

President: Hagop Tchamkertenian
Secretary: Sue Dick
Treasurer: Ivan Jersek
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AROUND THE GROUNDS

Upcoming Events:

- School Holiday Football Clinic, run by our Coaching Director Michael Tuesday 4 July to Thursday 6 July. Click here for more information
http://www.lugarnofc.com.au/images/flyer_final.png
- Saturday 1st July – Life Members Day
- Saturday 22nd July – Annual Trivia night – start getting your tables together – tickets \$20/head, bookings being taken at the canteen. Click here for the flyer
<http://www.lugarnofc.com.au/images/Invitation17.pdf>

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Match Results:

Saturday					Sunday				
AG/Div	Home Team	H	A	Away Team	AG/Div	Home Team	H	A	Away Team
AA/C	Carlton Rovers	2	0	Lugarno	AA/D	Forest Rangers	3	0	Lugarno
AA/D	Lugarno	2	2	Rockdale Suns	AA/E	Lugarno	1	2	Scots FC
AA/E	Lugarno	5	1	Sans Souci	AA/F	Lugarno	1	3	Forest Rangers (1)
AA/F	Penshurst West	0	1	Lugarno	AA/G	Penshurst West	2	3	Lugarno
AA/G	Carss Park	0	2	Lugarno	AAW/A	Sans Souci	5	2	Lugarno
AAA1/1	Glory FC	0	1	Lugarno(1)	O35/B	Arncliffe Aurora (1)	5	1	Lugarno
AAA1/1	Lugarno (2)	7	0	Carss Park	PWL/1	Lugarno	1	4	Banksia Tigers
AAAR/R	Glory FC	1	1	Lugarno (1)	U12/C	Lugarno	5	1	Oatley FC (2)
AAAR/R	Lugarno (2)	4	1	Carss Park	U14G/A	Forest Rangers	0	2	Lugarno
U12/C	Lugarno	1	3	Rockdale Raiders	U16/B	Connells Point (1)	0	5	Lugarno
U13/B	Peakhurst United	1	4	Lugarno	U16G/A	Arncliffe Aurora	0	1	Lugarno
U15/B	Lugarno	0	4	Bexley North (2)	U18/A	Lugarno	2	0	Connells Point
U16/B	Lugarno	5	0	Connells Point (2)	Friday				
U18/A	Sans Souci (2)	4	4	Lugarno	O45/A	Lugarno	0	2	Rockdale Suns



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Canteen & Field Set Up for next weekend:

Date	Team(s)	Start Time	Finish Time	Duty Required
Sat 1 st July	10B 2	7:30 am		Set Up Midi Field (field must be set up ½ hr before the game, KO 8.30am)
	AA C	9:00 am		Set Up Field 4 (non Lugarno teams playing first match , field must be set up ½ hr before the game, KO 11.40am)
				Set Up Field 6 (field must be set up ½ hr before the game, KO 11.00am)
	7B 6			Pull down SSF1 after the game
	11 A			Pull down Midi field after the game
	AA F			Pull down Field 4 after the game and clean up any rubbish left on side. Return posts to lock up area – no games on field 4 on Sunday
	AAA (1)			Pull down Field 6 after the game and clean up any rubbish left on side. Return posts to lock up area – no games on field 6 on Sunday
	8I (B4)	7:30 am	10:00 am	Canteen Set Up. BBQ Duty. Canteen Duty
	9B 3	10:00 am	1:00 pm	BBQ Duty. Canteen Duty
	11 A	1:00 pm	3:30 pm	Canteen Duty. BBQ Duty. Clean up Canteen.

Sun 2 nd July	No games on our fields – no set up required
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Match Reports:

6B3 v 6B2

POTM: Lucian

School playground bragging rights were on the line in a mate vs mate matchup of the Lugarno 6B2 v the 6Bs's. It was a great game by all the boys, played in the right spirit.

Lucian is getting more involved each week, with his crucial touches helping him to the well-deserved player of the week honours. After coming off his best practice session of the year, Aidan also fired up with some nice powerful kicks to keep the B2's at bay early in the first half.

Zach L continues his run of goals with a nice first half finish, whilst Jarvis doubled our score just leading into the break.

The 6B2's finished strongly with some awesome goals of their own setting up a nail-biting finish.

Well done to both teams.

Sunday Gala Day at Earlwood

All the way to Earlwood, to once again matchup against the Lugarno B2's in our first of 4 matches. We had another close game, with the star of the gala day Zach Boyle locking up the score with a brilliant solo run down the left wing.

Samuel shone in our next match vs Forest Rangers, with some nice touches helping us to a 2-1 victory. He was also rock solid in defence as always. Our next match vs Leichardt started with concern, however with some aggressive defence by Hunter we managed to keep the final score to just 1-0 against a tough opposition.

A great day was had by all the boys. It was a good experience for them and it is good to see the improvement in their games and as a team.



7B 3 v ASOW

POTM: Allie

Great game today girls and super sub Jarvis.

ASOW scored some early goals before we started to play. Our defense picked up and we started to make some good runs and were rewarded with two goals.

Great to see we never gave up and tried our best to the final whistle.

Big thanks to Jarvis for helping us out.

8B 1 v Arncliffe Aurora

Goal Scorers: Ashton Frawley / Elouise McMahon / Emersen McNeill

POTM: Hugh Kilian

We weren't sure if we were going to have a full team to play against this week - 10.50am came and our opponents only had 3 players. We started our game with a full team, however we played with a smaller team until the Arncliffe Aurora had a full team.

We got straight into it, with Ashton scoring 2 goals within the first 5 minutes of the game. Now Ashton had some fancy new green soccer boots and they made him go super fast - they had a mind of their own! Ashton also came close with a 3rd goal however it hit the side bar and bounced out.

Arncliffe Aurora showed some great defence to prevent Ashton scoring a 4th goal. They quickly scored a goal after.

Oli was in goals the second half and made some great saves. Our player of the match Hugh, was all over the field today, great job Hugh!



Ashton and Elouise had a great run down the field, Ashton passing to Elouise, who scored a great goal. The look of shock on her face was priceless.

At nearly full time, Emersen shot a great goal, for us to total 4 goals.

Great sportsmanship from the other team with one of their players approaching our goalie Emersen and telling her "you're a great goalie"!

Lugarno 4 – Arncliffe Aurora 1



9B 1 v Bexley North

POTM: Tristan & Abs

Goal Scorers: Tristan 3 / Lily

Despite losing a number of star players with the Soccerroos playing the Confederations Cup in Moscow, we had some brilliant midweek draft picks from team manager Bec to pick up George and Charlie (aka Choppy).

With the anticipated return of Romeo from his two week hiatus from somewhere, and with Rick Clay's brilliant tactical power plays devised in the sheds on Wednesday night at training, things did not go to plan.



There was some adventurous shots early on from playmaker Tristan and a couple of great saves from Romeo in goals. Elle and Tristan hustled the opposition into submission by both combining to stop the opposition scoring 23 goals in only 10 minutes of first half. Upfront, new recruit George and team mates Tristan and Michael showed some glimmers of hope combining well with some great passing. Then it finally happened. 1-0 Bexley North.

Abs and Tristan showed some fleeting footwork to almost break through and score. By this stage, my eyes were beginning to water and I decided to blink which was a big mistake. 2-0 Bexley North. I could hear the crowd gasped in horror.

The team regrouped and played on. The coaching staff started to say some 'Hail Marys' on the sideline. It looked like it might work. Abs again ran down the line and just missed out on finding the back of the net.

I blinked again. 3-0 Bexley North. Rick was seen on his mobile dialling England reverse charge to speak with Colin for advice. Not surprising, Colin didn't want a bar of it.

After Lugarno's sheepish start, the team looked like they found another gear. A well placed cross field kick from Lily saw some opportunities go begging. Lugarno began to look dangerous. Tristan, George, Elle and Ella all began combining well. Michael showed the crowd how big his boot really was with some enormous clearing kicks. Lily backed herself and just missed the nets. I blinked again and the score was 4-0. Wiping my eyes in disbelief, I blinked again 5-0.



Right before half time, the decision was made. The Little Master Choppy was send on the field. Chop and Michael teamed up. Michael was 27 yards out, got a clean pass from Chop and boom, with his big right foot, bang! Their goalie was left wondering... 5-1. His father Vic wept with pride on the sideline and on my shoulder.

I wasn't sure what Rick said to the team in the sheds at half time. Nobody was. The media was banned from entering. They came out and Rick used up his

final power play, placing George between the sticks. Lucky he did. Bexley North had 42 corner kicks and George saved every one of them. Romeo, Elle and Chop hustled, charging ahead, a thunderous kick from Lil just missed. Ten, some great attacking from number 15 Tristan 5-2. His dad Romeo began to cry on Vic's shoulder who was still crying with emotion on mine. The team celebrated on the field.

I was too scared to blink, but I need to. Bang! 6-2. Bexley North

There were some glimmers of hope shown with Abs almost shanking one from a corner kick, Elle and Ella relentless in their defence. Michael, Tristan, Chop, Romeo, Lily and George never gave up. There was some girl power cross field kicking to Tristan who charged ahead. Booom. 6-3.

Tristan had bagged his second for the day and his dad Romeo called fulltime. No one has sited Tristan or his dad since. Congratulations to Michael and Tristan who again had blinders and took home the Golden Boots for the day. A special mention to George and Chop also for helping out.

9B3 v 9B2

POTM: Toddy

Today was the local Lugarno derby - it was State against State, Mate against Mate - we were playing the Lugarno FC 9B2 team.

I'm not sure if they will put in a match report, but if they do, don't believe anything they say, it's all a lie...!!

Anyway, we were aware of our opposition's record this season - undefeated so far, and for very good reason - they are very good side, pushing the ball around well and setting up some good goal scoring opportunities, which unfortunately for us they managed to convert a few.

But that did not stop our fighting spirit from coming out - we were down 3-0 early in the first half, but a great goal from none other than Toddy again put us back into the match. The team went into the second half only down 3-1, which was also due to some fine saves from our goalkeeper Aiden in the first half.

The second half saw the kids continue their good form. We really started passing well out of our own half, and set up some good goal scoring opportunities. At one stage it took a single goal kick from Emma to reach past half-way to Toddy, who struck it first time and into the back of the net - talk about efficient play! And Toddy was at it again after some more good build-up play, striking the



ball into the back of the net and recording his fourth hattrick of the season. In the end the score finished 6-3, and we could not be prouder of the kids for the way they played. It certainly wasn't the same feeling after our first win of the season last weekend (which we are still celebrating!), but it was still a very good performance - and I think the fact that we were able to score 3 goals and create a few more chances against an undefeated opposition showed how far the kids have progressed this season.



The coaches comments for each player:

Anika - she may have forgotten her jersey in the first half, but she made up for it in the second half with a powerful display

Aiden - fantastic effort in goals pulling off some fantastic saves

Daisy - was solid again today and is starting to put in some good consistent performances - she was tackling strongly today which was pleasing

Emma - Miss Thunderboot was at again, and she nearly got a goal off the kickoff and also had a good turn and shot in the second half - glad to see she is moving forward a bit more

Jordan - M.I.A. - enjoying his holiday in Croatia!

Yushra - ran all game and played with a lot of fight and spirit.

Toddy - knows how to find the back of the net - scored another 3 goals - i'm gonna put the pressure on and ask him to score 4 next week!

Capri - ran all game and made some good tackles and passes across to her team-mates - improving each week

Matilda - didn't get the goal she was craving, but played a brilliant first half and ran all game

Our player of the match was Toddy, who finished off some good team play with 3 fine goals - well done! At the end of the day - Lugarno FC was the winner in this game.

Well done 9B3's and see you next week!



11I v Bexley North

Goal Scorers: Hunter / Jono

POTM: Jono

A tough month was put to rest with a wonderful effort by the lads on Saturday. The boys should be very proud of their commitment and fight in what was a brilliant and entertaining game of football. This game had it all!

To start with we were behind the 8 ball with some of our best players out. 2 of them checking their market value in Europe and our chief playmaker Anthony off sick – hope you are feeling better champion. We hadn't enjoyed the taste of victory for a while and we were up against a team who, in my opinion, were better than some of the teams that had beaten us in recent times.

With Owen in goals we were able to soak up a tonne of pressure with some quality work by our defensive line-up, led by Nick Puckeridge in the middle and wonderful support from Cameron, Pat, Michael and Alex who also all enjoyed rare opportunities in the midfield as well. They really fought tooth and nail to quell the sustained pressure from BN. Owen made some awesome saves and the score could have been a lot higher than the 1 they scored in the first half. We countered with a late goal almost accidentally by Hunter thanks to some great lead up work from our forwards Emmanuel and Jono. 1 all at the break.



A big thank you to Ali from the other Lugarno team who helped boost our playing numbers and was an absolute standout at Striker. His efforts in the 2nd half saw much of the flow of the game go from our end to theirs.

We had one little glitchy moment that saw our opposition take the lead and they could have gone further ahead if not from some more amazing saves from Owen and some diehard scrambling from our defense. We managed to turn defense in to attack and we put a heap of pressure on their backline and one player in particular, Jono, decided to lift like we haven't seen him before, taking full advantage of his move from the backs to the midfield. He came alive in the 2nd half especially and scored one of the most graceful goals of the season from an amazing 25 metres out. It literally just sailed delicately between their keeper's raised hands and the cross bar. The way we saw it, it was mathematical genius. Very well deserved Man Of The Match indeed.

Great job team, we showed just how better a team we can be when we actually turn up to ready compete. Now just to be a little more focused and hungry for improvement at training.

Final Score 2 - 2



13B v Scots FC

Drew 0 - 0

Saturday 3rd June

Ladder leaders Scots FC were once again fielding only 10 players, with their 11th team member possibly committed to Saturday school sport the same as Will on our team: despite our numerical advantage, the midfield contest was very even through the first half as we ran up the slope and into the morning sun. Lugarno forged perhaps some slightly better chances while keeping a lid on the Scots attacks, and with the change of direction in the second half, we gradually started to get on top. After winning a ball deep in our forward half, Jayden put in a great cross that Nate just couldn't quite get his head onto in front of goal. Scots' best chance of the game was shut down shortly afterwards, when they almost caught us on the counter: Saul arrived just as their attacking mid was putting his foot through the ball, and blocked the medium range shot. After a few long range attempts, the referee was fooled by the high line that the Scots defenders were playing, and called Josi off side even though he was in his own half and would have been through for a one on one with the keeper, and the game finished 0-all.

Overall, Lugarno worked very hard and played very well to keep the dangerous Scots' midfielders quiet, with Zane in particular doing a good job on the left side. Scots didn't get a single clear shot on goal, whereas we had a few opportunities that could have easily been converted. An excellent game from the team, even if the result didn't quite work out as we'd hoped, as we continue to trail Scots on the ladder by two points.

Goal Scorers: Josi 2 / Eric / Jayden

With the sun going across the field and not really a factor, Bexley North started brightly and had the ball in their forward half for a few minutes at the start of the game, before a quick break saw Nate feed the ball to Saul, who then crossed to Eric, whose shot bounced off the left post and into the net to put us 1-0 ahead in the 3rd minute. The Bombers keeper seemed a little unsure of himself to start with, but grew into the game and made a few important saves, diving on one shot and parrying another down from Andrei and blocking a shot from Nate straight at him. The Bombers almost got in behind our defensive line as Zane pushed up in attack, but Nico was across to defuse the situation. Eric almost scored his second when a corner from Nate found Markus, who passed to Christian, who then shifted the ball to Eric in good position, but his shot bounced up & away off the crossbar. After winning the ball back from a throw in, Jayden threaded the needle from a sharp angle on the right to put Lugarno 2-0 up. Bexley North tried to increase the tempo, and almost capitalised on a mistake from one of our goal kicks, but sent their shot wide: their frustration showed as one of their players yelled back at their sideline instructors. Lugarno came back strongly, with a couple of half chances and Anthony's long range shot hitting the crossbar as well, but were almost caught coming out from defence: Ryan D made a good diving save to keep the scoreline 2-0 in our favour at half time.

Bexley North started the second half much like the first, competing strongly and keeping the ball in their attacking half, before Lugarno got the game back on their terms. Where the Bombers backs were putting the ball out the sideline whenever it came to them, ours were starting were finding the space and playing out; Christian's run and pass put Josi through against the keeper, and although he blocked Josi's first shot, he couldn't control the rebound, and Josi was able to pounce at the second opportunity to make it 3-0. Bexley North seemed to feel that Josi was offside, and their striker was certainly way way off side when running onto a ball shortly after, but Nico managed to get back while running at full speed to cut off the space and clear the threat. With the referee helping to fish balls out of the bushes at that end of the ground, he also found a penalty against us for reasons I'm not sure of - a handball possibly, or a mistimed kick collecting a Bexley North player? They struck the penalty hard and high but straight at Ryan, who showed quick reflexes and strong hands to jump up and knock it down. Soon after, he showed good scrambling, after Lugarno had pushed up into attack but were almost caught out by a long ball out of defence: the striker's lobbed shot from a long way out looked like it might have gone past Ryan and into the net, but he got back to grab it before it did. The Bomber's right back was caught out shortly afterwards, keeping Josi on the opposite side of the field on side as Andrei's pass put him through against the keeper; firing the ball left, the keeper managed to deflect some of the shot but not enough to prevent it from going in to make it 4-0. Ryan ran out the game strongly, knocking away a last-ditch attempt from the Bombers, to make the final scoreline 4-0.



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Goal Scorers: Nate 3 / Will / Josi

9 am Sunday was the rescheduled game of the washed out match against Glory FC who, after a terrible start to the season, had shown some scoring prowess in the second half to only be a point behind the teams in 3rd & 4th place. Penshurst Park was in terrible condition, with a lot of mud and a very uneven sort of surface, with several of the Lugarno team slipping over at various times during the match. Going into this game without Nico or Markus meant that Saul came into the centre back: with Will also able to join us, Josi moved out to right wing. Will's clinical finish in the 4th minute after a nice run from Nate on the left put us in front, but Glory equalised from the restart, working together to draw our defenders and then passing to the unmarked player. Lugarno went ahead again a few minutes later, when Will, being confronted with several defenders, passed back to Anthony, whose nice pass out to the left allowed Nate to chase and fire home a shot from a narrow angle. Lugarno defended this restart much more strongly, and after taking the ball deep into the right pocket, from the resulting throw in, Josi sent a great cross to Eric in good position, who put his foot through to double our advantage.

Glory were making ground down both wings and getting players free in front of our goal, but weren't quite finding the last pass; their next opportunity, however, came from an appalling refereeing decision, when a long range but weak shot was lobbed towards our goal: Andrei stuck a leg out to try and clear the ball, but it glanced off and bounced back towards goal, where Ryan D collected it. The referee deemed this a deliberate back pass from inside the box, and awarded Glory a penalty. In a stroke of karma, Glory sent the penalty shot just wide to the right of our goal. Lugarno found some field position with Ryan C chasing hard and Mitchell coming into the game, and when Andrei's throw in to Will was passed back to him, his pass found Nate on the left again, who blasted his shot over the keeper into the net to make it 4-1. Glory again were dangerous on the restart, and found that last pass to the unmarked player in front of goal to get one back and make it 4-2 at half time.

An already overcast day got a bit darker as the clouds got heavier, but although rain threatened it never truly did more than spit a little. The second half was very much a back and forth affair, with Glory applying a lot of pressure to our defenders with the ball, leading to a lot of long and hasty kicks that we hadn't used in many other (if any) games this season. They closed the gap to 1 goal when they managed to cut back through the middle: although Ryan made a good diving save in the first instance, he couldn't stop the ball bouncing out or Glory's follow up. We had some chances ourselves, with an attacking corner almost coming to fruition when Eric's shot skewed off the outside of his boot, and an even clearer one when the referee didn't see Will pulled down from behind in the box as he tried to trap the ball. Lugarno players were bunching together as they defended, with Glory trying to find the triangle passes around them, but Ryan D pulled off a great reflex save, stretching out his right hand to deflect a goal bound shot. The Glory corner went into the side net, and Lugarno went on the attack, with Josi finding Will - his shot was fumbled by the keeper over the goal line, but from our corner Glory cleared and were running down field when Saul got back but was clipped for our free kick. The Glory keeper collected the speculative long range shot, but his slow kick out allowed Nate to intercept and fire a curling shot past into the bottom left of the goal, and then the full time whistle went for a 5-3 win.

In one of our most challenging games in a while, Lugarno managed to find a way despite missing our regular defenders: excellent finishing made the job a little easier. Lugarno remain second on the ladder, two points behind Scots. Scots play the hapless Ramsgate RSL side, who chose to forfeit their Sunday game against our next opponent this Saturday, Peakhurst United. The 3rd and 4th place teams Connells Point and Banksia Tigers, both on 14 points but with -6 and -20 goal difference respectively, have delayed their crucial Round 11 clash until this coming Sunday.

13B v Peakhurst United**Won 4 - 1****Goal Scorers:** Josi 2 / Eric 2

With school holidays already started for some private schools, Will was able to join us for the second game in succession; although Nico was also still absent, Markus was back on board. The field at Peakhurst Park seemed a fair bit longer and wider than many of the other grounds in the Association, and after repelling an initial thrust, Zane's throw-in found Will, who slid the pass across the face of goal for Josi to finish smartly to give us an early 1-nil lead. Peakhurst were getting into their attacking half, but Eric went on a good run from defence through the middle with the ball at his feet, only to be clipped just before the half way line. From the free kick, Lugarno went into attack, but Josi couldn't quite get his head onto a floating centring pass from Eric. In the 15th minute, Andrei fell heavily after his foot was stepped on, while a few minutes later Nate copped a whack on the back of his leg while shielding the ball. The referee didn't call either incident, but with the unexpected substitutions, the team lost some structure in defence and Peakhurst were getting the ball into attacking areas, and nearly equalised on the counter when a through ball found their striker just outpacing Eric - thankfully, his shot from good position went comfortably over the bar. Nearing half time, however, our players were drawn and bunched on the left side of the field trying to defend a throw in, and Peakhurst found the cross to the same player unmarked on the far side of the box, and this time he made no mistake to make it 1-all going into the break.

With Ocky speaking firmly at half time, the boys started the second half better but still needed to connect better with their passes, with a number of balls being slightly over hit and either running over the goal line or allowing the keeper to collect it well before any pressure arrived. After conceding a corner, however, Peakhurst made a mistake in leaving in the near post unguarded, and Josi's kick saw the ball go through to Eric, who fired it into the back of the net at close range to make it 2-1. Lugarno started to get more possession as the half went on, but Jayden's arrival at one ball up on the right wing was cut short by a heavy body and shoulder check that was once again allowed to pass by the ref. Soon after, Josi was unable to beat three defenders on his own, but earned the throw in; from there, Ryan C's pass found Will, who shifted it to Josi who hit it beautifully with his weaker foot to give us a two goal buffer. In the last action, Josi got onto the end of a nice pass from deep in our half, and although the keeper dived, he couldn't drag the ball in; as it bounced up and bodies were in the box, one of the Peakhurst defenders knocked the ball away with his arm in an instinctive reaction. The ref awarded the penalty, and after consulting her rule book, deemed his action deliberate and gave him a red card. Eric calmly slotted home the penalty to make it 4-1. Jayden suffered another knock when the ball was accidentally kicked into face after he had slipped over, but was able to run out the game.

Overall, this was not the most fluent game from the team, but after picking up their intensity after half time, secured the result. With some players away during the school holidays, a tricky game against Connells Point awaits us next week, given that our last result against this team was the draw that dropped us behind Scots.



14Girls A v Forest Rangers Won 2 - 0

Goal Scorers: Tamar Tchamkertenian / Alanna Cogle

POTM: Anastacia Stamatelatos

After an indifferent several weeks, some straight team talking at training was aimed at helping the team to rediscover the form and regain the attitude that elevated them to the top of the competition table in the first half of the season. Playing at Gannons Park against Forest Rangers in the local derby provided the perfect opportunity for Lugarno to get back on track.

The team, to their credit, reacted in a positive manner despite not having four players available for the game and, from kick-off, dominated field position and possession and created a number of early attacking opportunities. With sustained pressure Tamar scored Lugarno's opening goal in the seventh minute when she took possession of the ball outside the penalty area and ran into the penalty area, by-passing two defenders, before placing the ball past the advancing goal keeper.

Successive corner kicks exposed the opposition defence to more pressure until one of the corner kicks found Alanna Cogle, who brought the ball under control, then launched a powerful kick past the Forest Rangers goal keeper for Lugarno's second goal.

Lugarno could have added to those goals as further goal scoring opportunities fell to Stephanie, Tamar, Taylah and Charlie during the first half, but the team had to settle for a 2-0 half-time lead.

First half goal keeper Alanna Caracoglia enjoyed a relatively quiet period due to excellent defensive work from Alana P, Anastacia, Josephine and Mia.

In the second half Lugarno continued to dominate the game with the opposition relying exclusively on counter attacking football. The Lugarno midfield players of Zena, Stephanie, Taylah, Alanna Cogle and Capri were comfortably controlling the middle of the field and feeding balls to the attacking players comprising of Charlie and Tamar.

Whilst numerous goal scoring chances were created in the second half, frustratingly the team failed to add to the half-time score and the game ended with a 2-0 win to Lugarno.

There were a lot of positives to take out of the derby win, such as succeeding to keep a clean sheet due to great focussed defensive effort, scoring two early goals and creating numerous other scoring opportunities during the game, and playing good passing football in phases. One shortcoming that team officials need to work on and rectify is to be more clinical in the final third and especially in front of goals. Once that shortcoming is overcome the superiority of the team in terms of ball possession and goal scoring chances created will start to be reflected in the final score line.



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16B v Connells Point (2)**Won 5 - 0****Saturday****Goal Scorers:** Danish Baig 2 / Kane Spiteri / Jordan Apostolas / Harrison O'Brien**POTM:** Mitchell Frost

The double header weekend gave the team a double dose of Connells Point as the team faced both Connells Point teams in subsequent days.

On Saturday we faced the Connells Point (2) team who were coming third on the competition table, just a point behind Lugarno. Despite being a normal Saturday game we had three players unavailable for the game for various reasons, which tested our team. Matthew from the U15's was called up to provide us with some interchange options.

Opting for a 4-4-2 formation, Lugarno FC took control of the game from kick-off, dominating both possession and field position. The opposition were doing their best to withstand the Lugarno FC attack by placing a lot of players in defensive formation. On the 17th minute Danish opened the scoring for Lugarno, which was followed by further first half goals to Kane in the 22nd minute, courtesy of an excellent cross from Jordan and superb volley by Kane, and another goal in the 31st minute by Danish ensured a deserved brace for him prior to the half-time break.

While the opposition rarely seriously threatened the Lugarno defence in the first half, there was one exceptional save from Will the Lugarno goal keeper that deserves a mention. With less than three minutes to the half-time break Will produced a wonderful reflex save from close distance to deny the Connells Point attacker what potentially looked like a definite goal.

Second half action saw Lugarno create a number of goal scoring chances but less clinical finishing meant the score line failed to reflect Lugarno's dominance. An incisive run by Jordan on the right side resulted in Lugarno's fourth goal in the 46th minute of the game followed by a perfect executed penalty kick from Harrison in the 67th minute of the game to make final result 5-0 Lugarno's way.

Mitchell put in a man of the match performance with a solid performance in defence. Stephen, Harris, and Raffi all played important roles in defence, while in midfield Harrison, Lachlan, Peter and Jordan neutralised the opposition's go forward momentum and provided great service and support to Kane, Alex and Danish in attack.

Game stats

	Lugarno FC	Connells Point (2)
Total shots	19	5
Shots on target	12	2
Goals	5	0
Corners	5	1
Possession	58 per cent	42 per cent

16B v Connells Point (1)**Won 5 - 0****Sunday****Goal Scorers:** Lachlan Debono / Peter Gazilas / Mitchell Frost / Omar El-Debel / Kane Spiteri**POTM:** Lachlan Debono

Playing the catch-up game on Sunday meant the team only had one interchange player available in the second half. The team was alerted to the situation prior to the game and was told to treat the game as an endurance test as the opposition had the luxury of four interchange players.

Once again the 4-4-2 formation was deployed as the team faced the Connells Point (1) side that were coming 4th on the competition table, some seven points behind Lugarno.

The early exchanges were proving pretty even until Lugarno started exerting themselves on the opposition. With field position being dominated by Lugarno, the opening goal arrived in the 8th minute when Lachlan took control of the ball outside the penalty box, progressed into the penalty area and placed the ball beyond the diving Connells Point goal keeper in the right hand upper corner of the goal.

With Lugarno in attack mode, the second goal arrived three minutes later. Peter kicked the ball towards goals and followed his kick through, the Connells Point goal keeper managed to block the initial shot but Peter succeeded in getting to the ball first to kick the ball into the empty nets.

Towards the end of the first half, Connells Point started pushing forward, but determined Lugarno defending ensured Lugarno went into the half time break leading 2-0.

In the second half it took a while for Lugarno to start dominating play. Securing successive corner kicks, Mitchell scored a brilliant goal when he climbed above the Connells Point defenders and headed the ball into the nets to make it 3-0 after 52 minutes of play. Within four minutes of that goal Omar repeated the dose when he also scored from a header to give Lugarno a 4-0 lead.

With the team looking comfortable on the ball, the team continued to push forward to create goal scoring opportunities. Kane scored in the 61st minute to make it 5-0. Peter had an opportunity to get his second goal four minutes before full time when his shot hit the cross bar and Kane also created another goal scoring opportunity but was denied by the Connells Point goal keeper.

The most pleasing aspect of the game was another clean sheet due to the efforts of Will, Stephen, Raffi, Mitchell, Harris and Alex.

Once again the midfield took control of the game with Lachlan, Harrison, Jordan and Peter full of running and energy. In attack Kane, Omar and Danish took the game to the opposition and ensured a significant portion of the game was played in the final third.

Following the double header wins over the Connells Point teams, Lugarno managed to open up a three point gap at the top and consolidate its position on the competition ladder.

Game stats

	Lugarno FC	Connells Point (1)
Total shots	21	7
Shots on target	14	3
Goals	5	0
Corners	5	5
Possession	60 per cent	40 per cent

AAF v Penshurst West

Won 1 - 0

Saturday

Goal Scorer: Eddy

Due to wet weather and a forfeit win in previous weeks, our clash against arch rivals Pens W was our first game in 3 weeks. As always, matches against Pens W have an extra 'edge' to them...and this game was no different.

We started the game well and dominated play for most of the first half. We created some good chances to score but lacked the finishing touch. It was a tough battle in the midfield with some hard (but mainly fair) challenges from both teams.

0-0 at halftime.

Our dominance paid off early in the 2nd half. As he did for the entire match, Coxy was first to the header off a corner... the ball hit the post but Eddy quickly pounced on the rebound and scored from close range. Lugarno 1-0.

Now chasing the game, Pens W pushed men forward and were dangerous on the counter-attack ... their skilful striker kept our back 3 on high alert for the entire half. At the other end, we knew a 2nd goal would seal the game for us, but we couldn't create any clear-cut chances. As always with our team, there were some light-hearted moments throughout the game. Yare's sideline tackle "in the gutter" and Zorba's grass high chest pass provided a few laughs for the boys. Towards the end of the game, Foti pulled off some great saves to deny Pens W an equaliser. We held them out and hung on for a hard fought 1-0 win.

AAF v Forest Rangers

Lost 1 - 3

Sunday

Goal Scorer: Zorba

When your team is full of guys in their late thirties, game 2 of a weekend doubleheader is always a struggle. To make things worse, we were up against the 2nd placed team on the ladder. Even worse than that, we only had 10 players available for the game. Needless to say, it was always going to be an uphill battle.

In the first half, we held our own. Even though Rangers dominated most of the play and possession, we knocked the ball around and created some opportunities ourselves. Our stand-in keeper Yare provided the highlight of the half by producing a great low diving save... before crashing his shoulder into the post. He shook it off and continued on.

Halftime 0-0

The second half started much like the first. After holding on for so long, we finally conceded a goal. Rangers' cross-come-shot fortuitously snuck into the top right corner. We kept battling on though and managed to pinch an equaliser moments later. Fotes sent a free kick to the back post where Zorba "volleyed" the ball - after it rolled down his thigh, knee, shin then ankle - past the keeper. One all. As the game wore on, we were clearly tiring. Unfortunately, we couldn't hold on. Rangers took advantage and scored twice in the final 10mins of the game, running out 3-1 winners.

Despite the loss, a great effort by all the boys to compete the way we did. The post-match beers was stepped up a notch too... with Foti providing a spread that included prosciutto, salami, pickles and cheese - and of course Kotta's favourite Pizza Shapes. A great way to recover from a loss.

AAG v Carss Park

Won 2 - 0

Saturday

Goal Scorer: Pat / Anthony

This weekend was one we were dreading, with 4 players overseas and a mounting injury toll, we knew we were going to struggle with numbers. We cobbled together 10 players (at least 4 carrying injuries) to meet Carss Park who are bottom of the ladder but had defeated us in the first round. Carss Park were passing the ball well and created opportunities but had no-one who could finish. Lugarno passed well and kept control more than usual and had chances which finally paid off when Pat scored before half time.

The second half was fairly even until Anthony had a run from sweeper down the field and beat the keeper with a great shot! 2-0 had the supporters relaxing a little but Conner limped off with a leg injury and we looked a little shaky. We held out until full time for a great win. An impressive effort from everyone.

Goal Scorers: Jordan 2 / Palmer

We came into the match wondering if we would have to forfeit after a couple of people pulled out with their injuries, but had 7 ticked on the match sheet to start and Muddle running on 5 minutes after the game started. Again we had at least 3 players with injuries who should not have been on the field. Anthony Smith did a great job as sweeper, shutting down all Penshurst's attacks. Dom and Pat were all over the field and ran their hearts out, while Jordan mainly played up the front. Muddle was fantastic and didn't stop all game. Chris was heavily strapped and put on a great performance defending, while Ant Palmer was all over the field as well. We were amazed (and quite pleased) that Penshurst did not take advantage of their 3 man overlap, and the game looked fairly even. Late in the first half, Jordan had a shot that curled in to the top right of the net. We couldn't believe we were ahead.

After half time Penshurst put a back heel into our net after a scramble in front of goal, but Jordan soon took us ahead again. Penshurst again equalised from another mele in front of our goal leaving us 2-2 which would have been a good result, playing so many players down. Penshurst were getting frustrated at this stage and were pulling some terrible hacks, earning them a red card and penalties. In the closing moments, we won a free kick from just outside the penalty box, which Palmer floated into the top corner to the bemusement of their goalie. We saw out the remaining minutes to secure one of the most satisfying and hard-fought wins I have seen.

Congratulations to the team for their effort, heart and persistence in the face of awesome odds against us. Get all those injuries better for next week!

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