



West Brunswick Amateur Football Club Inc.

Affiliated with the Victorian Amateur Football Association

Mail – PO Box 32, East Brunswick, Vic 3057
Home Ground – McAlister Oval, Park Street, Parkville

President: Benjamin Lichtenstein
Secretary: Matt Holmes
Senior Coach: Angus Hamilton

Senior Premierships: 1960, '80, 2002, '08, '14, '15
Premiers & Champions: 1976, 2015 (Res)
Reserves Premierships: 1989, '98



Season 2016

The Birdsnest Vol 46 No.3

Finding our feet in the higher grades

The season opener was a bit of a shocker, with the senior team being given a lesson by the Preston Bullants who played the more disciplined, hardworking, four quarters of football. After that wakeup call, the teams have put their noses to the grindstone and applied themselves to the task at hand.

After five rounds each team, Seniors, Reserves and Club XIIIIV have the win/loss ratio of four wins and one loss. Quite remarkable statistically but also an indication that West can be one of the heavy weights in this higher division.

Some of the clubs we are competing with this season haven't seen us since the 1980's with the last time we played against MHSOB being in the 1985 preliminary final. Needless to say they moved up the grades and we went 'south'. Also we last competed against Bulleen Templestowe in 1989, a similar story to some of the sides we meet in the Thirds. Yarra Vally and Eltham have been in the system for a while, with clashes against these sides in the early 2000's. So is it any wonder some of these clubs are now showing us the respect we deserve.

The best way to show our right to be a major playing group in this grade is to keep on playing good team football. With numbers still solid on the training track, the pressure continues for each and every player selected to perform at their best.

Results:

Seniors:

Round 4

This was the second home game of the season and the grounds are still quite hard, favoring the team that runs harder and with purpose. There was a reasonably strong breeze blowing to the Ryder Oval end, or towards the Zoological Gardens, (for the traditionalists) with the Magpies being 'wind assisted' in the first term. The Magpies dominated play and had they been more accurate could have held a much larger lead at the break. The Unicorns used the breeze with greater accuracy but the Magpies were having plenty of the ball. The margin at the main break was only

seven points but ought to have been much larger given West Brunswick's dominance.

The third term saw the Magpies come out with more determination and vigor than had been displayed in the season to date. West kicked accurately and added six goals to one, strangling the Unicorns opportunities with great tackling and more numbers around the ball. In the final term both sides peppered the goals but West were clearly the better side on the day, running out winners by 23 points.

<u>West Brunswick</u>	2.5-17	3.8-26	9.10-64	10.15-75
<u>Mhsob</u>	0.1-1	3.1-19	4.2-26	7.10-52

Goal Kickers: D. Muscat 3, Z. Tisdale 2, W. Dillon, L. Martin, B. Irving, S. Hulm, L. Buckler

Better Players: C. Germon, L. Martin, C. Mitchell, C. Borovac, M. Graham, J. Nulty

Round 5

The conditions were again windy and the wind favoured the Ryder oval end of the ground. The Magpies got off to a good start against the Bullants and dictated the play in the first term. The Bullants did not use the ball very well and many of their approaches to goal were via the pockets, with the swirly wind making it impossible to score goals even from close range. Of the two goals they scored the 'men in green' gifted them goals from very hard to understand interpretations of the rules. The Magpies scored three goals into the wind and were dominating at half time.

The second half was a very dour affair, with only five goals scored by the competing teams. It was a battle of the half back lines and the Bullants got to within one point before Sam Devlin was able to work some magic to kick a goal into the wind and give the Magpies a well deserved seven point victory.

<u>West Brunswick</u>	3.3-21	5.6-36	6.9-45	7.10-52
<u>Bulleen Temp AFC</u>	0.2-2	2.10-22	3.11-29	5.15-45

Goal Kickers: S. Hulm 2, B. Irving 2, S. Devlin, D. Ferrier, M. Holmes

Better Players: H. Paez, C. Borovac, J. Nulty, C. Mitchell, B. McCarthy, E. Lloyd

Reserves

There are times in football that teams that appeared unbeatable during the season suddenly become vulnerable and uncohesive. The Unicorns reserves teams were a very good disciplined group and made the Magpies look and play second rate football. The Unicorns had the wind in the first term and worked their way to the goals with disciplined methodical play. The Magpies were regularly outnumbered around the ball and by half time found themselves goalless for the first time in 74 matches.!!

Following some special non printable coaching clichés from Craig Mitchell, the players improved their effort after half time, but were nowhere near good enough to bridge the gap. This loss was possibly reviewed as the ‘one they needed to have’ but it showed the players that there is a far better team in this grade than they have played against for the past four seasons.

Something to aspire to n'est pas?

<u>West Brunswick</u>	0.0	0.3-3	2.4-16	4.5-29
<u>Mhsob</u>	4.1-25	4.2-26	7.6-48	8.8-56

Goal Kickers: C. Naldrett, D. Fuzzard, P. Kelly, V. Townsend

Better Players: H. Lewis, P. Kelly, C. Wills, T. Walsh, D. Fuzzard, R. Benjamin

Round 5

The Magpies had a welcome return of a number of key players missing from the week before and played the brand of football that had deserted them the previous week. By the main break they had 25 scoring shots to 2, and by the games end it was 47 shots on goal to six. A very dominant match and a welcome back to the co coach Angus Campbell from his honeymoon.

<u>West Brunswick</u>	2.6-18	9.16-70	13.20-98	22.25-157
<u>Bulleen Temp</u>	0.2-2	0.2-2	2.3-15	3.3-21

Goal Kickers: B. Kline 5, J. Beer 4, A. Jones 2, W. Vagg 2, R. O'Kane 2, C. Thomson 2, C. Naldrett, S. Pritchard, H. Mahoney, P. Carroll, P. Kelly

Better Players: B. Kline, W. Vagg, P. Carroll, C. Naldrett, P. Kelly, R. O'Kane

Thirds

There are six clubs with teams in this grade of the competition, and of those six, two clubs dominate; Old Geelong and West Brunswick. Of their one meeting to date the Cats were clearly the better side and provided the Magpies with the challenge

to lift their game in order to be their equal. It is however, very good to be able to have players move between the seniors, reserves and thirds teams to develop confidence, prove their fitness and get their game together.

<u>West Brunswick AFC</u>	5.3-33	16.6-102	20.8-128	26.14-170
<u>Uhs-Vu Afc</u>	1.1-7	1.1-7	1.2-8	1.2-8

Goal Kickers: K. Oppelaar 5, J. Boyle 4, J. Hopkins 3, M. Roach 3, B. Wynne 2, W. Lloyd 2, A. Hays, P. Roy, K.

Vanston, J. Hayes, N. Ansons, S. Devers, A. Carroll

Better Players: B. Wynne, J. Hayes, J. Boyle, N. Ansons, K. Oppelaar, A. Hays

A quick look at the team that played against the Gryphons and you notice there were premiership players from both last year's seniors and reserves teams. How well is the club going to be able to give those players a moderately competitive game of football, and still have their senior and reserve teams winning so well?

<u>West Brunswick AFC</u>	4.3-27	10.9-69	16.12-108	22.18-150
<u>Monash Gryphons</u>	1.0-6	1.0-6	1.2-8	1.2-8

Goal Kickers: A. Thompson 6, J. Hayes 2, M. Roach 2, S. Devers 2, C. Sher 2, S. Creek, W. Lloyd, J. Boyle, D. Fuzzard, J. Hopkins, A. Mackenzie, D. Fitzpatrick, N. Hutchens

Better Players: J. Hayes, B. Smith, A. Thompson, C. Gook, D. Fuzzard, C. Bond

Forthcoming Social Functions:

May 21

Past players Day

Commencing at 12 noon

BBQ luncheon.

Clubrooms

The Ball

4 June 2016

Extra and very informative details are on the website.

There are pictures to inspire the theme ‘party like a movie star’

The Party Bus

The fun begins before you actually get onto the double decker.

The 2016 fixture:

The full season's fixture is available on the club website and can be accessed any time.

May	21	v	Richmond Central	Home
May	28	v	Emmaus St Leos	Away
June	4	v	St Johns	Away
QUEENS			BIRTHDAY	
June	18	v	Eltham Collegians	Home
June	25	v	Yarra Valley	Home
July	2	v	Preston Bullants	Away

Noticed That...

- We had a few of our distant life members at the game last Saturday with Alec Martin from Corowa and the other M Lewis in attendance.
- We had VAFA umpires wearing green and orange tops as part of their outfit last week. Surely there's a fine for being out of uniform waiting to be applied. And one bozo wore a blue hat.
- The advantage of having multiple ovals to use. We had a quadruple header on 7 May. The Thirds played on McAllister Oval, concurrently the reserves on Ransford (to accommodate the ladies curtain raiser game) followed by the seniors on Ransford Oval, commencing at 2:30pm
- Ocker & Joan are going to Canada /USA for the month of June, running away to join the circus.

Golden Magpies

Thanks to the following who have become golden magpies for season 2016 now number 24 members.

Cam	Price
Brett	Millin
Thomas	Russell
Thea	Campbell
Arthur	Ozols
Anthony	Gibson

Ocker	Fyffe
Steve	Lampard
Brendan	Hiscox

This year the membership fee is still \$50.!! Last season we had over 65 golden magpies, the contribution goes a long way in helping the football club provide first class services to our players and take some of the pressure off fees.

There may be others who have paid into the clubs bank account but are not listed here. Whenever somebody makes a payment to the club account it is important to ensure a name is added to the payment. This is because the Treasurer needs to have a chance to reconcile payments from a considerable number of other sources and match GM payments.

Club Bank Account

Bendigo Bank

Account Name:

West Brunswick Amateur Football Club

BSB: 633-000

Acc No: 136422383

Current Sponsors

We are pleased to announce the continuation from 2015 of our major sponsor for the upcoming season:



We encourage all players to support our major sponsor by having any required radiology scans (MRI's, Xray's, CT Scans and Ultrasounds) at your nearest Capital Radiology

location: <http://www.capitalradiology.com.au>"

Other generous sponsors:

Insurance House



Website: <http://www.insurancehouse.com.au>



Website: <http://bevandmicks.com.au/turf.htm>

Builders Academy



Club Partners

Club Partners:

Multifit
Brad Teal
Back in Motion
Benjamin Jewellers

The club is looking for sponsors in any form. If you would like to promote your business in the Birdsnest, website or around the club get in contact with Chris Germon (cgermon@gmail.com). We can get you promoted in many wonderful ways...posters, tickets, t-shirts, special dedications, small ads on banners of milestone games, inside the inner sanctum etc.

Looking for Volunteers

We are looking for volunteers to help out around the club – in any capacity. Casual once off basis or a few Saturdays during the year. Jobs include time keeping, goal umpire, running the boundary, match day manager, scorer, helping in the canteen on a Saturday or perhaps cooking up a pot of bolognaise for the boys for Thursday night selection. Contact: Evan 'Red' Lloyd if you can assist in any way.

Keeping in Contact

The club's has a linkedin Group – West Brunswick Amateur Football Club
If you've changed your email address send an email to the club westbrunswick@gmail.com to update your details

The President's special

Round 4 sees West Brunswick host our first triple-header for the year with all teams playing at Ransford Oval. As was mentioned at selection, for the rest of the season whenever all three sides have a win on the same day, the president and senior coach will kick in a slab of beer for the end of year 'responsible drinking conference'. (well gents the first one got away but the second Triple header is gonna cost you!!)

Haydos clocks up his 150th..

This week also marks game number 150 for Hayden 'Haydos' Lewis. Since arriving in the 'super draft' of 2006, 'Dos' has plied his trade week in, week out, highlighted by a senior premiership in 2008 and vice-captaining last year's reserves flag.

Haydos has also served tirelessly for the club being on the committee for many years, as well as managing the footy operations for a time, too. He has lead by example in everything he does, whether it be on the training track or in a match, setting a fine example for newer players arriving at Park Street.

Thanks for your huge contribution to this football club, Dos! Let's salute him in the best possible way with three wins on Saturday - and stick around for some post-game froffs.(didn't happen unfortunately)

Womens football at West Brunswick

As part of a VAFA joint initiative, West Brunswick played a womens football 'super 9's match v Bulleen Templestowe as a curtain raiser to the senior game in round 5. The match was 2 x 15 minute halves using a portion of Ransford Oval. This milestone moment was so significant that VAFA CEO supremo, Michael Sholly attended to ensure everything went smoothly.

One key highlight for the club was one of our ladies players was none other than Emma Lawley, daughter of former senior captain Terry Lawley (1984-85) who played with great distinction in that dominant 80's era. Of the match itself we were outclassed by a team that has played a lot of football over many years, whereas for our ladies it was their first hit out as a team.

The club aspires to include a ladies team in future years, so this first foray into this additional team at the club is very exciting