



AROUND THE GROUNDS

Season 2017

MAJOR SPONSORS



Our Valued Sponsors

Please support these businesses - they support our Club



Swap any 9kg or 4kg BBQ gas bottle at your local SWAP'n'GO® outlet

- ◆ 4kg bottles with regular & Camper Valves
- ◆ No waiting to have your gas bottle refilled
- ◆ Swap for a fresh gas bottle every time
- ◆ Thousands of outlets, city and country



LUGARNO
PHARMACY

Pharmacist Advice



Warren Del-Grande, B.Pharm, M.P.S., J.P.

Traditional Pharmaceutical services and more.

- * bone density testing
- * blood glucose monitoring
- * home medication review
- * bowel cancer screening
- * blood pressure monitoring

1020 Forest Rd Lugarno

(02) 91537343



Our Valued Sponsors

Please support these businesses - they support our Club

Pop in for ...



Weekly
Specials



Great advice
& service

LUGARNO CELLARS
Your local wine & craft beer specialists
1020a Forest Rd Lugarno (02) 9533 2141







BRABOND
AUTOMOTIVE
www.brabondautomotive.com.au
504 FOREST RD PENSURST

BRAKE - CLUTCH - STEERING SPECIALIST
VEHICLE SERVICING & REPAIRS
REGO CHECKS SPARE PARTS

9580-7562



BRABOND Mechanical Services is a well recognised and accredited auto care workshop

- * Authorised RTA E-Safety station
- * Motor Traders Association (MTA) Member
- * Institute of Automotive Mechanical Engineers

- * NRMA approved vehicle repairer
- * New car service warranty policy
- * Association of Service Stations

504 Forest Rd Penshurst

(02) 9580 7562

www.brabondautomotive.com.au






Sportsworld Indoor

Peakhurst Centre

indoor fun for everyone!

Indoor Cricket • Indoor Netball • Indoor Soccer • Indoor Softball • Comps For All Ages / Sexes

Forest Road Peakhurst
(02) 9534 3100
www.sportsworld.com.au

Our Valued Sponsors

Please support these businesses - they support our Club



LUGARNO FOOTBALL CLUB Inc

2017 COMMITTEE

<i>President:</i>	Hagop Tchamkertenian
<i>Secretary:</i>	Sue Dick
<i>Assistant Secretary:</i>	Georgea Theodoridis
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Ivan Jersek
<i>Registrar:</i>	Basil Privitera
<i>Non Comp Liaison Officer:</i>	Kristy Parmenter
<i>Junior Liaison Officer:</i>	Georgea Theodoridis
<i>Girls/Womens Liaison Officer:</i>	Katie White
<i>Senior Mens Liaison Officer:</i>	Paul McIntyre
<i>Grounds Manager:</i>	Jarrold Eastwood
<i>Canteen Managers:</i>	Sue Dick Suzy Florance Rebecca Radcliffe
<i>Club Coaching Director:</i>	Michael Apokourastos
<i>Member Protection Officer:</i>	Mary Tchamkertenian
<i>Trustee/Equipment Officer:</i>	Atef Elassi
<i>Communications Officer:</i>	Katie White
<i>Recorder:</i>	Maria Radcliffe
<i>Sponsorship Officer:</i>	Katie White
<i>Social Coordinator:</i>	Georgina Frost
<i>Public Officer:</i>	Sue Dick

LUGARNO FOOTBALL CLUB Inc

President's Report 2017

This was my first year serving in the role as President of this wonderful family and community oriented club, having spent the previous four years as club Secretary and previous to that as junior liaison officer. It has been a great honour and privilege to serve the players, team officials, members and supporters and to represent the club within both the football community as well as the wider community.

Season 2017 witnessed 513 players and 102 team officials register with Lugarno FC across 42 teams ranging from the under 6's to the over 45's. Twenty two of these teams comprised of non-competition teams while the balance comprised of competition teams.

The breakdown of the player demographics shows there were 302 juniors and 211 senior players. The gender profile confirms 409 male and 104 female players.

Ten Lugarno FC teams qualified for finals football comprising of the 12C, 13B, 14GA, 16B, 18A, AAA (1), AAA (2), AAD, AAF and AAG teams. Six progressed to the grand final – 12C, 13B, 16B, AAA (1), AAD, and AAF. Four Lugarno FC teams secured grand final wins and were crowned premiers – 13B, 16B, AAA (1) and AAD. The 16B team also finished as minor premiers. Following the success of season 2017 the number of premierships won by the club has now risen to 112.

The past year has seen Lugarno FC achieve a number of milestones which I would like to briefly share with you.

- The club held a planning day in November to review all operations and activities with the intention of improving them and introducing new initiatives.
- Funding of almost \$10,000 was secured from Georges River Council which allowed the club to invest in new training gear and equipment.
- After a review, the player awards nomination process was rationalised and streamlined introducing a points system to help determine club award recipients.
- An unprecedented seven new sponsors were secured comprising of Ayers Management, Mr Water Plumbing, Magic City Projects, Better Vending Options, Alpha Nobis, PaintCorp and McGrath-Hayden and Olivia Duncan. These new sponsors join the ranks of our long and loyal club sponsors who have contributed to the ongoing success of Lugarno FC on and off the field. Sponsors such as Club Grandviews, Lugarno Deli, Brabond Automotive, Lugarno Cellars, Lugarno Pharmacy, Peakhurst Indoor Sports and Elgas have been supporting the club for a number of years. We thank them for their ongoing support.
- In a new initiative, all registered players received a complimentary training jersey. From now on all new players will receive a complimentary training jersey as part of their registration fee.
- The club invested in state of the art team dugouts, new nets and flag poles and small sided goal posts.
- The school holiday football clinics were reintroduced with great success and feedback.
- A record breaking U8's gala day was held featuring almost 300 players from 36 teams representing 20 clubs from near and distant football associations.
- Lugarno FC aligned itself with the major international sporting brand, Mitre, ensuring the club delivers quality gear and in the process became one of the few SGFA affiliated clubs with a proper and defined branding strategy.
- In the area of communications, the club launched a Team App that has attracted 200 subscribers and an Instagram page to help enhance its social media presence. Plans are currently underway to launch a new club website by end of November.

- New canteen and field duty procedures were introduced following consultations with team officials with the aim of making those tasks and processes more efficient.
- For the first time ever Lugarno FC participated in the FFA Cup, when a joint squad was formed from the club's two All Age A squads.
- Also for the first time ever the club set aside a specific budget for coaching development to encourage our team officials to become accredited by attending and completing coaching development courses.

At the annual Life Member's Day, six new members were admitted into the ranks of Lugarno FC Life Members. Three involved 25 years of player service to the club and included Matthew Faulkner, Matthew McLoughlin and Mark Lewis. Three others were for provision of exceptional service to Lugarno FC and included former Vice President Warren Woods, veteran coach Mick Barber and former President John Taylor.

Future club plans include changing the field configuration so that Gannons 3, which is currently a midi-field, becomes a main field once again alongside Gannons 6. This change would result in Gannons 4 hosting midi and mini games and would provide a home ground for our under 8's and 9's who currently are forced to play all their games away. The club is also seriously contemplating introducing permanent seating facilities at Gannons Park by investing in mini grand stands.

Lugarno FC raised and actively engaged in a number of constitutional and by-laws matters with the St George Football Association during the season, the most critical being grading and re-grading decisions which impacted on the football fortunes of some Lugarno FC teams; judiciary related matters and representation; overall refereeing standards; and grounds and facilities support and improvement. Engagement with Georges River Council focussed on ground conditions and ongoing improvements and the proposal to install a new light tower adjacent to Gannons 4.

The club also held discussions with the office of David Coleman, the local Federal member for Banks, to ensure that the junior presentation day continues featuring Lugarno FC players receiving the Banks Outstanding Sporting Achievement Awards. Discussions on the state of the grounds, general playing surface, lighting needs and upgrade of amenities at Gannons Park also took place with David Coleman as well as local State member for Oatley, Mark Coure, who pledged to campaign for ongoing improvements for Gannons Park.

Communications with club team players, officials and supporters were conducted by various channels such as the club website, Club Team App, club newsletter, Facebook and Instagram pages with contents being updated regularly, through dedicated email newsletters titled "Lugarno FC Matters" and SMS's for urgent training and game related matters and developments.

The canteen operations had another successful year, with the canteen menu again expanded with the inclusion of new food and drink items ensuring it retained its status as the best canteen in the competition.

All these activities are not possible if we don't have a group of dedicated volunteers who put in numerous hours on a weekly basis for the benefit of Lugarno FC. Having sufficient number of volunteers to conduct the affairs of the Club remains critical for its continued development and success, that is why it remains critical to always have new people volunteer for roles whether it be in an official or formal capacity by serving on the Executive Committee, or in less formal capacity such as volunteering for the various Lugarno FC activities that take place during the regular football season.

A special thank you goes to the 2017 committee members for their ongoing support and love of the club.

Sue Dick performed the role of Club Secretary with distinction and also played a major role overseeing canteen operations. She also helped out with player allocations and team formations and played a pivotal role in all our club activities ranging from the under 6's night to Life Members Day, the under 8's gala day, Trivia Night and club presentation days.

Georgea Theodoridis assisted Sue with the Club Secretarial duties and also was in charge of team issues in her role of Junior Liaison Officer.

Ivan Jersek, as Club Treasurer, kept the club finances in order. Ivan has streamlined and improved the accounting processes and by adopting and utilising electronic payments has significantly simplified the overall club payments processes.

Basil Privitera completed his third year as Club Registrar putting in long hours to ensure players and RTO's were registered for round 1. Basil also assisted with the club photo days, the under 8's Gala Day and other club activities. Unfortunately, Basil has decided to retire at the end of this season which means the club needs to fill this important role. In appreciation for the exceptional work Basil has performed he was awarded the President's Award for season 2017.

Katie White took on the Sponsorship, Communication and Girl's/Women's liaison roles which kept her pretty busy. Katie, who is very approachable, is also an active player with the Lugarno FC Premier Women's League team. She is also project managing the launch of the new club website.

Kristy Parmeter took on the role of Non-comp Liaison Officer and has had a highly successful season. She was in charge of the record breaking U8's Gala Day which was superbly organised and her passion and drive has seen her being assigned other activities such as launching the new club e-newsletter for season 2018.

Suzy Florance and Rebecca Radcliffe, along with Sue Dick, managed the canteen operations. As a result of the commitment and hard work of these ladies, the Lugarno FC canteen operations not only operated successfully but broke all previous records.

Our Grounds Manager, Jarrod Eastwood, who was up in the early hours every Saturday morning during the football season helping teams with their field set-up duties, is also stepping down from the role after this season. We will miss Jarrod and his work ethic.

Club Coaching Director, Michael Apokourastos, has prepared online coaching resources to help junior coaches deliver structured training sessions. Michael also delivered with fellow coaches the highly successful school holiday football clinic.

Atef Elassi continued in his role as Trustee/Equipment Officer, helping to upgrade and modernise the club gear and equipment. He also played an active role in securing new sponsorships for the club and has played a pivotal role in the club's gear branding strategy with Mitre. Atef was nominated for the Lugarno Person of the Year at the prestigious SGFA Gold Medal Awards Dinner.

Georgina Frost, in her role as Social Coordinator, hosted another highly successful record breaking Trivia Night, which is the club's main fund raiser. By focussing on minimising costs and maximising revenue, Georgina has been instrumental in changing the Club's fundraising approach and focus. The other ladies who helped Georgina in organising the Trivia Night which involved weeks of planning and organising comprised of Georgea Theodoridis, Mary Tchamkertenian and Sue Dick.

Maria Radcliffe took on new responsibilities during the season - in addition to preparing the weekly newsletter "Around the Grounds", entering the game scores online and reviewing every team's match sheets, she also prepared the canteen and field duty rosters allocating the responsibilities amongst the various Lugarno FC teams. Maria also continued with her role of finalising player award lists, preparing the end of season report and posting updates to the club's Facebook page.

Mary Tchamkertenian performed her duties as Member Protection Officer and took an active interest in other club activities such as helping out with canteen operations, the U8's Gala Day, Trivia Night, Life Members Day, and club presentation days.

Senior Men's Liaison Officer, Paul McIntyre, helped out with the U8's Gala Day and coached the Women's Premier League side.

At the time of writing this report the Lugarno Executive Committee had met eleven times deliberating on some 161 agenda items covering diverse range of issues.

To all our players, team officials, parents, supporters, and sponsors - thank you for your involvement, support and for being an integral member of the Lugarno FC family. Lugarno FC promotes and advocates the virtues of fun, friendship, families and football.

Going forward, the priority areas for the ongoing development and strengthening of the club remain our juniors and this is an area we must focus on and bolster. It is also important to reduce our overall dependence on registration fees as a source of income by increasing the significance of

other income sources such as sponsorships, canteen operations, gear sales and government grants. Finally, ongoing improvements to the grounds and facilities at Gannons Park are also a priority.

As we reflect on the passing of another successful football season and prepare for the commencement of a new one, no doubt we will be confronted with both challenges and opportunities. It is time for you to continue the proud tradition and consider serving Lugarno FC by becoming a volunteer for football season 2018 and beyond. We have an abundance of tasks, roles and responsibilities both formal and informal. Don't hesitate to express an interest in serving your club as I am certain we have roles and responsibilities that align perfectly with your interests and preferences.

Enjoy the rest of the year and remember to keep an eye out on the new Lugarno FC website at www.lugarnofc.com.au as online registrations for season 2018 will open in early January, and we are encouraging all our players and team officials to register and pay online by end of January to help ease the process of allocating players and team officials to Lugarno FC teams.

It is a simple message.....***please register and pay online with Lugarno FC by end of January.***

Yours in football

Hagop Tchamkertenian
President Lugarno Football Club
29 September 2017

Thank You to our Sponsorship team for signing on these valuable new sponsors for Next Season:



LUGARNO FOOTBALL CLUB Inc

Perpetual Trophy Winners 2017

TROPHY	CATEGORY	WINNER	TEAM
The Al Downey	Best & Fairest Under 6	Hunter Winney	6B 3
The Peter Moynahan	Best & Fairest Under 7	Marcus Cassar	7B 4
The Bob Moss	Best & Fairest Under 8	Anthony Kariotis	8A
The Gall Trophy	Best & Fairest Under 9	Emma Forgione	9B 3
The Allan Burt Memorial	Best & Fairest Under 10	Jayden Cassar	10B 1
The Tom Watson	Best & Fairest Under 11	Christian Digiglio	11A
The Bruce Cardow	Outstanding Under 12	Noah Dixon	12 C
The Roger Harradence	Outstanding Under 13	Nathaniel Seeto	13 B
The Phil Wilkie	Outstanding Under 14	N/A	
The Doreen Potter	Outstanding Under 14 Girl	Josephine Konjarski	14 Girls A
The Ken Straney	Outstanding Under 15	Jaxon Gregory	15 B
The Warren Del Grande	Outstanding Under 16	Kane Spiteri	16 B
The Four Fathers	Outstanding Under 16 Girl	Jasmine Thompson	16 Girls A
The Mark Booth Award	Outstanding Under 17/18	Julian Enriquez	18 A
The Mike Chaytors	Outstanding AAA Squad Player	Jordan Thompson	AAA (1)
The Bill Moore	Outstanding All Age	Matthew Findlay	AA D
The Greg Harris	Outstanding Over 35	Michael Alford	O35 A
The Cyril Henness	Outstanding Over 45	Sam Ferrone	O45 A
The Greg Monaghan Memorial	Outstanding Senior Woman	Brittany Moser	AAW A
The Paul 'Irish' McIntyre	Outstanding Premier League Woman	Laura Dalby	PWL
The June Harker	Leading Competition Goal scorer (Saturday)	Josiah Montoya (21)	13 B
The Ron Benjamin	Leading Competition Goal scorer (Sunday)	Selena Green (15)	AAW A
The President's Trophy	Awarded by the President	Basil Privitera	
Around the Grounds	Awarded by the Executive	David Seeto	13B

Coach / Manager Awards – 2017

TEAM	PLAYER	TEAM	PLAYER
6B 1	Fletcher Moroney	12 C	Harrison Vlachos
6B 2	Jett Giraldi	13 B	Zane Argent
6B 3	Zachary Boyle	14 Girls A	Tamar Tchamkertenian
6B 4	Kagan Rayner	15 B	AJ Khoury
7B 1	Samuel Cuda	16 B	Jordan Apostolas
7B 2	Zakaria Elmir	16 Girls A	Sophia Roy
7B 3	Lillyan Elassi	18 A	James Burt
7B 4	Kai Mazevski	AA A (1)	Tim Faulkner
7B 5	Henry Graham		Brandon Williams
7B 6	Angelo Vlachos	AA A (2) Res	Glenn Dewit
8A	Max Wainwright	AA A (2) Firsts	David O'Connor
8I	Jake Eastwood	AA C	Denis McFarlane
8B 1	Remi Theophile	AA D	Ciaran Quinn
8B 2	Angus Graham	AA E	Blake Gow
8B 3	Oliver Doherty	AA F	Harry Papadopoulos
9B 1	Joshua Presiosa	AA G	Chris Crabtree
9B 2	Cooper James	AAW A	Amanda Daizli
9B 3	Theodore Petrovski	Premier WL	Karlie Jersek
10B 1	Dean Papageorgiou	O35 A	Steven Forgione
10B 2	Vincent Welstead	O45 A	Warren Carney
11A	Javier Leiva		
11I	Jonathan Kaniouris		

Banks Sporting Achievement Awards – 2017

TEAM	PLAYER	TEAM	PLAYER
6B 1	James Young	9B 1	Oska Astuy
6B 2	Samuel Terzopoulos	9B 2	Brodie Moore
6B 3	Samuel Wainwright	9B 3	Yushra Bhuiyan
6B 4	Paige Limberis	10B 1	Max Cocotti
7B 1	Victoria Vasiliou	10B 2	Michael Vikatos
7B 2	Jonas Loncar	11A	Henry Denton
7B 3	Allie Terkildsen	11I	Anthony Pejovski
7B 4	Riley Theophile	12 C	Alexander Peisley
7B 5	Jayden Lam	13 B	Saul Robinson
7B 6	Gabriel Howse	14 Girls A	Alana Petanceski
8A	Justin Alag	15 B	Anthony Azzi
8I	Steven Kassiou	16 B	Will Simmons
8B 1	Ashton Frawley	16 Girls A	Sienna Hristias
8B 2	Leo Simmons	18 A	Fletcher Hall
8B 3	Finn Paton		

LUGARNO FOOTBALL CLUB Inc

Years of Service Awards

40 years	Greg Harris (2016)		
30 years	Marcus Rayner		
25 years	Matthew Faulkner	Mark Lewis	Matthew McLoughlin
20 years	Paul McIntyre		
15 years	Andrew Corkin Jackson Hall	Mitchell Davies Caitlin Wallace	Jessica Dick James Waters
10 years	Warren Carney Peter Gazilas Jordan Petanceski	Patrick Day Harris Kostanti	Omar El-Debel Staci Kotzaitis
5 years	Michael Alford Olivia Belcheff Tia Christodoulou Sean Daley Justin Dean Jarrod Eastwood Lucas Kiosidis Tomas Lee Sebastian Matruglio Iavor Nikolaev Dean Papageorgiou Taylah Samardzioski Goran Stamenkovic Michael Vikatos Lucas Zarich	Eric Athanasopoulos David Bell Max Cocotti Carlos De Carvalho Henry Denton Andrei Esdaile-Watts Eric Kotopoulos Peri Leftakis Rowan Mcclatchey Harrison O'Brien Atu Rose-Duwai Hunter Solomons Michael Thorpe James Welstead	Diana Belcheff Jayden Cassar Christopher Crabtree Alyssa De Lucca Anna Dvorak Sienna Hristias Bill Krkovski Scott Luff William Nicholson David O'Connor Alexander Peisley Peter Stamatarios Peter Tusa Vincent Welstead
2015			
10 years	Nathan Dean		
5 years	Alana Petanceski		

LUGARNO FOOTBALL CLUB Inc

Premiership Winners 2017

U13B - Premiers

Coach: Octavio Montoya

Zane Argent
Mitchell Boneham
Andrei Esdaile-Watts
Markus Loncar
Jayden Robinson
Saul Robinson

Eric Athanasopoulos
Ryan Courtney
Anthony Foti
Josiah Montoya

Manager: David Seeto

Christian Barisic
Ryan Devet
Nicholas Kladis
William Nicholson
Nathaniel Seeto

U16B – Minor Premiers & Premiers

Coach & Manager: Hagop Tchamkertenian

Jordan Apostolas
Lachlan Debono
Peter Gazilas
Harrison O'Brien
Kane Spiteri

Omar El-Debel
Harris Kostanti
Alexander Pejovski
Raffi Tchamkertenian
Matthew Denson

Issac Cagigas
Mitchell Frost
Mark Martinovic
Will Simmons
Stephen Theodoridis

AAD – Premiers

Coach: Paul Cohen

David Allan
Marcus Bain
Paul Cohen
Matthew Findlay
John Morton
James Ryan

Tyler Ashwin
Adam Baker
Matthew Deeks
Patrick Jennings
Jim Psirakis
Joshua Sale
Michael Way

Manager: Craig Bain

Craig Bain
Patrick Brennan
Junior Paulo dos Passos
Ben Kehane
Ciaran Quinn
Alex Torbay

AAA (1) - Premiers

Coach & Manager: Ian Faulkner

Andrew Corkin
Matt Faulkner
Will Halls
Nick Iliadis
Rowan McClatchey
Jarrod Miller
Jarrod Radcliffe
Goran Rudar
Daniel Straney
Jordan Thompson

Mitchell Davies
Tim Faulkner
Justin Hazelbrook
Eric Kotopoulos
Paul McIntyre
Chris Pinto
Conor Robinson
Ryan Scott
Lachlan Straney
Brandon Williams

Alex Enriquez
Peter Ghobrial
Chris Ilardo
Bill Krkovski
Matt McLoughlin
Damian Price
Tim Roff
Peter Stamatatos
Dave Starkey

TEAM REPORTS

6B 1

Coaches: Andrew Young & Jozef Piotrowski

Manager: Julia Grounds

What an entertaining season the 6B1's had in 2017. The team was made up of five players, four who were new to the game and one returning player from 2016. A season where the team saw huge growth in enthusiasm and skill.

It began with a day of trial matches, where the boys needed bribery to remain on the field and ended with our last games, where the boys needed encouragement to have their turn off the park. Lucky there was always plenty of fruit on the sidelines to tempt them off. It was great to see the boys turn up to training with huge smiles on their faces and get disappointed once it was over and time to go home.



James: He had an impressive debut season and became an important all-rounder for the team. James developed a strong kick and used it to clear the ball away from the opposition goal and drive it down field. James scored some impressive goals throughout the season.

Jozef: A pleasure to coach. He started and finished every game with a smile on his face. Jozef began the season using his voice to put the opposition off their game and ended the season with strong defence, gaining the confidence to get his boots involved in many tackles.

Fletcher: He was lethal in attack with a strong right boot. Fletcher used his speed to win the ball, drive it down the field and had many goal scoring opportunities. After attending a mid-season coaching clinic Fletcher developed more control and increased his accuracy. A goal scoring machine!

Daniel: A determined player who showed great



improvements in all areas of the game. He became a formidable defender with his 'turtle power' shin pads and scored a few memorable goals, including one from the sideline. An enthusiastic trainer who loved a game of 'stuck in the mud'.

Angus: Played his second season for Lugarno FC. He improved upon his 2016 season managing to score some goals and remained more focussed on the game. Angus was useful dribbling the ball through the midfield. He was a dedicated trainer determined to master the drills.

Thank you to all the players and families of U6B1s for your assistance at training and on game days. It was a fantastic season.

6B 2

Coach & Manager: Giovanni Giraldi

What a great season 2017 it has been for the 6B2's. It started off a little rocky with players dropping out pre season and the team having to be reformed. Jett, Cruz, Lucas, Samuel and Ethan all formed the 6B2 team and was the first time they would play the game and together.

The pre season matches proved to be a success considering it was the first time we had played as a team, so this was promising. Training started shortly after and the focus was on the basics, passing and basic ball skills. Slowly but surely every week the boys continued to put in the effort and they improved bit by bit.



Our first few games were great, the team played well and were excited to get the season started. It was a mix of excitement, nerves and uncertainty. A few weeks in we encountered a few more challenging teams which we had a mix of results, some we won...just, some we drew and some we lost but this did not faze the boys at all.

We focused on the areas we struggled with against the more difficult opponents and started to put them into practice during our matches. This was fantastic to see all the hard work they put into training pay off on the pitch, such a gratifying thing to see unfold week in and week out.

For some of the boys the game came to them more naturally, it was more about managing their confidence so it did not turn into cockiness. For others this was not the case so there had to be focus on the basics. The best thing is that every week they showed improvement which translated onto the pitch. The confidence levels were evident and the rewards came to them in the form of goals - hard work really does pay off.

When I look back I can really see the development of the boys from day 1 to the final game. It has been a season of wins and losses, highs and lows, great frustration and great reward. All the boys put in lots of hard work through all the cold nights of training and did not give up the entire season.

Very proud of Jett, Cruz, Lucas, Samuel and Ethan who formed the 6B2's for season 2017. It was very satisfying seeing their development and achievements throughout this year, but now it is time for a well earned rest.

Jett: What a great little player with a complete love of the game. Has good ball control, passing ability and a sharp eye for goal scoring in every match this season, often challenging the opponent and coming out on top. Jett has the confidence and ability to go onto to become a great player.

Cruz: The smallest player in the team, but don't let this fool you. Cruz has some great close ball skill. He started off the season quite shy but as he progressed throughout the year he showed more and more confidence and ability. Complete dedication to training and learning new skills each week.

Lucas: Was our solid defender this season. Lucas turned up to training every week and tried as hard as he could every single week. It was obvious by mid season that this hard work was starting to pay off. Lucas got better with every game and got closer and closer to scoring his first goal. Then the magic came, he scored his first goal and second, yep, 2 goals in the last game, and what a proud moment that was.

Samuel: Samuel was our little rocket on the field, such a fast little runner showing lots of pace each week. Full of confidence and a fantastic team player. Lots of passing and was responsible for many assists each game and scored a few goals himself.

Ethan: At the beginning of the season was quite unsure of how to play the game. Throughout the season Ethan worked hard at training learning all the basic skills required for the game and would always be the first one at training, sometimes even before the coach. He came alive mid season when he started to make an impact on the game and started scoring goals. A great effort and season had by Ethan.

Well Done Lugarno 6B2's on a great season.



6B 3

Coach: Mark Winney & Paul Wainwright

Manager: Kristy Parmenter



A second year of Under 6's for the boys, and this year we welcomed Aidan and Lucian to the team. We once again tried to make the emphasis on fun, but this year we also tried to prepare the boys for U7'S by working on skills and passing in particular. Overall it was a successful season, with the previous years' experience helping us to win the majority of our games. After a wet start to the

season, we finally hit the park and our first few games were very convincing victories. The goals were shared around which was also good to see. As the season progressed we also had our share of tougher games, both in terms of the opposition's skill and physicality. Some highlights of the year included competing in the Earlwood Gala Day, as well as the "mate v mate" matchups against the Lugarno B4's. The aggression, skill and concentration improved this year and I think they will all continue to improve individually and as a team in the U7's.

Player comments:

Zach Boyle: Boyley wins the award for most improved player from 2016 to 2017. After a big off-season of practice, I barely recognised him as the same player from his 1st year. His aggression and skill was on full show, highlighted by a standout performance (against tough opposition) at the Gala Day. A bunch of goals this year was a just reward for the effort.

Samuel: Another huge improver this year. Samuel started the year with a 4 goal breakout game against Rangers. Much improved in all aspects of his game, this year Samuel became a key all round player for the team. He is a tough and physical defender, has lightning speed, and this year added goal scoring to his bag of tricks.

Aidan: In his 1st year with the team, Aidan brought size, power and a big boot as his primary weapons. Aidan was our go-to guy for big "kick-ins", and I lost count of how many goals he saved as a defensive stopper. For his relentless work in front of our goal, Aidan wins the defensive player of the year award. A great first season, and another big improver throughout the year.

Zach Longbottom: Zach was a standout player last year, and he continued to develop as a class player in 2017. He has size, speed, power and most noticeably pin-point accuracy in front of goal. His season's goal tally continued to rise each week, and with continued application he has an opportunity to be a special talent in the older age groups.

Lucian: Lucian joined the team this year and he was the most improved for 2017. After settling into the team, Lucian improved his involvement and aggression each and every week. He showed us plenty of new skills at practice, and went on to improve his overall game which was great to see. Lucian is always enthusiastic and a pleasure to coach, well done.

Jarvis: As the 2016 season progressed, Jarvis was showing enormous potential. This year it all came together for him, scoring a bag of goals and improving his overall aggression. One of the quickest and most skilled players on the ball, Jarvis had defenders bamboozled with his left wing runs. A great season and another player I can see big things ahead for.

Hunter: Hunter started the season confidently but was unfortunately out of action for a few weeks with a broken wrist. Once recovered, he came back with a vengeance, showing skills and aggression that made him a valuable member of the team. Congratulations and well done on a great 2 seasons.

Once again, congratulations to all the boys. At only 5 and 6 years old, we hope most of all that they all had fun learning, playing and hanging with their mates. Thanks to all the parents, and most of all thanks to Kristy for her managing of the team.

6B 4

Coach: Marcus Rayner

Manager: Sondra Rayner

Well it's the end of the mighty U6 B4's inaugural season, and what a fantastic season it was!

The team came together as a result of not having any readymade connections within the Under 6 community, but that did not stop the team bonding quickly and becoming a solid unit to be feared by every opposition team.

We commenced the year with 5 players Dylan, Kagan, Paige, Sabella and Todor, which was a little light on if injuries or representative duties came along, but fortunately after a few weeks of spectating, Todor's sister decided she wanted to be part of this team's historic campaign and, as such, we welcomed Tamara to the fold.

Like all teams, the players had varying degrees of strengths during the early rounds but as the season unfolded everyone, through hard work at training and increased awareness of the game, became not only better individual players but absolutely awesome team players, and this showed as we dismantled team after team.

The team statistics for 2017 read like a fairy tale.

Played 17, Won 11, Drew 1, Lost 5, Scored 61, Conceded 39 - this rivals some of the great European sides of the 70's and 80's and it was a pleasure to watch history in the making, this dreamtime and in my opinion the next generation of Matildas and Socceroos reads as follows:

Dylan: Started the season lacking confidence and was a little shy playing in front of the big crowds, but wow did that not all change, by season's end he had become our specialist kick in expert down the right hand side of the field linking beautifully with both Kagan and Sabella and absolutely dominated goal kicks with run ins, often over half way, that ended in a pass for a goal, nothing like direct football. Dylan's intensity and desire to compete showed both at training and in the games, unfortunately no goals were recorded this year but many assists certainly made up for that blemish on the match sheet. Dylan is eligible for another season in the U6's and if he continues to maintain focus and his personal training, he will be an absolute weapon in the U6's in 2018 and will challenge for the leading boot awards.

Kagan: After cheering on his sisters from the sideline for a number of years, Kagan was bursting at the seams to pull on the Number 6 for LFC. Kagan's enthusiasm and competitiveness saw him rested at training on occasion for being a little boisterous and this eagerness will need to be tempered next year to ensure he remains on track with his development. Kagan's effort at training and during the games however could not be questioned, and he ended the season as our leading goal scorer with 41, an amazing achievement in his first year. Most pleasing was Kagan's love of the game and his team mates with efforts made late in the season to turn provider, his work in defence also earned plenty of praise from the crowds as it is just as important to save goals as it is to score them. I look forward to seeing Kagan in the U7's and hope he continues to develop as a player.

Paige: The little general of the team and one of the most determined players I have ever seen, work rate and effort was second to none and Paige's development throughout the year was outstanding. Paige was a rock in defence which saw many a boy wrongly view Paige as a girl and not a defender, which never ended well for them the first time and that was often the last time they dared go near her. Paige though was not only our best defender but ended the season as the 2nd highest goal scorer on 8 and made countless damaging runs in most games to be one of the great all-rounders in the U6 competition. Paige's attitude and work effort did not go unnoticed and her 100% effort at training each week and continual improvement was extremely pleasing. 2018 shapes as a memorable season for Paige and I look forward to seeing her progression.

Sabella: The quiet achiever of the girl squad and the first player on scene caring for her team mates during games or at training if injuries occurred and sometimes if not, with hugs always available for those around her. Sabella went about her work with little fuss and just got the job done whether it was in attack or defence and was never afraid to put her body on the line. During the year Sabella worked hard at improving her skills with one notable adjustment pre-game relating to kicking through the ball seeing her smash in a goal from just inside half way, a real credit to Sabella demonstrating what she was being shown - as a Coach you cannot ask for more from your players. Sabella racked up 6 goals this year and if she continues to work as hard as she did in 2017 this number will surely climb in season 2018.

Tamara: The last addition to the dream team and how lucky we were to sign her as a mid-season transfer! Tamara arrived with very little football experience but what she lacked in pure football skills was made up tenfold by her desire to learn. Tamara followed instructions to the letter and was in charge of our first line of defence having to be first to the opposition when they took their goal line kick ins. Tamara did not shy away from this responsibility which often saw her on the end of some huge collisions, but she kept on going and won our team possession time after time. One of the highlights for the season was her first ever goal which saw a fist pump withdrawn mid-flight and dialling down her own excitement so as to not celebrate while the opposition processed defeat. Tamara's ability to consider others often at the expense of herself is an amazing attribute and one I

hope she can maintain. Tamara formed part of our left hand side kick in team along with Todor, that dominated the opposition teams and resulted in Tamara racking up 3 goals during 2017. Who knows what lies ahead in 2018 but one can be sure Tamara will lead the awards with regards to sportsmanship.

Todor: Thanks to Todor we were able to acquire Tamara's signature for the 2017 season and that seemed to lift the young maestro. Like Dylan, Todor is amongst the youngest members of the squad and in the early rounds this showed with reluctance to get involved. Training was a different matter with Todor putting in 100% each week which meant by mid-season, when he realised he could match it with the bigger kids, he was ready. Todor formed a formidable partnership on the left hand side of the field and became our set play specialist setting up Tamara and his team mates for many an attacking raid. As a result Todor scored 1 goal and played a hand in most others. Todor always had a half time story to lift our spirits - never about the game but nonetheless it had the effect of taking our minds off the game and reset our desire. Todor ended the season with a lot more confidence and has a great foundation for the 2018 campaign.

I had an absolute ball with the kids during 2017 and have to thank firstly Sondra for an amazing job coordinating all of our LFC duties, ensuring everyone was aware of games and training changes and keeping the administration elements of the team on point.

But none of this is possible without a great group of parents and to you, both Sondra and I say a big thank you for your commitment over the season and being available to assist the team and club as required. I look forward to seeing you all in 2018.

7B 1

Coach: Domenic Cuda

Manager: Sally Whitten

Thank you to all the players and families of U7B1s for a fantastic 2017 season. It was a cracking follow up year for the bulk of the team, where 5 of 6 players backed up from 2016. Our new addition to the team, Elizabeth, took to the field for the first time like a duck to water, proving that silky soccer skills may actually be genetic.

The team picked up where they left off and, after a shaky first game, they then went on an impressive nine game unbeaten run. After the school holidays the team lost a little bit of their rhythm, but they showed great heart to pick themselves up and come back stronger, proving that as the great Pele once said, *"Success isn't determined by how many times you win, but by how you play the week after you lose."*

However, the highlight of the season for me as a coach was seeing such a consistent turn out for training. Attendance was always high, with all the players turning up on cold Thursday nights with huge smiles on their faces as they attempted each drill with energy and enthusiasm. They listened to the coach most of the time and always looked forward to the end of training game against the wily 9B3s.



Introducing the 2017 U7B1s

Samuel: Kicked it up a gear this year scoring a whopping **49 goals!!!** Once even scoring six in one game. He has always been a super passionate player but this year saw him develop a keen eye for the goal, Samuel loves being with his teammates at training or on game day. His enthusiasm is infectious and he tirelessly pushes himself and his team mates to keep going to try score that next goal, whether it be helping to get the ball out of the midfield or going on an attacking run. Just like Roma's 'Ninja' **Radja Nainggolan**, he is strong and dominates the park while providing help and support for his teammates.



Victoria: Suffered a bit of a setback this year breaking her wrist half way through the season, but she was still the 7B1's defensive stalwart, 'V' as she is affectionately known was always the first to training and always put in 100%. She defended our goal every week with gusto and, when asked to push up and help the rest of the team, she took that task on and mastered it. Just like **Kostas Manolas** she shows a solid work rate and has great consideration for her teammates.

Elizabeth: In her debut year, she not only learned all of the skills needed to keep up with the rest of the team who had been playing for a year already, she also learned how to adapt and play in a number of positions and fill the gaps when needed. Elizabeth always had a smile on her face, no matter where she was on the field. Her versatility proved invaluable when 'V' broke her wrist, she covered the defender role with aplomb. She would also scrap in

the midfield or lead the line in attack, where she scored her first ever goal this year. Just like **Alessandro Florenzi** she was the 7B1s everywhere girl.

Maddison: the beaming smile was back, 'Maddy' always put in 110% on the field, be it at training or on the field on game day. Season number two was always going to be special and from the get go Maddy was working to step up from last year, she showed great versatility covering all positions throughout the year and scored important goals when it mattered, even bagging a hat trick this year. Just like **Olivier Giroud** she steps up when needed and makes hard work look effortless.

Ben: was still the 7B1's pocket rocket. Ben and his lethal left foot were ever-present this season, scoring several long-range goals that had the other team, spectators and, let's face it, even the coach, in shock; he firmly established himself as the team's dead ball specialist. He loved training and being with his mates and, while some of his massive 'booters' in training might have sent him on tiny missions to recover the ball, he was always on song during the games. Just like **Zlatan Ibrahimović** he has a habit of popping up and providing the magic when it counts.



Kiarna: if games were won on effort 'Kikki' would win every week, she would fight tirelessly in the midfield to win the ball every time she was on the field, she was like the washing machine of the Lugarno midfield - every time a dirty ball would come in she would send it out clean. 'Kikki' maintained and improved upon her great initiative and excellent positioning from last year and was the team's ultimate support player and goal poacher, showing up in the right place at the right time to keep the Lugarno 7B1's goal tally ticking over. Just like **Kevin Strootman** she puts in a tremendous effort in the midfield and is there to support her team.



Special thanks to Manager Sally for keeping us organised and all of the other parents who helped me at training or by refereeing on game day allowing me to properly coach the team.

Again, I'd like to thank the Players and Families for their passion and commitment to the team and for a fantastic season.

See you again in 2018!

7B 3

Coach: Troy Parmenter

Manager: Dania Elassi

To put it bluntly, great year girls.

With some new faces in the side, this year we set out to have fun and play some soccer. We had some great games and tough ones as well. Every week all you girls turned up with a smile on your face and ready to play. Even in the hard games you all kept trying which made me proud to be your coach.

We all got better as the year went on and I'm looking forward to seeing you all next year. Thanks for being a great bunch of girls.

Kyla: Great year with some good goals and defence.

Allie: First year but the way you played, you looked like a veteran.

Grace: Work horse who never stopped trying in both attack and defence.

Lilly: Goal scoring machine with great attack and ball control.

Miranda: Our quiet assassin with speed to burn and a big kick to match.

Ivy: Always in the thick of things. Defence or attack, your effort was outstanding.

Dania: Best manager in the club. Always keeping on top of things. Made my job as coach easy as can be. Thank you on behalf of the girls and I.



7B 5

Coach: Justin Graham

The 2017 season was a competitive one for our U7B5 team, three of our players from 2016 were joined by four new friends who brought a whole new level of soccer enjoyment to our vibrant team. Training went well each week, and the boys quickly learnt how to 'get a foot on the ball' on as many occasions as possible.

Building on the 2016 season, **Henry** and **Zac** continued to feed off each other this year. Henry the Goal scoring machine, and Zac has a right foot that is well beyond his young years.

Harry proved himself again as a quality defender in the field, and clearly has his eye on my coaching position in the future.



Manager: Andrew Simmons



New for the 2017 season, Xavier learnt the game very quickly he will develop in any sport he turns his hands or feet too. **Leon** proved to be a quality allrounder being both dangerous up front as well as focused in defence. A common cry from the sideline each week "Lam Attack!" meant that our twin rookies **Jayden and Oliver** were on fire, our opponents often did not know which way to turn!

I look forward to seeing this team progress into the next season, to add some new friends to the team, and continue to build on the friendships that we enjoy week in and out during our games at Gannons and abroad!

8B 1

Coach: George Devet

Well what a great season we had! We started out with nearly a brand new team this year – we had 4 players (Emma, Cate, Charlie and Oli) from our 7B3 team from last year, and we welcomed 5 new players (Ashton, Remi, Emersen, Elouise and Hugh) to our team. We were very lucky that the kids either knew each other from school or out of school friendships, and everyone got along really well right from the word go.



Manager: Nicole Devet

Congratulations to you all for putting your hands up every week to have a turn at goals. It was so nice to see you all having a go and not complaining (too much) about it, and once you were in goals, I could see the determination on your faces to be the best goalie that you could be – well done!

Ashton: what can we say about Ashton! Our top scorer for the season, those feet could move! And when he got a new pair of soccer boots midway through the season, what can I say! He moved even faster! Even when you hurt your neck before one of the last games of the season, you still wanted to get out there and play, and play you did.

Catherine: Cartwheel Cate! You always entertained us with your cartwheels, maybe because you had just been at gym before each training session. Another great soccer season for Cate!

Charlie: Charlie really stepped up this season, getting in there and trying his hardest. Charlie did well in goals too this season, well done Charlie!

Elouise: another new member to our team, Elouise's enthusiasm was infectious! She is so passionate about playing soccer and plays hard every single week. It was a delight coaching you this season, looking forward to next year.

Emersen: what a fantastic little player Emme is! We were so lucky to have her on our team this season, she was relentless and never gave up, and played with her heart and soul every single week.

Emma: Emma, with her bundle of energy and enthusiasm, was an awesome little goalie this season. She always put her hand up to be goalie and was exceptional in this position. You very rarely let a goal through, and always had a smile on your face!

Hugh: Hugh was a new player to soccer and to our team, and what an exceptional player he was! He never gave up, always listened, and was all over every inch of the field. Well done Hugh!

Oli: Oli had his best season yet! Oli has come so far this season, with his perseverance and hard work, listening to coach George and showing amazing ball skills. He never wanted to come off the field for a rest. "Awwww do I have to come off?" I heard many a time during games.

Remi: what a little pocket rocket Remi was! A new player to our team, Remi scored the second highest goals, and showed what a brilliant little soccer player he is.

Thank you to our wonderful parents, grandparents, extended family and friends, who came along to support our team every week.

Thank you to all the amazing parents who provided the oranges every week, and also a big extra special thank you to my 2IC's who helped me out when I couldn't be there xx



Last game of the season!



Some action shots (courtesy of Michelle A)



Coach George chatting with 8B1 after a game

8B 3

Coach: Damien Hennessy

Manager: John Nolan

The pre-season began in a little bit of a panic. Three players from the U7 team were not coming back to play with the team. However, there was a rumour circling that young **Will** Hawkes, a key member of the U6 team, was hungry for a return. The rumours proved true and with Will signed on the dotted line we were still left four players short to make up a team.

This is when super coach / super agent Damien stepped up to save the team recruiting **Brooklyn, Finn, Ollie** and **Josh** just before deadline day.... Along with **Eamon, Sam, Jojo** and **Liam** we now had our team for the season.

It didn't take long for things to click amongst the kids and friendships were quickly being made. On the pitch there was an adjustment to playing with a goalie and on a bigger pitch. A few of the early games were a bit tough but the kids hung on admirably and were never found wanting for effort.

Around the middle of the season the team the team was starting to put some nice football together. Finn and Sam were combining well up front, Jojo's pace and Liam's guile on the wings, Eamon's silky passing, Will's impressive goalkeeping displays, Ollie and Josh diligently covering every blade of grass hustling the opposition and Brooklyn's tough tackling were gaining some good results, and the vibe in the team was positive heading into the end of the season.

The last third of the season saw the team improve again. Eamon discovered an eye for goal, Will had the eye of the tiger, Sam's silky skills saw him score some stunning goals, Ollie began bursting forward from defence hoping to knock in one of Liam's delightful crosses, Finn began making some

fine passes, Jojo also got in on the goals, Brooklyn braved through some tough midfield battles and Josh went about his business like a little pro.

All up it was a really great season for which the vast majority of the credit must go to our amazing coach Damien. His ability to engage the kids and make the whole thing fun is wonderful. Secondly, to a fantastic group of parents which make the sideline a very fun place to be! Sadly, Liam will be moving away next season but leaves with some fantastic memories and friendships.

Wishing everyone all the best for 2018 ☺



81

Coach: Con Dellas

Manager: Stavros Kariotis

Congratulations Lugarno 8A's on a fabulous 2017. It was truly inspiring to be part of this season and to witness 9 talented and motivated individuals play as a team.

The boys stood up tall and strong playing in the advanced competition for the first half of the year where they competed against 9 year old advanced teams and the St George COE. They demonstrated patience, resilience and a determination that we parents can be very proud of.



The second half of the year saw the team play in the Intermediate competition where they performed miracles winning 6 games, drawing 1 and losing 1. Not that we are counting goals.

During the Lugarno Gala day they again showed fantastic spirit and a winning attitude culminating in a Semi Final berth at the recent Rockdale Suns gala day.

During the season they learnt how to play different positions and different formations, they learnt to control the ball, dribble with more confidence, take advantage of time, pass to a player in a better position, cross, take options on corner kicks, jockey in defence and deliver worthy celebrations when scoring a goal.

A massive thank you to coach Con Dellas who managed to incorporate both fun and discipline during training, which saw each member of the team improve markedly over the year.

Morris: the smallest member of the team but the bravest and most courageous and never backed out of tackle

Max: so sure of himself in defence really came into his own when he took control of the ball and began to distribute it up the field with his passing

Thomas: demonstrated an uncanny ability to dispossess opponents with his speed and jockeying and helped with the goalkeeping duties in the later part of the season

Aidan: impressed with his many runs with the ball down the sideline,

Jack: kept us in many a game with his heroics in goal also managing to score 3 goals when playing out in the field,

Billy: scored 14 goals moving from defence into attack in the second half of the year, the team's very own Messi / Ronaldo (depending which day you catch **Anthony**) demonstrated his all-rounder capabilities playing at centre half and scoring 14 goals

Justin: at centre forward bamboozled defences with his wizardry with the ball also scoring 14 goals through the season, and last but not least, everyone's mate

Charlie 'Chop' Clay: entertained the crowds with his 'let's have fun' attitude, his penetrating runs from midfield and his 6 goals.

Finally, thanks to the parents for their support and patience with the team through the year.

9B 1

Coach: Colin Cuthbert

Manager: Rebecca Clay

Just like a good 'grape juice', this little team just seem to get better and better with age!

This picture really is my most favourite of the season and the only thing missing is our super manager of the year Bec (for the 2nd year running) – thanks again for all your help Bec – it's appreciated!

With the rain gods having their say on any pre-season training and a lot of pitches closed for 4 or 5 weeks it was great to see all of the familiar faces eventually return.

Not only did the faces return, but the big beaming smiles, the passion, the enjoyment and a lot of new found skills in the off season.... good practicing kids keep up the good work!

We won, we lost, we scored goals, we let some in, we tackled hard, we passed well, there were goals scored that Messi would have been proud of and there were some fine saves too!

There were oohs and ahs from the sideline, there were claps, there were cheers and I know for sure there were dads (and mums) jumping forward trying to score from the touchline as our little battlers whipped the ball into the box as it whipped past the post on a number of occasions (ok, well I did it too) 😊

It's a funny old game as they say in England!

As a coach, it makes me so proud to walk onto the pitch with such a great group of kids supported by a great bunch of parents who genuinely want the best for the kids – thank you!

Again this year, each and every one of the kids has improved and each child has 'donned the gloves' in goals....



Ladies first...

Lily: Another solid season with her huge tackles, great skills and her strong left foot! Great season and the well deserved 'Manager's Player of the Year' award.

Elle: A new joiner this year and what a season - super skills, dribbling and passing. Great to have you on board!

Ella: Joined us in unfortunate circumstances, but definitely our gain! A little battler that never gives up - fantastic season well done!

Abs: "I don't want to go in goal" - at the start of the season, but then we couldn't keep her out. Great season and a well deserved 'Save of the Season' trophy - well done!

And now gentlemen...

Michael: Very much missed when he travelled to Greece for 10 weeks, but another super season. All round player and a little dynamo in the middle of the park! (Please don't go on hols for that long again)



Tristan: What a season from the 'drag-back' king! Super season and the calculator broke with all the goals you scored this year. Well deserved 'match ball' (don't tell the president) 😊 and 'Golden Boot' Award - well done buddy!

Lachie: Well, what can I say ... Massive year this year, skills, dribbling and tough in the tackle. A well-deserved 'Most Improved Player of the Year' - one proud coach (and dad) 😊

Oska: 'The Big Man' - another fantastic year. Absolute midfield general with his big tackling, passing and long-range strikes! Lost count of how many keepers' heads you've nearly taken off with your power! Another great season

Josh: another great season, super skills, super passionate and never gives up! Goal of the season by a mile with his half volley, which any premiership striker would have been proud of! Only one winner for the 'Goal of the Season' trophy!

Romeo: what a season! Never gave up! Up and down the pitch like a yoyo and put some huge tackles in to help out at the back. Big well-done - great year!

Charlie: the pocket rocket! Thanks again for helping out, always a pleasure to have you at training and on the pitch. You've got the contract, you have the money, all I need is your signature and the Tim Tams are yours 😊 ...

Thanks again to you all for another fantastic year - it's been a pleasure! Lemonades soon for sure!
Enjoy the off-season.

9B 3

Coaches: Jimmy Wratten & James Perez

Manager: Steven Forgione

Well what a year it was for Lugarno U9B3's. First of all a big thank you from all the players and families for a fantastic 2017 season. The bulk of the team have been together since the U6's, when we were the only all-girl team in the competition. Times have changed and we now have a few more boys in the mix, but we are truly a mixed team with 6 girls and 3 boys.

In the previous 3 seasons together we had managed just the 1 win in those entire 3 years. Well this year we smashed that record and then some - we managed 2 draws and 4 wins (including 3 in a row) for the entire 2017 season, which makes it our most successful season on record! The improvement we have seen in the playing group has been unbelievable this year. We now pass with purpose and put ourselves in positions to trouble the opposition - and we score goals!!! We had a new goal scoring superstar in Toddy this year, who managed 4 hatricks during the season, and had a goal scoring record of 20 goals for the year - a fantastic effort! Of course, he couldn't have scored all those goals without our fantastic defence and great build-up play during the games. Even when we were down on the scoreline, we still managed to push forward and trouble the opposition in their defensive third.



Introducing the players of the 9B3's:

Anika Whitten: her performances improved each week and she finished the season really strongly, scoring a fantastic goal from a cross that wouldn't be out of place on the Fox Sports highlight reel. Anika showed the talent she has with her strong defence and her great passing, which really improved towards the back end of the year. Well done on a great season!

Aiden Whale: one of our most improved players this season - each week he came out with a new trick that he had learnt, such as the back heel, the pull-back, and the jumping header. If he keeps up the improvement he will definitely be a player to watch next season. Plus he got his maiden goal for his career this year, and you could see how much it meant to him when he finally got that goal! A great effort!

Daisy Perez: when she was awake she was on fire! She started the season slowly but finished strongly, her last game in particular she was into everything, with great tackling and excellent passing. And when she tackled you, she just went through you. A great finish to the season with some really strong performances. Well done Daisy!

Yushra Bhuiyan: one of the toughest players we have come across, she was the little smiling assassin. You either got out of her way or you got hurt, regardless of which team you were playing for. A few times she came off injured, but would then tug on our shirt asking to go straight back on. It was great to have her in the team for her first year of football, and she improved out of sight from her first game. Excellent effort!

Jordan Talevski: I think we have found the next Mark Schwarzer! Whilst he was always a talent on the field, Jordan showed some great skills in goals and pulled off some fantastic saves that even had opposition parents clapping! He missed part of the season due to an extended holiday, but when he played he was into everything. A great effort!

Theodore Petrovski: our goalscoring superstar - Toddy got 20 goals for the season and probably could have had a fair few more. Great skills on the ball and a great shot to boot. But what impressed us most was his unselfish plays in passing to his teammates, he had great vision, dribbling skills and passing technique for a kid his age. He also had his goal celebration down-pat with his Ronaldo impersonation! Great to have him in the team this year!

Emma Forgione: earning herself the nickname "Thunderboot", she became our goal-kick, corner-kick and free kick specialist. Probably has the biggest kick in the entire competition, regularly kicking over half-way from the goal-kick which turned our defence into attack. And man, could she tackle - when she hit you, you knew you were on the end of an "Emma special". A great effort during the season, regularly making the goal-saving tackle as our last line of defence, plus she managed a couple of goals in the last 2 games from her deadly free-kicks. Well done Emma!

Matilda Andres-Wratten: earned herself the nickname "Viduka" with her positional play as our number 9 up front. She managed to bag herself a couple of goals and set up a few more. She has talent and speed and will be a great striker in years to come, as she has a great instinct for knowing where the goal is. Fingers crossed she straps on the boots next year, we may have to increase her playing contract to keep her!

Capri Tandek: the team speedster, she clocks up the km each game with the amount of running she does. Plus she makes some excellent tackles and great passes that would often put us back on the front foot. She got better with each game she played and was a great asset to the team. Tremendous effort Capri!

As the coaching group we are extremely proud of the kids - they showed tremendous spirit throughout the year and improved with their performances each week. The fact we won 4 games this year highlights the improvement we made. Hopefully we can all stick together and build on it further for the 2018 season as we progress up to the U10's. Thanks also to the great effort from Jimmy and James for all the



hard work they put into coaching the team each week - the kids are very lucky to have such great coaches! Well done to all and bring on 2018!

10B 2

Coach: Nick Belcheff

Manager: Leonie Welstead

James Welstead: Our ever so reliable goalkeeper had a fantastic season between the posts. There were some unbelievable saves and courage, which shows he has found his 'calling' as a keeper. His attitude and commitment cannot be faulted and came to the rescue of the team on numerous occasions. Great work "de Gea" sorry I mean Jamie.

Diana Belcheff: Diana always contributes to our games. She is reliable in defence, fearless. Along with Zack and Samuel, attacking players from opposing teams found it hard to get past her.

Towards the end of the season, Diana also contributed to the goal count. A memorable goal came in a home game where Diana took it upon herself to run from the back line, all the way to the front to score an exciting goal.

Zack Athota: Zack joined our team this year and made an impact from day one. He is fast and strong, with confident footwork. Zack always managed to get the ball to the front and often made a break down the middle of the field towards the goals. Always reliable in his attitude and skill, Zack has made a great contribution to our team. Well done Zack.

Samuel Limberis: Samuel is an integral part of the back line, along with Diana and Zack, we have a really solid defence. Sam has a very strong boot and could be relied upon to kick the ball from the back to the front. Our last game saw him score a couple of goals too, which, by the beaming smile on his face, was obviously a highlight of his year. Well done Sam.

Vincent Welstead: Vinnie has had a tremendous year - this would be his break out year. He has been the midfield "general" scoring some important goals. One sticks out from near the edge of the box which was a "cracker". His team work with Jayden was important during the year and will only improve. Congratulations on a fine season well done

Jennifer Emans: We welcomed Jennifer to the team as this was her first year of football. It was a steep learning curve and it is encouraging that Jennifer has been enjoying the team environment. She has been building her confidence in the competitive football environment and improving every week. Good work Jen.

Ryah Helou: Ryah is one of our most competitive players. She is determined, strong and fast. She did really well in the midfield, running back and forth for the whole game. When Ryah played defence she was also very difficult to get past. Always keen to play, Ryah is the always the most keen to get back on when she is subbed off! This was a great year for Ryah. Well done!

Jayden Lo: Another newcomer to the team, Jayden brought along his exceptional skill and competitiveness to the field. He was everywhere, and wanted to take on everyone on the opposition side. He has started a good combination with Vinnie in the midfield and I look forward to seeing him improve on that next year. Most of the time Jayden ran around with his shoes untied, fortunately for the other side as he would trip over himself! Well done you had a great season.

Linden Pike: When Linden has the goal in his sights he is determined to score. This happened on multiple occasions this year. Linden is fast and agile, able to get past his opposition and head for goals. He is improving every year and with more training I am sure he is just going to get better and better. Well done on a great season.

Riley Worner: This was Riley's first year of football. It was sometimes hard to believe this, with his natural ability to speed down the sideline and cross the ball in to our forwards. Riley also scored a few spectacular goals this season, a memorable one came with a cross from Vinnie that saw him



score a volley style goal. I'm sure his skill will only improve with more training and games under his belt. Well done Riley.

Michael Vikatos: Michael is our top goal scorer of the year. With the encouragement from mum and coach on the sideline, he was always in the right spot to collect the ball from the midfielders and turn it into a goal. Michael is also a great goal keeper and would happily fill in if Jamie needed a break. Great season Mikey!

Olivia Belcheff: Olivia is like the rock of our team. She is always where she needs to be, she is very competitive and fair. Olivia is strong in defence and attack and always encourages her teammates. Along with Michael, Olivia mostly played up the front, making opportunities and scoring where she could. Well done on another great season Liv.

Thanks to Nick for coaching again this year. The improvements that have occurred this year are down to your commitment to our kids. Thanks again and we look forward to next year!



11A

Coaches: Atef Elassi & Bernard Worner

Manager: Petros Midis

A Season to Remember

In the preseason, we decided to prepare the team for the new challenges that lay ahead. A dedicated goal keeper, two training sessions a week and an additional coach, was all that was required to catch up with our competitors. Hugo stepped up to become our full time goalkeeper which proved to be the biggest and most important decision we made.

The main focus earlier in the year was to get the boys within our age group, previous players and kids



from the neighbourhood out just playing football at Evatt Park in the hot summer sun. It sure did paid off down the track.

Once the team was selected it was down to business. Four great players also joined our team. They were:

- Ibby El-Mir - Parramatta Eagles
- Cory Butcher-Burke - Connells Point
- Peri Leftakis - Lugarno 10Bs team
- Toby Worner – Hurstville Glory

The preseason games gave everyone lots of confidence in the team. They all quickly became mates and it showed on the field. A winning attitude was formed and the boys started to believe in themselves.

The season started with a bang. We won the first 8 games with clear margins and against opposition our team previously struggled or lost games to. Our team set the benchmark for the entire competition in our age group with other clubs following our lead.

One of the many highlights this season, and we believe the turning point, was to play our fierce rival Connells Point at Scarborough. Our boys won 6-nil which made us understand the potential of the team and their ability to kill off games against strong opposition.

After years of losses at Sans Souci's Claydon Reserve, the team was determined and ready to take them on, and take them we did! It was an absolute masterclass that will stand for a long time. This game turned out to be the game that showed our boys full potential. We left Claydon that day six foot taller! It was a game played with style and substance! Sans Souci didn't stand a chance against our seven goals...and that was only the beginning!

Hurstville Minotaurs, arguably the best team last year, also had nothing on us.

Bexley North, a team our boys always struggled against, also feared playing us this year. All games were won comprehensively, and some in stunning style. Our team set new standards for the competition as we played with confidence and ability. The team never lost a single half played and as they say, football comes in two halves. This achievement is rare for any team at any level!

Even though they don't always get the praise they deserve, our amazing season came down to our unsung heroes - our defence. Conceding only 9 goals all year! Callum, Peri, Javier, Sammy and Cory. Week in week out you guys left nothing in the tank!

So, we can finally close chapter one, six incredible years of playing non-competitive games week in week out has finally come to an end. The 2018 season will be the start of a new chapter, bringing with it new challenges, a bigger field, bigger goals, offsides and a massive target on our backs.

However, our boys are born champions who will accept this challenge and take it on! MR FIFA can't wait either!

As parents, we are all extremely proud of these boys! They bring so much joy to our Saturdays! It's no secret we have a very gifted team but, more importantly, these boys act and behave beyond their years.

We would like to thank all the families, parents, siblings and grandparents who passionately support our team each week



and help out during training. #WEGOAGAIN2018

Our unbeaten team members are:

Hugo – GK: On stats the best keeper this season, fearless, with incredible saves when we needed them. Two penalties also saved.

Callum – CB: Focussed, determined, ruthless and always committed. Settled well in a vital position replacing Hugo.

Javier – LB: Solid in defence and opportunistic in attack. Set piece specialist. Scored the incredible goal of the season, winning us the game with the last kick! The celebration that followed will forever be remembered!

Peri – RB: Huge step up from the previous year. Fought hard to make the team and proved to himself and the coaches to be a great addition. Great attitude and settled in very well.

Cory – LM: Our speedy left footer, taking corners like a professional and always eager to play and hit the ball.

Sammy – RB: Has a never give up attitude, is cool under pressure, a great ball player and can play any position all over the park!

Toby – LM: A great ball supplier with magic touches, can score, and has a keen eye for hitting the back of the net!

Christian – CM: Our **Player Of The Year**. What a phenomenal season! Our most consistent player, scores as well as he supplies and can defend when required. Our own Pirlo, Christian worked extremely hard in the off season. We can all learn from Christian's fighting spirit and never give up attitude. Hard work always pays off!

Henry – CD: Utilised his skill to benefit the entire team. His ability to trick himself out of trouble and pass the ball on was great. He achieved goals set by himself and the coaches.

Ali – CM: Our dead ball specialist! One of the strongest right footers in the team, with accuracy and several memorable goals.

Nikolas – RM: A reliable goal scorer and an attacking minded player who produced top quality crosses. His link up work with Ibbly put the fear in our opposition's defence.

Ibbly – CS: His never give up attitude is legendary. He wins balls no one else does or can. A great inspiration to everyone and an asset to our team. A pleasure to coach. He became the most marked and feared player in the competition and still outplayed them!

Games won: 14

Games drawn: 2

Losses: 0

Goals scored: 65

Goals conceded: 9



Coach: Hamish Solomons

Manager: Brett Puckeridge

It was to be the season of change for this team. The loss of several key players saw players from another Lugarno side combine to create a new and fresh combination of players. The lads all had to deal with a new coach and thanks must go to Harry Woods for his years of dedication to the side leading into this season.

It was always going to be a challenge for the team to find their footballing feet and this was outlined when they were comprehensively beaten in the first game of the season. Slowly but surely, as the season progressed, the boys began to find their way and put up some wonderful performances.

There was not a player in the team that could not boast of a major highlight and it was for this reason that every parent can be very proud of the way they competed on the field.

Every now and then the boys would lose their way during their Friday night training sessions and it would show the next day but they would always learn from their mistakes and return a much better performance soon after. Just prior to the end of the season they had a 4-0 victory against a good team with all 4 goals coming from corners. Absolutely amazing.

If the boys can learn to maintain more focus for their training sessions and warm ups they will continue to rapidly improve.

A big thanks once again to Brett for his wonderful efforts as team manager, which he has been doing now for many years.

The Team –

Anthony: was once again a star and continued to shine as the team's leading playmaker and goal scorer, and is beginning to take on more leadership in all aspects.

Daniel: spent a little time overseas testing the market but upon return worked hard to regain his fitness and, lo and behold, finished the season with a stunning goal which he'd been yearning all season.

Hunter: was one of our forwards and continued to surprise all and sundry with his "from out of nowhere" goals. 5 in total. Small in stature, big in heart and quirkiness.

Nicholas: is the leader of our backs and is as reliable as they come. Happy to fly under the radar whilst deterring goal scoring opportunities but relished a rare opportunity up front one game when he scored 2 goals in quick succession.

Alex: really started to blossom towards the end of the season with some amazing glimpses of brilliance. Was also very handy as goalkeeper on a good number of occasions.

Michael: has the biggest boot in the team and was very good in goals on a number of occasions. Also proved to be good in the backs as that boot often turns defense into attack.

Owen: once again was one of the team's best consistently and, towards the end of the season, was happy to put his hand up to keep and was fantastic. Shows sublime skills at times.

Peter: also tested the market overseas and rightly so. Shows plenty of potential and is always a threat to the opposition. Scored some ripping goals and really is capable of further improvement over the next few years as he gets used to his growth.

Jono: was a pleasure to coach and was willing and able to follow the coach's plans and instructions. He is a very good allrounder covering a number of positions including goalkeeper.

Cameron: grew in stature and skills as the season progressed. Was very reliable in the backs and often relished opportunities close to the goals. Had a couple of blinders towards the end of the season.

Pat: is the quietest in the team but also a quiet achiever. Another one of our reliable backs but who could forget his amazing long-range goal part way through the season. A pleasure to have in the team and always gave it his best at training.

Emmanuel: is our toughest competitor and gets himself in the middle of everything mostly with a smile on his dial. Scored some great goals this season and was very useful in goals as well.

Thanks for an interesting season and to all the parents for the Lugarno Cellars Voucher. It was put to very good use.



12 C

Coach: Mark Sandilant

Manager: Jeremy Peisley

Season 2017 for the U12C's, what a year it was!

Let's begin with a brief run through of what was season 2017 for my U12C's and how we progressed throughout the year. In brief, we played every available game through to the Grand Final, including 21 games, 65 goals for and 34 goals against. We finished with a win ratio of 66% which included 2 draws. Whilst we did not end this season with a Grand Final win, as a coach, I believe that we had a very successful year.

Our playing group have progressively improved throughout the year, not only from a skill level and fitness level, but even more importantly, they began to understand how to play soccer on a 'big field'. They learnt how to win and lose, attack and defend, how to conform and be creative and how to play together as a team.

The enjoyment they seemed to have at training, and playing together, made it easier for me to push them to become even better players. Their positive attitudes also created a great team spirit and environment which ultimately lead to a very successful year.



Player profile - at this age we really are starting to focus on positions and skills sets which supports our team play. I think this year our players suited their roles and here is my view on how we went this year - starting from the back and moving forward:

Goal Keeper - Noah: This was our first year with a dedicated goal keeper and this was reflected in our results. Goal keeping is a difficult position to play and Noah is a natural. He has excellent timing, hand-eye coordination and no fear, which is essential. Also like most goal keepers, he kept us in the match many times this year. Noah was also very positive and he never seemed to be concerned about the score. He took each save on its merit regardless of the score line.

Centre Backs - Alexander and Nathan: My coaching style has

always supported the defense line and our attacking play to start deep in our own half, and we did this very successfully this year. I made a positional movement this year and brought Alexander back into the stopper area, based on his skill set and strength on the ball. He created a great partnership with Nathan, as Nathan read the game very well, making him very hard to beat as he tackled anything that moved and really locked our back four all year.

Wing Backs - Sean, Daniel C, Dominic and Luke: We really tried to lift this year and change the way we played in this area, and the boys really responded. Sean locked down the left side, was always solid in his defense and also worked 'the long run' and passed up the side line. Daniel's tackling was a highlight this year and he often found himself in one on one positions which he handled very well. He was also one of the first that lead with his head which often turned defense into an attack with cracking headers. Dominic again improved and covered huge areas of the park as he chased down and squashed the opponent's attack, but often also covered the loose areas as his fitness was one of the best on the team, giving the ability to cover large areas at full speed. Luke's timing has been his best skill set and, when left with a one on one situation, would also pick the right side and foot to stop the advancing attack.

Centre Mid field - Harrison, Gabriel and Liam: This was Harrison's first season with Lugarno and his temperament, fitness and leadership in the middle of the park was outstanding. He always understood the game play and pushed the playing group in that direction by his own actions and always lead by example. Gabriel approached every game with enthusiasm and energy as he covered all areas of the park with great support play. Liam's greatest ability was to hold the ball close to his feet and was deceptively quick with the ball and very accurate with his passing creating a lot of opportunities for the boys up front as he split teams through the middle. Mid field is the 'engine room' of a team and these 3 boys did well controlling the tempo of our play all year.

Mid field wingers - Tommy, Ross and Timothy: This is another area that fitness is a must! This is Tommy's second year with the team and his wing play has improved all year. Tommy was well positioned for both defensive and attacking play and really understood our 'out and in' run which netted plenty of goals this year. Ross has always been strong in this area and this year was no different. It was great to see when Ross was not getting the ball he was looking for it and making

sure the structural side of the team was intact as he played down his wing and was always in support. Timothy's first year saw him cement his position as a mid-field winger and his skill set progressed all year. Timothy had quite an aggressive tackling stance which often put the opposing attacking mid field off.

Forwards - Daniel W, Zack and Adam: The front end always lends itself to creative players and this year was no different. Daniel W was always on the hunt for a goal and, once given delivery of the ball, had the ability to beat one and two players at a time and find his way through. He also had good vision on the goal keeper and was quite unpredictable to the keeper on most occasions. Daniel finished the year as our number one goal scorer closing his account at 17. Zack was a defense line terrier as his speed and fitness had defensive players chasing him all day. This was a great way to wear the players out and led to many goals in the back half of our games. Adam also joined us this year and fitted well with our front line. Adam brought a calming feel to a normally rushed attacking speed, his skill with the ball close to his feet was outstanding and given any small window on goal he would take. His dead ball strength and accuracy was excellent and created many opportunities to score.

That was the team for 2017, I would also like to pass my thanks onto Jeremy who managed the team throughout the year. His work is greatly appreciated as it gave me more time with the team. Also, a big thank you to the parents who ferried the kids to training and to game days. We had 85% participation at training which is great and makes it much easier to run and practice with good numbers.

Lastly to the boys - thank you for this year, I have really enjoyed coaching you throughout this year and watching you grow as a team. I could not have asked for a better finish then to experience the Grand Final with you at Jubilee Oval. It was a day you earned, deserved and from what I could tell, enjoyed. I hope you enjoy your summer off and I hope you all come back next year to do it all again.



U13 B

Coach: Octavio Montoya

Manager: David Seeto

With six players from last year's 12B team stepping up into the 13Bs, the side was joined by three players from last year's 13C champions, five other Lugarno Public School friends who had played for Hurstville Zagreb 12B, one returning back from Rugby League and Ocky coming back as coach.

Lugarno started the season with double digit wins against Connells Point and Ramsgate RSL, trying to demonstrate our credentials for a potential promotion into the A-division after the 4th round. In the 3rd round, we met our nemesis for this season, Scots FC, for the first of what would be 5 clashes, and although we logged a big win the following week against ASOW, the 2-2 result in this game

meant that Kogarah Waratah was the side promoted over both Lugarno and Scots into the 13As, where they won only 1 more game to finish 2nd last.

With a renewed focus on our current division, the team went on a strong run over the next 6 rounds, with the only hiccup a 1-1 draw against the Connells Point side freshly relegated from the 13As; this included another 11-nil drubbing of the unfortunate Ramsgate RSL, where we stole the ball from their kick off and scored after 17 seconds and put away another 3 goals in the first 8 minutes. The following week, we met Scots FC for the second time, and although we had the better of the play, we were held scoreless for the first time this season in a 0-0 draw and trailed them by 2 points on the ladder.

At this point, we got a few wobbles: in a rescheduled match against Glory FC at Penshurst Park, we scored 5 goals with clinical finishing, but also conceded 3 goals; and against the Banksia side promoted from the 13Cs, an early lapse allowed them to score and then park the bus, and it wasn't until late that we finally converted our weight of possession to draw 1-1. That result put us 4 points behind Scots and effectively put the Minor Premiership out of reach, even if we beat them in our third home & away fixture. Although we led at the change in that game, a goal against the play sparked Scots on a mini-run where they scored twice more in quick succession, before we got one back to make the final result 2-3 in our first loss. The following week in the last round of the regular season, Glory FC played finals intensity football to outplay us and win that game 1-0, and earn their place in the finals in 4th place.

In the major semi final, we were caught napping and Scots scored early on, and although Lugarno got back into it to control possession and eventually equalise early in the second half, Scots did enough to keep us out for a 1-1 draw, and - as was their right as Minor Premiers - went straight through to the grand final. We were relieved to see that in the 3rd vs 4th minor semi final, Connells Point had knocked out the dangerous Glory FC with a 3-2 result, as our belief was much stronger against Connells (despite Connells' coach's opinion to the contrary); in the elimination final, we posted a strong 5-0 win at Carss Bush Park, despite a late season change in goal keeper because of a foot injury to Eric, one of our regular midfielders.

Eric was also in goals for the Grand Final against Scots FC, played at Scarborough Park with a really strong breeze going north to south; going into the wind in the first half, Lugarno worked hard in a very even game, and the sides went into the break without any score. With the wind at our backs in the second half, Jayden found a run from deep in our own half down the left, and his shot/cross from a narrow angle bounced off a defender's arm, conceding the penalty. A picture of calm, Andrei beat the keeper with a beautiful penalty shot that put us ahead with 10 minutes to go. Lugarno continued to press, and Scots' lack of numbers across the season and going into the wind finally told on their energy levels, as they never threatened and Lugarno took out the final game of the quintology to win the Grand Final 1-0 and claim the Premiership.

SEASON STATISTICS (INCLUDING FINALS SERIES)

Finals Results	Crowned U13B Champions beating Scots FC 1-0 in the Grand Final
League Ladder Position	2 nd position on 40 points out of a possible 54
Games Won	14 - Biggest Margin 12-0 vs. Connells Point
Games Lost	2 - Scots FC (2-3), Hurstville Glory (0-1)
Goals Conceded	19 - 2 nd
Games Drawn	5 - Banksia, Connells Point, Scots FC x 3
Goals Scored	88 - 1 st
Goal Difference	+69 - 1 st
Clean Sheets	9 - 1 st
Average Goals per Game	4.19

PLAYING FORMATION

This year we played with a 1-3-2-4-1 formation on the back of a solid back 3 and a strong pair of defensive midfield. This allowed us to pivot and counter quickly and for the most part this formation worked well for us, although many times through the year we found ourselves with a chasm between our forwards and our backs, something we were able to iron out before the finals series came around. Our best football was played when we played wide using our speed and passed the ball around. Many of our goals throughout the season came on the back of 3 or 4 good passes from the back with a final killer pass to our strikers.

PLAYING SQUAD

Ryan Devet (Goal Keeper): Ryan's first full year in goals was a great showing, conceding only 15 goals all season and pulling off some amazing saves inclusive of 2 penalties. In the qualifying final Ryan played out in the open field and managed to get on the score sheet with his first goal.

Markus Loncar (Right Back): Our stealthiest member of the team and a smooth criminal who managed to always steal the ball at crucial moments in the game. Markus scored a goal against Ramsgate RSL after being pushed up to the front in the second half.

Nicolas Kladis (Centre Back): Our rock in defence. Managing and directing our defence always, steadied the ship when under attack, great on the counter. Scored a goal in Round 1 against Connells Point.

Zane Argent (Left Back): I lost count of the number of times that opposing coaches made a comment about Zane's ability. Whilst not naturally a left footer, Zane more than made up with determination and speed and we could always count on him to catch whoever got passed our defensive line.

Andrei Esdaile-Watts (Defensive Midfielder): This kid never gets tired. He was a key player when transitioning from defence to attack and managed to convert 10 goals, including 2 well taken penalties in the Finals series. Most importantly, he converted the penalty kick in the Grand Final.

Ryan Courtney (Defensive Midfielder): Ryan was lucky to walk away without significant injury after scoring his goal for the season late in the game against Ramsgate RSL. The only problem was it was the celebration from Andrei that took him out! Solid in defence when called upon.

Mitchell Boneham (Defensive Midfielder): Always with a smile on his face, Mitchell worked hard and improved all season. Mitchell managed to pop up in all the right places in defence and had a few great chances at scoring his first goal when he was given the chance down the flanks.

Christian Barisic (Midfield): A quite achiever, provided good insights throughout the year and floated between an attacking and defensive midfielder. Christian provided some great through balls to our forwards and managed to score 4 goals this season.

Saul Robinson (Midfield): Similar to Christian, Saul floated between attacking and defensive midfield duties and always connected well with our forward and wingers. Saul scored a total of 10 goals, including a great header that grasped us a draw from the hands of an embarrassing defeat against Banskia Tigers in Round 15.

Jayden Robinson (Right Mid): Jayden had a great ability to create lots of chances down the right hand side of the field with his speed, and contributed this year with 2 goals and also created the penalty opportunity in the Grand Final that won us the championship.

Nathaniel Seeto (Left Mid): Blessed with natural speed and a handy left foot, Nate provided so many options across the park and was solid in defence and attack. Scored 2 hat tricks this season for a total of 9 goals.

Eric Athanasopoulos (Attacking Midfielder): Eric had a great season playing either up front when required, but mostly in the mid-field directing traffic. Steady goal scorer with a few braces throughout the season scoring a total of 12 goals.

Anthony Fonti (Attacking Midfielder): Anthony's job this year was to hold the ball up in midfield and look for opportunities to the wings and forward. Most memorable game for me of Anthony's was against Ramsgate RSL in Round 9 where he really put on a show with his distribution of ball to both sides of the pitch. Anthony managed to get on the score sheet in round 2 and was unlucky not to score a few others throughout the season.

Will Nicholson (Striker): Although Will only got to about 60% of the games throughout the season due to Saturday school sports commitments, he significantly contributed to the success of our team by scoring a total of 12 goals, including a 5 goal haul against Ramsgate early in the season.

Josiah Montoya (Striker): Josiah found success this year in front of goals scoring a total of 24 goals across all games, including the finals series. His best performance was in the qualifying final against Connells Point where he was involved in every one of the 5 goals scored – scoring 3, winning a penalty converted by Andrei and setting up Ryan for the 5th goal.



THANKS

We'd like give a huge thank the U11 A's and their Coaches and Managers (Atef, Bernard) for all the training games they played with us throughout the season, I think that helped keep the team sharper than they would have been otherwise (even if there were still some strange disconnects between how we trained and how we played on some weekends).

I'd also like to thank all the club members, family, friends and the U11 A's that came and supported our boys all year and the huge turn-out for our final series. It makes such an enjoyable season to have great support and families on the side line.

Finally, thank you David Seeto for Managing the team all season, getting our documentation ready every week and organising us for Canteen and Field Setup duties.

U14 Girls A

Coach: Ben Petanceski

Coach/Manager: Hagop Tchamkertenian

The Lugarno 14GA team had another successful season, finishing just one game shy of a grand final appearance after making the finals series for the fourth consecutive year.

Despite losing three players during the off season, the team was back to full strength with the recruitment of three players – Zena Masri, Alanna Cogle and Bryana Kostoska. The returning players comprised of Charlie Argent, Mia Barbara, Capri Bishop, Alanna Caracoglia, Madelen Giannisis, Josephine and Stephanie Konjarski, Alana Petanceski, Celine and Jade Renno, Taylah Samardzioski, Anastacia Stamatelatos and Tamar Tchamkertenian.

The team got off to a flying start, winning their first six games and drawing another to occupy first place, some six points ahead of the second placed team Oatley. The team managed to score 13 goals and conceded only 5 during this period including achieving 3 clean sheets. Despite the game winning margins being close, Lugarno managed to dominate opposition teams during this period and more clinical finishing would have resulted in the team scoring more goals as the team consistently was able to create goal scoring opportunities.

This period was followed by what became a low point in the season, with Lugarno suffering back to back losses, a draw, followed by another loss. The only three losses during the regular season the team experienced came during this four week period. What was concerning was the team's failure to score goals during this period, with just a single goal scored in four games. With the defence remaining strong, the narrow losses resulted in the team sliding down the ladder from first place to fourth.



Standing from left to right: Mia Barbara, Celine and Jade Renno, Anastacia Stamatelatos, Tamar Tchamkertenian, Zena Masri, Bryana Kostoska, Taylah Samardzioski, Alanna Cogle, Capri Bishop. Front row from left to right: Charlie Argent, Madelen Giannisis, Alanna Caracoglia, Stephanie Konjarski, Alana Petanceski and Josephine Konjarski.

Lugarno managed to arrest the decline and went on a seven game undefeated run which included five wins and two draws, and a remarkable five clean sheets. The team finished the regular season as runners-up, just one point behind Oatley. Lugarno went into the finals series with clear momentum having secured four consecutive wins.

In the major semi-final against Oatley, the team dominated both ball possession and field position, limiting the opposition to just three attempts on goal during the game. Despite dominating the game, Lugarno failed to get the crucial goal and the game went into extra time. During extra time Oatley scored a fortunate wind-assisted goal from a corner kick to win the game 1-0 and progress to the grand final.

Lugarno then faced arch rivals Bexley North in the preliminary final. The team never played to their potential and, after the teams went into the half-time break with the score locked at 0-0, the opposition raced to a 2-0 lead early in the second half before Lugarno, realising the urgency of the situation, started to play football again. The team managed to pull a goal back with about 12 minutes left to play and, as they kept up the attacking phase, were awarded a fortunate penalty kick with minutes left in the game. Unfortunately, Lugarno failed to score from the penalty kick and Bexley North won the game 2-1.

For the third consecutive season, the team fell one game short of a grand final appearance. So close yet so far. Overall the season was successful as the team finished runners up and also lost the least games during the normal season.

The team played 20 games during the season winning 11 games, drawing 4 and losing 5. Lugarno scored 28 goals, conceded 16 for a positive goal difference of 12 and in the process produced 9 clean sheets.

Four players shared goal keeping duties during the season with Madelen, Alanna Caracoglia, Alanna Cogle and Mia all putting on the gloves. The strong defence was led by Josephine, Celine, Anastacia, Mia, and Alana Petanceski. The midfield duties were shared amongst Taylah, Bryana, Charlie, Capri, Tamar and Zena while the attacking roles were rotated amongst Jade, Stephanie and Tamar.

Nine players scored goals during the season with Tamar finishing top goal scorer with 10 goals followed by Stephanie on 5 goals, Alana Petanceski 4 goals, Capri 2 goals, Taylah 2 goals, Bryana 2 goals, and Alanna Cogle, Jade and Charlie each with a goal.

Coach Ben and coach and manager Hagop would like to thank all the players for their efforts during season 2017, and they remain confident that if the team stays together and continues to develop and mature from a footballing perspective, they should have another successful football season in 2018.

U16 B

Coach & Manager: Hagop Tchamkertenian

The 16B's welcomed back the core of the team from previous season with Issac Cagigas, Omar El-Debel, Mitchell Frost, Harris Kostanti, Mark Martinovic, Harrison O'Brien, Alexander Pejovski, Will Simmons, Kane Spiteri, Raffi Tchamkertenian and Stephen Theodoridis. Initially three players – Jordan Apostolas, Danish Baig and Peter Gazilas, joined the team to replace the five that did not return. In Round 9 ex-Lugarno player Lachlan Debono joined the team to give us 15 players. To cover for injuries and other absences Matthew Denson from the U15B's was also selectively called upon to play-up and he also participated in the finals series.

Lugarno kicked off the season in style with a comprehensive 4-0 victory over Forest Rangers followed by a 5-1 win over Arncliffe Aurora. The next three games saw the team defeat Connells Point (1) 3-1, draw 2-2 with Bexley North and score a 4-1 win against Oatley. Being undefeated after five games, the team put in a shocker of a performance in their next game against Connells Point(2) to go down 4-2 before bouncing back to register comfortable 5-0 and 4-0 victories over Carss Park and Forest Rangers. With Lugarno occupying first position, it then took on an Arncliffe Aurora side that had six new players from the side Lugarno faced seven weeks earlier. Lugarno went down 2-1 in the game and followed the below par performance with another disappointing performance a week later going down 2-0 to Bexley North.

Following the two consecutive losses, coach Hagop addressed the team and demanded a lift in performance. The tough talk helped arrest the temporary decline in form and Lugarno went on a run

of seven consecutive wins with victories over Oatley 7-0, Connells Point (2) and Connells Point(1) 5-0 each, Carss Park and Forest Rangers 2-1 each, Arncliffe Aurora 3-1 and Bexley North 1-0. The good run was halted in the final round of the regular season when a desperate Connells Point (1) side, who needed a victory to make the finals, upset Lugarno 2-1. Whilst not pleased that the winning run and momentum had come to a halt in the final round, the loss was used by the coach to motivate the team for the finals series, as Lugarno ended up Minor Premiers six points ahead of their nearest rival.



The team before their major semi-final game against Bexley North - they went on to win 2-0

Standing left to right: Will Simmons, Mark Martinovic, Peter Gazilas, Alex Pejovski, Matthew Denson, Omar El-Debel, Issac Cagigas, Kane Spiteri, Mitchell Frost, Jordan Apostolas, Raffi Tchamkertenian and Harrison O'Brien.

Front row seated left to right: Danish Baig, Stephen Theodoridis, Harris Kostanti and Lachlan Debono

In the finals series Lugarno faced runners-up Bexley North in the major semi-final on a very windy day. Benefiting from the wind, Bexley North camped themselves in Lugarno's half for most of the first half. Despite the superior ball possession and field position enjoyed by the opposition, Lugarno's defence held firm and did not allow the opposition to have any clear-cut scoring opportunities. With five minutes left before the half time break, key interchanges helped Lugarno pressure the Bexley North goals resulting in a crucial goal a minute before the half time break. Going into the break a goal up, despite running against a strong wind, lifted the team's confidence and they came out in the second half with the strong breeze behind them and subjected the Bexley North defence to relentless attack. The pressure paid off when Lugarno scored their second goal to win the major semi-final 2-0 and progress into the grand final.

Having a week off from finals football was a mixed blessing. The team was clearly excited to have made the grand final but also knew the key was to maintain focus on the game that mattered - the grand final. Everything was done during this two week period to manage and prepare knowing full well that the team could be experiencing certain momentum loss from the week's rest.

When the grand final venue was confirmed as being the iconic Kogarah Oval, the team started focussing on the task ahead. Feeling privileged to have been provided with the opportunity to play and win the premiership at such a historic and iconic ground, the level of determination and focus of the team leading up to the grand final was simply outstanding.

Grand final day was characterised by another windy day but thankfully the conditions were manageable inside Kogarah Oval and the playing surface, flat and slow and characterised by true bounce, was perfect for the way Lugarno likes to play the game.

Having had the opportunity to assess the playing surface at around 8.15 am on grand final day just prior to the Lugarno 12C grand final game, the assessment helped influence and fine tune both the playing tactics and formation to be used for the team's grand final game, which was to kick off at 2.00 pm that afternoon.

Pre grand final warm-up commenced an hour before kick-off as the team spent 30 minutes warming up in the park outside the stadium. The team then progressed into the dressing sheds half an hour prior to kick-off to receive final game instructions and team formation details. As the teams lined up in the player's tunnel, the nerves, excitement and tension were clearly being felt. Then, as the players started to exit the player's tunnel and onto the field, the supporters of both team erupted in applause to welcome the teams onto the field.

Despite Lugarno running against the strong breeze in the first half, they managed to effectively neutralise Connells Point's attack to such an extent that the opposition only managed to create three goal scoring opportunities during the first half. On the other hand, Lugarno created numerous goal scoring opportunities going tantalisingly close to scoring on at least five occasions. With the score locked at 0-0 at the half time break, Lugarno was quietly confident that having the strong breeze behind them for the second half they would get the required breakthrough.

The early exchanges of the second half saw Lugarno take the game to the opposition and, in the process, they managed to create a number of goal scoring opportunities. Connells Point, playing counter attacking football, got a lucky break when some uncharacteristic hesitant defending from a free kick gifted them the opening goal ten minutes into the second half. Lugarno had discussed how they would react if they went behind in the game and, following some strategic changes to team formation that saw another ball distributor deployed in the middle of the park, Lugarno in the space of five minutes succeeded to turn the game on its head and went from being 1-0 down to taking the lead 2-1 following some clever ball distribution from Lugarno's midfield, and determined running and clinical finishing from Kane.

Connells Point started chasing the game and that allowed spaces to open up for Lugarno's attack. During this phase of the game some great goal scoring chances were created for Kane, Omar, Matthew, Lachlan and Peter. It was not until Omar scored a brilliant goal from just inside the penalty area to give Lugarno a crucial 3-1 lead with less than five minutes remaining that finally helped confirm as to where the premiership trophy was heading. The remaining few minutes was still very tense. The team knew they had won the game but were still anxiously watching for the referee to blow the final whistle. When the final whistle was blown, the scenes of jubilation took hold and, as the reality that Lugarno had won the premiership started to sink in, there was an outbreak of hugs and smiles amongst players and team officials.

There is no doubt season 2017 will forever be remembered by all members of the team. The team had an outstanding season winning both the minor premiership and premiership. To be crowned as premiers at such a historic and iconic venue has made the grand final win even more special and memorable.



The 16B team after being crowned premiers following their 3-1 grand final victory over Connells Point

The team became the first Lugarno FC team to win a grand final at historic Kogarah Oval

Lugarno ended up playing 20 games winning 15, drawing 1 and losing 4. The team scored 61 goals in the process and conceded 19 for a positive goal difference of 42. In terms of aggregate scores Bexley North proved the toughest opponent with Lugarno averaging 1.3 goals per game and conceding 1.0 goals per game while Oatley proved to be the easiest with Lugarno averaging scoring 5.5 goals per game and conceding 0.5.

Lugarno's 61 goals were shared amongst 13 players with Kane scoring 22 goals, Jordan scoring 13 goals, Danish scoring 6 goals, Peter scoring 4 goals, Harrison scoring 3 goals, Alex, Lachlan, Stephen Omar and Matthew each scoring 2 goals, and Mark, Issac and Mitchell each scoring a goal.

A brief player profile on the premiers follows.

Will Simmons: the team's first choice goal keeper was instructed to play almost as a sweeper in some games to push the defence up and employ a compact defensive structure. He made some memorable saves and contributed to the outstanding defensive effort.

Harris Kostanti: was deployed at right fullback for all the games. His speed and quick recovery as well as competitive spirit helped the team maintain a good defensive formation. His quick ball distribution to the flanks after winning tackles was critical in helping to turn defence into attack.

Harrison O'Brien: played initially as sweeper before being deployed in midfield in the second half of the season. A determined and focussed player he gave 100 per cent in every game and led by example in the finals series as team captain.

Mitchell Frost: started initially in midfield but then was deployed in defence where he did an outstanding job constantly winning headers and tackles and helping launch counter attacks. Having sustained a season ending injury last season Mitchell put in a great performance in his comeback season.

Raffi Tchamkertenian: played in the middle of the defence and in some games was deployed as defensive midfielder. His no nonsense approach and tactical defending and organising ensured the defence was able to adequately respond to most oppositions attacking threats.

Mark Martinovic: featured as left fullback and was also deployed as central defender for some games. Possessing a deceptive pace, opposition strikers often found it difficult to get past him. Mark helped turn defence into attack with ease.

Jordan Apostolas: was one of the new players to join the team. He scored 13 goals and created numerous assists. Jordan excelled in taking on the opposition on the flanks and delivering pin point crosses into the penalty area. His speed and ball control helped dismantle opposition defences.

Peter Gazilas: making a return to the team after a season away, provided the team with exceptional speed on the flanks. Peter regularly took the attack to the opposition and when required dropped back to support the defence.

Lachlan Debono: joined the team after round nine and filled the critical central midfield position. A great ball player and distributor, he helped to bring structure and dynamism to the midfield. Lachlan excelled in both attack and defence.

Kane Spiteri: finished the season once again as top goal scorer. His pace, determination and clinical finishing helped secure important victories for the team, with the highlight coming in the grand final game when he helped to turn the game on its head with two great goals in the space of minutes.

Omar El-Debel: played mostly as lone striker. His pace and strength upfront helped initiate second phase attacking plays. His high pressing also allowed the team to take the game to the opposition. Omar scored a memorable goal that helped to seal the grand final win for Lugarno.

Danish Baig: was another of the new players who joined the team this season. He was mainly used in midfield and in attack. His pace and dribbling skills helped strengthen Lugarno's attack and he contributed on the goal scoring front scoring six goals.

Stephen Theodoridis: proved to be a versatile player being deployed in numerous positions in defence and midfield. He played with great determination and focus which made him very solid in defence and a great team player.

Alexander Pejovski: was deployed in numerous positions – attack, midfield and defence. His pace and elusive ball skills allowed him to constantly pressure the opposition when engaged in attack and he was able to put in solid performances when called upon in defence.

Issac Cagigas: proved to be another versatile player having been deployed in a number of positions during the season. He ended the season as a valuable team player being extensively used during games in a tactical and strategic manner.

Matthew Denson: was called upon to help out the team during games when the team was short of players. Possessing pace and great ball skills Matthew scored two crucial goals and was able to provide the team with both support and options especially during the critical finals series.

In last season's team report I stated the following:

"The experience in the top division will no doubt prove beneficial to the team during season 2017 and some of the encouraging performances displayed in some of the earlier games should make the team both mentally and physically tougher for the challenges that will eventuate next season. While the previous season was successful from a footballing perspective with the team being crowned minor-premiers, season 2016 was more about team and character building. Hopefully the football rewards will materialise next season".

And from what the team achieved during the finals series and critically on grand final day coach Hagop can confidently declare ***Mission Accomplished***.

Key football indicators for season 2017 – Lugarno FC 16B game averages

	Lugarno FC	Opposition teams
Total shots	16.8	7.7
Shots on target	8.8	3.9
Goals	3.1	0.95
Corners	5.5	2.35
Possession %	55.8	44.2

U18 A

Coach: Claudio Rispler

Manager: Sera Diakovasilis

The U18As had a challenging season juggling HSC year, work commitments, some injuries and last but not least...FOOTBALL ☺

Unfortunately due to some of the above, we struggled with numbers for training sessions, which at the end made a difference in some key matches and left us wondering how much better we could have performed. Still, the boys (Yeah The Boys!) played some very good football, 'surviving' the grading round to stay as an 'A' team, which we demonstrated we belonged to by coming in 3rd of that comp.

We managed to complete the team when a few boys came from another Club (David, Gabriel, James Naumovski and Kosta), so bringing them into the team within a very short period and without even a trial game (rain disruption) was a priority for the Coach, and credit to the boys coming back from last season for achieving this.

Looking back at this season, our team ended up coming 3rd of the 'A' comp. The stats show that the boys won 7, drew 2 and lost 6 games, scoring 29 goals and conceding 31. But the stats don't show how close we came to getting a result against top teams Arncliffe and Sans Souci 1, getting a 2-2 draw against eventual premiers Sans Souci (1) and playing with no subs.

It feels like this season the team showed glimpses of how good they can be when everybody steps up, and boy did it look good! To the Coach and supporters it felt like how far we could have gone with a bit more commitment and consistency, not to mention the many missed scoring chances.

Those boys that did put in the effort to come to training, showed an improvement throughout this season. Claudio was supported by John Martins who assisted by running some training sessions and Coaching at a couple of games.

Many thanks go to Sara for match day preparations, communication of training changes and overall comms with families. This is one of the least seen tasks, but one that is essential for our team to be able to play every game. Well done!

Last but not least, I would like to recognise all the parents and extended families that supported the team from the sideline, even those days when things didn't go our way and we got a bit frustrated ☺

My thanks go also to Irish for helping out with different drills and ongoing support for the Coaching staff and team.

Last but not least, I would like to recognise all the parents and extended families that supported the team by bringing the boys to training sessions (although sometimes a bit late), matches and supporting from the sideline.

Here are the boys that defended the Lugarno colours in the U18A's this season:

James Burt: He was our captain extraordinaire, leading by example on and off the pitch. He gave it his all at every game and not even a near season ending injury kept him off the pitch for too long.

Daniel Martins: A reliable player that attended training regularly and was rewarded by scoring some very good goals. If it wasn't for woodwork would have scored a few more. Keep it up!

Sam Attard: Unfortunately missed part of season while recovering from surgery. His 'debut' came at a difficult time when we were short of players, but to his credit he played a full game. His skills and confidence grew towards season end

Gabriel Esperanca: He was one of our holding midfielders showing determination to win the ball back for us. He showed a passionate approach, never giving up and played also as winger showing speed and good dribbling skills.

Brayden Morris: He was our superb goalie and even got a run on the pitch to show his skills playing up front. Thanks to his many quality saves, he kept us in with a chance of beating the top teams.

Adeen Sowinski: Adeen had a good season scoring many goals, giving other teams a few headaches marking him with his speed and skills. He was unlucky as he went very close to score a few more goals that would have changed the outcome of games.

Jordan Diakovasilis: He was a key midfielder, playing behind our striker, creating many scoring opportunities and scoring a few goals himself. Jordan showed lots of passion for the team, which sometimes cost him a few cautions from the officials 😊

Kosta Gazilas: He was one of our allrounder players who was able to slot in defence, midfield or attack and perform very well. With a bit more effort and consistency, he would have been a candidate for an award.

Julian Enriquez: He had a spectacular season playing on either wing, scoring goals, creating scoring opportunities for other boys and dazzling defenders with his speed and skills. Watch out for this boy. The sky is the limit with effort and dedication.

Fletcher Hall: he was another allround player covering positions from defence to attack and midfield. He has shown a lot of improvement and was one of our most reliable players, training hard and giving it his best at every game.

David Bonacci: David had a very good start to the season as a left back and was always hard to beat. Unfortunately, his health was affected halfway of the season and was unable to reach his full potential.

Anthony Didonato: was a confident defender with projection upfront. His headers always created expectation for us to score and his distribution from the back was high quality.

Iavor Nikolaev: Had a very good season playing in midfield and defence. Iavor always keen to train and do the best possible job for the team. His distribution passes and crosses were very good.

Jordan Petanceski: He has been a very good central defender working well with James. Jordan has shown leadership qualities to go with his confidence level. He was also very committed to training.

James Naumovski: James was a very good attacking midfielder with quality passing and shooting skills. His reading of the game is second to none and always showed dedication and consistency.

Matthew Elchaar: Was a late comer to the team this season. He had some quality performances playing as midfielder and left wing. Unfortunately he missed some games. He would have benefited from attending more training.

PWL

Coach: Paul 'Irish' McIntyre

Manager: Katie White

What a year for our Premier League team! With a new coach in Paul 'Irish' McIntyre and a large portion of our team returning for another season including Alicia, Laura, Lauren, Bec, Calli, Caitlin, Maeetal, Annika, Sarah Watt, Jasmine, Jess, Karlie and Katie, we successfully recruited Sarah Galluzzo, Sarah Gallagher, Kate Mulready and a returning Lisa Thom to the women's side - giving us a team of 17!

Due to unfortunate weather in the preseason, training was non existent and in our first game we went down 8-2 to a young Connells Point! With a worried side for the season, Irish took us step by step at our training sessions and were able to come back the following week swinging - defeating Arncliffe Scots, the 2016 premiers, 3-0!

Training became more consistent and the team started to blend well together with some gutsy results from our end throughout the season!

The first half of the season was great for the team however due to work commitments from Lisa and Sarah Gallagher, injury from Katie and Lauren and European vacation commitments from Bec, Calli, Annika and Sarah Galluzzo saw us lose 8 players from the team in the last week of June!

That being said the remainder of the season saw us starting our last few rounds with 8 or 9 players - which we were luckily well supported by numerous members of our AAWA side who would back up

arriving from their own games to help support our team! (We are truly appreciative of our AAWA team members that helped out during this time!)

Our last two rounds of the season saw us fighting for fourth spot and a place in the semi finals - unfortunately due to draws with both Arncliffe and Forest Rangers, we just missed out and finished in fifth place above Rangers and Sans Souci!

Great effort this year ladies - despite our challenges we all had a great season and special thanks to Irish for continuously pushing us to be our best regardless of the fact he had no direct family connection to the team! Can't wait for 2018 - Bring on the Season!



AAA (1)

Coach & Manager: Ian Faulkner

Having been relegated from Premier League in 2016, expectations were high for a successful 2017 season in the AAA competition. However, with Lugarno having two squads in the AAAs, getting enough players to form a squad was our first challenge. Fortunately, things came together just in time and we started the year confident of being competitive in both grades.

While promotion to Premier League is seen as the ultimate goal for AAA Clubs, our main goals were to:

1. Re-establish a winning culture in the squad (after a few very tough years in Premier League);
2. Qualify for the finals in both grades; and
3. Make the 1st Grade Grand Final (and hopefully take out the premiership).

It is pleasing to report that all 3 goals were achieved in 2017!!

Being in the PL or AAA competition involves the delicate balance of playing seriously but understanding that this is still park football (albeit at a high level) and players cannot be expected to

commit themselves 100% to football. Family, work and study commitments always take precedence and this, coupled with the inevitable overseas holidays, means that there will tough times during the season. It is a matter of accepting this and coping as well as you can with these factors.



AAA(1) 1st Grade – Premiers

Playing in the AAA competition for the first time, we quickly found out that there were not going to be any easy games. While we started with 3 wins and a draw from our first 4 games, our performances were patchy and the intensity levels were below expectations. This was highlighted in Round 5 against Lugarno (2) when we were well off the pace and soundly beaten 3-0. However, this was also the wake-up call the team needed and in hindsight, probably the turning point of our season.

The following week we played Rockdale Suns who were unbeaten and winning games very easily. Even though we went down 1-0, our intensity levels were a 100% improvement and the team showed what was needed to be a force in the competition. After these two defeats, we won our next 5 games to move into a clear 2nd place on the ladder behind the tear-away leaders, Rockdale. We also went down 3-0 to Rockdale in the 2nd round (when plenty of players were missing), but good wins in our last two games had us primed for the finals series.

With a settled team and playing well; we went into the major semi-final against Rockdale with plenty of confidence. However, I don't think anyone expected what happened in the first half. After weathering a strong opening 15 minutes from our opponents, we dominated the rest of the half and goals to Mitch & Jarrod Radcliffe (2), had us 3-0 up at the break. With only 22 players available on the day to cover both grades, we knew it would be tough to hang on in the 2nd half. To the players credit, they battled hard and we controlled the game up until 10/15 minutes to go. But two quick goals to Rockdale saw us facing some anxious moments and we were all pleased to hear the full-time whistle. The 3-2 win saw us as the first team into the AAA Grand Final.

The Grand Final saw a re-match against Minor Premiers, Rockdale Suns, under lights at Scarborough Park. After beating Rockdale 2 weeks earlier, we knew they would be out for revenge. However, with our best team available and fresh players on the bench, we knew we would

give the game a mighty shake. But it was important to start well as Rockdale had scored early against us in both competition rounds. As in the semi-final, we weathered the early storm and the 1st half was evenly matched, with few clear goal-scoring opportunities. We went to half-time at 0-0, but very pleased with that scoreline.

The half-time discussion was positive, with the focus on maintaining (or even lifting) the intensity for another 45 minutes. The guys started the 2nd half strongly and could have scored in the opening couple of minutes. We totally dominated this phase of the game and for the next 15/20 minutes were camped in their half, but desperate to get that key opening goal. Chris' free-kick was deflected on to the cross-bar and Jarrod's shot was brilliantly saved by their keeper. Just when it seemed a goal would never come, pressure from a corner saw the ball fall to Jarrod's feet, who hammered it towards goal. The keeper could not handle the shot and the crowd erupted as Lugarno had taken the lead. Importantly, the boys did not ease up after the goal and they went looking for a second goal. The pressure was maintained and then with around 12 minutes to play, we were awarded a free-kick just outside the penalty area. This time it was Jarrod's turn to take the free kick and he curled the ball brilliantly into the top corner of the net. It was 2-0 Lugarno!! Rockdale Suns threw everything at us for the last 10 minutes, but the team maintained its composure and we ran out most deserved 2-0 winners.

This was great all-round performance by the team, superior even to our gutsy effort in the semi-final. Every player turned up ready to give 100% and the encouragement the guys gave each-other to keep going was very special. For many players, this was their first experience in finals football at this level. Most of the players had been through the tough times in Premier League in recent years, where the wins had become few and far between. I think this was a real motivating factor for everyone to make sure we made the most of this opportunity to win a competition. And wasn't it great to see so many Lugarno FC supporters there on a cold Friday night to cheer the team on. This really lifted the players who were very pleased to send our supporters home happy.

AAA(1) Reserves – Semi-Finalists

The season started slowly for Reserve Grade, with only one win and a draw from our first 6 games. But our lowly position on the table did not tell the whole story, as we were competitive in all games and unlucky not to have picked up more points. Just like in 1st Grade, we then went on a 6-game winning streak to have the team in contention for a semi-final position. Unfortunately, 2 late season losses against Lugarno (2) and Rockdale meant that we still had to win our last two games to make the finals. This is when the team really stood up and we easily won those pressure games, 4-0 & 5-1, to qualify for the finals in 3rd position.

Down on numbers and with 1st Grade also playing that afternoon, we knew our semi-final was going to be a real challenge against Peshurst West. To their credit, the team turned up ready to play from the opening whistle. Despite losing Eric early on with an ankle sprain and Nick mid-way through the half with an eye injury, we went ahead after 30 minutes when Daniel scored with a cracking header from a corner. We went to half-time up 1-0.

Our bench was barren as the 2nd half commenced, but an early goal to Brandon doubled our lead and gave us hope we could get the win despite all the adversity. Understandably, we tired as the half wore on and Peshurst West began to get on top. Midway through the half it was 2-1 and not long after, it was all even at 2-2. Another injury followed when Bill tore his Achilles tendon and needed to be carried from the field. The guys were fighting hard and with extra-time looking likely, the Referee awarded Peshurst West a very dubious penalty only minutes from full-time. They converted from the spot and our season was over.

This was an incredibly courageous effort from the team to round out a very successful season. With only 4 points after 6 rounds, the thought of even being in the semi-finals seemed optimistic to say the least. But by season's end, the team had proven themselves to be the equal of any other team in the competition. With a little more luck on the injury front, we would surely have at least made it to the 2nd week of the finals. On the positive side, elimination for Reserve Grade allowed us focus 100% on 1st Grade and all players in the squad should consider themselves as part of that 1st Grade Grand Final win.

In summary, this was a great season for the squad. The players enjoyed themselves and really grew together as a collective group as the year went on. Discipline on the field was much improved and given that we didn't have huge squad numbers, this was an important factor in our success. As noted above, the 1st Grade premiership win was a victory not just for the 16 players on the 1st Grade team sheet on Grand Final night, but for everyone in the squad.

Special congratulations to the award winners from the AAA(1) squad. To Jordan Thompson on being the "Outstanding AAA Squad Player", this is a great reward not only for your efforts this year, but also over the past few seasons. Congratulations also to the two Coach & Manager Award winners, Brandon Williams & Tim Faulkner. Brandon was clearly our most improved player and by season's end had become a key component of our 1st Grade team. Tim doubled up most weeks, playing as Goalkeeper in Reserve Grade and on the field in 1st Grade, before taking over as 1st Grade keeper at the end of the season and through the finals series. This year the players also voted for a "Player's Player" award winner within the squad. The runaway winner was Jarrod Radcliffe who captained our 1st Grade team and was inspirational all year, particularly in the big end-of-season games where he scored 4 goals in the two finals games.

We look forward to defending the AAA crown in 2018!!

Cheers

Ian Faulkner

AA F

Coach: Sam Kartambis

Manager: Peter Georgellis

After last year's fairy tale run to premiership glory, it was always going to be a tough ask to back that up this season.

Injury and retirement forced 4 new additions to our squad from last season:

Fotes - he wanted to erase the memories of the 2015 GF;

Kotta - he provided the entertainment on and off the field;

Zorba - he showed us the importance of stretching before the game;

Harry - he showed us how to play the game.

After a slow start in the early rounds, we eventually strung some wins together and stayed in touch with the top 4 for most of the season. As is the norm for this team, weddings, christenings, players MIA and trips to NZ played a big part in our season...and made naming a starting eleven each week a challenge.

Despite this (as well as some long term injuries), a strong finish to the year saw us finish in 2nd spot after the 18 round regular season.

In typical fashion, we ground out an ugly, hard fought extra time win in week 2 of the semis to qualify for the Grand Final once again. Unlike last season though, we were missing that magic touch and fell at the final hurdle this time.



Although it was a disappointing way to finish the season, it was an enjoyable year for the AAFs that provided many laughs along the way...and a great achievement for this group of players to make a third consecutive GF appearance.

We didn't end the year empty handed though....our Trivia Night win a few weeks earlier wasn't a bad consolation prize.

The AAF team would like to thank Lugarno FC and the committee members for their support throughout the year. Assuming our ageing bodies hold up, we'll see you all next year.

O45 A

Coach: Nick Ivanovski

Manager: Tony Trajkovski

Reports of a sharp decline in emergency hospital admissions was rumoured. One can assume that the 2017 soccer season has come to a conclusion. It is time to reflect on our past achievements – this shouldn't take long!! For this reason, I'll widen the terms of reference.

We started the year with 12 registered players. Not enough for the injury prone senior Lugarno members to field a team each week, without the high usage of drugs manufactured in Switzerland, USA and Germany and of course assistance from members of the O35s - many thanks. We had a great collective of blokes whose performance on the field slightly out-performed that of the Greek economy. These guys can remember when water was free but you had to pay for porn.

Time to introduce you to the boys...

Tony Traj: Known also as *Teflon Tones*. Manager, striker, right/left mid with a guest appearance in the backs. As a manager, Teflon's attention to detail was second to none. Unlike Adam and Eve (first people not to read *Apple's terms and conditions*), he understood that the job was not complete until the paper work ended - be it soccer or in the bathroom.

Paul PDL: Known to police as *Happy Feet*. Striker - as a new subscriber to Tinder, Happy Feet spent more time on his back than his feet. To the point that Teflon embroidered "This Side Up" on his jersey.

Mario: Striker. Played up front in the striker's role. He had a plethora of shots at goal, with more misses than a Pakistan airport.

Ivan: Centre/left/right mid - A member of the Smurf's Community. All 5 foot 3, sorry dyslexia, 3 foot 5, was born for soccer. Ivan could read a game like Doris Stokes. Often breaking through the jail-like defense of the opposition, to the cries of small medium at large.

Dom: Referred to as *Big Fella*. Centre back - amazingly light on his feet, kicking the ball up field in his high vis orange boots. The big fella looked like a dancing character from Walt Disney's *Fantasia*. A real crowd pleaser, particularly to the younger generation.

Geoff: Lugarno's *Elder Statesmen*. Left mid and back – remarkably, achieved over 47 years as a Lugarno player. Geoff becomes nostalgic when he sees the Neolithic cave painting of his under 6 team. Remembering one game when the ref presented him a yellow card and took his wheelchair – eventually he came crawling back. He was heard saying: "Funny, I don't remember being absent-minded".

Denis: Right mid - Denis covered more ground in a game of soccer than an 'A Current Affair' reporter chasing a Centrelink client.

Mark: aka *Perry Como*. Right mid and left back - Perry is one of our deep thinkers. He explained once that minus 40° Celsius, is exactly the same as minus 40° Fahrenheit. On very cold nights he was one of the first back into the sheds, positioning himself in the corner to warmup - as he knew all corners were 90 degrees. Mark claimed that wine improves with age, and he improves with wine!

David Mezzie: Centre mid – diligently, before each game he stretched but never enough to touch his toes. He stated that if God wanted him to touch his toes, he'd have put them on his knees. Personally, I think even that is a stretch for Dave!

Glenn: With his focus fixed intently on the ball at his feet, Glenn couldn't hear anything quieter than a jet engine. His love of the game would have him playing soccer with a bowling ball!

Geoff: "Funny, I don't remember being absent-minded".

Wayne – Morlo: Centre/left/right mid and drinks man - Once our manager, (Teflon) asked Morlo for his finest Scotch. "No problem", replied Morlo as he handed him a 12 year old role of tape.

Nick: aka *Lego man* – could dislocate and reinstate every part of his body. He would bring his own personal cheer squad to the game.

John: Man of mystery. Goal keeper - not much more to say, other than an enigmatic character.

Sam: Centre mid - absolute gentleman. On a recent date, as a romantic gesture, Sam placed his hand on his date's knee to which she yelled, "Heaven's above". And it was. Sam is quicker on the field.

Tony B: aka *Dangerfield*. Left/right mid with a guest appearance up front - a danger to all on the field, including himself. The manager embroidered "Fragile – Breaks easily" on his jersey. On a first name basis with St George Hospital emergency staff.

Suresh: His joints were always more accurate than the weatherman.

Warren: Right back drifting to the mid - affectionately known as Wazza. Wazza played the game like he just downed a double shot espresso.



Goran: Guest player from the O35's - Known as *Samsung Note 7* (SN7). SN7 played in the backs where he was an exceptional fiery communicator. He came to the O45's with a 'no goods return policy' in the contract.

Tony T: aka *Thommo* – A marvellous player that developed a pronounced nervous twitch when told he was playing up front with *Dangerfield*.

Time for the sweet smell of Dencorub to dissipate and all to recover in time for 2018 season.

LUGARNO FOOTBALL CLUB Inc

Life Members

1964	Bill McAfee	1994	Colin Straney	2014	Daniel McLoughlin
	Harry Brown		Marilyn Marsh		Thomas Roth
	Cyril Heness		Kerrie Benjamin		Danielle Roth
1968	Les Richardson	1995	Stephen Potter	2015	Marge Heness
1972	Ray Jones		Peter Marsh	2016	Garrie Heness
1973	George Taff	1996	Steve Bowles	2017	Mick Barber
1974	Ken Straney	1997	Sam McCartney		Matthew Faulkner
1976	Tom Watson		Wayne Bracken		Mark Lewis
	Syd Patterson		Sandra McCartney		Matthew McLoughlin
1977	Andrew Watson	1999	Roger Harradence		John Taylor
1978	John Fennell	2000	Rodney Thorpe	Warren Woods	
	Len Blaydon	2001	Daryl Kerry		
1981	Keith Bowles	2002	Phil Stell		
1986	Graham Hodgson	2003	Glen Dufty		
	John Clarke	2004	Tom McLoughlin		
	Warren Del-Grande		Saskia Nardo		
1988	Ron Benjamin		Frank Nardo		
1989	Steve Greening	2005	Rocky Robinson		
	Alan Watson		Brian Ralston		
1990	Paul Watson	2006	Phil Wilkie		
	Michael Rose		Michael Burt		
1991	Phillip Taff	2008	Stephen D'Alessandro		
	Darryl Gadd	2010	Paul Burt		
	Doreen Potter	2011	Rhys Horn		
1992	Ken Derrett	2012	Tracey Moreland		
1993	Dean Ross		Mark Booth		
	Gregory Harris		Peter Dalby		
	Geoffrey Thom		Ian Faulkner		
	Warren Straney	2013	Marcus Rayner		