

Match Report from Round 1 @ Jordan Reserve, Chadstone

Sunday April 14, 2013

Seniors

Williamstown 14.7 (91)

defeated

Chadstone 3.3 (21)

The Williamstown Seagulls showed how far they have developed since their inception, with a powerful performance against Chadstone, the team that had a comfortable win against us in the 2011 Grand Final. Two years is a long time in football, and our youthful list is starting to fulfill the potential that has been predicted for them by many astute observers. The game against the Synners was played in good spirits, but the outcome was not in doubt after the first couple of minutes. A good win, but not a win about which to get too confident. There is still room for significant improvement, and there are some top quality teams to face in the next few rounds. The place to implement those improvements is on the training track. The competition for places in the Senior side is getting tougher, with some solid performances in the Reserves.

Goals: Corey Murphy 3, Ray Warren 2, Ray Causon 2, Patrick Micallef 2, Josh Knight 1, Daniel Cesaria 1, Kelvin O'Connor 1, Chris Gooding 1, Rodney Gibbs 1.

Debutants: Six new recruits in Travis Barrett, Patrick Edsall, Rodney Gibbs, Simana "Sifa" Kuila, Brett Mackey, Ray "Burger" Warren all justified their inclusion, and bode well for the future.

Best: Team Effort. Huge games from the mid-fielders, especially Kelvin O'Connor and Robbie McGahey, a powerful display in the ruck from big Ray Causon and Jono Kha, a rock-solid and hard-to-penetrate backline including Micky Green, Ibbly Nasser and Michael Roach, and a forward line that capitalised on the opportunities set up by hard-working Glen Causon.

Improvers: Chris Gooding, Josh Knight, Patrick Micallef.

Reserves

Chadstone 5.9 (39)

defeated

Williamstown 3.2 (20)

Goals: Thuan Ma 1, Mo El Hawli 1, Yaser Shubeilat 1.

The Reserves competition is the breeding ground for Williamstown's next batch of FIDA stars, and the game against Chadstone showed how positive the future is. Sixteen of the players who took the field in the Reserves match have yet to turn 21! Despite the Synners' vast experience and mature bodies, the young Seagulls put in their very best efforts all day. Experienced defenders Kaleb Halley, Mo El Hawli, Dean Zavattiero, Andrew Villiers and Jake Tomasic showed poise beyond their years under tons of pressure, while Kim Plummer's move into defence was a big success. Sam Belden led the mid-field in style, ably assisted by big Theo Causon in the ruck, while Lewis and Alex Wardell both showed the benefits of persistence at training with skilful performances. William Lang has improved his game and ball-gathering with greater application of concentration. The forward line was exciting and productive, with the effervescent Chantelle Gordon setting the standard for a positive approach. Laurie Pollard and Tim Gakovic continue to present major goal-scoring threats, while newcomer Kane Garner shows lots of the attributes of his hero, Buddy Franklin. The big-hearted Brandon Micallef continued his football progress while Thuan Ma's deadly accurate shot for goals after the siren in the second quarter will make all his Superules coaches proud of the training they are providing. Stand-out of the day, however was the debut game by 12-year-old Yaser Shubeilat, who showed poise and confidence well beyond his age. Wise observers predict a bright future for him – when he stops growing!