

President: John Taylor
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AROUND THE GROUNDS

UPCOMING:

- TRIVIA NIGHT Grandviews Bowling Club on Saturday 1st August at 6.45pm. See your Manager for further details and book a table asap to avoid disappointment as this event is always a sell out and a great night is guaranteed!
- The inaugural RICH0 CUP on Monday 8th June at Gannons Park. A football, community and family event publicising the issues of Men's and Women's health. Jointly hosted by Forest Rangers and LFC, there will be jumping castles, the canteens will be open and there will be plenty of action on the football fields. Lugarno FC invites all players, parents and supporters to come and support the day.



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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/C1	Lugarno	6	2	Kogarah Waratah	PW/AAW/A	Lugarno	3	0	Kogarah Waratah
AA/D	Lugarno	1	3	Carss Park	AA/C1	Connells Point - 18's	1	4	Lugarno
AA/E	Lugarno (1)	2	1	Ramsgate RSL	AA/C2	Connells Point	2	4	Lugarno
AA/E	Bexley North	2	3	Lugarno (2)	AA/D	Hurstville Glory	4	1	Lugarno
AA/G	Oatley RSL	1	4	Lugarno (2)	AA/E	Kogarah Waratah	2	2	Lugarno (2)
AA/G	Connells Point (1)	2	5	Lugarno (1)	AA/E	Lugarno (1)	3	1	Connells Point
PL1/1	Lugarno	1	1	Carlton Rovers	AA/G	Forest Rangers	1	2	Lugarno (1)
PLR/R	Lugarno	1	1	Carlton Rovers	AAW/B	Peakhurst United	4	0	Lugarno
U12Girls	Lugarno	0	2	Sans Souci	AAW/D	Lugarno	4	4	Hurstville Glory
U13/A	Lugarno	2	4	Sans Souci	O35/C	Lugarno	8	1	Banksia Tigers
U13/C	Lugarno	2	3	Connells Point	PL1/1	Arncliffe Aurora	4	0	Lugarno
U14/B	Lugarno	4	0	Forest Rangers	PLR/R	Arncliffe Aurora	5	0	Lugarno
U15/B	Lugarno	1	2	Bexley North (2)	U12Girls	Bexley North	2	1	Lugarno
U16/A	Sans Souci (2)	1	7	Lugarno	U13/A	Forest Rangers	0	1	Lugarno
U17/B	Lugarno	3	1	Bexley North	U13/C	Lugarno	2	0	Bexley North
					U14/B	Peakhurst United	2	1	Lugarno
					U14Girls	Lugarno	4	0	Connells Point (2)
					U15/B	Forest Rangers	4	0	Lugarno
Friday					U16G/A	Bexley North	0	4	Lugarno
O45/A	Oatley RSL	3	2	Lugarno	U17/B	Lugarno	0	1	Forest Rangers (1)

Match Reports:

6 Bee 3 v Oatley RSL

Saturday 9th May

Goal scorers: Michael Nicholson 5 / Pip Finn 2 / Miles Laney

POTM: Michael Nicholson

Well, what an amazing game all the kids played after weeks of not being able to train!

From the start of the first half, the kids took off all guns blazing! First goal went to Mikey within the first few minutes of the game and Miles quickly followed with his goal. The kids just went from strength to strength and played so well considering they hadn't trained or played for a few weeks. The goals just kept flying, Pip scored 2 awesome goals running the length of the field both times to score.

A well deserved Player of the Match to Mikey this week - well done!

Great game kids, thanks to you all for being so enthusiastic and our awesome sideline of parents.

6 Bee 3 v Oatley RSL

Goal scorers: Michael Nicholson

POTM: Miles Laney

Well what a hard game we played this week. Oatley RSL were an outstanding opposing team, they worked us super hard! Some superb soccer plays by our awesome little team - they tried so hard at goals, amazing job! Talk about lots of running up and down the field, all the kids got in there and tried their very best. Well done to both teams, they played so well for the entire 30 minutes.

Well done Miles on being our Player of the Match this week.



8 Bee 2 v Scots

Goal scorers: Max 3 / Jack 2 / Alec

POTM: Alec (for sustained attack and defence)

We played on a soggy field at Quarry mini field at Hurstville. It was a late game, with an 11.15 kick-off.

For some reason this later game does not suit our players who seem a little out of sorts to begin with, but finish quite strongly. Sugar levels, boredom, hunger? Who knows? In any case, Lugarno were definitely the stronger team and most of the game was played in Scots half. There were many incisive runs down the sidelines, but the shots at the goal were too late and the ball was run out over the goal line. Jack in particular made some good long kicks from the sideline across the goals, but no Lugarno player was there to score. We need to practise a runner down the sideline and then crossing to a player running down the centre of the field.

When the opposing team is kicking off, every Lugarno player should be standing next to an opposing player - that is called "marking your man". Don't stand next to a Lugarno player!

We missed Lachy's solid defence, but I thought Samuel did a good job filling in for the defensive role. I think most players liked the shorter time in goals (10 minutes) as it is quite boring for the players. So I will keep rotating the goalies with the other subs.

Max had a whale of a game and Clark improves every week. Patrick made a big contribution and was unlucky not to score. Alec was man of the match for his early efforts in attack and defence - well done Alec! Rex and Zac were in the thick of it and put on a solid performance.

Cooper was solid in defence and made some very good runs at goal - he was full of energy as usual. Harley and Cooper both suffered slight injury, but did not want to come off. If you are injured and need to get your breath back, you can come off for a few minutes and run back on.

There were a few lessons we have to learn: the goalie cannot pick up the ball outside the goalie's circle. You cannot score a goal from a free kick, no hand balls, and you cannot trip a player.

In conclusion, well done to our players and our team, and remember to support each other.



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8 Bee 3 v 8 Bee 1

POTM: Olivia

All the kids were really excited to play again today after a stop and start season. Our game was against our fellow under 8 side, the Bee 1's, which was full of kids we know from school and the area. It felt strange to play against kids in our colours (turned inside out to avoid confusion for the ref).

The Bee 1's scored their first goal quickly with some great passing and teamwork. Our team took a little while to find our stride, but Michael soon scored a fantastic equaliser.

Ryah had a busy time in goals, saving many attempts. Diana and Emilyn were our strong defensive line.

Olivia, Vinnie, Noah and Linden had a busy game in the mid field and front, Noah and Linden had some unlucky misses at goal. Olivia was everywhere, defending and attacking, being rewarded with a strong goal in the second half.

Jamie played goal keeper in the second half, and with the defensive line's help, kept the Bee 1's at only one goal.

Great game guys!

9 Bee v Bexley North

Goal Scorers: Cameron 2 / Willis

POTM: Cameron

Callum and Ashton were our goalkeepers for our away game against Bexley North and both saved balls in the air and along the ground. Both did a great job that kept us in the game. Emily was as fantastic as ever in defence, marking players and putting herself in great position to intercept attacking runs made by Bexley North. Bailey was back to full health and made up for lost time last week by getting into some tight tussles for the ball and winning most of them. He made some key clearances and nice passes (intentionally?) that really worked in our favour.

Our first goal came from a wonderful run by Willis who had space in the middle of the field. He finished with a beautiful straight shot that went nicely into the corner of the goal. Our second was an own goal by Bexley, but it came off such an amazing corner kick by Cameron, worthy of an A League game, that we decided to award it to him. Cameron also got a second goal fair and square in the second half to start his goal tally for the season. He gets our player of the match award for this week for his great effort.

The other players, Peri and Anthony were unlucky not to come away with a goal or two. Peri is always up front and never gives up on a ball, always chasing it right to the goal line for a scoring opportunity. Anthony has a mean kick and when he gets space others move out of the way. He had a few misses and as I said was unlucky not to have one find the back of the net.

The team put in a great effort and were noticeably better with throw ins, one on one battles and running with the ball. The passing is coming along nicely and there were some great examples in this game. The boys were happy with their win and the best thing was everyone on the field played a part. It was a true team effort and a joy to watch. Well done team!

9 Fox 1 v Sans Souci (2)

Goal Scorers: Lucy Finn / Hunter Solomons / Daniel Preziosa / Anthony Pejovski / Finlay Whitten / Nicholas Puckeridge

POTM: Hunter Solomons

Turning up on Saturday morning, Sans Souci was short of players. The Sans Souci coach asked if any of the Foxes wanted to play for them and through pure sportsmanship - Owen was quick to put his hand up and in the second half Hunter did the same. Just goes to show the Foxes turn up each week for the opportunity to have fun with their mates and it doesn't matter who they play for!

From the kick off the Foxes looked good and it wasn't long before the scoreboard showed 1- nil, on checking the video replay it was hard to determine if it was Lucy or Hunter that scored the goal. Daniel was quick to follow up with his break down field resulting in his first goal for the season.

Owen was great for Sans Souci playing hard against to his mates making the game very competitive. Anthony kept his average goals per game up, scoring again placing a nice kick right in the pocket.

Finlay moved out from goal keeper in the first half, and straight into attack where he was unlucky not to score from a long range kick. He followed this up soon after, nailing a beauty and the Foxes were 3 nil up.



Michael moved well around the park, chasing down everything that moved to improve field position. Nick moved from his usual defence position, into attack and scored through good field positioning. Lucy played strong, muscling up to Sans Souci and tackling anything that moved. Emmanuel was strong in attack in the first half and was just as solid when he moved to keeper in the second.

Tom was key in both defence and attack, kicking accurately to his team mates. Our player of the match this week was Hunter, not only did he display good sportsmanship by playing the second half for the opposition, he was in amongst it throughout the game and always doing it with a smile on his face.

A HUGE thanks to Michael's dad - Mario who refereed on the day.

Well done team and thanks to Harry for his game plan and coaching techniques that resulted in the Foxes coming out on top this week.

10 Bee 2 v Oatley RSL

Here we go again and thankfully another dry Saturday afternoon down at our home ground Gannons. We had a full card today with all the boys fighting fit so that gave our coach two on the bench to rotate through and keep the team on the pitch fresh all game.

As this year has progressed we have seen some more confidence with the high ball and the boys beginning to use their heads to bring the ball down and take control, so we focused on this during the warm up with a sneaky practice of our throw in techniques to keep our feet planted.

With the final words given by the coach the Captain for the day, Ross, led the boys onto the field.

The first five minutes were a real arm wrestle as there was no real dominants as both teams had attacking raids with no success. During this period our defence was strong with Nathan really holding the line not allowing anything to pass.

Like all good goals our first came from some solid defence and, with the defence came attack as Cody – left back – took a run down the line and delivered a measured cross that found Jonathon in the right spot at the right time on the right foot to hammer the ball home for the first goal of the day – 1-nil.

With this goal came several other attacks with the most memorable one that saw Liam take control deep in our half and played through the middle to find an attacking Zack at pass and if it was not for the upright would have led us to our next goal.

With that raid our opponents led their own attack as they placed a top shelf cross that found their forward in the box to push their first goal for the day 1 – 1.

That goal took us a little by surprise and shook our positional play up and a couple of holes to which our opponents capitalised and snuck a sneaky second in just prior to half time 1-2.

The message at half time was a positive one from Jeremy as the score line was not a reflection of the effort given by the boys and we were close.

The second half started a lot like the first with exchanges both ends and gave us a couple of corners in the period and several close opportunities that grazed the bar on more than one occasion but, similar to the first half, our opponents too took advantage of a runaway attack and despite the efforts of a chasing defence line found the back of the net and adjusted the score card to 1 – 3.

To the boys' credit that did not stop the attack and as we rolled into the last third of the game we pushed hard. During this period, Daniel took control down the left side on a solo effort and belted the ball just over the bar.

We really started to apply strong pressure which led to our next goal as Zack found a little space to pound his first for the day to take the score to 2 – 3.

The last 2 minutes were fast and strong and if it was not for some outstanding defence from our opponents, we would have levelled the match.

Both Ross and Alexander had great stints in goals and our rotation process seems to be working well.

The ref called the end of the game and although we finished second on the score card it was one of our best matches all year and very entertaining.

Well done boys and it certainly gives us some building blocks to work on.



Strong defence



12 Girls v Sans Souci

Lost 0 - 2

Saturday

POTM: Nadine Younes

Lugarno faced second placed Sans Souci at Gannons Park. While on paper the Sans Souci team looked strong the early exchanges of the game saw Lugarno dominate possession with most of the game played at Sans Souci's end.

The early possession did not yield a goal for Lugarno and Sans Souci was able to score from a rare attack and against run of play.

With the opposition grabbing a fortunate goal they lifted in intensity and the rest of the half was evenly balanced. In the second half Lugarno started positively, launching a number of attacking raids and they continued to dominate possession and push their opponents back. Lack of finishing in the final

third was hurting the team and Sans Souci benefited from some counter attacking football to score their second and final goal for the game.

The team put in a very competitive performance against one of the leading competition teams. With improved support play in attack the team will start converting their possession into goals.

12 Girls v Bexley North Lost 1 - 2 Sunday

Goal Scorer: Alanna Cogle

POTM: Alanna Cogle

The second game of the double header weekend saw Lugarno face the competition leaders Bexley North. In a fast paced game Lugarno dominated the first half limiting the opposition to at best half chances as some determined defending ensured that no clear cut opportunities fell to the opposition.

As Bexley North started to get frustrated by their inability to penetrate the Lugarno defence, they became more physical and aggressive, combining elements of rugby with football. The Lugarno girls did not take a step back and competed equally for every tackle.

Lugarno's determination was rewarded five minutes before the half-time break when Nadine and Madelen combined in the middle of the park to send Alanna Cogle sprinting away in the gap. Alanna maintained her speed and broke away from the chasing Bexley North defender to find herself in a one on one situation with the Bexley North goal keeper before coolly placing the ball in the left corner for Lugarno's opening goal.

Leading by 1-0 at half-time the team at the break was forewarned by acting coach Hagop to expect Bexley North to adopt a more attacking orientation in the second half as they start chasing the game. Within minutes of the commencement of the second half Bexley North launched an attack and scored from what was clearly an offside goal. Lugarno was devastated by the game officials' error but that did not deter the team and they started launching their own attacks.

With minutes left in the game and the prospect of a draw increasing in likelihood, an uncharacteristic defensive error gifted Bexley North their second goal. In the dying moments of the game Lugarno pushed forward in search of the equalising goal but it was not to be - a mixture of factors contributed to a narrow loss against the competition leaders.

The team was reminded at the conclusion of the game that during the past two games they competed against the top two teams and outplayed them. Lugarno's only shortcoming during the double header weekend was their inability to be more clinical in the opposition's final third. That will hopefully come in time as the team with so many new players learns to play together.

Well done team for playing a competitive weekend of football, you proved to yourself that you can match it with the leading teams.

13C v Connells Point Lost 2 - 3 Saturday

Goal Scorers: Jayden Montoya / Anthony Azzi

Round 7 was played at Gannons and we knew this would be a tough game. It was a top of the table clash, first versus second and a win meant we'd take top spot.

The game started with a battle in the midfield with an opportunity for the boys to assess the strengths and weaknesses of their unfamiliar opponents. As expected the opposition was strong, however Lugarno were equally tough and determined.

A couple of solid plays entailed but unfortunately all fell short. Around the 15th minute mark, however, the Connells Point mids pushed a ball through our defence to their striker, and although offside was the call from the sidelines, the whistle didn't blow, and their striker capitalises and Connells Point are 1-0 up.

At 22 minutes in, Lugarno creates their own opportunity with a great run by Billy down the right hand side navigating through two players, then lofting the ball expertly across the goal line to a patiently waiting Jayden who taps the ball into the nets. Great play, it's now 1-1.

Lugarno continue to pile on the pressure and we see a number of solid plays between the boys, however Connells Point's defence line does well to block us out. At the 27th minute mark, another great run comes about with James sending the ball neatly from midfield to Antony on the right wing. Anthony, displaying some fine fancy footwork, weaves his way through the opposition defence scoring to put Lugarno ahead 2-1.

Connells Point not giving up easily, take up the challenge and retaliate with continuous pressure on our midfield and defensive lines and unfortunately for Lugarno they even up the scores just before the half time whistle blows.

As expected the boys are exhausted, it was a tough 30 minutes of football, but having a good rotation of subs helped immensely. The coach as always provided plenty of great advice and the boys take it all in.

The second half is underway and we find the play moving from one side of the field to the other, each team having their fair chances. This type of play continued until Connells Point found themselves in our goal area and scoring in the 48th minute and giving them a one goal lead to take the score to 3-2.

With only 12 minutes remaining Lugarno continued to push, shifting their game to attacking while Connells Point tried to quash the game and locked down their defence. Unfortunately that elusive equaliser did not eventuate and the game finished at 3-2.

A great spectacle to watch from the side line, all the boys put in a gallant effort and whilst the score line went against us I am sure the next time we meet we'll have the upper hand. A well deserved acknowledgement to Peter who did a fantastic job in goals and to Cooper for his for his tireless effort in defence.

13C v Bexley North

Won 2 - 0

Sunday

Goal Scorers: Jayden Montoya / Billy Finn

A double header this weekend saw us playing Bexley North on Sunday and, after a narrow loss the previous day, the boys were keen to make this a winning game. Playing on home turf also gave us an advantage and with great crowd support we were off to a great start even before the whistle blew.

Bexley North showed good ball control in the first ten minutes and saw them create most of the attacking opportunities, but our defensive line and goalie did a great job in fending off any potential goals for the opposition.

Lugarno increased in confidence and began to take control of the game, and by the 13th minute mark we saw one of the classic runs by Billy weaving through the Bexley North midfield to put through a glorious weighted pass to our striker Jayden who in turn took on a Bexley North defender and finish with a nice clean shot into the goals - Lugarno 1 nil up.

Lugarno continued to press and we saw another great opportunity this time by Michael who had a nice shot on goal just miss by the narrowest of margins.

With the first half complete Ocky laid out the plans for the second half, essentially the game was to be played out of the midfield and we needed to grind them down, tire them out and give us the best opportunity to seal the game. The defence was to tighten up and lock down any opportunities for Bexley North to score.

The second half begins and as expected the game plays mostly out of the midfield with limited opportunities for both sides for the first ten minutes. Even though our defence and midfielders were doing a great job, we needed to lift the intensity and make sure we capitalised on each opportunity.

The boys did as instructed and the shift in intensity paid dividends, when at 50 minutes in, we see Lugarno's second goal come out of nowhere; Alexander burst through the midfield and with an accurate pass finds Billy in the goal area who slides the ball into the Bexley North goals. Great team work.

The remaining ten minutes was at times intense but on the whole was well controlled by Lugarno and when the final whistle blew the boys were very pleased with their 2-0 win. Great effort by all the players today, the defence, mid fielders and attacking line all gelled well for a much deserved win.

Goal Scorers: Peter Katsoulas / Mitchell Frost / Kane Spiteri / Mitchell Trajkovski

POTM: Evander Berroa

The team arrived at Gannons Park to face Forest Rangers in the much anticipated local derby. Lugarno FC were still without their regular goal keeper Will for this game, which meant Raffi once again deputised in goals.

Opting for a 4-3-3 formation the defence comprised of Harris, Issac, Evander and Mark. The midfield duties were assigned to Mitchell, Peter K and Mitchell T, while the attack featured Omar, Kane and Alex. This week's reinforcements were Harry, Jonah, Peter and Stephen.

The early exchanges saw both teams try to gain control of the middle of the park through short passing passages and physical play worthy of a derby game. Lugarno was the first team to become more adventurous by taking the game to the opposition who started to rely on counter attacking football to progress up the field. Some fine defending by Lugarno ensured that the Forest Rangers attacks were effectively neutralised well before the danger zone.

With Lugarno taking control of the game, the chances started being created but, largely due to lack of clinical finishing, the score line did not progress until the 17th minute when sustained Lugarno pressure finally yielded a goal. Forest Rangers fouled Kane as he was about to break free outside the penalty area providing Lugarno with a free kick. Peter K stepped up to take the free kick a couple of metres outside the penalty area and launched an unstoppable shot that rattled the Forest Rangers nets. Lugarno 1-0 after a frustrating start.

More chances fell Lugarno's way but the second goal did not arrive until the 27th minute when a poor clearance by the opposition allowed Mitchell to volley the ball into the nets. The half-time break arrived with Lugarno up 2-0 but the team knew that on the balance of play they should have been leading by more goals.

The early phase of the second half mirrored the play of the first half with Lugarno in control of the game and pressing forward while Forest Rangers continued to rely exclusively on counter attacking football. In a brilliant movement by Lugarno, Peter having received a pass from Evander just inside his half, embarked on a 50 metre run before crossing the ball from the far right flank to the support player in Mitchell T who tapped the ball into the net for Lugarno's third goal seven minutes into the second half.

Within a minute of that goal Lugarno added a fourth goal when Mark won the ball and released Mitchell T on the left flank. Mitchell T outpaced the Forest Rangers defence then delivered a well timed cross for Kane who scored from close range.

Lugarno continued to create goal scoring opportunities but a combination of good goal keeping and poor finishing ensured the final score remained at 4-0.

While the attack was not as clinical as it could have been, the team's defensive performance was exceptional ensuring not only a clean sheet but also limiting the opposition to just three shots on goal during the entire game.

Raffi had a composed game in goals staying focussed throughout the game and making two brilliant saves in the process. Harris had a solid game at the back and helped launch a number of attacks; Issac had a strong game and was constantly first to the ball; Evander played out of his skin producing a player of the match performance; Mark cool as ever did not worry what was coming his way. Mitchell was full of determined running and scored a great goal from a volley; Peter K was busy in the centre of the field and produced another memorable goal; Mitchell T was once again very busy covering more miles than a marathon.

In attack Omar used his strength to intimidate the opposition; Kane constantly threatened the opposition with his speed; Alex pressed and pressured the Forest Rangers defence and supported Kane in attack. Harry provided support in attack at different stages of the game using his speed to pressure the opposition; Stephen played in multiple roles helping to provide stability to the team; Peter when injected into the game added great dynamism while Jonah played with great determination and focus and provided great cover to the defence.

Games stats

	Lugarno FC	Forest Rangers
Total shots	17	3
Shots on target	10	2
Goals	4	0
Corners	8	0
Possession	58 per cent	42 per cent

14B v Peakhurst United

Lost 1 - 2

Sunday

Goal Scorer: Kane Spiteri

POTM: Raffi Tchamkertenian

The top teams met on Sunday morning at Peakhurst Park when the undefeated Lugarno side, sitting on top of the competition, faced second placed Peakhurst United. Lugarno were missing two key players for the game, regular goal keeper Will and sweeper Jonah.

Once again a 4-3-3 formation was chosen which saw Raffi start in goals supported in defence by Harris, Issac, Evander and Mark. Peter K, Stephen and Mitchell T formed the midfield while the three person attack comprised of Harry, Alex and Kane. The reinforcements for the game were Mitchell, Omar and Peter.

The game kicked off later than it was scheduled as a search was conducted for someone to referee. The field was very muddy which meant a slow and heavy pitch. Lugarno started the game exceptionally well attacking from the kick-off and scoring inside the first 90 seconds when Kane found himself at the end of a cross inside the penalty area before blasting the ball into the back of the nets. First shot, first goal, what a start!

Unfortunately the quick goal provided a false sense of security and within minutes it was becoming noticeable that Lugarno was dropping in intensity and inviting Peakhurst United back into the game. Some wasteful attempts by the opposition meant the score remained in favour of Lugarno, but with Lugarno defending hesitantly, and combined with lack of proper marking, poor clearances and communication in the final third helped gift Peakhurst United two goals with the first arriving in the 22nd minute and the other in the 28th minute.

At the half-time break changes were made to improve the team performance. The changes had some positive impact and the game dynamics changed in favour of Lugarno as it dominated the second half. The second half dominance resulted in a number of goal scoring opportunities being created but lack of clinical finishing and some good goal keeping from the Peakhurst number one meant the chances did not materialise into goals.

While Lugarno played with greater determination in the second half as they chased the game, Peakhurst United hung on to register a narrow win.

Tasting their first defeat for the year the boys were naturally disappointed with the outcome of the game. On the balance of chances created and overall possession during the game, a draw would have been a fair outcome.

Raffi put in a player of the match performance pulling off a number of outstanding saves in the first half when the team was under constant pressure. Issac and Evander were solid at the back, while Harris and Mark were kept busy neutralising the opponent's attacks. Peter K, Mitchell T, Stephen, Mitchell, Peter all worked hard in midfield but the playing surface did not help their passing and dribbling game. Harry, Alex, Omar and Kane played in attack at different phases of the game, pressing the opposition especially in the second half when Lugarno was dominant and going for the equaliser.

Every football team experiences games during a season when the performance is not deemed to be up to standard. And as the old saying goes it is better to have a shocker early in the season than later in the season when it could prove more costly. As the boys came off the field they were visibly disappointed at the team's performance.

The team should benefit from the experience, refocus on the task ahead and no doubt would become a better team as a result.

Game stats

	Lugarno FC	Peakhurst United
Total shots	13	15
Shots on target	7	8
Goals	1	2
Corners	1	3
Possession	50 per cent	50 per cent



14 Girls v Connells Point Won 4 - 0

Goal Scorers: Olivia Margan 2 / Emily Graorovski / Olivia Rayner

It wasn't our best performance of the year but we got the job done.

The girls in the first half were, how can you say it, asleep for the first 20 mins of the game.

We were in total control but lacked that bit of intensity that you need to finish off. We finally got our break through just before half time with a well taken shot by Olivia M 1-0.

At halftime the girls got a bit of a wake up call in the discussion that we can't sit back and expect things to happen, we have to be proactive not reactive.

Second it all changed - our back line of Sienna, Alyssa, Monique, Taylah, Ruby and Sofia k kicked into gear and did their jobs. Sofia Roy our keeper did well when she was called into the game to keep a clean sheet. As did our midfield of Jasmine, Victoria, Sarah, Sofie, Sofia K, Emily and Olivia R. Up front Olivia M worked hard as did Yasmine.

Our second goal, the ball was played through the middle to Olivia M where the ball rebounded off her face and, to her credit, she played on and looked up and put the ball calmly into the net for her second goal.

Our 3rd goal came from a set play from the corner with Sarah knocking it across with Emily on the back post for a simple tap in 3-0.

Our last goal after some nice work on the side was played to Olivia R who cut in and slammed the ball in from 20 yards out 4-0.

We are still very much a work in progress and improving each week with a little bit more intensity we will be a force towards the end of the season.

14 Girls v Oatley RSL Won 4 - 0

Sunday 24th May

Goal Scorers: Emily Graorovski 2 / Olivia Rayner 2

It was our first 9am kick off of the year so it was no sleep in on a Sunday for us parents.

Oatley RSL last year were the Minor Premiers and Grand final winners. Only being able to draw with them, they always had the micky on us.

It took the girls about 10 mins to kick into gear after getting over how early and cold it was. The girls took control of the game and started attacking wave after wave, it was only a matter of time before we were going to score.

After hitting the post from a metre out, Emily made up for that with a 30m bomb 1-0 up. Then a few minutes later they were awarded a penalty for handball. Up steps their taker and hits the ball hard to her left and Sofia Roy our trust worthy keeper dives and saves the penalty! Not even 5 minutes later, we were awarded a penalty - this time Oatley handling the ball. Up steps Olivia R and, with her trade mark powerful shot, hits the ball into the roof of the net 2-0 up.

The instructions at half time was let's not concede a goal.

Sienna, Taylah, Alyssa, Sofia VK, Sofia K and Ruby made sure defensively we stayed strong and worked hard to make sure we achieved our goal of not conceding, and that they did.

Our midfield Olivia R, Emily, Sarah, Victoria and Monique did their jobs in controlling the midfield.

And up front Olivia M and Yasime chased and had a few scoring chances that, with a little bit of luck, could have got on the score sheet.

Our 3rd goal - Emily was played the ball which she beat their defender, then a one on one with the keeper slots it home 3-0. Then with a few minutes to go, Olivia R, from a corner, scores after the ball deflected off one of their players into the back of the net 4-0.

With just a little more intensity we could have scored a few more goals, and with 2 shots that everybody at the ground saw crossed the line by over a metre but for some reason the referee had early morning sun in his eyes and disallowed them, we could have walked away with a few more goals in the end result.

But 4-0 win - happy to take that every week.

Well done girls.

17B v Bexley North

Won 3 - 1

Saturday

Goal Scorers: Billy / Dimi / James

MOTM: James

Our regular goalies were given the chance to have a run on the field for this game so Matthew E took the goalie duties for the first half. Good passing between the players over the uneven field but Bexley North showed some good ticker and fought through the whole game. Dion's shot was stopped by a sliding goalie. James took on some of the corner duties and put a great ball in from which Billy put the ball safely into the goal (1-0). Shots attempts from a number of players but they all go just over or to the side. Defenders had their work cut out with Bexley North pressing forward but few real attempts at goals were made. As the coach said, it seemed as if Blake hadn't been away for a few weeks, as he played so well. He showed great touch, passed well up the field and even showed a natty back flick to James.

Anthony took over the goalie duties as his knee needed a rest. Another good cross from James saw Dimi this time putting the ball into the goal (2-0). Mat L (usual goalie) almost had his revenge with a goal but the crossbar got in the way. Bexley's persistence saw a beautiful hit sail over the goalie into the net to bring it to 2-1. Mat L came up the right side, passed ball towards Dimi but he had to chase it across the goal, turned and passed back to James for the final goal (3-1). Man of the Match went to James who fought hard all through the day for the ball and whose corners were placed spot on into the goal mouth or game.

17B v Forest Rangers

Lost 0 - 1

Sunday

MOTM: Dion

This was the local derby that should have been played last weekend and was much looked forward to as a lot of the boys were great mates. A bit of a scrappy start with Forest Rangers players being pulled up for continually holding the Lugarno players and checking heavily. Luckily the referee was pulling this up and calming down the play. Most of the first half had Lugarno in close to the goals with shots from Dion, Mat L and Dimi. Unfortunately the ball just wouldn't go in. Lachlan, Kosta, Jayden and Dion were keeping the Forest Rangers strikers very quiet as they struggled to get passed them. Mat L was making sure the balls went over. James, Matthew E, Billy, Blake, Anthony and Dimi had to battle the constant holding of the

defenders and strong challenges but won the ball more often than not. The slippery midfield made it hard for both teams to keep on their feet. Half time saw it at 0-0.

Second half saw more tough play and a yellow card was given to James for, well no one was quite sure as it seems it was given to the wrong team's player. Corner by Forest Rangers had a player head the ball in for a goal (0-1). Dion's penalty ball could only just be touched by Matthew E before the goalie got it. James was floored after being sandwiched by 2 players coming in from opposite directions. Lachlan decided that as he was coming all the way up from the back for the corners he might as well get involved and 2 headers just missed going over. Mat L edged the ball over the goal or snuck it around the uprights. Still more goal attempts were made until time ran out and the game ended with Forest taking bragging rights. Shame as the Lugarno team played better for most of the game.

Man of the Match Dion for battling hard against the Forest Rangers heavily checking him and won balls in seemingly impossible positions. Even after falling on the slippery field, he was up to fight for another ball.



AAE v Ramsgate RSL

Won 2 - 1

Saturday

Goal Scorers: Louie / Liam

Top of the table match up and it helped that the team had one reserve for this game. The two teams were working well between themselves. While the Ramsgate team used their 5 reserves by frequently making changes as their players tired, Lugarno's younger legs worked well by frequently moving the ball between defenders, midfielders and strikers. The first half saw the team up one goal from Louie (1-0). A well-earned break to recharge the batteries.

Second half had Ramsgate equalise as the ball bounced over a spreadeagled goalie (1-1). Quick regroup and the team's pressure increased the number of changes that the opposition made to try to keep up the charges to the goal. Liam's goal took the score to 2-1. The next 20 minutes were hard fought but with 30secs to go one of the Ramsgate players decided the best way to equalise was to fall down to get a penalty. Ball lined up. Goalie on his line. Shot..... Sailed over the top of the goal! Goal kick out in remaining seconds saw the end of the game putting team on top of the ladder.

AAE v Connells Point

Won 3 - 1

Sunday

Goal Scorers: Liam / Jordan / Michael

This was the fourth game this correspondent had watched in the double-headed weekend (both sons) but turned out to be the most courageous game witnessed for a long time. With injured players piling up, suspended player (referee for game) and players unavailable for Sunday games, the team walked on to the field with 8 players against 12. For the first half the team was running down hill and this helped with the play. With players having to cover every position as players went forward or the team needed to come back. Just before halftime a long range chance was taken by Liam and to everyone's surprise the ball went in (1-0). This put the boys' heads up and at half time they were starting to feel that a win may be more than a chance. Every second of the break was taken to try to get enough energy to last the next 45mins.

The second half saw the team defending often by putting their body on the line and trying to get up the other end on the off chance that another goal could be scored. Liam, Michael and Jordan kept working hard up front; Matthew, Nathan, Hayden and Andrew all took turns coming forward when given the opportunity. Then out of the blue Jordan did one then another pirouette directly in front of the goal then sent the ball in

for goal number 2 (2-0). Our team's heads went up at the same time that the Connells Point team's heads went down. The energy levels were waning but in a final push Liam passed the ball again to the right side to Michael coming up the line. He came in towards the goal, did a shuffle and put the ball in for the third goal (3-0). Still there was 20mins to go and the boys were almost running on empty. The play was in the opposition's half and meant that everyone was stretched defending and the only way to get a breather was to kick the play way up the field. Connells Point players just couldn't work out what to do to get a goal. Finally exhaustion left a gap and Stephen (playing his third game this weekend) had no chance stopping it. Still 15 mins and down to 7 players with cramp taking hold of one of the players, the opposition smelling blood but they didn't count on these brave 7 men holding out for a 3-1 win. They were too exhausted to even celebrate this extraordinary win. I bet long baths, a decent meal and early night was had by all. Thanks to all the sideline supporters whose encouragement helped this team to this great win and to keep them on top of the table.

AAG (2) v Oatley RSL Won 4 - 1

Goal Scorers: Vlado Mazevski / Jehad Matar / Eddy Poh / Peter Bircakovic

As the boys slowly made their way to Renown Park, they were greeted with early 90's Classics via big Pete's iPod. The customary pre-game sledge/banter amongst each other didn't take long to begin either! The boys were ready!

Just as the teams lined up on halfway for the coin toss, Coxy finally arrived...running across the field to get his gear on. Normally a starter, he was relegated to the bench.

Lugarno started positively in the opening minutes, putting pressure on Oatley early. Within the first five minutes, Sam cut in on the left hand side before blasting a shot wide. Minutes later off some broken play down the left, Sam laid the ball back to Vlado who was lurking on the edge of the box. His first-time strike curled towards the bottom left-hand corner....and managed to slip through the keeper's hands. Lugarno 1-0.

Lugarno's intensity seemed to drop off after that goal. Oatley capitalised after catching Nesh in possession as last man. Peter G was too late coming across in cover as Oatley fired a shot past an outstretched Foti in goal for the equaliser. 1-1.

Lugarno seemed a little unsettled after that, losing composure and not holding possession well. Perhaps it was Eddy's GoPro filming that affected some of the boys? Despite that, we managed to restore our lead. The second goal came from what seemed like a scrum in the goal mouth: legs flying everywhere, mis-kicks, air swings, deflections, you name it! The ball eventually found it's way to the back of the net - an obvious own goal...or so we thought! The Ref, perhaps unsighted by the chaos in the box, awarded the goal to Je. Speculation as to whether the Ref was persuaded by Je's claims remains a mystery ☺ Lugarno 2-1.

On the stroke of halftime, Lugarno doubled their advantage. After a perfectly weighted through-ball by Fotes, Eddy outpaced the defence and coolly slotted the ball past the keeper.

Halftime: Lugarno 3-1

The second half was much of the same... Lugarno struggling to kick into gear. Sam and Big Pete had decent shots on goal, but were denied by great saves from the Oatley keeper. At the other end, Foti was also called into action, pulling off another spectacular save from a shot outside the box.

Midway through the second half, Coxy volunteered to sub himself off... coincidentally, the Corgi happened to be on the sideline at that very moment ;)

Both teams dropped off towards the end of the game. The damp, patchy surface didn't help movement and ball control.

The final goal came in the last minute of play. After some good lead up play between Ed, Vlado and Sam, Big Pete beat the outstretched keeper with his favourite outside-of-the-right-foot lob from just inside the 18-yard box.

Full time: Lugarno 4-1

Overall, a sub-par performance from Lugarno... but good enough to get the 3 points. Apart from Donkey, Leopard and Corgi sightings, the introduction of the GoPro will help our post-game analysis and game plan for our top-of-the-table clash next week.



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