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AROUND THE GROUNDS

Congratulations and Good Luck:

U12A, AAC & AAF(2) teams who have all qualified to play Grand Finals

The AA men play their Grand Finals this Saturday - please try and get to a game with your Lugarno gear on and 'make some noise for the boys'.

(Unfortunately, they are both on at the same time, 12:30 pm)

Time	AG/Div	Home Team	Away Team	Ground
12:30	AA/C	Carlton Rovers	Lugarno	Ador Avenue
12:30	AA/F	Forest Rangers	Lugarno (2)	Bush Park/Carss Park

The 12A boys will play their Grand Final next Saturday at OKI Jubilee Stadium (time TBA).

The PWL girls will play their Final this Sunday at **1:00pm at Ador Avenue** vs Dolls Point – a win will see them playing Grand Final football the following Sunday. As many Lugarno supporters as possible will be much appreciated by the girls!

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Match Reports:

6B 1 v Bexley North

Saturday 11th Aug

And it comes to an end.

What a great day - it felt more like a celebration of football today with a great atmosphere from both teams and a real picnic feel after the game thanks to our parents bringing something to eat from savoury to sweet.

With coach Eddy on his quarterly overseas holiday, Manager Michael took over on the field with Jeremy running the subs.



Elaine was our photographer once again. In a very evenly matched game the dead lock was broken when the biggest player in the Bexley North team took the ball from our last man and smashed it home from halfway, but right on halftime our little super-star Christopher equalised with a great sideline run, cut back inside and great shot from a tight angle to make it 1-1.

Bexley took the lead in the 2nd half when one of their players had a shot on a difficult angle which went in. At this time we had Christopher, Elijah, Cooper and Liam on, they started to rally with some great work but couldn't find an equaliser. Finally we got some subs going after the other 3 (Dylan, Benji & Julian) found the sweets at halftime and dug into them instead of worrying about the game.

With a few minutes left, Manager Michael approached the Bexley North coach and said "Let's throw on all the players making it a 7 vs 7 so no player ends the season on the bench". All the kids had a ball and some of the parents wanted to jump on too from both sides, but lucky we did that at training on Wednesday night.

At the end a Bexley North player went for a header at halfway and it rolled into their net meaning we equalised, but no one seemed to care as it was all about having fun today.

At the conclusion of the game we had some Lebanese pizza from our weekly suppliers Has and Tima, sweets from the other parents and Ruby had a lolly bag for each player too. Really enjoyed the season with a great bunch of kids and awesome parents and siblings!

Special Thanks to Peter, manager of the 6B4's, who helped us with Canteen Duty in the morning, what our club is all about – Fun, Friendship, Football, Families.



AAF (2) v Carlton Rovers
(11th August)

Won 3 – 1

Elimination Final

Goal Scorers: Robert Trpkoski 2 / Mark McCormack

Having played them the previous week, we knew our matchup against a youthful Carlton team would be a tough one.

A last minute reshuffle to our starting lineup forced Yare to start in goals. Despite having the better of the play in the first half, it ended scoreless. Rob came closest to scoring when his shot outside the box hit the crossbar.

The 2nd half continued to be an arm wrestle with both teams looking for the breakthrough. Midway through though, it was Carlton that opened the scoring when a cross-cum-shot dipped into the back of the net at the far post. 1-0 down and we went all out for the equaliser.

Both Mark and Frank came close, but it was Rob who made it 1-1 after he coolly finished past the keeper. It ended 1-1 so we went into extra time.

We got off to a great start and took the lead in the opening period. Jihad's cross hit the crossbar and Mark was on the spot to header the ball past the keeper. Knowing a draw was enough for us to progress, our defence repelled every attack Carlton threw at us in the second period of extra time.

We finished the match off in style with a 3rd goal on the final play. A pinpoint cross from Fotes was headed home from Rob who bagged his second goal of the day. Full time 3-1.

AAF (2) v Glory FC
(18th August)

Won 2 – 0

Final

Goal Scorers: Andrew Cox / Jeremy Peisley

Standing between us and our 4th straight GF appearance was Glory FC...the team who lead the comp for most of the year and had the best defensive record.

Kicking off in windy and rainy conditions, it was a typical tight start to the game. As the game opened up, both teams created some good opportunities to score...but neither could convert. The breakthrough finally came 30 mins in. As he has all season long, Coxy came up for a corner and he headed home the opening goal. Our defence held out for the rest of the half and we went into the break 1-0 up.

As the 2nd half wore on, Glory FC pushed men forward in search for the equaliser. Their speed and skill on the ball caused us some problems, but we ultimately contained them. We limited them to long range shots...all of which were covered by Foti, including a brilliant diving save to his left to maintain our lead.

At the other end, Atef and Zorba had chances to score on the counterattack...but were denied by the Glory defence. We eventually found the killer 2nd goal with 15mins remaining. Kotta's lead-up play and cross from the left found Jeremy in the box who made no mistake and found the back of the net. Lugarno 2-0.

We comfortably saw off the closing stages of the game and qualified for our 4th consecutive GF. An awesome effort by the entire team.