

# Brunswick Junior Football Club

## 2023

### Annual Report



**BRUNSWICK**  
• JUNIOR •  
FOOTBALL CLUB

*Respect & Inclusiveness*  
*Striving for Excellence*  
*Family and Community focus*  
*Leadership*  
*Honesty, integrity & openness*

*With these values the club aims to provide a positive learning environment  
for all players, parents and supporters.*

# **BRUNSWICK JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB**

## **14th ANNUAL REPORT – SEASON 2023**

On behalf of the President and Committee, I present for the consideration and approval of the members, the Annual Report, including the Financial Report, for the year ended 30 September 2023 of the Brunswick Junior Football Club Incorporated.

**Wendy Perdrisat**

**HON. SECRETARY**



## Contents

1. President's Message – Andrew MacKinnon	4
1.1. Volunteers Acknowledgement	6
1.2. Sponsorship - Angela Grozos	8
2. Awards and Achievements	10
2.1. Club Life Membership Award	10
2.2. YJFL Representative Players (U14 to U16)	11
2.3. Calder Cannons	11
2.4. Northern Knights	11
2.5. YJFL Team of the Year	11
2.6. YJFL Best and Fairest Awards	12
2.7. BJFC Club Awards	14
2.8. 2023 Milestones – 50 Games	16
2.9. 2023 Milestones – 100 Games	17
3. Secretary Report – Wendy Perdrisat	17
3.1. Compliance and Record Keeping – Wendy Perdrisat	19
3.2. First Aid and Concussion – Wendy Perdrisat	20
3.3. Child Safety – Penny Harrison & James Parker	21
3.4. Communications – Natasha Barnes	21
3.5. BJFC Website Redesign – Sam Reid	22
3.6. Canteen – Jodie Thomson	22
3.7. Team Photos – Wendy Perdrisat	23
3.8. Streaming, Videos and Media – Andrew Mackinnon	24
3.9. AUSKICK – Brunswick Centre – Glenn Millican	24
3.10. Parent Surveys – Wendy Perdrisat	25
3.11. COVID 19 – Wendy Perdrisat	26
4. Treasurer's Report – Catriona Saunders	26
4.1. Income – Catriona Saunders	26
4.2. Expenditure – Catriona Saunders	27
4.3. Balance Sheet – Catriona Saunders	28
5. Football Operations – Kon Athanasopoulos	28
5.1. Girls Football Development – Kon Athanasopoulos	30
5.2. Registrations – Kylie Moreland	30
5.3. Apparel – Jaci Blumhagen & Playing Jumpers - Vanessa Peters	32
5.4. Team Manager Coordinator – Sally Siega	33
5.5. Umpiring Program – Adam Riley	34
6. Team Reports	36
6.1. U8 Mixed Purple - Adam Grant	36
6.2. U9 Mixed - Steven Bogert	37
6.3. U10 Mixed - Shannon Orbons	37
6.4. U10 Girls - Matthew Conway)	38
6.5. U11 Mixed - Peter Brunt	39
6.6. U12 Girls - John Stevens	40
6.7. U12 Mixed White - Duncan Imberger	41
6.8. U12 Mixed Purple - Pete Baldwin	42

6.9.	U13 Mixed Purple - John Murphy	43
6.10.	U13 Mixed White - Dean Penny	44
6.11.	U14 Girls - Tilly Murray-White	48
6.12.	U14 Mixed (Vacant)	48
6.13.	U15 Boys - Adrian Marsili	49
6.14.	U16 Girls - Erin MacLatchy	50
6.15.	U16 Boys - Brendan Allman & Simon Fredrickson	53
6.16.	Colts (Vacant)	54
6.17.	Youth Girls (Vacant)	54
7.	Honour Board	55
7.1.	Club Executive	55
7.2.	Life Members	55
7.3.	100 Games	56
7.4.	Hall of Fame	57
7.5.	Premierships	57
7.6.	YJFL Best & Fairest Placegetters	58
8.	Financial Reports – Catriona Saunders	59



## 1. President's Message – Andrew MacKinnon

Greetings Dragons!! Another season done and what a season it was!

Reverting back to a 14 games home-and-away season this year (from 16 games in 2022) seemed to provide a much better balance between footy and other family commitments, but still gave us plenty of great footy!

It was great to kick off the year with our season opening welcome day. We had a smoking ceremony performed by Wurundjeri man, Daniel Ross. This was a club first, and what a great way to bring club members together to start the year.



There were so many highlights in 2023. Here's just a few:

- A real rejuvenation of Auskick. This year the Auskick program formally became part of the BJFC (it was a standalone program prior)
- The Rookie Me sessions
- Team Photos – a big improvement on the 2022 photos!
- Match day photos and highlight videos
- Milestone game congratulations posts on social media - it was so great to see these pop up every week.
- Presentation day. What a great day and fantastic way to end the season.

I'd like to do a special shout out to a couple of special sponsors.

- **First to Blue Rock / Welcome to Brunswick**, who donated custom designed hoodies and sports bags for our players. What a generous contribution, and didn't our players look great!!
- **Secondly to Green Refectory**. We have the best canteen in the YJFL, and their produce is a big part of that. This year Tony and Sandy were awarded life membership for the huge contribution they have made as club sponsors since 2017. A massive thanks, and congratulations.

This is my final year as club president. I have been in the role for three very rewarding years. I have got to know so many fantastic parents, kids and families. On and off the field, we have ourselves a quality club with many, many great people.

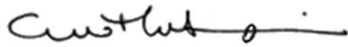
Thanks to the committee members over the past 3 years. It has been a joy and pleasure to work with you.

Thanks to the club executive over the past 3 years. Nicole Minihan, Angela Grozos, Jacob Murray-White, Kon Athanasopoulos, Catriona Saunders and Wendy Perdrisat. You are all superstars!

Thanks to the many game day volunteers. Coaches and Team Managers give a lot of time and energy to provide a great game day experience for our kids. And the many other game day volunteers, no matter how big or small the role, all play an important part. Thank you!!

It has been a pleasure and honour to have been the club president for three years, which is the longest president tenure the club has had. I look forward to helping out in other capacities in future years, and supporting the next club's ninth president taking over the reins in 2024.

Thanks for a great 2023. See you all in '24.



Andrew Mackinnon  
**President**





## 1.1. Volunteers Acknowledgement

The club warmly thanks all who have volunteered in any capacity during the 2023 season. The club is run by its members for its members, so volunteers are the heart that keeps this great club ticking. The club acknowledges those that have contributed through formal volunteer roles in 2023.

<b>Volunteer</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Volunteer</b>	<b>Role</b>
Adam Grant	Coach	Leah Williams	Team Manager
Adam Riley	Umpire Program	Marius Smith	Assistant Coach
Adele Battaglia	Trainer	Marsali Slocombe	Trainer
Adrian Marsili	Coach	Matilda (Tilly) Murray-White	Coach
Alan Harry	Trainer	Matt Vernal	Assistant Coach, Runner
Alicia Spittle	Trainer	Matthew Conway	Coach
Allan Motyer	Team Manager	Matthew Devanny	Assistant Coach
Andrew McKinnon	President	Melissa Williams	Trainer
Andrew Saunders	Backup Runner /Boundary Umpire	Natasha Barnes	Communications Manager
Angela Cole	Trainer	Nathan Dohrman	Runner
Angela Grozos	Sponsorship, Brunswick Community Sports Club Liaison	Nathan Grimshaw	Trainer
Anna Imberger	Assistant Coach	Nicholas Rissik	Trainer
Ash Cornelius	Runner	Nicole Tanner	Assistant Coach
Ben Lazzaro	Runner	Nicole Turner-Brown	Trainer
Beth Turnbull	Team Manager	Oliver MacLatchy	Runner
Bill McClelland	Runner	Oliver Styant-Browne	Trainer , Runner
Brad Adams	Runner	Paul Cascun	Trainer
Brendan Allman	Co-coach	Paul Halpin	Team Manager
Burt Greer	Trainer	Penelope (Penny) Harrison	Trainer
Caleb Smith	Assistant Coach	Peta Varley	Trainer
Catriona Saunders	Treasurer	Pete Nicholson	Runner
Chloe Haritopoulos	Assistant Coach	Peter Baldwin	Coaching Director, Coach
Clint Murrell	Runner	Peter Brunt	Coach
Clinton Lubcke	Runner	Peter Couch	Runner
Damien Connell	Assistant Coach	Peter Lalor	Assistant Coach
Daniel Terrill	Runner	Peter Sexton-Bruce	Runner
Dean Anderson	Trainer	Peter Yeates	Assistant Coach
Dean Penny	Coach	Phillip (Phil) Bennett	Assistant Coach
Diana Zannino	Trainer	Priscilla Ennals	Trainer

Duncan Adams	Runner	Ray McKenzie	Brunswick Football Club - Junior Football Liaison
Duncan Imberger	Coach	Rob Trampuz	Assistant Coach
Elissa Vomero	Runner	Rory Langdon	Boundary Umpire
Erin MacLatchy	Coach	Sally Parkinson	Team Manager, Trainer
Freya Purdey	Trainer	Sally Siega	General Committee Member, Team Manager coordinator
Genevieve Fox	Trainer	Sam Reid	General Committee Member, Communications / Website Coordinator
Glen Ross	Runner	Scott McDermott	Trainer
Glenn Millican	Auskick - Brunswick Centre Co-ordinator	Scott Siega	Trainer
Gus McMillan	Trainer	Shannon Orbons	Coach
Jaci Blumhagen	General Committee Member, Merchandise & Apparel Manager, Team Manager	Sharon Neale	Team Manager
James (Jamie) Gough	Runner	Simon Fredrickson	Co-coach
James Gunderson	Runner	Stephen Chatelier	Runner
Jane Parkinson	Team Manager	Steve Brown	Assistant Coach
Jane Williamson	Runner	Steve Sinn	Team Manager
Jen Wishart	Assistant Coach	Steven Bogert	Coach
Jimmy Mastorakos	General Committee Member, Runner	Steven Honey	Assistant Coach
John (Jacob) Murray-White	Team Manager	Steven Honey	Runner
John McCay	Team Manager	Sue Marsh	BJFC Website Developer
John Murphy	General Committee Member, Coach	Tania Cherubin	General Committee Member, Trophies Coordinator
John Stevens	Coach	Telis Keramaris	Trainer
Jon Savaris	Boundary Umpire	Thomas Dobson	Runner
Kate Graham	Trainer	Tim Madden	Assistant Coach
Kate Treloar	Trainer	Tim McRae	Runner
Kelvin Butler	Team Manager	Tim Purdey	Team Manager
Kevin Passmore	Team Manager	Tony Hudson	Assistant Coach
Kim Anderson	Trainer	Trish Aldridge	Team Manager
Kirsti Hope	2023 Team Photos Coordinator	Vanessa Hood	Trainer
Kon Athanasopoulos	Vice President, Footy Operations Director	Vanessa Peters	2023 Presentation Day Coordinator, Jumpers Coordinator
Kon Grizos	Assistant Coach	Venetia (Tia) Stewart	Team Manager, Boundary Umpire
Kylie Moreland	General Committee Member, Registrar	Vicki Bucher	Trainer



Lauren Daw	Trainer	Virginia Brucia	Runner
Lauren Holland	Boundary Umpire	Wendy Perdrisat	Secretary / Executive Officer / 2023 Team Photos Assistant

## 1.2. Sponsorship - Angela Grozos

As the Club started working through the preseason activities 2023 season, the role of sponsorship coordinator was vacant therefore early engagement with our sponsors was delayed until April 2023 when a new sponsorship coordinator was found.

All sponsors except for two returned for the 2023 season. The 2023 sponsors were as follows:

- Bluerock
- Green Refectory
- Nelson Alexander
- La Manna
- The Grandview
- Welcome to Brunswick
- Monash Storage

The sponsor round format was not in place for the 2023 season due to the delays in securing a sponsorship coordinator.

In 2023, the BJFC continued to work with the Senior club, in alignment with our "One Club" philosophy, working on opportunities which benefit all clubs under the Brunswick Community Sports Club association.

**BlueRock, Welcome to Brunswick and the Welcome to Group were our largest sponsor in 2023.**

BlueRock have been a sponsor for several years and the BJFC is extremely fortunate to have this sponsorship from a local business that aligns well with the values of the club.

BlueRock's contribution in 2023 comprised a cash payment as well as the provision of a player kit, including a branded sports bag and hoodie which could be personalised with the player's name. This kit was provided to all players in the U14 and above teams and was extremely well received.



The club's Volunteer Thank You night was held at Welcome to Brunswick in August. This was a great night attended by ~80 volunteers. Welcome to Brunswick were extremely flexible and considerate, allowing the club to move the Thank You night to the following week. This was done at very short notice, to avoid the impact from the Matilda's semi-final game against England. Some Team Managers also held team events at Welcome to Brunswick, which is a great venue for families and friends.



**Nelson Alexander** significantly contributed to the End of Season Presentation Day. This contribution included sponsoring the trophies for the U8M, U9M, U10M and U10G teams as well as sponsoring the coffee truck on the day. The presence of Nelson Alexander executives at the Presentation Day was greatly appreciated and well received by the players as they assisted with the trophy presentations for each team. Nelson Alexander also provided street banners to support registration activities.

**The Green Refectory** have been at the heart of the club for 8+ years. Their contribution to the canteen has given the club a reputation of the 'best canteen food' in the league! Tony and Sandi are well known parents around the club and their contribution and generosity are highly valued. The Green Refectory also generously provided the canteen food for the Presentation Day at no cost.

**La Manna's** kindness saw the half time oranges back in force this season. In addition to the weekly oranges, La Manna provided 400 pieces of fruit for the Presentation Day. All the fruit provided by La Manna across the season, was done so at no cost which supports the passion that La Manna has in wanting to see kids being active and eating fruit... thank you Anthony and team!

**Monash Storage** continued with their sponsorship by providing discounted storage for the club. To run a club the size of the Dragon's means there is a lot of equipment and therefore storage across the year, especially in the off season, is critical. The club greatly appreciates the support that Monash has provided over the years.

Over the many years of sponsorship, the **Grandview Hotel** has generously delivered the Colts dinner however as there was no Colts team in 2023, this opportunity did not come to fruition. Discussions with the Grandview will occur over the coming months as the club works through the pre-season activities, which will include a welcome get together for our youth girls and boys teams.

No changes relating to sponsors were made to the game day jumpers, so 2024 will be key to source one or more new jumper sponsors.

### **Recommendations for 2024:**

- Develop a structured sponsorship framework aligned to the strategy and linked to the broader Brunswick Community Sporting Club members
- Establish an events calendar as early as possible to enable the exploration of opportunities for paid sponsorship and 'in kind' contributions. This calendar can be shared as part of the initial sponsorship conversations
- Seek out assistance from volunteers to support events and sponsorship opportunities
- Revamp jumper sponsorship sales
- Review the benefits of sponsored rounds
- Player Development Program for 2024 to be used to identify new sponsorship opportunities

## 2. Awards and Achievements

The club proudly acknowledges and congratulates the following individuals and teams for their awards and achievements in 2023.

### 2.1. Club Life Membership Award

#### **2023 Life Members:**

- Tony Steindl
- Sandy Green

Tony and Sandy joined the Dragons family back in 2015 when their son Robbie joined the under 9's, playing 7 games in his first season as an U8. It didn't take them long before they were fully immersed in the club. Tony was team manager of the U9's in 2016, remaining team manager of the group until 2019. He also joined the committee in 2017.

Tony and Sandy's acts of club contribution are many, from coordinating events such as the One Club Ball at the San Remo Ballroom, to offering up their holiday house as a prize for one of the club's major raffles.

But wait, there's more! The defining and unparalleled contribution to the club that Tony and Sandy have made is their sponsorship (2017 to current) by The Green Refectory café. The Green Refectory is a family business run by Tony and Sandy, where they bake their own high-quality produce. Anyone who happens to drive down Sydney Road at 4am will see the lights on – that's Sandy up at the crack of dawn baking for the day! They are busy and hardworking people, that find time and energy on top of their personal and family commitments, to support the Brunswick Dragons.

The sponsorship by the Green Refectory has contributed to the club's sound financial position, but their contribution is far, far greater. The Brunswick Dragons Cafe is the best café in the YJFL. It really is the stuff of legends! There is really nothing like it.

The vibe of our club is just "so Brunswick" and the quality fare served at the canteen is one of those elements that contributes to the culture of our great club.

## 2.2. YJFL Representative Players (U14 to U16)

### U14 Girls

- Coco Balmain (Best on Ground 12/6/2023)
- Tilda Sinclair

### U15 Girls

- Abbey Billing
- Isla Maclatchy

### Vic Metro in Talent League Diversity Cup

- Avaa Hishongwa-Gibb
- Isobella Hishongwa-Gibb

### U15 Boys

- Cristian Athanasopoulos

### U16 Boys

- Robbie Steindl



## 2.3. Calder Cannons

In 2023, BJFC didn't have any representatives in the Calder Cannons.

## 2.4. Northern Knights

In 2023 we had two players play with Northern Knights Under 16 Girls squad.

- Avaa Hishongwa-Gibb
- Bella Hishongwa-Gibb

## 2.5. YJFL Team of the Year

BJFC did not have any players selected to play in the YJFL Team of the Year (Boys or Girls). This may be in part attributed to the fact that the club was not able to field a Youth Girls or Youth Boys team in 2023.

## 2.6. YJFL Best and Fairest Awards

The following players from U11s received votes from officiating umpires that determined the YJFL Best and Fairest Awards. The BJFC congratulates all players that received votes, especially those that received awards as winners and place getters.

### U11 Mixed

<b>(Div 3)</b>	<b>Jack Lazzaro</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>3rd place</b>
	Giorgos Papadimitropoulos	13	5th place
	Jack Murrell	7	
	Tex Greig	6	
	Thomas Treloar	3	
	Alexander Assaad	2	
	Edison Baillie	2	
	Hugo Vranes	2	

### U12 M White

<b>(Div 2)</b>	Arlo Styant-Browne	12	
	Wilbur Watt	10	
	Sebastien Butler	6	
	Lewis Imberger	6	
	Gabriel Dobson	5	
	Zachary Langdon	4	
	Hayden Neale	4	
	Jarraah Laws-Herd	3	

### U12 M Purple

<b>(Div 4)</b>	Johnny Baldwin	11	4th place
	Ahmad Jamil Allouche	10	
	Luca Motyer	9	
	Isaac Gartland- Plata	2	
	Henry McIntosh	2	
	Tom Pearce	2	
	Oscar Ross	2	
	George Sergakis	2	
	Lewis Yeates	1	

### U12 G (Div 2)

<b>Eleanor Adams</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>3rd place</b>
Olive Horstead	9	5th place
Violet Bradbury	6	
Ara Passmore	3	
Nora Barnard-Hill	2	
Georgia Neale	2	
Julia Sissons	2	
Zoe Gough	1	

<b>U13 M Purple (Div3)</b>	<b>Vilohith Patha</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>3rd place</b>
	Jack Papadimitropoulos	5	
	John Treloar	5	
	Owen Veltman	5	
	Ben Aldridge	4	
	Tyler Rogerson	4	
	Harrison Douglas	2	
	Zac Trampuz	2	
	Luca Tsangaris	2	
	Daisy Fredrickson	1	
	Dylan Zdrojewski	1	
<b>U13 M White (Div5)</b>	<b>Marlow Lucas</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3rd place</b>
	Malachi Chatelier	9	5th place
	Mohammed Allouche	4	
	Alessio Bartolo	3	
	Wilfred Macmillan	3	
	Connor Gray	2	
	Euan Morris	2	
	Buckley Penny	2	
	Lachlan Campbell	1	
<b>U14G (Div 2)</b>	<b>Tilda Sinclair</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1st Place</b>
	Alexandra Brown	9	
	Ella Thomson	2	
<b>U15 B (Div3)</b>	<b>Cristian Athanasopoulos</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>1st Place</b>
	Xavier Lalor	4	
	Felix Sibel	4	
	Thomas CAIRNS	2	
	Ruben Powell	2	
	Kutay Erekinici	1	
<b>U16 G (Div1)</b>	<b>Isobella Hishongwa-Gibb</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>3rd place</b>
	Avaa Hishongwa-Gibb	12	
	Coco Balmain	5	
	Abbey Somerville	5	
	Abbey Billing	2	
	Ainsley Jones	1	
	Isla MacLatchy	1	
<b>U16 B (Div 3)</b>	Paddy BalaamGunderson	5	
	Robert Steindl	4	
	Tom Varley	4	
	Vincent Bush	3	

Adam Dib	3
Max Varley	3
Liam Allman	2
Angus McLennan	2

### YJFL B&F Votes - BJFC Youth Boys/Colts under Permit with other Clubs in 2023

Harper Exton	2 votes	Fitzroy JFC
Alfred Culham	0 votes	Fitzroy JFC
Alexander Parker	0 votes	Preston Bullants JFC
Lyell Oldfield	0 votes	Fitzroy JFC

## 2.7. BJFC Club Awards

BJFC AWARDS - U10-16 BEST & FAIREST			
Teams	FIRST PLACE	SECOND PLACE	THIRD PLACE
	PLAYER NAME & JUMPER NO.	PLAYER NAME & JUMPER NO.	PLAYER NAME & JUMPER NO.
U10 M	Atticus Saunders #41	Pierre Matsamakis #40	Jack Terrill #27
U11 M	Jack Lazzaro #30	Jack Murrell #25	Giorgos Papadimitropoulos #34
U12 G	Eleanor Adams #23	Olive Horstead #21	Voilet Bradbury#1
U12 M - PURPLE	Johnny Baldwin #45	Ahmad Jamil Allouche #36	Luca Motyer #1
U12 M - WHITE	Sebastien Butler #19	Lewis Imberger #23	Arlo Styant-Browne #1
U13 M - PURPLE	Ben Aldridge #13	Jack Papdimitropoulos #23	Vilohith Patha #21
U13 M - WHITE	Marlow Lucas #31	Malachi Chatelier #43	Euan Morris #19
U14 G	Tilda Sinclair #19	Alexandra Brown #35	Edith Crouch #1
U15 B	Cristian Athanasopoulos #25	Ruben Powell #38	Xavier Lalor #3
U16 B	Robbie Steindl #33	Liam Allman #17	Max Varley #11
U16 G	Isobella Hishongwa-Gibb #32	Aava Hishongwa-Gibb #22	Poppy Dohrman #3 & Abbey Billing# 19

BJFC AWARDS - MOST DETERMINED & MOST IMPROVED		
Teams	Most Determined	Most Improved
	PLAYER NAME & JUMPER NO.	PLAYER NAME & JUMPER NO.
U10 M	Jasper Siega #9	Spencer Pruckner #2
U11 M	Harry Sinn #46	Alex Assaad #5
U12 G	Georgia Neale #18	Mila Knight #15
U12 M - PURPLE	Oscar Ross #11	Lewis Yeates #7
U12 M - WHITE	Wilbur Watt #20	Jimmy Grozos-Wishart #9
U13 M - PURPLE	Max Dohrman #18	Wilson Riley #27
U13 M - WHITE	Lachlan Campbell #9	Wilfred Macmillan #45
U14 G	Elliot Brinsmead #63	Sophia Gough #16
U15 B	Kutay Erekinici #40	Max Algreen-Ussing #9
U16 B	Leo Cornelius #28	Aidan Turnbull #14
U16 G	Coco Balmain #24	Marley Mackinnon #23



### BJFC AWARDS - LEADING GOAL KICKERS (note: 2 leading goal kickers for U10M and U12 White)

Teams	PLAYER NAME & JUMPER NO.	PLAYER NAME & JUMPER NO.
U10 M	Jack Terrill #27 - 7 goals	Marcel Reid #25 - 7 goals
U11 M	Giorgos Papadimitropoulos # 34 - 16 goals	
U12 G	Scarlett Stevens #3 - 16 goals	
U12 M - PURPLE	Tom Pearce #41 - 13 goals	
U12 M - WHITE	Sebastien Butler #19 - 12 goals	Lewis Imberger #23 - 12 goals
U13 M - PURPLE	Jack Papadimitropoulos #23 - 20 goals	
U13 M - WHITE	Mohammed Allouche #26 - 8 goals	
U14 G	Tilda Sinclair #19 - 6 goals	
U15 B	Thomas Gray #1 - 15 goals	
U16 B	Daniel Clough #50 - 13 goals	
U16 G	Isabella Hishongwa-Gibb #32 - 17 goals	

### BJFC AWARDS - BEST DEFENDER

Teams	PLAYER NAME & JUMPER NO.
U10 M	Huon Clifford #51
U11 M	Aiden Brunt #27
U12 G	Ara Passmore #8
U12 M - PURPLE	Finn Senz #18
U12 M - WHITE	Gabriel Dobson #24
U13 M - PURPLE	Dylan Zdrojewski #47
U13 M - WHITE	Buckley Penny #29
U14 G	Ella Thompson #33
U15 B	Thomas Cairns #60
U16 B	Paddy BalaamGunderson #13
U16 G	Ainsley Jones #2

### BJFC AWARDS - OTHER JUNIOR AWARDS - U8 to U10 G

Team Name	Name of Award 1	Winner of Award 1 (Jumper No)	Name of Award 2	Winner of Award 2 (Jumper Number)
U8 M	The Brunswick Brave Heart	Max Millican #3	The Defensive Legend	Jack Hayes #43
U9 M	Most Valuable Player	Jack Halpin #24	Most Consistent Player	Jaguar Bogert #5
U10G	Coaches Award for Leadership	Hazel Nicholson-Smith #13	Golden Boot	Claudia Imberger #4

### BJFC AWARDS - OTHER JUNIOR AWARDS - U8 to U10 G

Team Name	Name of Award 3	Winner of Award 1 (Jumper No)	Name of Award 4	Winner of Award 2 (Jumper Number)
U8 M	The Midfield Marvel	Harvey Marash #34	The Fabulous Forward	Rory Rissik #25
U9 M	Best Ball Hunter	Issac L'Estrange #16	Best Goal Kicker	Abigail Halpin #2
U10G	Most Consistent	Mimi Paterson #17	Most Determined	Carmelia Motyer #8

### BJFC AWARDS - OTHER JUNIOR AWARDS - U8 to U10 G

Team Name	Name of Award 5	Winner of Award 1 (Jumper No)	Name of Award 6	Winner of Award 2 (Jumper Number)
U8 M	The Excitement Machine	William Houghton #20	The Gregarious Goal Kicker	Francis Newton #31
U9 M	Most Determined Player	Henry Turner-Brown #8	Most Improved Player	Joseph Cavigan #11
U10G	Most Improved	Ella Cunningham #10	Most Improved	Eloise Rezzani #1

<b>The Purples Coterie Awards:</b>		
<b>Teams</b>	<b>PLAYER NAME &amp; JUMPER NO.</b>	<b>Award Name (if selected)</b>
<b>U8 M</b>	Julian Pereira #42	Most Improved
<b>U9 M</b>	William Mitchell #49	Clubman
<b>U10 G</b>	Hetty Lamb #35	Team Spirit
<b>U10 M</b>	Oscar Delaney #29	Best Structure
<b>U11 M</b>	Nick Bennett #9	
<b>U12 G</b>	Tilly Lamb #14	Most Dependable
<b>U12 M - PURPLE</b>	Ahmad Jamil Allouche #36	
<b>U12 M - WHITE</b>	Lachlan Keramaris #43	Outstanding Team Player
<b>U13 M - PURPLE</b>	Tyler Rogerson #44	
<b>U13 M - WHITE</b>	Arlo Honey #39	
<b>U14 G</b>	Quinn Penhale #42	
<b>U15 B</b>	Max Johnson #15	Clubman
<b>U16 B</b>	Cesar Owen #6	Resurgence Award
<b>U16 G</b>	Ava Hishonga-Gibb #22	Outstanding Season of Leadership and Achievement

## 2.8. 2023 Milestones – 50 Games

- Alexandra Brown
- Harrison Douglas
- Marley Mackinnon
- Oliver McRae
- Baxter Wake
- Lachlan Keramaris
- Vilohith Patha
- Andrew Stefani
- Phoenix BalaamGunderson
- Oscar Ross
- Jarrah Laws-Herd
- Euan Morris
- Owen Veltman
- Thomas Vernal
- Tyla Adamson
- Gabriel Dobson
- Lewis Imberger
- Angus Siega
- Eliza Smith
- Eleanor Adams
- James Grozos-Wishart
- Alexander Sexton-Bruce
- Lee Paterson
- Leonard Cornelius
- Thomas Gray
- Max Dohrman
- Poppy Dohrman

## 2.9. 2023 Milestones – 100 Games

- Alfred Culham (Under permit in 2023 to Fitzroy JFC Youth Boys)
- Daniel Clough
- Adam Dib

## 3. Secretary Report – Wendy Perdrisat

2022 saw the introduction of the Executive Officer role which has continued into 2023. This role was established as a paid role reporting to the Secretary to support the Secretary and the Club Executive team. The objectives of the role are as follows:

- To ensure the club is appropriately and effectively administered
- To maintain a positive reputation and constructive relationship with the YJFL, neighbouring clubs, sponsors, Council and other important stakeholders; and
- To enable sport participation and volunteer engagement through minimising administrative burden on members

The primary responsibilities of the role include but are not limited to:

- Administrative functions of monthly committee meetings
- Management of [info@brunswickjfc.org.au](mailto:info@brunswickjfc.org.au) mailbox
- Ensure adherence to procedures of the Club Constitution
- Organisation of Annual General meeting and compilation of Annual report
- Compliance management relating to key roles
- Effective and timely record keeping
- Club B&F trophy ordering and coordination
- Other duties as required

At the 2022 BJFC AGM, no-one nominated for the Secretary role in 2023. Early in 2023 preseason, a callout to the community via social media was made to identify someone to take on the essential Club Secretary role. As a result, Wendy Perdrisat (ex-parent member of the Club 2012 to 2016 and Committee member 2014-2016 inclusive) was successful in applying for the role and agreed to take on both the Secretary role along with the Executive Officer function for the year. Note: Wendy was able to devote more time to undertaking these two roles because she had officially retired from the workforce in 2022.

The season commenced on a beautiful warm autumnal day, with an official BJFC Welcome Day on Sunday 2 April 2023 complete with a traditional Welcome to Country smoking ceremony performed by local Wurundjeri Man Daniel Ross; presentations of special gift packs by Dr Tim Read (state MP for Brunswick) to members of the U10G team; and the selling of club apparel and merchandise!

Approximately half the teams had a strong bench but the remaining teams often struggled with player numbers from week to week because of injuries, COVID19 cases, sickness, and other family or school commitments. A reasonable level of effort each week was spent ensuring opposition clubs were appropriately notified of teams where we had low player numbers.

In light of the challenges experienced with the 2022 Best & Fairest Award voting audit process, a different approach was trialed by Tania Cherubin this year. Instead of waiting until the end season with having to assure 14 rounds of votes for 11 teams against spreadsheet details, the Committee decided to have 3 points during the season where team managers needed to provide voting papers and spreadsheet details. (Note Teams audited were U10M to U16's. The U10G team received coaches awards in the same way as U8's and U8's where no B&F votes are cast.)

Audits were completed in the following groupings:

- Rounds 1-5,
- Rounds 6-10
- Rounds 11-14

Taking this approach meant that record keeping issues were identified and addressed earlier which meant that it was much quicker at the end of season to identify all the award winners and order trophies in readiness for Presentation Day.

Tania received positive feedback from a few of the team managers for taking this approach as they recognized that it helped them to keep on track in completing the spreadsheets during the season (rather than leaving it to end of season), and helped picked up errors along the way which were easier to fix than at the end of season.

As a general Committee member, Tania Cherubin took on both the Best & Fairest vote auditing role and Club Trophy Coordinator role, successfully driving the new processes as outlined above in 2023!

BJFC Presentation Day was held on Sunday 10 September, was a wonderful celebration of Season 2023! The slightly cooler and cloudy weather conditions didn't stop any of the young players from investing lots of energy playing on the three inflatables hired for the day! Each of the fourteen teams recognised the efforts of their players and volunteer parents in game day roles and throughout the year. The Mudlarks ran a BBQ for all children all day while the canteen supplied lots of great food from Green Refectory and fruit for all from La Manna's – it was truly a great Club community event from dawn to dusk!

**Recommendations for 2024:**

- Continue with the combined Secretary/Executive Officer function subject to BJFC Executive reviews every 6 months.
- Training of Team Managers in B&F vote management processes to occur at the start of the season to ensure greater knowledge and understanding of the importance of the voting process, and emphasize the need for diligent record keeping throughout the season.
- Continue regular independent mini-audits of the club Best & Fairest votes during the season.

### 3.1. Compliance and Record Keeping – Wendy Perdrisat

Just as the 2023 season was commencing, on 17 March 2023 YJFL announced that all Coaching, First Aid and WWCC credentials needed to be stored in a new electronic wallet system called RATIFY (<https://www.ratifyme.com/>) in order to meet its child safety legislative requirements.

There were several issues identified early on with RATIFY in that it was a system primarily designed for Australian corporations and not Not for Profit sporting clubs. A considerable amount of effort was spent trying to understand how the new system was to work in a sporting club context.

Training in the new system for Club Compliance officers was delayed by several weeks. This in turn caused some confusion amongst parent volunteers who had already provided relevant documentation into the previous system called EVERPROOF. It took some weeks to clarify requirements with the league and then to start implementing those changes at a local club level.

It should be noted that at the start of season, 100% of all Committee members had provided details of Working with Children Checks (WWCC) and 100% of all BJFC Coaches had successfully completed AFL Coaching certification requirements and had uploaded their documentation to EVERPROOF. At season commencement it was not totally clear what proportion of Trainers had all been appropriately qualified in first aid because each of the qualifications have to be renewed at different time intervals.

During the course of the season, there were a number of system issues identified in uploading document details to RATIFY which were time consuming to rectify.

After issuing several rounds of communications to Committee members and key game day officials, explaining the need to upload documentation to RATIFY, the club achieved an overall compliance rate of 64% across the Club by the end of the season.

#### **SUMMARY of RATIFY COMPLIANCE - 9 September 2023**

<b>Roles</b>	<b>Number Invited</b>	<b>Number Completed</b>	<b>% Completed</b>
Committee	11	11	100%
Team Managers	17	13	76%
Coaches	31	21	68%
Trainers	31	16	51%
Runners/Boundary Ump	30	17	57%
Child Safety Officers	2	1	50%
Canteen Mgt	1	0	0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>64%</b>

#### **Recommendations for 2024:**

- Focus BJFC Child Safety communications early in 2024 on need for all volunteers to have WWCC and upload details into RATIFY as minimum requirement to ensure the club meets it's legislative requirements.

- Others involved in Coaching or Trainer roles also need to take earlier steps to complete appropriate levels of certification before season officially commences.
- Training and Compliance officer to work closely with Team Manager Coordinator and Footy Operations to communicate child safety certification/storage requirements in RATIFY.
- New BJFC website to incorporate key messages regarding child safety certification requirements and the need to work with the Training and Compliance Officer to upload details to RATIFY.
- Team Managers to identify volunteers to fill key roles as early as possible prior to the season commencement.
- Trainer Coordinator to be identified to work with all team trainers to ensure that all appropriate training is undertaken before 30 April 2024.

### 3.2. First Aid and Concussion – Wendy Perdrisat

YJFL Concussion protocols were followed during the season. In situations where suspected concussions had been sustained, all parents were strongly encouraged to seek GP assessment as to whether formal diagnosis of concussion had occurred. In those situations where concussion was formally diagnosed, the 12 day leave policy was strictly monitored and enforced by the Secretary. Injured players were not able to be selected until a medical clearance certificate prepared by a registered GP was provided to the Secretary. BJFC Club Concussion statistics were provided to each of the monthly Committee meetings during the season.

It should be noted that YJFL provided Colbrow Medics to attend all scheduled games during the season. This was a significant improvement on 2022 where approximately 30% of games had Colbrow Medics in attendance. While the skills of these people were not always drawn upon, it was reassuring for those in Trainer roles on game days to have quick access to additional professional medical services if needed at the ground.

During the season, 30 injury reports were provided to the Secretary by Trainers. Of these, 12 reports related to suspected concussion or confirmed concussion incidents. All concussion incidents were managed in accordance with the YJFL Concussion Protocols (2023). It is pleasing to note that in ten out of 15 rounds of football (i.e. home & away plus finals series), that there were no concussion/suspected concussion injuries reported.

#### **Recommendations for 2024:**

- Early communication of Trainers requirements, courses and the need to submit Injury Reports by 6pm on gameday.
- YJFL Concussion Protocols to be communicated to Trainers and parents ahead of season start.
- Incident report template to be automated via a Google form allowing Trainers to enter the incident directly providing an option to send a copy of the incident to the parents for use by the parent when attending for medical review post the concussion

### 3.3. Child Safety – Penny Harrison & James Parker

This year YJFL has increased its focus on and support to clubs on child safety. This has included completion of a mandatory training series for committee members and child safety officers. YJFL also supported clubs with ensuring training and compliance for core club roles were completed in the new YJFL platform Ratify.

As with past years the BJFC CSOs addressed the team managers and coaches at the beginning of the season and contact details posted across the club's rooms.

BJFCs two Child Safety Officers also updated the 2022 current state assessment of the club using the AFL checklist and 'check-in-tool' making recommendations to the committee. The recommendations use a 'now' 'later' and 'next' series of actions for continuous improvement including:

- updating the BJFC code of conduct, policy, child safety statement with suggested updates and adoption of the AFL templates
- re- testing the current reporting procedure for all club participants and update if required.
- confirm other priority actions and allocate persons responsible, for example site risk assessments including child safety for BJFC home grounds.
- revamping BJFC club engagement including opportunities for further ways for children's and community voice to be heard and for child safety information be disseminated through club communications.

This base, along with further training and support from YJFL, provides incoming CSOs and the BJFC Committee a strong start for 2024 to further embed and build on the great culture - keeping kids safe while having fun.

#### **Recommendations for 2024:**

- Continue with pre/early season engagement of Coaches, TMs and other game day personnel ensuring child safety is front of mind for all.
- Ensure that the BJFC Child Safety Policy is published on website.
- Ensure that BJFC is aligned with AFL/YJFL Child Safety requirements.

### 3.4. Communications – Natasha Barnes

Significant progress was made in communication in 2023, mainly due to the pre-season planning day that laid a clear path forward. However, we faced some challenges, such as the YJFL's delayed release of key rounds, which hindered our ability to promote effectively.

Our presence on social media platforms continued to grow, and members of the girls' teams became more proactive in sending information for inclusion on our socials. Acknowledging milestone games for players also received a positive response from the community.

The redesign of the fixture has provided a weekly opportunity to feature one of our sponsors and keep the BJFC community informed of any deals.

The forward planning and clear communication from the Operations (Ops) team, meant we were able to communicate skills workshops effectively, which resulted in an impressive turnout across all age groups.



Stack Team App remained the primary communication tool for club-related news, and it served as a platform for families to share images when photo permissions prevented the use of social media. This helped maintain a more focused and politics-free environment on publicly visible pages.

Mailchimp remains a valuable tool for delivering important club communications, especially related to AFL and YJFL.

#### **Recommendations for 2024:**

- **Volunteer Focus:** focus on featuring and retaining volunteers.
- **Player-Centric Content:** Develop a plan to include more player-focused content, such as match reviews, to strengthen our connection with players and their families.
- **Sponsorship Collaboration:** Collaborate with the sponsorship coordinator to create a plan for sponsorship-related content. This showcases our sponsors and the value we offer them.
- **Branding Consistency:** Integrate the new colours/fonts from the website into our communications across social media. This will enhance uniformity and reinforce the Dragons brand.
- **Website Maintenance:** Ensure that the new website remains current and up to date. Regular updates are vital to maintaining an engaging online presence.

### 3.5. BJFC Website Redesign – Sam Reid

Significant work has been undertaken to res-design and refresh the Brunswick Junior Football Club website in 2023, as part of efforts to provide a contemporary and effective digital front door!

The new website has been built in the WIX platform, which will also make it easier for Club volunteers to update and maintain content in future. The new website will also enable more effective monitoring of orders through the online merchandise store.

Special mentions go to Sam Reid from the Committee and Sue Marsh from the supporter community for their efforts to bring this together. Both Sam and Sue spent considerable time developing new information architecture, branding guidelines and content to bring the new website to life!

It is anticipated that the new website will go live on 1 November 2023 as part of the promotion of Early Bird player registrations for 2024!

### 3.6. Canteen – Jodie Thomson

The best Canteen in YJFL – that was what we aimed for this year and with the ongoing support of **Green Refectory** I think we can confidently say we achieved this! Adding using the deep fryers to our skillset, we also began offering hot chips and potato cakes which were very well received.

This year the Canteen successfully trialled replacing parent volunteers with young people drawn from the Brunswick Dragons community. Ranging in ages from 11 to 17 the young people received a cash in hand donation for their work per hour which was a great motivator. Many of them had already supported their club and family by trying out shifts in the canteen in previous years so the

move to making their volunteer positions official was a logical progression. All of the young people built their skills in customer service and canteen management as the season progressed and spirit in the canteen was always lovely and full of energy.

Parent helpers continued to be rostered on to support if needed but more often than not they were sent away to enjoy the game. As canteen manager I was glad to be able to pass on more responsibility to the young people and make my own position more manageable.

Many thanks also to Catriona who supported us by keeping our cashbox topped up and our eftpos machines working.

### 3.7. Team Photos – Wendy Perdrisat

Following adverse feedback being received in relation to quality of photos taken in 2022, late in season 2023 Field of View Photography was selected to take all the team photos. Team Photo shoots were extremely well coordinated by Kirsty Hope (U13 parent) who liaised with Field of View Photography and teams regarding scheduling logistics and ensuring all names on team photos were correctly depicted.

Team photos were taken over two nights on 14 & 19 July 2023. Approximately 12 players were not available for the designated time of their team photo shoot due to other commitments. Field of View Photography arranged to take individual player photos and then successfully photo-shopped the details into the relevant team photos!

It is pleasing to note positive parental feedback on the quality of printed photos all handed out to families as part of BJFC Presentation Day activities!

#### **Recommendations for 2024:**

- Seek a Team Photos volunteer to lead coordination of this activity
- Photos will be taken earlier in the season just after Round 4 in mid-May 2024
- Continue to schedule photos before training and place more emphasis in Club communications on players presenting for photo shoots in clean uniforms and boots.

### 3.8. Streaming, Videos and Media – Andrew Mackinnon

This year we opted out of live streaming due to low viewership in 2022. We instead provided a match recording for each team, from which we got a highlight reel for social media for each team, and had professional match day photography of one game for every team. We separated team photos out of the media package this year, with great results from the separate provider

#### **Recommendation for 2024:**

- Engage media provider earlier in the season, so club can maximise utilisation of vision for player development and social media.

### 3.9. AUSKICK – Brunswick Centre – Glenn Millican

Auskick season was a great success with 123 registered participants. Ages ranged from 4 to 11, with 80% of participants aged between 6 and 7.

The program coordination of the Auskick program with AFL was great, with a really well developed packaged curriculum to follow. With that many kids enrolled into the program which was aligned into 5 groups: the All Girls Team called “Redbacks”, the oldest 22 kids put into the “Dragons” team, and remainder of kids split loosely along age lines into “Sharks” (youngest), “Tigers”, and “Magpies”. We set up into 5 activity zones each focusing on basic ball handling and passing skills, plus the perennial favourite obstacle course with the tackle bag man - the kids love crash tackling the tackle bag!

As per the AFL curriculum first 3 weeks was spent rotating through each activity for 10 mins, with a ten minute mini-game. From weeks 4 onwards the number of activities decreased so we could lengthen the mini-game. For the final 3 weeks we did 30 minute mini-games (modified rules that had to pass ball twice before could kick a goal). Also fantastic to have the support of the Treasurer in helping arrange the additional equipment from Buffalo Sport as required – thanks Catriona. Also to the Secretary when the key dropped into the hole under the key lock.

Challenges were lack of parent volunteers (the cry of the community club). First week was pretty hard to manage with only a few parents getting involved with activities – so the lesson learned is for next year to arrange the core group of 10 parents who can help out each week. Thank goodness from weeks 2 onwards we had some parents step up! The biggest challenge was the scheduling of sessions. There were different start times almost every second week which, when coupled with weeks where there was no Auskick due to school holidays and public holidays, the varying start times threw out a lot of parents. Request next year for a more consistent schedule. Also next year need to have the program and timetable information up on the AFL website much earlier.

Under 7's - Interestingly the AFL took over the transition between Auskick to the Junior Leagues, through the 4 week “Under 7's Competition”. Biggest complaint was the AFL kept pushing almost every week to me to raise participation numbers for the under 7's. I felt like I was harassing the parents by the end of Auskick, literally talking to individual parents to convince them to sign up so I could hit the target number on participants from the AFL. Ultimately, we got 27 players registered: 3

for the Girls Only and 24 for the Mixed teams. We managed to field 2 Mixed teams which did absolutely brilliantly. Since it was 7 a side competition, we had to merge the Brunswick Girls only team into the St Mary's team since we couldn't field enough players for a full side. Second issue was that the AFL was directly responsible for the communications to registered players (not the Auskick Coordinators). Not all parents received the messages and some players were registered into the wrong teams. So it was a confusing few weeks for some parents. I tried to support by messaging the U7 Brunswick parents on behalf of the AFL whenever someone said they hadn't got the messages. But some were pretty upset they weren't being advised when fields and times were being updated. But we loved the structure of the under 7's games. The YJFL did a brilliant job setting up the zones each week!

What worked well was keeping on top of proactive messaging to parents each week. Thanks to Ange for the pro-tip of making sure to set up the equipment on Friday nights, so that running the program on Saturday is easier. All in all, the kids had a great year – all seemed to love the game which is what it's all about. A fun year all round!

### 3.10. Parent Surveys – Wendy Perdrisat

Invitations were issued on 18 September 2023 from [Communications@brunswickjfc.org.au](mailto:Communications@brunswickjfc.org.au) to all BJFC parents asking them to complete the Parent Survey anonymously by 24 September 2023. The invitation also invited anyone completing the survey to also enter a competition for a \$150 Rebel Sports voucher by sending an email to [Secretary@brunswickjfc.org.au](mailto:Secretary@brunswickjfc.org.au) noting "Survey Completed" in the subject line. Sixty-three responses were received from across all teams.

#### **Key observations from survey responses were:**

- Coaches on field performance rated highly across most responses
- Player skill development was generally rated quite high
- Team manager organization on match day was very highly rated across all teams
- Team manager communications was very highly rated across the board
- Parents noted the things that their children most valued were playing with friends, making new friends and improving their skills.
- Improvements noted regarding creating stronger bonds between players, parents & teams generally included a reference to conducting more social nights i.e. pizza nights, trivia nights, pie nights etc.
- Most respondents felt that goal kicker awards should be included
- Most respondents very happy with how the Canteen operated – many providing positive reviews in relation to Green Refectory!

The Secretary received 25 valid entries into the competition for the \$150 Rebel Sports voucher. The winning entry from Elissa Vomero was drawn at the BJFC Committee meeting held on 9 October 2023 & promoted through Team App News on 10 October 2023.

### 3.11. COVID 19 – Wendy Perdrisat

The management of COVID 19 in 2023 was not a significant issue during the season given comprehensive community vaccination programs that had taken place in 2022-23. In those circumstances where players/parents did suffer from COVID 19, they were encouraged to stay home until symptoms had disappeared.

## 4. Treasurer’s Report – Catriona Saunders

2023 was financially another successful year for the BJFC. With almost 300 registrations bringing in a considerable revenue stream, accompanied by our sponsorship, fundraising and grant revenue streams – the club was not only able to cover costs but also able to invest heavily in football development, presentation day, thanking our volunteers and other initiatives.

During the year, we removed ourselves from GST as our income is less than \$150,000 (and we are an incorporated association). We expect this will save us \$1,000 a year.

### 4.1. Income – Catriona Saunders

#### **Income highlights**

Total gross profit for the year was: \$81,661

#### ***Registration: \$44,723 (after refunds)***

We had almost 300 children registered with the club. For the third year in a row we were able to hold the BJFC fees stable to enable football to be as affordable as possible for our community. The YJFL commenced a fee subsidy initiative for those families experiencing hardship. We were pleased to be able to assist some of the BJFC families to access this program – a great outcome that gets as many kids on the field as possible from our community!

#### ***Canteen & bar: \$10,549 (profit after expenses)***

The canteen was led was the incredible Jodie again this season. She works tirelessly to open the best canteen in the YJFL week-in-week-out and she even extended her stint this year to cover one finals week and the presentation day. On Jodie’s suggestion, we introduced a program for teenage players and other siblings from the club to work in the canteen for payment. The crew worked really hard, always with smiling faces and it was a great way to teach them hospitality skills. This meant that we did not need the level of parent volunteers in the canteen – in order to relieve the volunteering burden on families. Payments to the canteen crew has reduced the profitability from the canteen but as a committee we believe this is very much outweighed by the experiences for the kids and relieving the parents of another volunteering job on game-day.

#### ***Sponsorship: \$13,584***

We were again lucky to have been sponsored by a financial contribution by BlueRock. The team at Green Refectory provided their incredible food weekly for little more than cost meaning that all of the profit goes to our canteen – winning on two fronts!!! This would easily be worth \$5,000 to the

club. We re-engaged with DFS again this season to run footy clinics at Brunswick on school holidays. We get a kick-back from all of the Dragons that sign up – make sure you use our code!

**Grants \$12,376**

We were thrilled to achieve a \$10,000 grant to promote girls football, in particular our U10 girls team. The grant covered footy clinics, coaching, drink bottles, bags and scarves. We still have funds leftover and will use this to repeat some of the above next season.

## 4.2. Expenditure – Catriona Saunders

**Expenditure \$83,291**

**Football development: \$11,741**

We were thrilled to have Coach Robbie and the team from Rookie Me onboard this year for 5 football development clinics. The aim is to give our kids fundamental skills while also building game sense and tactics. There was a huge turnout throughout these clinics and we look forward to bringing them back in 2024! We also invested in Malcolm Bangs Tackle Training which is very important for safe and effective tackling.

**Equipment: \$6,663**

We invested in new footballs again this season. Next season this might reduce due to the YJFL changing its policy and providing game day footballs. New rates have also been negotiated.

**Presentation Day and Welcome Day: \$6,994**

We had two large events for our community that were fantastic days for the kids and families. We funded food for the kids at presentation day plus inflatables for them to play on. We also needed to pay for a permit and for the AV equipment

**Game Face videography & photography: \$4,185**

We again invested in match day footage and photography of the kids. These were very well received and have been used across our socials as well.

**Executive Officer: \$16,064**

We again invested in having an executive officer to support the committee. We were ably supported by Tania for the first few months and have now onboarded Wendy. We thank both of them for their energy to support our club!

**Profit / loss: \$1,630 loss**

The club ran at a slight loss for FY23. This was a conscious decision by the committee given the size of our bank balance and that we were able to provide incredible opportunities to our kids and families – footy development, presentation day, welcome day, trophies, thank you nights, work experience in the canteen, Game Face videos & photos – we think it was a great “package” while maintaining fees! We couldn’t have done this without our generous sponsors and volunteers!

### 4.3. Balance Sheet – Catriona Saunders

#### **Balance sheet**

- Cash in bank: \$178,748.25
- Merchandise inventory: \$12,511.60
- Grant unacquitted: \$5,000 – this is for the girls grant (FY23) and the indigenous strip design and canteen blind

#### **Recommendations for 2024:**

- Continue with using teenagers in the canteen
- Develop a longer-term spending strategy
- Investigate getting a bookkeeper to support the treasurer role. There are approximately 500 transactions each year with the majority of them being payments to process including entering account numbers and BSB. All 500 transactions need to be reconciled in Xero with an invoice attached. This is quite a workload that we should consider outsourcing
- Discontinue fee subsidy for majority of volunteers

## 5. Football Operations – Kon Athanasopoulos

In general, 2023 was a successful season for our teams and the club. Some of the hardships encountered in 2022 were considered and acted upon, mostly in the area of team numbers. Some age groups which played with 2 teams last year were consolidated into a single team for 2023. This made playing in these teams more enjoyable for players and parents where the stress of getting enough players to field a team were noticeably reduced. However, there were still a few teams with player number issues that were well managed by the coaches and team managers of those teams.

The most disappointing aspect of the season was the fact we couldn't field, an U14M, or Youth Boys team despite our best efforts to get the numbers to do so. However, we were still able to provide good outcomes for many of the players of those teams by accommodating them in other age groups or finding clubs for them to play the season out under a player permit.

Congratulations to all the teams, coaches, players, and parents, for making it an enjoyable season.

Special mention to the following teams for making finals.

- U11 Mixed
- U12W Mixed
- U12P Mixed
- U12G
- U13P Mixed
- U16G



For the second time in the club's history, the club streamed one of the age groups. This year it was the U13's. Using the club's streaming policy and in collaboration with the coaches the teams created and to their credit both teams worked hard throughout the year and achieved a level of success.

An important focus for the club was the ongoing program of player and coach development. This year the club engaged Rookie Me which provided a well-rounded player development program and important training tools for the coaches. The younger age groups had great participation rates but it dropped a little in the older boys teams. The girls teams had great numbers at each of their sessions in an encouraging sign of not only their player development, but also their growing passion and commitment to their team and the game. The club has already made a commitment to engage Rookie Me for 2024 and plans are already in place to improve the experience.

This year the club increased the focus on the Brunswick Auskick program to aid the progress kids coming to the club. 2024 should see a good number of Auskickers join the club and we will continue to run the program to make the link between the two as seamless as possible.

Finally, I owe many thanks to the Footy Ops team this year that did a magnificent job in organising so much of what we take for granted.

- Andy Saunders played a vital role in organising practice matches and the Rookie Me program.
- Peter Baldwin as Coach Co-Ordinator.
- Sally Siega as Team Manager Co-Ordinator
- Kylie Moreland in Registrations/Team Logistics
- Adam Riley as Club Umpire Co-Ordinator
- John Murphy General Footy Ops

**Recommendations for 2024:**

- Continue the commitment to player and coach development via the Rookie Me program
- Continue to stream teams to normalise the process and continue to give each player the best opportunity for them to play in the team that best suits their ability and enjoyment.
- Continue to engage coaches in feedback sessions to gain insight into their needs and how the club can assist them in player development and game day performance.

## 5.1. Girls Football Development – Kon Athanasopoulos

Once again in 2023 the passion and dedication shown by the girls coaches was outstanding. Our girls footy program took another step forward on the back of the hard work they put into each of their teams.

The role of Girls Football Co-Ordinator was not filled this year and we are hopeful to correct this in 2024. It is an essential role to fill to assist those developing teams with the support they need which is girls footy specific.

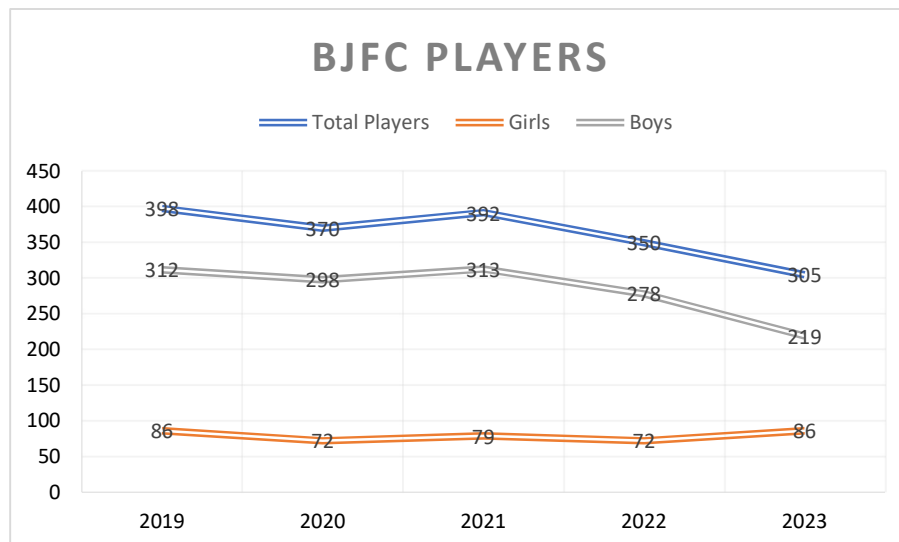


### Recommendations for 2024:

- Fill Girls Football Co-Ordinator role

## 5.2. Registrations – Kylie Moreland

Registration numbers fell by 13% in 2023, from 350 to 305. In 2023, we had 14 more girls and 59 fewer boys playing with the Dragons compared to 2022. The ratio of girls to boys increased to 28% girls and 72% boys (from 21% girls and 79% boys in 2022).



Returning players in 2023: 231 (down from 291 in 2022)

New players in 2023: 74 (up from 59 in 2022)

2023 Registrations				
Teams/Age Group	Number of Players	Girls	Boys	New Players
U8 Mixed x1	17		17	17
U9 Mixed x1	19	1	18	4
U10 Girls x1	19	19		16
U10 Mixed x1	25		25	4
U11 Mixed x1	22		22	1
U12 Girls x1	19	19		7
U12 Mixed x2	42		42	8
U13 Mixed x2	44	1	43	5
U14 Girls x1	22	22		6
U15 Boys x1	29		29	1
U16 Boys x1	23		23	2
U16 Girls x1	24	24		3
	<b>305</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>74</b>

<b>Youth Boys playing under permit</b>	4 players
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Composition of Teams				
Teams/Age Group	2021	2022	2023	Expected 2024
U8 Mixed	1	1	1	1
U9 Mixed	2	1	1	1
U10 Mixed	2	2	1	1
U11 Mixed	2	2	1	1
U12 Mixed	1	2	2	1
U13 Mixed	2	2	2	2
U14 Mixed	1	1		1-2
U10 Girls	1		1	1
U11 Girls		1		1
U12 Girls	1		1	
U13 Girls		1		1
U14 Girls	1		1	
U15 Girls		1		1
U16 Girls			1	
Youth Girls	1			1
U15 Boys	1	1	1	
U16 Boys	1		1	1
Youth Boys	1	1		1
<b>Total Teams</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15-16</b>

## Recommendations for 2024

- Ensure we have a girls coordinator and girls football committee in place for the 2024 season.
- Continue to build our relationship with Brunswick Auskick.
- Work to identify families who are struggling and might benefit from fee relief
- Continue to improve the quality of our coaching and increase opportunities for player development so that we can offer new and returning players the opportunity to play football at a range of levels and to increase confidence and enjoyment of the game.

### 5.3. Apparel – Jaci Blumhagen & Playing Jumpers - Vanessa Peters

As was done in 2022, team kits of playing jumpers were distributed to Team Managers and Coaches in March 2023. The sponsors logos that had been printed in 2020 were still used this year – no additional jumpers/teams received sponsor logos in 2023.

Due to approximately half of the jumpers now having sponsor logos attached, additional cost may occur in 2024 if the sponsors or the number of teams change. Additionally, numerous iron-on sponsor logos are starting to deteriorate or fall off and are in need of replacement.

The planned process for return of jumpers at the end of the season was finally able to be tested because there was a full season. Feedback from TMs has been minimal but only a handful of jumpers have not been returned. In accordance with the Jumper Policy, each family who has not returned a jumper is being contacted and invoiced \$50 for non-return. The process of the TM collecting them at the end of the season and washing the team kit before returning them to the Apparel Coordinator seems to have worked well.

The YJFL tendered and selected two new apparel suppliers for the 2023 season – Worn2Win and Game Day Apparel. Clubs are required to purchase all on-field apparel from one of these two suppliers, including shorts, socks, long-sleeved tops and playing jumpers. After speaking with both suppliers and comparing prices and quality of offerings, it was decided to trial Worn2Win in 2023.

BJFC did not need any additional playing jumpers this year, but did order shorts, socks and long-sleeved tops from Worn2Win. In the end, the shorts were shorter than desired (and no specifications were ever provided despite repeated requests), 1-2 parents commented on the poor quality of the socks, and the long-sleeved tops simply never arrived (we have a credit for 2024). Based on that experience, the communications, (lack of) responsiveness and quality of the products, it is recommended to trial the other YJFL-required supplier, Game Day Apparel, in 2024.

Overall apparel sales for 2023 were on par with 2022. With our sponsor BlueRock providing hoodies (and bags) to each player in teams U13 and older, it was inevitable that BJFC purple hoodies sales would decrease, although by a smaller amount than expected. However, the size-range of BJFC hoodies sold was notably impacted. In 2022, 67% of the hoodies sold were kid's sizes (size 6 - 16/XS) and 33% were adult sizes (size S - XL). In 2023, 82% of hoodies sold were kid's sizes and 18% were adult sizes. Unsurprisingly, the older teams did not purchase purple BJFC hoodies due to being provided a sponsored one in 2023.

Item(s)	2019 Quantity sold	2020 Quantity sold	2021 Quantity sold	2022 Quantity sold	2023 Quantity sold
Unisex playing shorts	279	209	155*	115	97
Ladies-cut playing shorts	n/a	n/a	n/a	12	18
Playing socks	181	131	166	128	136
Long-sleeved purple tops (for underneath playing jumpers)	70	62	40	30	27
Hoodies	124	79	93	89	74
Bags, caps, scarves and beanies	138	58	62	149	166

\*Prior to 2021, players were required to purchase at least one pair of *both* purple and white shorts, i.e. two pairs. In 2021 and beyond, only one pair of purple shorts is required.

#### Recommendations for 2024:

- Purchase on-field apparel (shorts, socks, long-sleeved tops, and playing jumpers) from Game Day Apparel.
- Continue to offer apparel sales at ‘Start of Season’ Welcome Day (alongside apparel pick-up for orders already placed) and also at the ‘End of Season’ Presentation Day.
- Continue with process of allocating and distributing team sets of jumpers as well as continue the process of having Team Managers collect jumpers on the day of the team’s final game of the season, wash them, and return them as a team set.
- Consider (and budget for) professional laundering of the playing jumpers in 2024. The Jumper Coordinator continues to wash approximately 30 jumpers before storing them away for the off-season.
- Planning and budgeting for the purchase of additional playing jumpers in 2024 in unisex extra small, small and medium, and women’s small.
- Planning and consideration for replacement or additional sponsor’s logos on jumpers will need to be undertaken therefore additional resourcing at the start of the season may be required to manage this task.

## 5.4. Team Manager Coordinator – Sally Siega

Season 2023 saw 50% of our Team Managers take on the role for the first time. I thank all Team Managers for their hard work in keeping all teams organised for match day and being a critical lynchpin between the club, league, and players families.

I am very pleased to say that most of our Covid protocols are behind us and this meant we had a more organised preseason period to kits out to TMs and coaches.

This season BJFC were audited by the YJFL to ensure our match day team sheets are appropriately issued and protocols followed. Whilst there were a couple of minor learning opportunities for some TMs, I am pleased to say that overall the league was very impressed by the high level of compliance from BJFC TMs - congratulations all!

The YJFL introduced some rule changes this season around “Genuine Shortages” which proved to be complex for all Team Managers to manage across the season. This did add to the workload closer to finals time. I am hoping the league will simplify some of these rules next season following this season’s trial period.

Pleasingly all coaches and TM kits were returned at Presentation Day ensuring club equipment could be properly audited and reordering can take place.

Thank you to Kylie Moreland for her support to my role this season, especially whilst we managed the equipment, Facilities and First Aid in the absences of these key roles being filled.

**Recommendations for 2024:**

- Next season we will expand trial a new electronic Best & Fairest voting system with the view to rolling out the following year to all teams.
- We will continue to replace all old equipment across the season to ensure we have reliable up-to-date resources for teams.
- The ideal situation is for the retention of TM’s over a couple of seasons due to the high investment required in training new TM’s.
- Still looking to invite an Equipment Officer, Facilities Manager and First Aid Coordinator for season 2024 to reduce the load going forward.

## 5.5. Umpiring Program – Adam Riley

### Umpire Numbers

In season 2023 there were 6 returning umpires for the junior program. This included 3 very experienced umpires and 3 recently promoted umpires. The roster covered all games (expected 1x U8, 1x U9 and 2x U10, home games only) and also allowed an experienced umpire to be rostered as an 'emergency' umpire (to cover last minute cancellations or YJFL shortages). The number of home games varied each week, but the rotation worked well to cover all the games.

Two additional trainee umpires were added to the roster at the start of the season. This helped to cover the departure of two umpires from the 2022 season. Both trainee umpires were promoted to 'solo' umpires by the end of the season.

I would expect the majority of the 2023 roster to be available for 2024. With the possibility that some of the experienced umpires might be unavailable due to new part-time work opportunities.



### **Umpire Training, Rostering and Performance**

The 2 new trainee umpires completed at least 3 games as a 'shadow' (umpiring under an experienced umpire). One trainee, with less experience, completed 5 'shadow' games. After consulting the experienced umpires, the trainee umpire's parent contact and the trainee umpire themselves, both trainee umpires were promoted. At the conclusion of the season, both umpires had made their debut and umpired 1 game as a trained-up umpire.

The 6 experienced umpires continued to perform well. On average they were rostered-on for 7 games each, including being the 'emergency'. Our most available umpire officiated over 10 games. Our least available umpires officiated 4 games.

Last season (2022) the YJFL conducted a special umpire clinic at Clifton Park. The YYFL provided senior and junior umpires and this was a great boost to our (then) trainee 'shadow' umpires. It would be good to pursue this opportunity again for the 2024 season.

### **Feedback**

During the season (Round 7, Under 8's) Poppy Dohrman was recognized for doing a great job communicating with the players. Joshua McLaughlin also stepped-up and represented the club (umpiring 3 games) at the Round 5 Under 8's round robin at YJFL headquarters.

At the start of the pre-season, the club asked the Junior Umpire Roster to cover all junior practice matches. This was a real stretch for the roster. Adding extra age groups (U11 - U16s) and testing the experience and confidence of the umpires. We were also asked to provide umpires for some AWAY practice matches. By the last two practice matches, the YJFL had come on board and was providing most umpires. For the 2024 season, it would be good to keep up communications with the YJFL and request umpires from the first round of practice matches.

### **Recommendations for 2024:**

- Continue to build on the great foundations established for umpiring in the 2023 season
- Continue recruitment for umpires
- Request YJFL conduct a special umpire clinic at Clifton Park in pre-season and bring in a mix of senior and junior umpires to boost the skills and aspirations of our new trainee 'shadow' umpires.
- Request YJFL umpires for U11-U16 practice games in pre-season.



## 6. Team Reports

### 6.1. U8 Mixed Purple - Adam Grant

**Season 2023** - our second year of uninterrupted junior sport proving just how lucky we are to live out our normal lives. What a great privilege it is to wake up each Sunday to see our lads eat their brekky in their footy gear, then pile into the car for some pre-game banter about the match ahead, to arrive at the ground and see the great joy kids get out of simply coming together with their team-mates to have a kick.

Our football year began in shorts and t-shirts and a crew of lads that expanded in number as the pre-season unfolded. A stoic group that grew to be known simply as “the Seventeen” - Avery, Reuben G, Reuben F, Teddy, Otis, Max, Harvey, Isaac, Townes, Cameron, Remy, Rory, Anton, Julian, William, Francis, and Jack.

What a legendary “Seventeen” they were. A team of lads drawn from the rich tapestry that is the primary education system of the surrounding Brunswick shire. A team that forged a special bond against the odds of misplaced mouthguards, lost socks, and shoe-laces that simply would not stay tied. A team that showed remarkable improvement the deeper we got into the seasons fixture. A team that stuck together through thick and thin.

From the cold winter Friday nights at training, the long-haul early morning road trips on game-day to exotic outer suburban destinations, to the ups and downs of winning, losing, and even drawing games of football, we did it all together. Season 2023 was so much fun, with so many fantastic memories laid down, new friendships established, and an emerging brotherhood built across the playing group.

A special mention to Coach Caleb Smith who bought a genuine passion for football and a fabulous sense of fun and organisation to the team. A sincere thank you to Jaci Blumhagen our amazing Team Manager who is without peer in the field of sports administration. To all those who volunteered throughout the year, thank you so much, you are such an essential part of the fabric of junior football.

Last but certainly not least, to our players, you should be so proud of what you have achieved both on and off the field. I know you have made your Mum’s, Dad’s, Grandparent’s, Brother’s, Sister’s, Friend’s and Teammate’s so proud through your efforts. The victories were so exciting, and you learned and got better from the games we couldn’t quite put away. Most importantly you carried yourselves with great spirit, class and humility every step along the journey of season 2023.





Thanks for all the memories, football is such a rewarding experience - these are surely some of the best days of our lives. I'm already looking forward to season 2024. Go the mighty Dragons !!!

All the best – Coach Adam.

## 6.2. U9 Mixed - Steven Bogert



What a wonderful season it has been for the Dragons U9 mixed team. The most positive aspect of the season for me as the coach was that all the players from U8's progressed to U9's. Seeing teammates reuniting, as well as new players joining the team was an amazing start to 2023 and a credit to the club.

With this high participation rate, the U9's were always able to have a full team on the ground on game days, which I believe builds confidence in the players before the bounce of the ball.

Right from the beginning of the season I could see that the players had retained the skills and knowledge of the game that they had learnt as U8's. This gave the team a great platform to launch into their 2023 campaign, which they did! They played great footy throughout the season and truly started to execute things we had practiced at training on the field on game days.

Overall, I believe that this U9's team is ready to progress into U10's and break the shackles of zoned football and no scoring from U8's/U9's. I believe this team will thoroughly enjoy playing positions and learning the tactics of the game next year. Hopefully that will start with all the players returning in 2024 like they did this year.

## 6.3. U10 Mixed - Shannon Orbons

What a fun year 2023 was for our U10's. A lot of old friends and some new faces came together to form a fabulous bunch of kids that were a real pleasure to coach.

The first few weeks of the season saw us lose some really tight games despite playing some great footy, but I'm so proud of how the boys responded to turn it all around in the second half of the season.

The improvement that followed was obvious for all to see and everyone knew it was only a matter of time before it started to show on the scoreboard, and we celebrated accordingly after we overcame Parade Saints to break through for our first win.

But we didn't stop there. As coaches we started raising the bar and the kids responded accordingly by embracing new skills and concepts to take their individual and team games to the next level. We started learning more about structure off the ball and even went so far as to tie each other together in pairs at training to better understand what "Shadowing" meant! As a result, the rest of the season saw enormous improvement that culminated in a huge win away from home over Fitzroy in a match that saw a number of kids play a career best game.

We finished off the season strongly with another win in the last round of the season (this time against Ivanhoe) followed by a great day at the Lightning Carnival and of course the ever popular presentation day. Congratulations to our special award winners on the day – you all thoroughly deserve them!

From a personal perspective, I'm enormously proud of the players and how well they look after each other and really care for each other as team mates. They are a fabulous group of kids (with fabulous parents!), and I'm genuinely grateful to be part of such a wonderful community and culture that the club has created for us all.

I'd like to shout out a sincere thanks to everyone who has helped across the season. It takes a village to run a football team and everyone contributed throughout the year, which makes it all the more enjoyable. I'd especially like to thank Sally, Tony and Tim for their support – this year wouldn't have been possible without you!

Finally, I hope the kids all enjoyed the season as much as I did and I look forward to seeing each and every one of you again in 2024.

Go Dragons

#### 6.4. U10 Girls - Matthew Conway)

What an amazing group of girls! Some were playing their first season of Australian Football, while others came off the back of a season in the older age groups. This mix gave us a wonderful balance of experience and newcomers. Anna and I had a clear focus: to ensure that every member of the team could not only learn the basics of the sport but just as importantly to have fun and build new friendships.

Our first match against the Kew Comets saw us spending the first two quarters acclimating to being on the ground, with the majority of possession belonging to the Comets. However, the second half of the match told a different story and set the stage for the rest of the season. Every player on the team displayed real commitment to their friends, showed courage and the spirit of sharing the footy, all while remaining hungry for the ball and fiercely competitive. We only lost two games during the season.

Every player had an opportunity to be a leader, and witnessing their tremendous improvement throughout the season was a moment of immense pride for everyone associated with the team.

In terms of administration and team organisation, everything felt seamless. John, our team manager, worked tirelessly to ensure that everything ran smoothly throughout the season. Thanks to Pete for being there at every training session, offering assistance in every possible way, and bringing a positive energy to the team. I also extend my gratitude to all the parents and guardians for their unwavering support.

A special thank you goes to Anna, who showed me the ropes on coaching and being involved with the club. She is a brilliant role model for young women in sport, and her commitment to providing our kids with the best that community sport has to offer is truly commendable.

## **Matthew Conway**

### 6.5. U11 Mixed - Peter Brunt

At the start of the year we formed a new team. It took a while for the team to get to know each other and learn to play together. The team has had a big say in how they want to play their footy and have committed themselves to the Brunswick Dragons Way. We have seen growth at all levels within the team. This growth has come from the leading lights that play their role every week, to those that have kicked their first goal, or taken their first mark.

As the season went on, their confidence in themselves and each other grew. We saw them come into this finals series full of momentum. In the finals series we had some very tight and tense tussles with both Fitzroy and Bulleen. The Elimination Final was a great back and forth contest all day. Then Bulleen in the Preliminary Final—which while we led from the start—was close right down to the final siren. The best part of our finals series, has been the sportsmanship shown by our team to our vanquished foes. While winning is sweet, being knocked out is always heartbreaking.

The great thing about the Brunswick Dragons has been that you were never sure who is going to rise to the occasion on any given day. This has been a real strength of the way they have played all season. The team has had great belief in each other and a willingness to take the game on.

The U11s played off in Grand Final on Fathers Day, and made everyone proud with their efforts. And while they ultimately lost after putting in a terrific effort they certainly won over a lot of family and friends who came to watch. The after party felt like a celebration at the end of a great season that was and the forming of the great friendships in the group. An experience they'll never forget!!

And finally, congratulations to both Jack Lazarro and Gos Papadimitropoulos for finishing in the top 5 of the U11s YJFL League Best and Fairest award, and to Jack Murrell for rounding out the top 3 in our U11s Club Best and Fairest by coming second, with Jack Lazarro finishing first and Gos third. Other equally worthy Club award winners were Aiden Brunt as Best Defender, Harry Sinn as Most

Determined, Alex Assaad as Most Improved and Nick Bennett as our All Saints Coterie Award winners.

## 6.6. U12 Girls - John Stevens

It was my very great pleasure to coach the U12G this season. We actually didn't stop training from the end of the 2022 season to the start of the 2023 season and the desire to continue to train was 100% driven by the girls. Our core group of players also brought in new recruits allowing us to go into season 2023 with 19 registered players.



Training through that six month period we were able to implement a new game plan and further develop skills, as well as to start working on individual player-based skills and develop confidence in their game. That entire six month block of training was invaluable to us leading into season 2023.

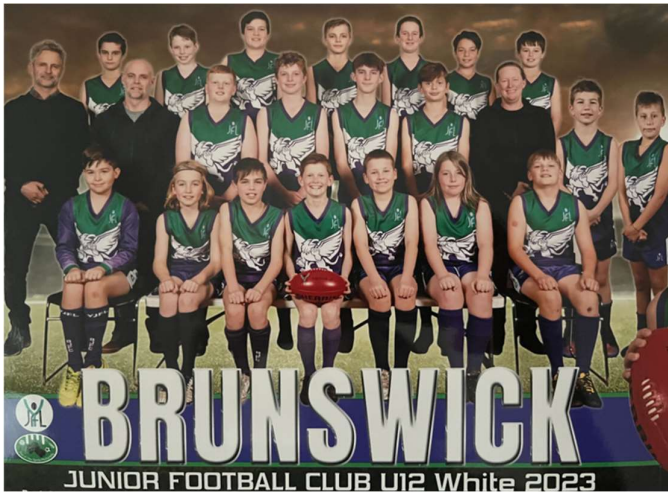
The hard work certainly paid off. In 2022 we won two games in our Division and finished dead last. While we didn't get the results on the scoreboard that year we developed a very tight-knit group of players. This year we made it to a Preliminary Final (and were in front at half time). This was significant for us because many of our core group of players, players who have been at the club since arriving from Auskick, had never played in a final, so to see them achieve this in 2023 was really encouraging for them, and heart-warming for all the parents who put so much work in throughout the season. We were very close to a Grand Final this year, an incredible effort when you consider we had half a team of under-aged girls! The Elimination Final match against Warrandyte was an especially big moment for us.

Individually, two of our players were recognised with top 5 finishes in the YJFL B&F (Eleanor Adams and Olive Horstead) and one of our players (Scarlett Stevens) kicked more goals (17) than anyone else in the Division. A big congratulations also go to our three club B&F winners Eleanor Adams, Olive Horstead and Violet Bradbury.

The girls have a taste for it now and I am fully confident they will be back stronger than ever for the 2024 preseason. They've come so far already and built a ton of confidence along the way. There is certainly a sense of unfinished business with this squad leading into next year.

Well done to the U 12G what an amazing year we had. Here's to more amazing experiences for you in 2024.

## 6.7. U12 Mixed White - Duncan Imberger



### **2023 Season Wrap: Under 12 Whites**

An earlier start to preseason and shifting to two training sessions per week (alongside the Purples) paid off for the Under 12 Whites – who started the season in Division 3 but were promoted to Division 2 after an impressive string of early wins.

With 17 returning players and three very handy early-season recruits, we went on to post 11 wins for the year, and finish third on the ladder at the end of the home and away rounds.

At our best, we played some fabulous end-to-end football – full of overlap running, linking handball and kicking to advantage. The season highlight was a nail-biting away win over eventual premiers Bulleen Templestowe in round 8. We were really ON that day!

Unfortunately, we were bundled out in the first week of the finals, going down to Glen Iris at home by 3 points, despite having beaten them comfortably the week before.

We had seven players pass 50 games for the mighty Dragons in season 2023 - Jimmy, Angus, Lewis, Gabe, Jarrah, Lachie and Ollie.

Sebastian Butler, Lewis Imberger and Arlo Styant-Browne finished top three in the Best & Fairest voting. Wilbur Watt won Most Determined. Gabe Dobson won Best Defender. Jimmy Wishart-Grozos was Most Improved and Lachlan Keramaris was a very worthy recipient of the BJFC Coterie Award, for outstanding team player.

Special thanks to my incomparable assistant coach, Jen Wishart, our dynamic Team Manager, Kelvin Butler, and a terrific group of parents and supporters.

Jen and I love coaching this group and watching them develop year on year. They share a tight bond and turn up to play every single week, regardless of the conditions. We can't wait to see what season 2024 brings!

Duncan Imberger



## 6.8. U12 Mixed Purple - Pete Baldwin

The Brunswick under 12 Purples had a great year in 2023. After strong performances in the grading games the team moved up to division 4 finishing a well earned third in the home and away season.

After a gallant win at Gillon in the first final against arch rival Northcote the Purples played Warrandyte in a Preliminary final. Trailing by 30 odd points at half time they fought back in the second half eventually going down by only two goals. The team showed determination, competitiveness and an ability to adapt and change the way they were playing- key skills and attributes for footy.



The team trained with the Under 12 Whites committing to two training sessions a week. They focused on fundamentals, team skills, the forward press, changing angles, ball movement patterns; and most importantly playing for the 4 quarters. The Purple players developed, improved, showed growth and most importantly had a lot of fun in 2023. They celebrated their wins in customary 'team song' style, encouraged and supported each other throughout the season.

Many thanks to assistant coach Pete Yeates, team manager Allan Moyter, runner Glen Ross, Paul for his medical back up and support of the boys and Parents for supporting and encouraging throughout the year. The boys made friends, connected and worked well as a team. During the year we coaches reinforced the need to bring their footy weapons to the game day.

Here is a summary of the Purple players football weapons demonstrated throughout the year. Luca (Tackling machine), Theodore (Competitiveness), Lewis (Versatile), Ari (Running) Max B (Disposal), Oscar (Running), Isaac (Speed), Finn (Leadership), Owen (Disposal), Baxter (Defensive marking), Noah (Speed) George (Kicking), Henry (Mr Versatile), Ahmad (Strong) Max Z (Effort), Yousef (Inside ball), Lucas (Speed), Tom (Marking), Ayaan (Run), Johnny (Decision making )and Daniel (Determined).

Well done to the following award winners for 2023

- Best and Fairest - Johnny
- Runner up B&F - Ahmad
- Third Best and Fairest - Luca
- Most Goals - Tom
- Best defender - Finn
- Most determined - Oscar
- BFC Coterie award - Ahmad



## 6.9. U13 Mixed Purple - John Murphy

During the off-season we welcomed new players into Dragons Den in Dylan Zdrojewski and Alex Mornement whilst Owen Veltman, Vilo Patha, Lex Dewar, Harry Douglas & Henry Shippard and Tyler Rogerson joined the squad from other Dragons teams.

During the off season it was evident that several players skill levels had improved. The two Under 13 Teams combined training and with larger numbers a greater variety of drills were available.

The team made a brilliant start to the season during the grading games with three resounding wins. However, once settled in Division three we found the opposition more challenging with narrow losses in Rounds 4 and 5. It took a few weeks for the Dragons to reset and get the structure and systems going, but once they did it was exciting to watch. It was a great effort to make the finals, however we did not perform to our optimum losing by 23 points to a tough Kew Rovers outfit.

On a personal note, I would like to thank Rob Trampuz, the Team's Assistant Coach who as always provided a brilliant sounding board, a voice of logic and common sense throughout the year. Trish Aldridge, brilliant as ever, coordinated all of the gameday and off field issues. Kate and Alicia provided great medical support, whilst Nathan Dohrman and Bill McDonald provided great support throughout the year at training and as runners.

Finally, the kids were supported by a wonderful and passionate band of parents who greatly assisted in game days tasks and made the job enjoyable.

Congratulations to the award winners

- League Best & Fairest – 3<sup>rd</sup> – Vilo Path
- BJFC Best & Fairest - Ben Aldridge

- BJFC Second Best & Fairest - Jack Papadimitropoulos
- BJFC Third Best & Fairest - Viloh Patha
- Leading Goal-kicker - Jack Papadimitropoulos (20 goals)
- Best Defender - Dylan Z
- Most Determined - Max Dohrman
- Most Improved – Wilson Riley
- Brunswick Football Club All-Saints Coterie Award - Tyler

John Murphy

## 6.10. U13 Mixed White - Dean Penny



The year started with a slightly different team and a different coach to what most of the players were used too. Which inevitably was bound to be a bit of a different year to last year. Before the season even started, I remember thinking "it is was it is" and this will just give more opportunities to everyone to learn the most basic of footy skills.

See ball, GET BALL!

It took a little bit of time for them to realise that they would all need to step up. And none of them took a backwards step the whole year. From those playing their first season of footy ever - Alessio, Malachi and then Matt, to the ones that had more experience, Alex, Tom, Euan and Andrew. Every game needed the input of the 18 players on the field.

They also had to deal with a new coach, where winning was secondary, getting all players involved, and hence improve was my primary objective. I'm probably little bit too quiet at times too! With all that had, did, or was going to change week in week out there was always 1 constant, which is all I ever really asked of them, and made me very proud was, more than anything else, was the effort they put in and to ensure they were having fun playing with their mates. Because of the amount of effort they put in, they all improved way above my expectations. Some a little bit more than others of course, and it was such a shame that the season finished when it did. We were just hitting our straps and putting it all together.

When I looked back at the seasons results, I actually don't think these show the effort that the boys put in each and every week. But the ones that stand out are how we played against Richmond (One of the preliminary finalist teams) in Rd 2, Rd 6, and Rd 12. Each time the amount of scoring shots they had got less and the amount we had got better, and we made it harder for them too. I felt the first time was a good effort, the 2nd was getting closer to where we needed to be, and 3rd (our last loss of the year 3 games back) was one of the more impressive games we had, by all players. It was easily the best we played against one of the top sides. Peter and I kept mentioning how well all of them were playing.



Which set us up for the run home with 2 very impressive wins where everyone contributed with either high tackle pressure, which then allowed for exceptional ball movement.

**Congratulations** to Alex, Euan, Tom and Andrew for reaching their 50<sup>th</sup> game milestones. And I hope you get many, many more under your belt.

I wish I was allowed to give everyone an award this year. Just because you don't doesn't mean that you were not considered, but all the players should be commended for the year they have had too.

5. Julian - small in stature, big in heart. Never gave up on a chase. Seemed to welcome the contest and would either half it or end up with the pill (sometimes leaving me wondering how he did). Like when he tackled the biggest bloke on the field vs Camberwell and won.

14. Sam - another that has one of the biggest hearts muscles I have seen. I knew I would get 100% effort 100% of the time where ever I put him on the field. You seemed to at least give the impression your having fun and enjoying yourself.

17. Leroy - he didn't like being put into different positions as much as some of the others but no matter where he was, he went about his business with 100% effort.

30. Rowly - your improvement this year, especially around your ball use was exceptional. Credit to you. Those who don't know, at the start of every Wednesdays training we do 15-20m kicks between 2. You should see the rabble. Rowly seemed to be one of the only ones to actually concentrate for the duration of it, every time. No kicks around the corner, no boot it for the sake of booting it. Always seemed to be listening to the coaches too. And you can imagine how hard it is to get 40 kids to listen at 1 time. Very pleasing to see.

33. Tom - never too sure what I was going to get. Games where he would seem to run his backside off. Then others where it appeared he didn't really want to be there. Finished off the season absolutely brilliantly and produced some of his best performances.

34. Felix - missing for most of the year but when he did, he burst onto the scene. Which had me thinking "if only" we had him earlier in the year.

35. Connor - not the end we were hoping for, but another who cherished being given the opportunities in and around the footy. One of the early wet games we had I mentioned that there shouldn't be anyone coming out of the game with clean knees. I don't think there was one game that he walked away without dirty knees.

38. Harry - really just want to call him silk, for those silky skills when given the time. But due to being a Pies supporter I think I'll have to change that to Sidey partly due to the ability to kick on both feet like Steele can, and partly due to the ability to make the ball go sideways to get it to go through for the goal, early in the year. I really just wanted him to get the ball more so he could show off those skills more.

42. Marcus - another of the big improvers this year. Was sorely missed when he wasn't playing in our team. Definitely one that excelled when he realised that he needed to get the ball.

49. Alex - Every time he got near the ball you knew it was not going to be easy for the opposition. The wet weather specialist. That game against Camberwell in the wet will stay with me for ages. As mentioned, dirty knees mean effort. When you finish a game covered head to toe in mud is something else again. We really did miss his toughness while he gallivanting around Europe.

61. Nick - probably the most accurate kick (or not far off it) in the team. I really was trying to will him to get the ball when he got close to it. I not sure of heard him speak too much and would love to hear you demand the ball from your teammates more.

62. Andrew - talk about improvement. Start of the year couldn't catch a cold. Slowly but surely, he started to find his catches mitts and those contested grabs in the last game of the year would make Darcy Moore proud.

36. Jensen - Talk about toughness and want for the contest! Took me a little while to realise how best to channel the aggression towards the footy. Definitely didn't want to try and stop him from being him. Moving him in around the contest "back of the contest - anything that comes your way nail them" more I think really did help him, and more so the team. Making him run harder also seemed to make him nicer towards the umpires too.

65. Alessio - for a player in just his first year, he was one of those that improved heaps and he should be very proud of how far he has come in such a short time. I know I am. It was great to get some more height into the team, and one that liked playing in the Ruck too. The whole team was thankful for having you, none more so than Marlow so he didn't have to!

22. Matt - Only had him for 5 games but every game you were getting better and better. You and Alessio were starting to form a pretty good Ruck duo, that I'm sure other teams will be scared of next year. Keep working on those skills and keep up running.

#### **Leading Goalkicker**

26. Moe - Never shies away from having a ping at the big sticks. From any angle and any distance. I even put him down back occasionally just to give someone else a go a scoring a goal. When I did though he took some great intercept marks.

#### **Best Defender**

29. Buckley - I didn't really want to do this but most of the ACs thought the same. Maybe it's a pro to having meetings before games and able to dissect the game straight after it in the car ride home. He has always absorbed everything that his coaches have told him in other sports. I'm pretty happy that at least he listens to me when I'm talking about his footy, or maybe it's just that he doesn't have his ipad or computer like when he is at home.

#### **Most Determined**

9. Lachie - we have been working a lot on his ball drop this year, and it has been getting there. And if I was allowed to give out joint awards you would also be joint most Improved, joint best defender and also joint coaches Award. But feel these are just due to your determination, and the persistence you have to achieve.

**Most Improved** – How do you decide who this is when every one of these boys improved incredibly throughout this year. But one really stood out in my eyes.

45. Wilfred - when I spoke earlier about players stepping up when given more opportunity to do so this player is at the forefront of that conversation. Players like him are the reason I love to coach. He went from being a mid-range player (not sure where to put him) to one that we dispiritedly needed as close to action as possible. I've been particularly impressed with the improvement on your ability to get the ball in the contest and how much work you have put into your kicking. Keep it up.

#### **Coaches Award**

Honestly, I didn't know what coterie was and had googling it - "small group of people with shared interests". So, after consulting the 4 ACs I had this year for their input on these awards (apart from

MVP and Goalkicker). One name was mentioned by almost everyone, and in 3 out of the 4 categories. Most Improved, Most Determined, and this award. This player obviously warranted one of them. Then after thinking about, it more I couldn't think of anyone who I felt demanded it or deserved it more.

39. Arlo - The whole year from the very 1st game to the very last game he optimised the team mantra of see ball get ball mentally. Even when sometimes I felt he had absolutely no right to it get the ball he seemed to will himself to come away with it showing great determination. He also showed a great desire to learn more and hence improved so much because of it. Was always willing to do whatever was best for the team, even if at times he didn't want to. Just kept trying, rain, hail or shine, and then even sometimes when a bit sore.

### **3rd MVP**

19. Euan - I've been thinking, once the season finished, that I probably need apologise to you. I was probably giving you more rev ups than anyone else this year, but I just wanted you to excel and deliver on the potential I saw from the side lines last year. And now thinking back on the season you have had I need to say, "I'm sorry but not sorry". You seemed to take it all on board (even though you might not have) and you did deliver, and were definitely one of our best all year, which is evident from the B&F placing. I had the faith that wherever I put you on the field you would give it your all.

These next 2 players also need to be congratulated for making the top 5 in the league MVP awards, for our division as well! Which is just another indication of how impressive they have been for the season. If I think of how both these players went about it this year, the most pressing memory of both of them is – Streaming out of a pack, ball in hand, with the rest of the players on the ground trying to catch up!!

### **2nd MVP (and 5<sup>th</sup> in the League MVP)**

43. Malachi - We had to wait till Rd 4 to see what you could do but you definitely delivered - Nick Daicos style. Still can't believe it was your first season playing footy. Where did this kid come from?? Hope you enjoyed it and hope you continue playing. Glad you chose to be a Dragon.

### **1st MVP (and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the League MVP)**

31. Marlow - great season from a great kid. Always reciprocated the how are you! Not just the "good" I get from Bucks, and many of his mates. Started the year being on the outside (which is probably where he would prefer to be), until he realised (pretty quickly) that if he wanted the ball, he was going to have to get himself. From then on, these accolades speak for themselves. 100% effort, 100% of the time. Credit to you how well you played and the improvement in your game this year. Especially the ability to blind turn out of packs and just go!

**Thank you** to all the parents/families for volunteering your time to Time keep, Scoreboard Attendant, Goal/Boundary Umpiring, Umpire Escort, Ground Manager, Our Trainers (Vicky & Scott), Runners (the 2 Steves, Peter, and Matt and Stephen). And Lucas for providing most of the photos and Donna for the oranges most weeks.

The 4 AC's I had this year, your help on game days was greatly appreciated - Steven Honey, Matt, Peter & Con.

A very special thankyou needs to go to Tia for reluctantly taking on the role that no one else wanted and made sure that every week I had a team to coach, and that we had enough volunteers, sometimes putting her own hand up to take on extra responsibility and fill two roles  
So, from me, the players and all the parents WE thank you, and appreciate your efforts.

### 6.11. U14 Girls - Tilly Murray-White

The 2023 Season was another great year of development for our team of committed Dragons. The year kicked off with pre-season out on Fleming Oval in East Brunswick, with 16 returning players being joined by 6 new players, some totally new to football and others from other clubs.

The coaching panel was a combination of the old and new, with Peter Crouch moving to Runner (but attending nearly every training session), Steve Brown becoming Assistant Coach, and me, Tilly Murray-White, moving from Runner to Head Coach.

Training was held as always on Wednesday night, usually with very solid attendance, the only major disruptions being caused by School Camps and Musicals. Training was always a great time with one particular highlight being playing blindfolded footy which was hilarious.

Performance wise, the season can be broken into 2 groups, games against the 5 top teams, most of whom we had great quarters, but who got on top of us for a while, and the games against the rest of the competition, which were on the whole, incredibly close affairs, with us winning 2 and losing many others late. It is worth noting the scheduling did us no favours, giving us only 1 game against each of the other teams at the lower end of the ladder, but giving us most of the finalists twice.

The season was marked by 2 of our players reaching 50 games - Lee Paterson and Lexie Brown, and Tilda Sinclair winning her third consecutive double Best & Fairest - both the BJFC Under 14 Girls and the YJFL Under 14 (2). Lexie Brown's 7th place finish in the YJFL B&F was also highly meritorious.

I would like to thank all of the Dragons for their commitment, passion and enthusiasm across the course of the year.

### 6.12. U14 Mixed (Vacant)

No team entered in 2023.

## 6.13. U15 Boys - Adrian Marsili



Under 15 season 2023 began with the merger of the two U14 teams of the previous season. With the intention to again form two teams in 2023 before player registrations closed, 33 players had signed up to play. This obviously was not enough to form two teams, therefore we decided to merge the players from both groups into one team. Damien who was to coach team two was appointed as assistant coach to me in our merged team.

Managing 33 players was going to be somewhat awkward in one team so a few of the boys moved up into the U16 team. This increased their player numbers which was much needed, a win/win for both age groups. We settled on 29 players, a much more manageable size and on reflection, pretty much the perfect number.

The season started off with three grading games that gave us the full probabilities of results! One loss, one draw and then a win. We were placed in Div 3 and got off to a slow start with 5 straight losses, as the team developed and with each proceeding game the margins were narrowing. The boys were getting used to playing with each other as some had never played with their new teammates. Each week we had up to six players on the bench, but we never had the full 29 players available, either due to injury, illness, school camps, personal commitments or otherwise. Hence 29 being the “perfect” number.

Halfway through the season the coaches and team managers, organised a “pasta night” at the club as a team and parenting bonding session which seemed to work wonders for the team. We organised a parent/guardian and player goal kicking comp which was probably more competitive between the parents than the boys! A lot of fun and a bigger laugh!

Our first regular season win came soon after in round 9 and continued through rounds 10 and 11. The boys were playing with confidence within themselves and within their teammates. Three wins in a row and we were all up and about and having a great time with the hard work at training starting to pay off in games. The second school term then arrived, and we had two weeks off. This may have interrupted our obvious momentum and we then played the last 3 games against the top three teams to narrowly lose two and be convincingly defeated in the last game by the eventual premiers to subsequently miss the finals by one and a half games. In those last 3 games we were missing a few key players due to injury or other commitments’ but all the boys on the park gave everything they had to get us as far as we could go.

Before the season began, Damien and I spoke with parents and explained our KPI’s for the team.

- 1: player development.
- 2: team development.
- 3: equitable participation.
- 4: most importantly player enjoyment.

We as coaches and TMs believe we achieved all the above and especially enjoyed watching each and every player improve game after game to become a good team-orientated group enjoyable to watch for the devoted supporters. We could not be prouder as parents and team officials of their determination, desire and playing the game fairly and in good spirits and with humility in victory and graciousness in defeat. They really are a great group of lads!

As a first-time coach I was a little nervous going into the season but with the experienced heads of Damien and Jimmy and guidance of Kon it was a pleasurable and memorable experience. Co-team managers Sally and Leah are the true drivers of the team and made the journey smooth and easy. I would also like to acknowledge the team trainers, Vanessa, Kym and Dean for their care and comfort to the injured boys. All players families were tremendous volunteers in various roles and very helpful each and every week and very supportive of the boys and coaches cheering on from the sidelines win, lose or draw. The support inside the changerooms after games, not just after wins but especially losses, was very heart warming and appreciative. Although the celebrations after the wins were emphatic!!

The biggest disappointment of the season was the long-term injuries to a few of the boys of whom since have made full recoveries. We sincerely hope all or most players will return in season 2024 to the U16 mighty dragons and have a kick with their mates!

Thanks, and GO DRAGONS!  
Adrian (coach U15 boys)

## 6.14. U16 Girls - Erin MacLatchy



2023 was a big season for U16 Girls. We moved up to Division 1 – which is a serious level of competition at u16.

We finished the season with 6 wins from 13 plus a highlight win in our prelim final played at Gillon. Playing against the best teams in the competition and being one of the younger teams—with the majority of our players U15—this is a significant achievement.

We are also the first Brunswick Dragons girls team to play in a grand final – a huge achievement, of which every player should be immensely proud. Every player has contributed something important to our team success.

#### COACHING

This year we were blessed to have Chloe Haritopoulos join our coaching team. Chloe was an ideal coach for this team, having played junior footy with Brunswick and having achieved a lot in football already. Chloe had an amazing impact on our players and we're sure to see a lot more from her— coaching or playing.

This season we have continued to build upon the leadership & development model that we implemented the past few seasons. We use a growth mindset approach to developing players abilities and leadership skills.

#### **Thank you to our training & team coaching support Alistair Gibb**

We'd like to say thank you to Alistair Gibb, on behalf of the team and coaches. You volunteered to run the boundary for every single game and you were the best boundary umpire we had. You came to every training, even on Fridays - none of the other parents did that, maybe not even any of the players. You would always join in the drills, encouraging us to work harder, run faster and be stronger. The amount of time you volunteered to our team is unbelievable and we have all benefitted from your generosity.

#### LEADERSHIP

For the first time we had players take on the Captain (Isabella Hishongwa-Gibb) & Vice Captain (Marlie Cassinides) roles for the whole season and introduced Mid/Back/Fwd zone leader roles (Poppy Dohrman, Sophia Carr, Aava Hishongwa-Gibb). The players we selected for these roles had demonstrated their commitment to the team, themselves, the club and football more broadly and were players who we knew would be available for their team throughout the season. We have great depth of leadership skills amongst our players and all of them contributed something positive to the team in a leadership capacity.

In addition to those 5 roles, all players spent part of the season in the leadership group. At the end of each game, we would get together and debrief on the game to identify what we'd done well & what we needed to improve on and we would use these insights to build drills for the next week of training. This really helped us progress each week and understand that we can benefit from having the mindset of always learning.

Players also had leadership opportunities to assist in warm ups and drill with younger girls teams at Dragons and volunteering at Brunswick and Carlton Auskick.

Thank you to all our teammates for taking on leadership roles this season.

#### TEAMBUILDING & CONNECTIONS

One of our team aims this year was to have more social activities. We had pie nights, pizza nights and went out for dinner.

This year 4 of our players celebrated our 50 game milestone - Marley Mackinnon, Poppy, Eliza Smith and Stella Purdey - and our banner-making for milestone games became were some of our best teambuilding activities.

We made it a priority to have fun at training too. We have an evolving playlist and got into themed training sessions. We also started our team tik tok account and went viral on one occasion.

#### DEVELOPMENT & REPRESENTATIONS

This season three players were selected for the Yarra Magpies Development squads Abbey Billing & Isla MacLatchy (U15) and Coco Balmain (U14). We trained for 8 weeks and played a 3-match interleague series. We had the opportunity to learn from different coaches, train with some of the best players in the league and experience professional facilities, including at St Kilda's home ground in Moorabbin. Congratulations Coco on your Best on Ground performance in the interleague match. Congratulations to Avaa & Bella for being selected to represent Vic Metro in the Talent League Diversity Cup.

#### AWARDS

- Leading Goalkicker: Isobella Hishongwa-Gibb
- Most Improved: Marley Mackinnon.
- Most Determined: Coco Balmain.
- Best Defender: Ainsley Jones.
- Player of the Finals Series:

This year we used the Best & Fairest voting approach to select the best Player of the Finals Series. Across the 2 games, the coaches had a combined vote, along with votes from 2 spectators. Our prelim against Templestowe was brilliant and none of us will forget the experience of our first grand final. Every player stood up and played their part in the finals. The shortlist of players who received votes over the finals are Bella, Roxie Dobson, Coco, Avaa, Poppy, Ainsley, Abbey Billing & Maddy McCay.

- Runner up: Avaa Hishongwa-Gibb. Winner: Coco Balmain
- Coterie Award: For an Outstanding Season of Leadership & Achievement to Avaa Hishongwa-Gibb
- Best & Fairest

Second runner up: Abbey Billing and Poppy Dohrman (tied)

First runner up: Avaa Hishongwa-Gibb

Winner: Isobella Hishongwa-Gibb.

Thank you to all the families & friends who volunteered and supported us through the season!



## 6.15. U16 Boys - Brendan Allman & Simon Fredrickson

### **U16 Boys - Stick together and improve**

This represented our theme for the season. Over the years, we have had a strong core group of lads in the team, but now struggle with numbers. This year we had five new recruits to the team, three from the lower age team, and two new arrivals to the club. These lads all bonded well with our continuing core group. In total, we had 23 players, with one ending on long term injury after a horrible broken leg in his second game.



This year we continued in Division 3 and started the season with a win. Our season became decidedly harder when four teams dropped down from Division 2 after grading, giving us 10 teams in Division 3. We finished the season with 4 wins and 9 losses. We were competitive all year, and in most games for 3+ quarters. We ran home 3-3, including wins against teams we had previously lost to. Make those early wins and at 6-7 you are in the mix. Over the season, we did indeed improve, as we were ladder ranked the 19<sup>th</sup> best team in YJFL U16Boys, up from 21<sup>st</sup> in U15.

### **Season Highlights:**

A four-goal, come from behind last quarter to win in front of a home crowd late in the season was special.

It is hard to say that a one-point loss is a highlight, but the boys had six goals kicked against them in the first quarter and after dusting themselves off kept their opponent goalless for the rest of the game and even hit the front late in the game.

A four-goal first quarter that broke a run of slow starts and set up an end of season win.

Early in the season we played the eventual top team. Their coach was impressed by our boys constant pressure. This clearly was a concern as that team dropped out of finals in straight sets.

Over the season, we had ten different lads atop the match votes. A great indication of team evenness.

- Robbie Steindl (our best and fairest, again) for making the YJFL U16 rep team.
- Daniel Clough (our leading goal kicker, again) for being first in the group to play 100 club games.

At U16 the lads now have the big bodies and adult-level skills. All season we had strong numbers at training, a good sign for team understanding and cohesion. All players did continue to improve skills. Training continued to focus on creating space, game sense, effective forward entries, voice and communication, and applying pressure to the ball carrier. A major emphasis this season was maintaining possession and controlling the speed of play. This meant being able to move the ball and opposition to free our ball and game flow. We use high rotations to keep the boys fresh and expanded the on-ball team, something we feel everyone enjoyed. It says a lot of the boys for their willingness to move and try new roles. Given the club didn't have a Youth (U18) team this year, we feel we are in a good space for a mostly bottom-age crack at Youth next year. Going into next season, we feel boys have developed enough to play with more freedom and take the game on. In addition, next year we have up to eight boys lining up for 100 club games and one for 50.

Once again, we received fantastic support from the parents: Penny as the trainer, a rotation of Peter, Ash and Rod doing the running; Darren and Brett on Boundary, Tim and co goal umpires and James on scores. Our super organised Team Manager Beth Turnbull kept us all in line and everything ticking along smoothly. We are fortunate to generally have two coaches and two parents attending nearly all of our sessions as well. This was great for player oversight, but also drove player engagement. A huge thanks to Ash and Darren for that! Parents, we welcome your involvement.

Brendan and Simon

## 6.16. Colts (Vacant)

No team entered in 2023 despite significant efforts to recruit additional numbers in pre-season.

The following players played under permit with other clubs for the 2023 season:

- Alfred Culham – Fitzroy JFC
- Alexander Parker – Preston Bullants JFC
- Lyell Oldfield – Fitzroy JFC
- Harper Exton – Fitzroy JFC

Alfred Culham played in the Division 1 grand final with Fitzroy, coming away with a strong victory against Kew Comets (65 to 38).

Alex Parker played in the Division 2 grand final with Preston Bullants, unfortunately going down to Richmond 28-44.

Harper and Lyell played with Fitzroy in their Division 3 team, making it through to the Preliminary Final, narrowly going down to Banyule 53 to 58.

## 6.17. Youth Girls (Vacant)

No team entered in 2023 despite significant efforts to recruit additional numbers in pre-season.

## 7. Honour Board

### 7.1. Club Executive

<b>Year</b>	<b>President</b>	<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>
2010	Trevor Ludeman	Jerome Walsh	Helen Gatford	Wendy Canobie
2011	Trevor Ludeman	Jerome Walsh	Helen Gatford	Wendy Canobie
2012	Jerome Walsh	Ray Nardella	Joan O'Sullivan	Wendy Canobie
2013	Ray Nardella		Libby O'Connor	Wendy Canobie
2014	Libby O'Connor	Alison Beswick	Luke Wilson	Wendy Canobie
2015	Libby O'Connor	Alison Beswick	Luke Wilson	Wendy Canobie
2016	Alison Beswick		Greg Banova	Wendy Canobie
2017	Greg Banova	Rob Purcell	Fiona Smith	Wendy Canobie
2018	Greg Banova	Anthony McIntosh	Lisa Geerlings	John Deininger
2019	Beth Scott		Lisa Geerlings	Nicole Minihan
2020	Beth Scott	Jacob Murray-White	Angela Grozos	Nicole Minihan
2021	Andrew Mackinnon	Jacob Murray-White	Angela Grozos	Nicole Minihan
2022	Andrew Mackinnon	Kon Athanasopoulos	Angela Grozos	Catriona Saunders
2023	Andrew Mackinnon	Kon Athanasopoulos	Wendy Perdrisat	Catriona Saunders

### 7.2. Life Members

<b>Name</b>	<b>Awarded</b>
Wendy Canobie	2017
Trevor Ludeman	2017
Ray McKenzie	2019
Kylie Moreland	2019
Alison Beswick	2020
Will McKenzie	2021
Lily Jenkins	2021
Francis Evans	2022
Chloe Haritopoulos	2022
Tony Steindl	2023
Sandy Green	2023

### 7.3. 100 Games

\*\* Club Record Holders

New/Updated entry in 2023

Name	Games
Francis Evans **	141
Otis Styant-Browne	133
Liam Kanizaj-Clark	131
Will McKenzie	131
Luke George	129
Lewis Bonney McKenzie	127
Benjamin Marchionna	127
Jack Ludeman	124
William Mott	123
Jack Sabatino	122
Ewan Baulch	121
George Kelly	120
Antonio Raso	120
Ziggy Ryan	119
Sabastian La Greca	118
Freddy Sinn	118
<b>Harper Exton</b>	<b>116</b>
Joshua Hamling	114
David Marchione	114
Jasper Paevere	112
Aden Van Gerrevink	112
Christopher Reade	111
Adam Dib	111
Alexander Parker	111
William Wilson	110
Kallum Athanasiadis	110
Daniel Mott	110
Daniel Clough	109
Jonah Allan	108
Gabriel Banova	108
Cesar Pizarro	108
Alfred Culham	108
Luca Perrone	107
James Burgess	106
Angus Drysdale	105
Lachlan Petrovic	105
Chloe Haritopoulos **	104
Clarence Kilkenny-Jones	102
Ari Jackson	101
Ari Paevere	100
Nicolas Staniscia	100

## 7.4. Hall of Fame

Player	Draft Year	Drafted	Club	BJFC summary
Krstel Petrovski	2019	National Draft (pick 78)	Melbourne AFLW	2016 (U15) 12 games 31 goals. 2016 U15 YJFL B&F.
Francis Evans	2019	National Draft (pick 41)	Geelong AFL	2010 (U10) to 2018 (Colts) 141 games (club record holder) 206 goals Premierships: 2012 (U12), 2013 (U13)

## 7.5. Premierships

Year	Team	Division
2012	U12 Mixed	Black (5)
2013	U13 Mixed	Green (3)
2019	Colts	Division 4
2021	U13 Purple Mixed	Blue (4)
2021	U16 Boys	Division 3
2022	Youth Girls*	Division 1
2023	Youth Boys*	Division 1

\*with Fitzroy

## 7.6. YJFL Best & Fairest Placegetters

2011: Daniel Mott - 3rd - U11 Mixed Black	2019: Alice McCarthy - 2nd - U13 Girls Brown
2012: G. KELLY - 2nd - U10 Mixed Red	2019: Gabriel Banova - 1st - U15 Boys Div 4
2013: Daniel Mott - 2nd - U13 Mixed Green	2019: Aaron Tsarouhas - 1st - Colts Div 4
2014: A. JIRIC - 3rd - U10 Mixed Black	2021: Luca Dryden - 3rd - U12 Mixed Black
2014: G. KELLY - 2nd - U12 Mixed Red	2021: Tilda Sinclair - 1st - U12 Girls Green
2014: J. MANIAS - 3rd - U13 Mixed Black	2021: Riley Wilton - 2nd - U13 Mixed Blue
2014: Daniel Mott - 1st - U14 Mixed Brown	2021: Max Varely - 1st - U14 Mixed Blue
2015: G. KELLY - 3rd - U13 Mixed Black	2021: Tom Varley - 3rd - U14 Mixed Blue
2015: J. MANIAS - 1st - U14 Mixed Blue	2021: Sam Mclroy - 1st - U16 Boys Div 3
2015: Daniel Mott - 1st - U15 Division 2	2021: Oscar Watt - 1st - Colts Div 4
2016: Krstel Petrovski - 1st - U15 Girls Div 3	2021: Chloe Haritopoulos - 3rd - Youth Girls Div 3
2016: Daniel Mott - 1st - Colts Div 4	2022: Wilbur Watt - 1st - U11 Mixed Blue
2017: J. KROGER - 2nd - U11 Mixed Red	2022: Patha Vilohith - 2nd - U12 Mixed Black
2017: N. MCINTOSH - 2nd - U12 Mixed Black	2022: Tilda Sinclair - 1st - U13 Girls Brown
2018: J. KROGER - 1st - U12 Mixed Red	2022: Leversha Maxwell - 3rd - U13 Mixed Black
2018: N. MCINTOSH - 1st - U13 Mixed Black	2022: Cristian Athanasopoulos - 2nd - U14 Mixed Brown
2018: C. PARKER - 3rd - U13 Mixed Black	2022: Isobella Hishongwa-Gibb - 3rd - U15 Girls Div 2
2018: D. MARCHIONE - 3rd - U15 Division 3	2022: Chloe Haritopoulos - 1st - Youth Girls Div 1
2018: Chloe Haritopoulos - 2nd - U15 Girls Div 2	
2019: Cristian Athanasopoulos - 1st - U11 Mixed Black	

2023 -

Jack Lazzaro – 3 <sup>rd</sup> – U11M (Div3)	Tilda Sinclair – 1 <sup>st</sup> – U14G (Div 2)
Eleanor Adams – 3 <sup>rd</sup> – U12G (Div2)	Cristian Athanasopoulos – 1 <sup>st</sup> – U15B (Div 3)
Vilohith Patha – 3 <sup>rd</sup> – U13M (Div 3)	Isobella Hishongwa-Gibb – 3 <sup>rd</sup> – U16G (Div1)
Marlow Lucas – 3 <sup>rd</sup> – U13M (Div 5)	

## 8. Financial Reports – Catriona Saunders

### Profit and Loss

#### Brunswick Junior Football Club For the year ended 30 September 2023

	2023	2023 OVERALL BUDGET	VARIANCE %
<b>Trading Income</b>			
<b>Apparel and Merchandise</b>			
Apparel and Merchandise:Opening Stock	(13,690)	-	-
Apparel and Merchandise Purchases	(9,511)	-	-
Apparel and Merchandise Sales	11,119	3,000	271% ↑
Apparel and Merchandise:Closing Stock	12,512	-	-
<b>Total Apparel and Merchandise</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>-86%</b>
<b>Bar and Canteen</b>			
Canteen/Bar Sales	29,375	12,000	145% ↑
Bar Sales	193	-	-
Canteen Manager and Team	(4,540)	-	-
Bar Purchases	(735)	-	-
Canteen Purchases	(13,745)	-	-
<b>Total Bar and Canteen</b>	<b>10,549</b>	<b>12,000</b>	<b>-12%</b>
Grants Received	12,376	10,060	23% ↑
Interest received	-	2,800	-100% ↓
<b>Total Trading Income</b>	<b>23,354</b>	<b>27,860</b>	<b>-16%</b>
<b>Other Income</b>			
<b>Membership income</b>			
Membership Fees	45,596	39,000	17% ↑
Membership Refunds	(873)	-	-
<b>Total Membership income</b>	<b>44,723</b>	<b>39,000</b>	<b>15%</b>
AFL Raffle Income	-	1,200	-100% ↓
Sponsorship Income	13,584	14,000	-3% ↓
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>58,307</b>	<b>54,200</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>81,661</b>	<b>82,060</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>			
Bank Charges	662	-	-
Cleaning	-	1,000	-100% ↓
Consultancy fees	16,064	14,400	12% ↑
Donations and Gifts	91	-	-

Profit and Loss

	2023	2023 OVERALL BUDGET	VARIANCE %
Equipment	6,663	8,000	-17% ↓
Fees and permits	100	500	-80% ↓
Filing fees	-	50	-100% ↓
General expenses	916	600	53% ↑
Gifts/Thankyou Expenses	5,252	6,000	-12% ↓
Grant Acquittal Costs	4,932	10,000	-51% ↓
Ground Hire	3,007	4,000	-25% ↓
Insurance	1,159	1,200	-3% ↓
Medical Supplies and Medics	1,455	1,200	21% ↑
Memberships/Subscriptions	490	-	- -
Photography / Videography	4,185	-	- -
Postage	-	140	-100% ↓
Presentation Day expenses	6,994	6,000	17% ↑
Printing and Stationery	94	600	-84% ↓
Repairs and Maintenance	1,210	360	236% ↑
Storage Expenses	1,855	2,200	-16% ↓
Team Allowances	856	360	138% ↑
Team Jumpers Purchases	293	-	- -
Training - General	1,875	16,000	-88% ↓
Training - High Perf Program	11,741	-	- -
Trophies & Medals	571	4,500	-87% ↓
Umpire Costs - General	2,430	2,000	22% ↑
Utilities	7,397	6,000	23% ↑
Coach Stipend	2,000	-	- -
Indigenous Sub-Committee	1,000	-	- -
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>83,291</b>	<b>85,110</b>	<b>-2%</b>
<b>Net Profit</b>	<b>(1,630)</b>	<b>(3,050)</b>	<b>47%</b>



# Balance Sheet

## Brunswick Junior Football Club

As at 30 September 2023

30 SEP 2023

### Assets

#### Bank

NAB Bank Account	179,748.25
<b>Total Bank</b>	<b>179,748.25</b>

#### Current Assets

Apparel & Merchandise	12,511.60
Sundry Debtors	600.00
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>13,111.60</b>

<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>192,859.85</b>
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### Liabilities

#### Current Liabilities

Grant unacquitted	6,000.00
GST	(1,302.00)
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>4,698.00</b>

<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>4,698.00</b>
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<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>188,161.85</b>
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### Equity

Current Year Earnings	(1,630.08)
Retained Earnings	189,791.93
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>188,161.85</b>