

Two great Exhibition Games of FIDA Football were played today at The Fearon in Williamstown, with the visiting Fremantle CBC All Abilities teams taking on the Williamstown Seagulls in Seniors and Reserves matches. In cold, heavy and sometimes wet conditions, the Freo boys showed that although their club is still growing and developing, the Western Australian competition will be a force to be reckoned with in future Interstate matches.

The scores on the scoreboards in both games didn't really reflect the effort and endeavour of the CBC players, who stuck to their tasks all day in weather that was foreign to them. In both games, the greater experience and bigger bodies of the Williamstown players were too much for them to overcome.

For the records, the final scores were:

Seniors

Williamstown 17.10 (112)

Fremantle CBC 4.1 (25)

Reserves

Williamstown 4.12 (36)

Fremantle CBC 2.7 (19)

We hope to have photos from the day available soon.

More importantly, at the luncheon after the game (with tasty food again provided by our major sponsors, Pekish @ Yarraville) players from both teams had the opportunity to socialize and celebrate what will hopefully be the first of many enjoyable and rewarding matches between the two clubs.

CYs President Bill Deller was heard to comment that this was the biggest gathering ever in the Fearon clubrooms. FIDA President Poppie Hatzi acknowledged the mighty fund-raising effort required for the Sandgropers to make the trip across the country. Then Col Newcombe, Williamstown's favourite umpire and promoter, presented Fremantle with a plaque and a new football from the "Footballs for FIDA" project to mark their efforts on the trip. Fremantle's Senior Coach Brendon Bleakley introduced their two Captains for the Day, Matty and Damian, who presented a banner and CBC jumper to Seagulls' ambassador Chantelle Gordon, along with an invitation to play again over in WA. The final presentation of the day was to CBC's Matty Barbaro for the Goal of the Day – a goal that he check-sided high out of the forward pocket at the Botanical Gardens end and let the strong breeze bring back through the big sticks. If Matty misses the plane back to Perth, he will be playing for us next Sunday!

Today was a memorable day in our club history. We have had enormous support from our community as we have established ourselves. It was great to be able to extend the same sort of support to our new mates.

Thanks to Esther Hassett who coached the Reserves team, and did a magnificent job in her first FIDA experience. Thanks to our sponsors and guests. Thanks to all the umpires, goal umpires, time keepers, score board attendants, runners and water carriers. Thanks to all our supporters and visitors, whose behaviour, as always, was impeccable. And especially thanks to all the folks who helped set up and pack up. FIDA football can't exist without the contribution of so many volunteers.

Tomorrow (Monday) night, Kelvin O'Connor, Ray Causon and Sifa Kuila will be attending the first of two training nights for selection in the Vic Metro team. The training sessions are from 5.00 to 6.00 at Parkville. The Interstate Carnival is on Saturday July 27 and Sunday July 28, also at Parkville. We wish them luck.