortable in.

In football nothing is certain and while the team's final two games look easier on paper, the team still needs to show full respect to its opponents, and play consistent and committed football to secure a spot in the finals.

Game stats:

	Lugarno	Connells Point (1)
Total shots	10	13
Shots on target	5	7
Goals	1	3
Corners	3	4
Possession	42 per cent	58 per cent



14 Girls B v Oatley RSL Lost 0 - 3

After enjoying a break from competition through the entire school holidays courtesy of a bye, we were thrown in at the deep end against the competition front runners Oatley RSL. Never mind, we had a great result last time with a 1-1 draw, so hopefully the girls were up for it once again. The girls had a good warm up with coach Paul going through drills and tactics in readiness for the game. Lucinda was captain today and her ubiquitous smile got even wider as she led the girls out for the kick off.

The game started at a frenetic pace and we were on the back foot right away defending for our lives with Oatley bursting out of the blocks. Defenders Sienna, reliable as usual, and Monique getting plenty of play come their way, but managing to keep the opposition honest and making them work hard. Monique especially busy but as usual her pace and skill managed to help keep the ball out of the back of our net. Of course, our ever reliable goalkeeper Sophia was also busy but managed some good early saves. Her instinct and decision making getting better as the year progresses. Our midfielders, seeing we needed a hand in defence, were only too willing to help. Emily and Jessica featuring prominently with some great clearing kicks and Sarah using her speed to help us out of trouble.

Coach Paul decided early to put some fresh legs on and on came Ruby and Giovanna in defence and midfield respectively. Ruby making an impression right away with some good defending just by keeping the pressure on the opposition and forcing the error. Well done Ruby. Unfortunately, not long after this, a strong kick from the opposition found its way directly to one of our girls who in the process of protecting herself got a hand to the ball and the referee deemed it an intentional handball and as such, a penalty ensued. Sophia tried her best, but it was a well taken penalty and it went into the back of the net. Play continued and

became a bit more even after the goal. Our midfielders were gaining in confidence and managed to get a few passes to Sophie and Olivia up front. Our strikers had few opportunities at this stage but kept trying to find a way to goal.

More substitutions were made, bringing Toni and Saskia into the fray. A few more positional changes had our girls pushing forwards a bit more and gaining a bit confidence. However, against the run of play, one of their players chanced their arm and decided to shoot from outside the box and managed to get it bouncing just right and over the head of Sophia in goals. Not much Sophia could do there, just a good shot. The rest of the half was spent mostly around the midfield but also making sure we didn't concede again which we managed to do quite well. At the end of the half, we were down 0-2 but ready for a great 2nd half.

After a very interactive half time discussion, the girls knew what they had to do and upped the ante as soon as play got underway. We had the use of the wind this half and all the girls used it to good effect. The defensive effort in particular of Jessica and Ruby was a highlight, with Ruby enjoying one of her best games of the season and making a real impact. Later, when Alyssa came on, they formed a great partnership and did some great work in defence, managing to diffuse many attacks. Coach Paul tried a few new faces up forward including Lucinda and Giovanna who relished the opportunity. Giovanna gaining in confidence with every match she plays.

We continued to match it with the opposition throughout the second half but found it hard when we got up front. Olivia especially trying her heart out as usual, but the defence today was well drilled and difficult to get by. Tia and Emily made an impact in midfield, especially Emily who made 3 memorable runs down the left wing within about 5 minutes. She had no right to go as far as she did with all the defenders around her, but with determination and skill proved that anything is possible. Lucinda had a couple of good runs too, using her shoulder to great effect to bounce defenders off her.

As the half went on, our midfielders Sarah, Toni, Jessica and Saskia were more than matching it with their opponents and managing to string a few good passes together trying to give Olivia and Sophie as many chances as possible. We were making an impact, but just not getting close enough to goal. With the half running out and against the run of play, the opposition managed to elude the offside trap and get another one past Sophia who again had a fantastic half. There wasn't much time left at this stage, but we never gave up and gained a lot for the experience. There were no further goals and the game ended up with the same score line as the world cup game a couple of hours earlier 0-3. Considering the break, it was a great effort from our girls and one in which we can build on all the way up to the semis.

17 A v Arncliffe Aurora

Lost 2 - 4

Saturday 28th June

Goals Scorer: Conor 2

As I mentioned to the boys before kick off, playing 3rd on the table, Arncliffe, without an official ref (they provided one) and with no subs was always going to be challenging. We went ahead within the first couple of mins after a good run by Conor, while spectators were still settling in. From there the scoreline changed a few times and although we ended playing several minutes of the 2nd half with 10 boys (AJ was taken off injured) we were just 2-3 down for majority of that half and came pretty damn close to scoring that elusive equaliser, until the legs started getting very tired and conceded a 4th goal towards the end.

Hopefully we will have at least a couple more players next match as we come up against 2nd last Glory to avoid the 'wooden spoon'.

17 A v Hurstville Glory

Drew 2 - 2

Saturday 5th July

Goal Scorers: Lachlan Straney / Conor Robinson

Facts: Lugarno 2 vs Hurstville Glory 2

Story behind the facts: Sat 5/7/14 will be remembered for the U17As as the day the team stood up and a bunch of brave boys, assisted by a few U15As, performed a mini footballing miracle to come back twice to earn a more than deserved draw. The team was down on morale as this season has been tougher than last

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as we sit at the bottom of the table. This season we have 2 good Connells teams in this age group as well as the ASOW team promoted from the Bs, very competitive Arncliffe and Sans Souci teams, and a Carrs Park team bolstered with at least 3 ex reps players.

The odds were against us from the beginning of the week as we were aware that we'd be short due to some boys being on holidays, one recovering from an injury and a couple that decided to take a break from football; we were going to be down to 10 players.

Negotiations took place between our coach and the U16Bs as well as U15As to bump up the numbers. Unfortunately due to poor SGFA scheduling the 3 teams were playing at around the same time. Due to an unfortunate incident at another ground, the U15As match was cancelled, hence 3 boys (Kosta, Samuel and Daniel) rushed from Poulton Park to Gannons just making it on time for kick off. What ensued was an end to end match in which the Lugarno boys outplayed the opposition for the majority of the match, just to concede a very early dubious goal (where is line technology when you need it?). The rest of the 1st half was mainly Lugarno pressing and creating several scoring chances that went oh so close. After a deserved break, our boys started strong with several attacks coming close until an excellent passing move saw Lachlan (coming back from his broken collarbone) putting the ball in the back of their net.

Our efforts were not helped by a very lenient referee towards the HG boys as she kept giving them verbal cautions while our boys were getting constantly fouled. Suffice to say that the 1st and only yellow card of the match was given to them 5 mins before the end of the match??? Their behaviour record will tell how they play: 9 yellow and 2 red cards in 11 games!

Following our goal, our boys went for the match winner only to concede a soft goal on a counterattack move 15 mins before the end. The way HG celebrated showed that they believed they had the match won. Not so for our courageous boys who kept pushing, creating very good chances, hitting the crossbar and posts until we were given an obvious penalty that Conor put away.

Many thanks to Kosta, Samuel and Daniel (15As) and Lachlan (16Bs) who fitted with our boys like they have been playing with us for a while, and to the 10 Lugarno boys that played out of their skin to get the result.

Thanks also to Dave Attard and Sam Gazillas for bringing over their boys so quickly over to Gannons as well as Simon from our team for staying back to help the PL team.

Bring on next match!!!

<u>17 A</u> v Carrs Park Lost 2 - 7 Saturday 5th July

Goal Scorers: Lachlan / Rhys

Unfortunately, in addition to the boys on holidays and Callum's last minute sickness, we have a couple of boys that have decided to take a break from soccer and have left the team, which has left us short of players, especially during the holiday period.

However the 9 boys that were on the pitch for the majority of the match gave it their all and came close to staging an upset during the 1st half in which we were down just 1-3. We struggled in the 2nd half with Liam's sickness and Jono's injury, as well as no subs to give the boys a break; but we still managed to score another goal.

Next week we have a couple of boys back from holidays and, as the draw has the U15As playing before us, I have already contacted their coach to borrow the same boys that helped so well in last week's draw vs Hurstville Glory.

Unfortunately Jonathan's season has been cut short for the 2nd year as he injured his hamstring while marking a Carss Park player at today's match.

On another note, I want to congratulate the boys that did turn up for their effort today.

Lets finish the season with the same effort (and hopefully a few more goals), as you are making the Club, myself and your families proud.

Goal Scorer: Selena Green

This is now our 3rd game that we have played the number one team and the girls were ready and determined not to let them get over the top of them. With people missing on holidays, we only had one sub.

Unfortunately RCS did get in early and scored 2 goals in the first 20 min of play. Their 3rd goal came off a big boot and with a bit of help from the wind - it would have been save of the year if Ashlee stopped that one! Looked like this stirred out girls up as we answered their last goal with one of our own from the mid field - Marina passed it onto Jade who passed onto Selena just outside the box, Selena got the ball past the backs and, with the goalie out of the goals, Selena got past her and finished with a great goal. This is our 2nd goal against this team and we are one of only 2 teams in the comp who have scored against them.

The first half score was 4-1.

We were able to borrow some girls from the U16GA team for some extra subs, with Georgia in the backs, Stefanie in mids and forwards and Klaudia on the right wing. Thanks so much girls - you all did a great job with some great defence and determination in passing, tackling, winning the ball and getting around your opposition.

The frustration was starting to show in RCS as our girls played a very strong second half holding their positions, defending in the backs and with some great passing up from the mids to forwards - we were so unlucky, we just couldn't get the ball past the goalie.

RCS only scored 3 more goals in the second half - that was a great effort Lugarno.

You all played so well girls you should be very proud of how you all played this game and thanks again to the girls from U16G.

Enjoy your week off with our bye next week - you deserve it.



AA E v Carrs Park Lost 1 - 4 Saturday 5th July

Goal Scorer: Mitchell Slater

Another fine Saturday with a 10 man team! The game was a good one, with the ref showing early on he was going to pull up any infringement, luckily he was even handed but we could have had a better result by playing the advantage every now and then.

Having the extra man enabled Carrs Park to run us around and as in the past couple of weeks we faded in the last 15 minutes or so. A cracker of a consolation goal to Mitch in the second half after the game was largely out of hand, although it was good to hear "Come on Lugarno, we can do this!" from the glass half full man playing sweeper.

The refs commented on what a good game Stephen had in goal (again!!) when I was collecting the match sheet, he works hard every game. Well done again team and keep those smiles up for the rest of the season!



Another game with a lack of players. In a return to Gannons!

It started well with Denis speeding away on the wing and the cross just missed Steve B but there was no one behind him - ah yes we had 2 forwards! At the back Irish (Paul - our new recruit) was showing Zagreb his ball skills.

But as I went to visit the ablutions I saw Zagreb hit the post twice in quick succession - the first saved by Tom onto it. Sadly it wasn't long before a sustained Zagreb attack scored - a spinning ball fooled everyone and Tom was unable to grab it.

Sam takes over the writing (and crikey can he write....)

John: "Ivan we need to move Paul - he's struggling" (he's pulled something)

Ivan: "Where too?"

John: "I dunno"

Such is the sideline to field coaching communications in a crisis...

Meanwhile Paul/Irish resorts to toe pokes to save his groin - alas too late the damage is done and maybe a hammy as well - stretcher is nowhere to be found and he staggers off at the goal line - once sitting and with ice pack at least 2 of his 3 dogs (obviously he draws a crowd) were seen licking his wounds - or was it just the ice pack they were after?

Special note from Ref to Damo - no slide tackles.

3rd Zagreb goal - unluckiest bounce of the year!

Sam sets out on a rescue mission to find the lost match ball - successful (Note from JohnD - don't give us good/expensive balls - they get nicked!) it was found in Zagreb's huddle of bags - their sub said "That's the best match ball". No need to hide it and take it home though!

Half time 4-0 to Zagreb (we gotta win the second half again!) We have the wind in the second half but it's uphill, even so the trouble is the wind is just too strong and the ball runs away. 2xATS (Another Tom save)

Gary tries to mount the defender - dinner first is the norm is it not? - but both get up a bit dusty and shake (the dust and hands). Damo has decided this isn't good enough and has shifted into top gear, playing excellent football.

Zagreb are once again struggling to score in the second half... spoke too soon, just finished writing that and they scored!

Carlos takes out the Zagreb No.7 whose expression says "I'm too old for this". ATBigS.

ATS (Sam's learnt the shorthand)

Second half score Zagreb: 1 Lugarno: 1

Sadly Gary's great header was scored in the wrong net!

Full time whistle brings great relief to a number of players, especially Nick who collapses in exhaustion! He'd had a great game in defence despite the score.



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