



Hurlstone Park Wanderers Football Club

The Wanderer

90 years commitment to grass roots football and the community

Good Things Come To He Who Waits

U21/2 premiership - 15 years in the making

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It seems a world away when my son James and a bunch of his seven year old school friends from Yeo Park Infants descended on the Wanderers club to form a tiny tot team back in about the year 2000 (I think). Well over a hundred kids must have transitioned through his teams since then and now 15 years later he is the last man standing of his original team. Despite the best coaching efforts of a few club stalwarts such as Vicki Haines, Dave Berg and Victor Monasterio the 1993 born cohort probably had more downs than ups over the years. In recent years they have been coaching themselves. They played some exceptional games, made the occasional semi or preliminary final, always gave their best on the park, represented the finest values of our club but sadly premiership glory mostly eluded them (some of the boys did win a 3rd division competition some years ago). This year, my son's last in the U21

competition, saw a core of long term club players joined by a group of recent additions and I held my ever-hopeful pre-season high hopes that we would finally get our just deserts. However heavy losses in the first three games saw them plummet to the bottom of the ladder and my dreams with

team cruised into the semi-finals in 2nd place and two bites at a grand final appearance. A glorious 2-1 semi final victory against the previously unbeaten competition leaders had them on the brink of greatness. Fate however has the knack of crushing any hubris for me. It turned out that after 15 years of standing on the sideline,



running coaching session on cold winter nights, washing shirts, picking up half the team before games each week and filling out countless match sheets, my darling wife decided to book us on a holiday to Queensland departing on the morning of the

them. It was possibly then that the football Gods at last took pity on me. An offer to coach by Jim, one of the parents, galvanised the squad and victories and an avalanche of goals followed. With only one further loss during the remaining competition rounds the

scheduled grand final. How can this be? Tell me it's not true! In fact, it's probably better I was 30,000 feet in the air than having a heart attack on the sideline. But once again fate intervened and as we sat on a wet and cold tarmac waiting to take off news came through that the all weekend

Wednesday U8

Loving football and the team spirit...more rain would be nice though!



The U8 Wednesday boys, a total of 21 boys when at full strength, have had a great season under the guidance of Lindsay Baker, for many the third year coached by Lindsay. The boys have been happy with no washouts, they loved playing in the rain! (see photo). A great year to play football with the all the World Cup action. The boys generally loving football and the team spirit. Most of the boys will be moving up to the U9s next year and looking forward to wearing the HPW blue and white and playing other clubs.

Passing and moving into space

U10 Div. 1 – serious but fun!

Hi my name is Ronan and I play for HPW U10 Div. 1. My team is a good team and we're doing well in the competition. We have a good coach and supportive parents. Our main focus in the team is passing and then moving into space where we can find the ball again. A few of us have been playing together since we first started playing

football for HPW U6 so we have been friends for a long time. Thank you



Attracted to the outfits...

U9 Girls love football too.

The U9Girls soccer team has had a great first year together. There are 13 lively young 'sports women' in the team each bringing to the group their individual skills and characters. Under the caring and gentle leadership of their coach David, they have developed not only strong foundations and strategies for being effective players, but a great sense of sportsmanship and respect for each other as individuals. This was beautifully reinforced by one of the girls in the team, Holly, who replied when asked to share her thoughts on their team, "I love the teamwork aspect where we all work together and make things happen." Holly went on to say that she likes that she has made new friends from different schools and she just loves running around kicking the ball! Isabel's thoughts were also confirming their sense of unity when she said, "We all share the ball. We all love playing soccer. I like learning new skills from my coach and our soccer games are lots of fun!" As each week has progressed so have the girls' individual skills, passing tactics, positional strategies and



understanding of how best to maintain a position. Even the position of goalie, a not often 'fought over' position, has always been easily filled in this U9Girls team.

They have practically had an undefeated season, with a couple of draws and only one loss. When invited to share her thoughts Kiara said "I love soccer because I like playing in a team, when I play defender I have lots of fun, especially when I clear the ball away so their striker can't score." It is with this continued sense of fun that the team has gone from win to win, showing great teamwork and care for each other at the games. This respect and support of each other was also expressed by Lily who said "Sometimes I am scared of the ball and of being strong enough to score a goal but my team always gives me the courage to go for it and have a go!"

Openly Ruby who initially was attracted to the uniform explained, "I wanted to play soccer because of the outfit and now I actually like playing too!"

So from the girls in the U9 team it looks like it has been a great year where skills have been learnt, friendships have been made and fun has been celebrated!

President's Message

Hurlo is a name used to describe HPWFC players and dates back to the 1940's when it was used to confirm one's allegiance to the club ..i.e. "I'm a Hurlo". Since then it's been used from time to time but fair to say it has lost its meaning a little over the last 20 years. To commemorate our 90th anniversary "Hurlo" is making a big come back in the form of a new club mascot. The lion



that adorns our club logo dates back to the origins of the club in 1924 and from what we can ascertain connects to an early Scottish descendant using the rampant lion. Canterbury club used the passive lion, the emblem of England. We're taking the Lion on our logo and making him come to life with the name of Hurlo Hurlo the Lion ! We're hoping this allows our youngest members to create a stronger connection with the club and maybe end up learning about it's history.

Everyone Can Play Gala Day



On August 2 we held the first Annual Everyone Can Play Gala Day at Ewen Park. We had around 25 players with special needs visiting us from Special Olympics, Windgap Foundation and Marrickville Respite Services. We formed mixed teams with Hurlstone Park Wanderers players and then played a round robin series of games on half fields. There was music to accompany the games, soft drinks and sausages for the players and volunteers and very

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many happy players playing games in wonderful spirit. There were some pretty awesome skills on show from our visitors and lots of goals scored to keep the crowd interest up.

We also had two HPW players Lucy and Clare who are also CDSRA referees who came along and officiated for the games, they did a great job keeping the games going in a spirit of fair play and fun. This day was a highlight of the 2014 soccer season for the volunteers who helped organize the day

and especially for the players who came out and played. The joy felt by everyone can be seen in the photos from the day.

Thank you to everyone involved in this wonderful day. We are already making plans for next year!!



Clean Up Australia Day

Through the passion and commitment of parent volunteer Roger Hart the club was involved in organising a Clean Up site for the first time. It was an early start to a Sunday morning but volunteers from the club and the community arrived, signed up and began cleaning up sites along Cook's River adjacent to the mini fields and managed to remove more than 20 bags of rubbish, plastic containers and other floating debris in around two hours. It was a great show of com-



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munity care from our club members and the community in general. Thanks to all those people who gave up their time and helped make the clean up a success. Also a big thank you to Roger Hart for organising the event.



U21/2 Premiership cont.

games had been washed out. My wife proved to be a latter-day Nostradamus and all was forgiven as we enjoyed a week of sunshine as Sydney drowned. So finally on 24 August 2014 the Wanderers 21/2 team ran out onto a sodden Parry Park pitch to line up against Enfield. Not having played for three weeks the boys were a bit rusty to start with and running up the hill at Parry didn't help. A penalty just before half time which they converted settled them down and they went on to dominate the second half. A quick goal after the resumption and a third not long after saw them safely in front. Enfield snatched a late goal but the game was as good as over. Celebrations all round and a well-deserved 3-1 victory to a fine bunch of young men. So it eventuated that late on Sunday evening I was able to unveil a bottle of red and drink a toast to the team and Mums and Dads everywhere who have watched their girls and boys mature into adulthood with a good measure of sport playing a part in that transformation. Ah, the beautiful game!

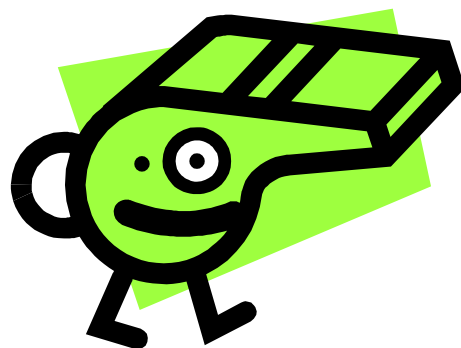
Congratulations then to long term club players Stuart Hambley, Johnny Favuzzi, Sam Asamoah, Emmanuel Asamoah, Tom Durand, Dylan Stevens, Leslie Mazikana, George Vaitas & James Horsburgh. Some of them won a division 3 competition some years ago but Stuart and James picked up their first premiership after 15 years playing for the club. Congratulations as well to the more recent additions to the team Anthony Pacialeo, Andrew Ribeiro, Aron Fernandez, Bede Collins, Andreas Richter, Costas Niahos, Alex Perez, Norman Gregory and Anthony Montuoro. Many thanks to coach Jim Niahos for whipping them into shape and manager extraordinaire Carmela Favuzzi.



Hurlstone Park Wanderers Mini-Referees Program

One of the great scenes at Ewen on a weekend morning is the sight of our yellow vested junior club players refereeing the mini games (u6 to U9). As every frustrated parent of a six year old will tell you, the said six year old always seems to pay more attention to their older sibling than an adult and this is the foundation upon which the success of the mini-refs program thrives.

First developed over ten years ago the mini refs are volunteers drawn from the ranks of our junior teams (u12 – u15). Their role is to assist the youngest players in our Club to enjoy their football. In the U6s this can involve showing the players where to pass the ball and ensuring everybody has a kick. By the time they are supervising the U9s it is more about reminding the players about their skills and techniques e.g. throw-ins and making sure that the spectators (safely corralled behind



the sideline ropes) understand the decisions being made. Each season we have about 30 mini-refs in the program and the following year a number of these attend the CDSRA training and 'graduate' to join the ranks of the official referees. All of our full pitch teams will have seen these graduates running the line and in the centre. Indeed these now FFA qualified officials often comment about how great it is for them to see the children in the juniors that they refereed once upon a time in the minis. Even more gratifying from a Club perspective is watching our young referees as they gain confidence, self reliance and assume responsibility in their role.

The mini-refs program recruits at the pre-season registration days and players wishing to be part of it need to be twelve years old (or nearly 12) by the start of the season. For further information please contact minirefs@hurlstoneparkwanderers.com.au

Development of girls and women's football within CDSFA

Development of girls and women's football within CDSFA The CDSFA is leading the way in development of girls and women's football, and HPW has a key role in this. Girls and women's teams represent a growing number of teams within the Association. In particular, the O30's women's competition has grown from 6 to 10 teams in its first two years, and the youngest age groups are experiencing significant growth. It is exciting to see more clubs fielding teams in the female competition.

Hurlstone Park Wanderers can be proud of their contribution to this growth and development. We were one of the first clubs to field an u8 girls team, way back in 2006, and we have fielded teams in all age groups since then. We have four teams in O30s women's and four teams in AA Women's in 2014, more senior women's teams than any other club. We also have a strong commitment to the Women's Intermediate League (WIL) competition, that provides a fantastic transition for girls from the younger age groups to all age women's, in a way that ensures a great competition with appropriate divisions to reflect ability. In 2014 we have two teams in WIL and two teams in u16 that we hope will make the transition to WIL. The girls who have competed in WIL are very positive about the experience, and can confirm that the age range (the youngest players are 15 and the oldest are turning 21) is no barrier to great football, and the depth of the competition has been a bonus compared with the bad old days of 4 or 5 teams in u17 or u18.

The CDSFA has established a Committee for Female Football (CFFF) to develop a strategy for promotion of all as-

pects of girls' and women's football for 2015 and beyond.

Rosalie Viney is a member of the Committee (and also Chair of the Girls' and Women's Grading Committee).

The Committee is looking at a broad range of strategies and areas, including coach development, player development and referee development. Ultimately we would like to see girls and women have an equal role in all aspects of football and the support of the Board in pursuing this agenda is very welcome.

A key action of the CFFF has been the Female Football Forum, which was open to all clubs and held on 23 June.

There were several HPW representatives at the Forum, and a highlight was the talk from Lauren Paddon, published in the July newsletter, longstanding HPW female player and captain of our HPW women's/1C team (this team has been to Champion of Champions three times and has won it twice, so they know a bit about success). Lauren was very eloquent about the passion she and her team have for competing in football to the best of their ability but also about the importance of team spirit, participation and fair game time. It was wonderful to have Lauren share her thoughts and experience.

In the next few months, we can look forward to more initiatives from the CDSFA to promote the women's game – including more coaching courses, player clinics and referee training. HPW encourages its female players and parents to get involved in these initiatives and take advantage of the fact that CDSFA is making the development of girls' and women's football a point of difference between it and other associations.

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Meet the Committee - James Athan — Registrar

I joined Hurlstone Park Wanderers as a 5 year old playing with the minis back in 1977. I continued playing till I was 12 years old. I later re-joined in my early 20's for 3 seasons. Back in 2007, I joined the "Sparks" O35 men's senior team. This is my 8th season with this team. My wife Tina, and both sons Jonathon and Stephen also play soccer.

As you can imagine, the soccer season is a hectic time in our household. Over the years playing with HPW, I've made many wonderful friends that I would never have met otherwise. I feel grateful working alongside club volunteers, including committee members, that I consider good friends.

Each year, as kids are settling into their first week of school for the year, HPW prepares for another season of football, as it hosts two main player registration days. For the last



two seasons, the club has benefited by allowing players to register via the FFA's national online player registration system. This has significantly reduced the long queues the data entry volunteers had to process beforehand. The main registration days are now a much more pleasant experience for all involved.

Immediately after the two main registration days, HPW's age coordinators are busy allocating players to teams. The FFA registration system has been very well adopted by all the age coordinators, as it has simplified the process of forming teams. This is a crucial task. Without the help of the age coordinators, it would be a daunting task for any Registrar.

Thankfully, this process has been handled exceptionally by all the age coordinators.

A week before the first round of the competition, the HPW Committee hosts two separate Information evenings, one for Team Managers, the other for Team Coaches. At the Team Manager information evening all the player, coach and manager ID cards are distributed. As Registrar, the final week before round one is spent tidying up loose ends and confirming with the age coordinators all the team lists are accurate.

As club Registrar, I consider it an honor and privilege working alongside dedicated volunteers committed to serving our much loved soccer club. Whilst recent technologies such as the Internet and email have profoundly improved the collaboration amongst club volunteers, the commitment and support for one another demonstrated by all of HPW's volunteers forms the nucleus of what makes HPW such a great club.