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AROUND THE GROUNDS

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Club **GRANDVIEWS**



McGrath
Hayden & Olivia Duncan



LFC Player Profile:

Name: Antonio Vassilopoulos

2020 Team: U9A Football Focus

Preferred Position: Centre Midfield

Years with Lugarno FC: 3rd Year

Favourite Football Team: Juventus FC

Favourite Player: Cristiano Ronaldo followed by Paulo Dybala

On field I am best known for: doing my Dybala celebration when I score

Most memorable Lugarno FC moment: When I made the U8A Football Focus team
I love football, and when I grow up, I want to be the best player in the world. Even better than Ronaldo and Messi.



Match Results:

Saturday					Sunday				
AG/Div	Home Team	H	A	Away Team	AG/Div	Home Team	H	A	Away Team
U13/C	Ramsgate RSL	3	6	Lugarno	O35/1	Lugarno	1	0	Oatley FC
U12/C	Lugarno	8	0	Rockdale Raiders	AAW/A	Lugarno (2)	1	4	Scots FC
U14/A	Oatley FC	1	3	Lugarno FC	AAW/A	ASOW	2	0	Lugarno (1)
AA/C	Lugarno	0	3	Ramsgate RSL	PWL/1	Banksia Tigers	2	1	Lugarno
AA/F	Connells Point (1)	1	2	Lugarno (1)					
U16/A	Lugarno FC	0	2	Connells Point					
AA/B	Lugarno	2	2	Carss Park (2)					
AA/D	ASOW	1	2	Lugarno					
AA/E	Lugarno	4	2	Forest Rangers					
PLR/R	Banksia Tigers	5	2	Lugarno					
U15/B	Ramsgate RSL	1	0	Lugarno					
AA/F	Connells Point (2)	3	2	Lugarno (2)					
AA/G	Penshurst West	3	1	Lugarno					
AA/H	Lugarno	9	1	Kogarah Waratah					
PL1/1	Banksia Tigers	2	1	Lugarno					

Match Reports:

6Girls v ASOW

POTM: Lexi

This weekend we played ASOW, another all girls team. We found ourselves a player down and with a choice between being a bunch of tired little girls or pulling together and playing like we have never played before, option two was the only way to go for this bunch.

First half we found ourselves under constant attack down the flank, after a minute we found our groove and the dynamic duo of Mikkah and Victoria held the defensive line while Aoife and Aria tried their best to get the ball in the back of the net. ASOW played an awesome first half with a successful goal but the hope of keeping that going all ended once Lexi got on the field, single-handedly shutting down at least six attacks on our goal and earning her player of the match.



Being a player short and down 1-0, the girls found themselves begging for the half time whistle. So, after some halftime directives from coach and the opportunity to regather, the girls had decided to take second half and make it theirs.

Starting the second half with Victoria and Lexi in defence and Aoife and Aria on the attack, we started to apply the pressure early and the elbows of frustration started to flare from ASOW. Aoife showed determination like we have never seen, standing her ground and shrugging the opposition off and

pushing the ball forward providing several opportunities for Aria to get through but ASOW defence was strong but wearing.

Five minutes into the second half saw interchanges bringing on Mikkah and Milli and the change of tide. Within seconds of this change we saw every one of our players touch the ball in a scrum in the middle of the field before Milli



stole the ball running back towards her own goals, before swinging around the entire team and out running everyone to the right set of goals and scoring her first one for the day.

After maintaining the pressure, we forced an own goal and followed that up with another goal from Milli, securing a 3-1 win, and we witnessed a group of girls become a team.

Our **player of the match** was Lexi, who received the McDonald's award for today with her best game played so far. Lexi listened and understood direction, got in front of the ball and made contact more often than not and played a pivotal role in today's win.

6B 2 v 6B 3

The U6B2 this weekend played the U6B3 Lugarno team, and what a great game played by both teams.

We had a full team this week with a lot of great enthusiasm from all.

The game started great with the boys kicking off - we saw some strong ball skills from **Noah**, dribbling the ball towards goal; **Lino** with some powerful kick clearing the ball towards goals. Then we saw a big kick from **Sebastian** towards goal which was going in until the B3s were able to kick it out, great effort by Sebastian.



We also saw **Mason** do some big kicks from the side

to pass to **Vinnie** who did great to kick the ball towards the opponent's half. **Cruz** did some good defending in the back managing to kick the ball out to avoid a goal. **Elias** did great to chase the ball and kick past the team for a break towards goal.



7B 1

Birthday boy Aris about to kick-off with players (LtoR) Flynn, Owen and Noah waiting to go out onto the attack.





Post game photo – (LtoR) Owen, Aris, Aleck, Ashe and Noah with their post-game treat and their Coach's Premiership Perpetual Trophy before it is given back to the SGFA.

MISSING: Flynn who went to help out an U8B team and Benji who missed his 2nd straight game as he is still recovering from a procedure but is itching to get back this weekend.

7B 2 v Carss Park

POTM: Matthew

A game of great defence was played by both teams at Gannons Park, resulting in a score of 0-0.

We almost got in front with some near misses by Ethan and Wonhyup. Marcus used his dribbling skills, often taking the ball up the full length of the field and Tom kept running in support.

Carss Park couldn't seem to get the ball past Leon and Matthew on the sidelines, their defence was too strong! Well done boys, looking forward to next week.



7B 4 v Carss Park

POTM: Jensen

The team were pumped and ready to play their match today!

Lachlan - showed his expertise at tackling and running with the ball.

Brody - impressive defensive skills to boot the ball away from the opposing team's goal, also put his body on the line for the team and continued to play on.

Jensen - played front and back positions with ease, chasing the ball without stopping.

Ethan - great job today with kicking the ball down the field.

Farah - watched the ball and ran with the ball around the field.

Edmund - big kicks to boot the ball towards our goal.

Georgie - not afraid to get in front of the opposition and tackled the ball.

POTM was awarded to Jensen for being an all-rounder during the match - all with a huge grin on his face!



9B

Thank you Dylan & Christian from 8B2 and Flynn from the U7s for helping us out today.



9I v Connells Point

POTM: Harry

The team played a strong game with players holding positions and showing impressive offensive and defensive skills.

Romeo - a speedy superstar, he was able to expertly command control of the ball and push it towards the goal.

Zoe - showed huge determination to steal the ball over and over again and going for a run with the ball.

Fletcher - with wings on his feet, he managed to scare the opposition with his speed and fancy footwork.

Ryan - our star goalie for the 1st half, he saved countless goals with a huge smile on his face. On 2nd half, he used his skills to get possession of the ball.

Angus - tackling and kicking like a pro, he darted around the field to support his team mates and applied pressure on the opposition.

Harry - our goalie for the 2nd half, he watched the ball like a hawk and executed some impressive saves. Also put his body on the line for the team and required a quick ice break.

Andrew - speed & skills in full force, with killer kicks to get the ball away from the goal and always putting pressure on the opposition.

Lucius - an all rounder today, he went for the ball without any hesitation.



Orlando - great plays with strong kicks, tackling and running down the line to move the ball towards our goal.

James - continually ran up and down the field to get in front of the ball, tackled the ball countless times to push it away from the goals and passed to team mates to give them a shot to move play towards our goal.

POTM was awarded to Harry for his goalie skills.



10A v ASOW

Goals Scorer: Jett 2

Team: 1 – Jonas. 2 – Isaac. 3 – Emmett. 4 – Jake. 5 – Levi. 6 – Sam. 7 – Kai. 8 – Arnold. 9 – Jett. 10 – Samuel. 12 – Zac.

No easy matches in the newly formed Advanced competitions of 2020 and Oatley West was to be a sizable test for our 10As after having a disappointing result against the same team only a few weeks ago in the trials.

Coach Dom 'aka Fat Thor' (*thanks Samuel*) was here to put the fun back after a couple of tense weeks for the team. Both he and Manager Vlado 'Ned Kelly' implemented their no shouting policy to give the kids some relief and it had the desired effect pre-game, with the boys looking nice and relaxed. Pep talks were had with the coach and they were ready for the battle ahead.

Both teams started strong and the first half was a real arm wrestle. Only a few real chances for both teams so it was no surprise that the teams went into



half time locked at nil all. Our athletic keeper Jonas was on hand to pull off a couple of comfortable saves for a keeper of his ability.

Second half is where it all fell away in the trial a few weeks ago. And early in the second half, ASOW gave themselves the lead after a goal-mouth scramble. 1-0 ASOW and the Coach/Manager 'no-shouting' rule under immense pressure.

Whilst the Lugarno defence had been rock-solid for most of the game, the mid-field and the attacking line had not yet clicked into gear. But all that changed with about 15 mins to go. The front line of Jett and Kai started combining with the mid-field Samuel, Arnold, Zac and Sam and it became apparent that the game was there for Lugarno to take if good enough.

Kai found himself in the midst of the action after a quiet first half. Numerous shots at goal from outside the box went agonisingly close and Jett's runs down the left really started causing ASOW's defence havoc. Samuel and Arnold were starting to command the middle also and create chances for the forwards.

A corner was given. Kai crossed it in high, curling dangerously towards goal and the boys went up for a header. The ASOW defender tried to head away but it only went as far as the side netting. From the sidelines, it looked like the prized equaliser but wasn't to be. Coach Thor and Manager Ned went up as one to no avail. Corner 2. This time Kai kept it low and Jett was first to pounce hooking a left shot back into the goal past keeper and defenders. 1-1.



Corner by Kai, put away beautifully by Jett



The team kept on rallying. Our defenders feeling the confidence of the team started playing a high line and immediately launching attack after attack from the halfway. After a run down the right sideline by Kai, he crossed a high ball into the box. After a scramble and a shot by Samuel which hit the keeper, our marksman Jett, quick as a flash got to the ball and put it into the back of the net to get the team 2-1 up. The team held on for the hard-fought win against strong opposition.

The defence of Lugarno in particular, was incredibly formidable today, led by our centre back Levi, one of our best players all season. Calm and composed, he continuously cleared and dribbled out of trouble where necessary to negate any half chances ASOW had. Likewise our backs Isaac, Jake and Emmett had incredible games. Isaac and Jake won just about every challenge they went into and are really starting to excel as top quality backs. We are so impressed with what these back 3 are doing at the moment. Emmett also had a strong game. Working his way back from injury, he was solid and difficult to get past and will only get better as he grows in confidence.

Our keeper Jonas was brilliant all game. His diving ability could get him a start in the Olympic team but his technique of getting body behind the ball consistently ensures our team is in the fight each week.

The mid-field in the second half in particular started to really dominate. Samuel who has been covering more ground to start this season than Dean our groundsman, really started to lift the tempo of the team in the second half and his ability to back himself to distribute to teammates wide will be an asset in the weeks to come. Arnold who's been a great addition to the team with his quick feet won plenty of balls and is starting to use his body to get into position and create chances for the players ahead. Sam, ever reliable, tenacious and consistent. Always plays hard and today was no different as he covered the field in attack and defence. Zac came on and got into the thick of it straight away. Always keeps his head up and looks for opportunities to progress the ball. Very comfortable when in possession.

Our front 2, Kai and Jett played a lot wider at times today which suited the game. Kai, quiet in the first half, unloaded with shot after shot in the second half and, by his standards, should have put a couple away. His corners were pin-point and his input led to both goals. Jett has been another boy that's had an outstanding start to the season. Fights for everything and is a real competitor but this season he is also adding real class with his finishing ability. The combinations he continues to form with Kai and Samuel in particular will be a real positive for the team.

Coach – Dom. Manager – Vlado.

10B v Forest Rangers

Goal Scorers: Jayden 2 / Oliver

POTM: Daniel

As Bob Marley so eloquently sang...'Sun is shining...the weather is sweet' and so it was for the 'Match of the Day' time of 11:35am at Gannons. And again our entire squad of 13 with (socially distant) parents and spectators were on hand for a game that will be long remembered. Mate against mate, state against state it was Lugarno FC against Forest Rangers!

With our own *Arsene Wenger*, Coach Steve unavailable due to a window of opportunity at the nail salon (or was it he had to work???) our manager Jimmy stepped up to the coaching plate. More eager to not upset Steve than anything else, the pre game rev up drove home the message 'we can't lose this otherwise Jimmy will never hear the end of it'...or words to that effect. And how our magnificent team responded....



From the opening whistle from our very own parent Mark, high quality football was played at a fast pace from both teams. It certainly was an arm wrestle for the first 10-15 minutes with the ball going up and down the field and goal scoring opportunities made from both teams.

Most pleasing from a coach's perspective was how every one of our players held their positions and shape enabling defence to turn into attack and our now trademark runs down both wings leading to great crosses to the middle creating well set up goal scoring chances.

It was evident that we were starting to gain an advantage and well into the first half it was a blistering run from Jayden where he used pace and skill to beat numerous players and, as cool as anything, drilled one past their keeper to put us up 1-0.

Forest Rangers were quick to respond and if it wasn't for the 'super stretch' from Elijah our star goalkeeper - scores would have been level at half time - but after a team effort we went to the break 1-0 up and Coach Jimmy couldn't have been prouder!

The half time speech centred around holding shape and creating chances and while there were lots of red faces, every player was keen to get back on the pitch and build from our incredible first half.

The second half started where the first half finished off - with Lugarno FC continuing to play positional football and use all areas of the pitch. Our defence was rock solid with our midfielders always there in both attack and defence.

Once again the ball landed Jayden's way through whole team pressure and he found the back of the net with another great strike - 2-0 Lugarno FC.

As we gained the upper hand - the 'Wonder Twins' activated with the team moving the ball from defence through the midfield and Jayden crossing a great ball for his brother Oliver to slot another one - 3-0 Lugarno FC!

And that's the way it stayed until Referee Mark's final whistle (yes we owe you \$12!) A wonderful



team win 3-0 to Lugarno FC! We were exhausted but so proud of the win and not too exhausted to give a hearty three cheers to the opposition, referee, spectators and an extra special cheer for Elizabeth - the birthday girl!

Daniel was our much deserved Player of the Match (and proud recipient of our first McDonald's Award) for his super efforts in defence, being strong and skilful in making so many crucial tackles.

Great game everyone and a special thank you to ALL the parents who

helped at the end!

The coaches and managers comments for each player:

1. Deon – a hard running and hard working midfielder who is earning the nickname of 'Mushroom' as he pops up everywhere! Deon was in everything being so strong in defence but always supporting our players - growing in confidence every game!

2. Elizabeth – the birthday girl gave the team a present with her control of the defensive line. Stopped many attacking raids with clever football and is so determined in making sure no goals are scored on her watch!

3. Jayden – had a game to remember with 2 goals against a very good opposition. Was as fast as lightning on the field and importantly held his attacking position always looking for opportunities to show his speed and skill. Set up a great team goal for his brother!

4. Kale – continued where he left off last week - being so strong on the ball and importantly never giving up. Was able to effectively play both attacking and defensive positions during the game and is showing great versatility all over the park.

5. Leon – played so hard in the first half, had many opportunities and was unlucky not to score but their goalkeeper made some blinding saves. Was a great goalkeeper in the second half, being actively involved in the defence and using the whole goal box to stop them getting an easy shot on goal.

6. Andrew – another defensive blinder from Andrew, holding that right fullback spot and doing everything he can to stop opposing players. Made so many smart decisions, knowing when to clear the ball, pass or put it over the sideline.

7. Daniel – our well deserved Player of the Match who was a level above the opposition in both skill and strategy. Plays so well to his strengths and is such a team player - celebrating the goals we score and hopefully knowing that a lot of our goals come from his tackles and passing.

8. Ben – the left mid flyer put on some impressive moves today, showing a bit of 'razzle dazzle' at the right times but always looking to put a through ball in to our strikers. Impressively, Ben did a lot of defence today which was great to see!

9. Maddi – took a big hit in the second half and after a quick sip of the magic water, couldn't wait to get back on. Mad's also got a lot more involved in defence today, helping the midfielders and when given the chance attacks with the best of them, creating chances not only for her but the team.

10. Kyla – showed her versatility by playing both centre forward and centre back in the same game and showed skill at both positions. Probably one of our fittest players and like the 'Eveready Bunny' she just keeps going and going...

11. Oliver – had a wonderful game and finished off a great team goal with an impressive strike. Formed a lethal combination with his brother and it was great to see him pass and run to better positions.

12. Luca – our Mr Reliable showed some attacking flair up front today and nearly deflated the ball with some powerful clearances (from both his foot and knee.) Luca is also playing a great role in our team structure and always seems to make a great run each game showing what he is capable of!

13. Elijah – was incredible in the first half in goals, keeping out wave after wave of attack and using all his body to stop that ball from getting past him. Kept up the enthusiasm in the field in the second half, using his blistering pace to great effect and also forming a great attacking combination with the forwards.

Thanks again to all the parents and friends who continue to turn up and support our team! The kids really lift to the cheers from the crowd and your help after the game was much appreciated - see you at the BBQ/Canteen next Saturday!!!

Coaches – Steve & Jimmy

11A v Arncliffe Aurora

Goal Scorers: Michael N / Ryder O

POTM: Max W

After a rain soaked week which saw training cancelled on both Tuesday and Thursday, the sun was finally shining on the fresh turf of Gannons Park which has proven again to recover quickly from a

down pour. Having a 'bye' round last weekend, no training this week and the boys last run being a hard fought and physically bruising 'friendly' match versus the Lugarno 11 Girls whom really tested our team (very impressive soccer skills and teamwork girls!), the coach was concerned the team would be a bit flat this week. Facing Arncliffe Aurora, with who we had a hard fought draw last season and our closest game, we knew it would be tough going and very physical.



The first half showed the coaches fears were spot on – the team's usual passing game was not there, incomplete passes causing some goal opportunities to go missing and we seem to be somewhat hesitant to get physical with the Arncliffe opposition. Probably doesn't help when a few of the opposition look 13 years old and a lot bigger!

After a scrappy scoreless first half, the coach delivered a 'wake up' speech to get the boys back to the

usual game plan – passing to feet, using our width, giving multiple options off the ball and being physical in defence. And the boys delivered – the electric speed of Mikey 'The Flash' N with the ball at his feet, making a great run to goal with a clinical finish to get us 1-0 up in the first 5 minutes after the break. Moments later, the left footed wonderkid Anthony C created havoc down the left edge, finishing with a pinpoint cross into the opposition goal box for 'Dejan's Favourite Student' Ryder O to score and put us up 2-0! Bang – the boys were awake and firing finally!

Remainder of the game saw Max W extremely committed in defence, stopping plenty of Arncliffe attack with huge support from his fellow "defensive wall" of Tom L, Aiden S, Finn P and 'super keeper' Steven Z all ensuring a clean sheet with near no shots on our goals all game.

With Tristan H, Jack M and Jake 'the birthday boy' E working hard all game in midfield, controlling the centre of the field and providing balls to the ever running and shooting Charlie 'Choppy' C, we remained the better team and closed out a great win 2-0 versus a competitive Arncliffe team.



Max W earned the Player of The Match award for his rock solid defence and fantastic passing game from the back. The boys remain undefeated thus far in 2020 and looking to improve each game (as long as we don't have a week off training causing a 'flat' start again!).

Finally a huge thanks and praise to our new resident referee – Stephen Stavroulakis! He has had to step in and referee every game we have played at home this year and does a stellar job. THANK YOU Stephen!

11I v Banksia Tigers

An anticipated match - one that the team manager coined “game of the season” before kick off.

The team looked slick at warm up and ran on to the field calm and confident. The Lugarno attack was calculated as Jack and Angus chalked the scoreboard within the first 5 mins.

We entered the second half 1:1 - and tightly held defence led by Mozz and Lennox countered many attacks. The team stayed calm under pressure, and managed to slay the Tigers with 3 more unanswered goals from Remi, Hugh and Elouise.

Sadly, we bid farewell to Jack as the Dellas family move up the coast - they go with our best wishes - Jack leave us with 11 goals and holding 4 season points! (A huge effort after 3 games!)

This team are so impressive - well done to each player!



12C v Bexley North

Won 8 – 0

Goal Scorers: Michael L 3 / Sam 3 / Josh / Lachie

POTM: Sam & Michael

Team: Sam, Michael, Tristan, Jordan, Lily, Lachlan, Lucas, Abbie, Emmason, Malachi, Joshua, Elle, Oska

Not available: Romeo, Theodore



.... And the oranges go marching on!

Another crisp morning and another field set up. 5 games and 4 pitch set ups! That's gotta be a new record ☺ ... thanks again to those that could help out!

After last week's win I was hoping for more of the same, passing, teamwork and moving off the ball... we got that and more!

From the off, our little superstars were keen to build on last week's victory. We took the kick-off and pushed forward straight away with Sam linking up well with the front two of Josh and Michael.

Not to be outdone, the Raiders front two were quick to respond, they broke in around the back of the defence with their pace but with our captain "The Rock" Oska, and Jordan, in fine form the tackles came flying in.

As we settled into the game, we really took it to the Raiders with some fine passing on both wings with Elle and Tristan pushing us forward.

After recovering during the week from his ankle injury, it was the skills of Josh that pinned the Raiders defence back. As he jostled for the ball between 3 players, he dinked the ball into the feet of Michael who cleverly turned the ball into the back of the net.

Soon after the restart it was Josh again who shot just over the bar... You could hear the groans from the crowd as the ball sailed just over.

We continued to press, and we were rewarded with another corner. It was Josh again as he quickly crossed into the box, it was cleared but not far...it was back to his feet again and with a perfectly placed cross into the box saw the midfield extraordinaire rise like 'Michael Jordan' to volley the ball into the back of the net! The crowd went wild.

Raiders were still in the game, but with some nicely timed tackles by Lily and Lucas we kept them at bay and at times it was left to the head of Jordan to protect our goals.

It was end to end stuff and our confidence was soaring. The whistle blew for halftime.

Much like last week, it was a case of "keep doing what you are doing and keep the passes flowing, the opposition will tire" With Lachie having been safely protected by his defence it was time for a change.

This time it was Malachi to throw on the gloves to take us into the 2nd half.

The 2nd half started, and our little superstars seemed to smell blood. Like a bird in the sky sensing it's prey they seemed to swoop in and attack!

And attack they did.

Time after time we drove forward with some clever link up play, the Raiders were being knocked for six.

At half time I'd asked Michael to give us some more goals. His prediction was 3. He was a man possessed as he raced past the defence to make it 3 nil!

Next up was Josh, desperate to clear his name from last week after his penalty miss, who blasted the ball into the back of the net for our fourth.

It was clear that the Raiders heads had dropped so we continued our forward threat and Michael, with a point to prove, danced past the oncoming defence, creating a one on one chance with the keeper to make it 5 nil and complete his hat-trick!

It seemed that everyone wanted a goal with Abs, Emmason and Tristan all racing forward but it was Sam the man that planted another one to bulge the back of the net.

At 6 nil up and the whole team racing forward it was inevitable that it would open up our defence at the back, yet if a team ever gets past our back four, we know we've got Malachi in goals to protect the sticks with whatever means necessary! This time it was his legs that got in the way.

With a huge kick forward and the passes flowing it was Abs who created a chance for herself which then, like a game of pinball, ended up at the right boot of Tristan, who planted it onto the crossbar, which deflected into the oncoming Lachie, who crashed the ball over the line to claim our 7th and his first ever Lugarno goal... this time it was the coach that went wild!!

As the clock counted down, we weren't quite finished. This time it was Sam with an exquisite turn on the halfway line to bamboozle the Raiders defence who raced forward and neatly placed the ball under the oncoming goalkeeper to finalise his hattrick and finish off our tally of 8!

Again, some fantastic football played today. Passing at times was brilliant. The defence was really solid with some nicely timed tackles and defensive play. Link up play in the middle of the park was great to watch. We must remember that when our forward play is broken down, we must get back to defend and not leave your job to someone else.

Trophies could have gone to anyone today as some real strong performances but how can you not give them to the two hattrick heroes - Sam and Michael. Great works guys you both thoroughly deserved your goals and the trophies!

13C v Ramsgate RSL **Won 6 – 3**

Goal Scorers: Atticus 2 / Benji 2 / Tristan 2

The lads pulled in a good win on Saturday against Ramsgate RSL.

It was an incredibly high scoring match that definitely left both sides supporters biting their nails and on the edge of their seats. However, the boys managed to pull through towards the second half and bring home a 6-3 win.

Our defence stayed strong and composed and our mids did very well, winning and feeding the 50/50 balls in the centre, forward or to the wings. Our awesome foursome upfront (Adi, Benji, Anthony & Tristan) executed almost all of the chances they had in front of goal putting away 6 of 9 shots they had.

Ramsgate's keeper pulled off a couple of incredible saves shot by Adi and Benji. We were very unfortunate not to win by more. It was a hard fought win by the boys and I believe this win proves us to be strong contenders for the top four this season.

We are all looking forward to see what the boys will produce next Saturday.

AAF 2 v Connells Point **Lost 2 – 3**

Goals Scorer: Mark

And finally we played a game at Poulton Park (next to Bexley Maccas), after 3 weeks of "Where are we playing?" on our chat group and even a player turning up at Poulton Park (instead of Gannons) - we actually played there. Excited, we got Field 1 (we turned up to the new synthetic field all pumped up), but soon found out that was Field 2 and we were on the mud bowl on the other side - come on we are AAF, would you expect any different?!

As our last dance continues, so does the theme of the season, lead early and watch it disappear. This time Mark did a great hassle on the keeper after a long ball from Rob, bang 1-0, then almost instantly another long ball from Rob left Mark one on one, but like last week's penalty, Mark hit it just high when it should have been in the back of the net. Connells then scored a great goal which split our defence and left keeper Michael no chance. Then right on half time a free kick was given and a nice deflected header out of nowhere gave them the lead.

We then conceded an early 2nd half goal, found ourselves 3-1 down and the game went stale and quiet. Mark then got one back with a header midway through the 2nd half, then all of a sudden we got a second wind, the boys were pumped and talking and it was all on like donkey kong... unfortunately we couldn't find an equaliser and went down 2-3.

We have now led 3 of our 4 games and only have 1 win to show for it - need to keep going in games before we get ourselves out of the finals race or is it a case our old legs are deserting us??

A highlight was Frank's after game drinks (enough for next week too) along with our usual sides – chips, chips and more chips, but also included peanuts which are apparently packed with heaps of protein and a nice surprise was a heap of chocolates for dessert.

Who would have thought Beer and Chocolates go.....NOT.