

Round 10

Williamstown vs Coburg

@ Parkville

Sunday 4 August, 2013.

The last round of Home and Away matches in the FIDA season were played against Coburg, which are always games we like to win.

Seniors

Williamstown 7.6 (48)

Coburg 2.3 (15)

The Seniors started slowly, with Kelvin O'Connor, Ray Causon and Sifa Kuila all having played in the National Championships last week. It was great to have Corey Murphy back from injury, and he added a big spark in the mid-field and forward line. Burger's experience and smarts were too much for his opponents, and he returned his best figures for the year with 4 goals straight. Rodney Gibbs chimed in with one goal, as did Corey and the skilful Travis Barrett. Patty Micallef was better for the run and Callum Quirk was a reliable pinch-hitter. Glen Causon's defensive work in the forward line is the equal of any in the competition, while Daniel Cesaria ran hard and delivered the ball accurately. Jono Kha gave good back up to Ray Causon in the ruck, and Brett Mackey showed his versatility later in the game by contesting the ball ups as well. Micky Green's defensive efforts in the marking contests set new standards of commitment, while Michael Roach continues to improve his hardness at the ball. Tough little nugget Josh Synot stood a much taller and heavier opponent, but beat him all day with fitness, strength and desire to win. Iby Nasser was one of a number of players in the Seniors and Reserves of both teams who was fasting as part of Ramadan, and it is a courageous decision to play a whole game of football without taking any food or water.

Williamstown finished the match full of running, their fitness outlasting the tiring Coburg. It was a good win, and one which meant Coburg dropped out of the Final Four and missed the Finals on percentage.

Reserves

Coburg's struggle for numbers this year meant that they didn't have enough players for a Reserves team, so Williamstown gained the 4 points on forfeit. Coburg played a scratch match using 7 or 8 of their Senior players. Despite this, the scoreline was very close, with Coburg totaling 43 points while the Seagulls scored 38. It shows

how improved our Reserves are when able to get so close to what was basically a Senior side.

Effervescent William Lang scored 3 goals and celebrated each in great style. Dean Zavattiero kicked another beauty from the boundary. Andrew Villiers played an enormous game in the ruck, while Sam Belden and Lyndal Van Es gave great drive from the middle. Kaleb Halley was solid at full back and showed that he will be pressing for selection in the Senior team in 2014. The vastly improved Noah Ward and the Wardell twins, Lewis and Alex, accumulated possessions with sharp handball and accurate short passing. Daryl Rimmer had plenty of the ball at his feet, and Nathan Axiak was elusive in the forward pocket. Mo El Hawli was another of the players who were fasting, and stepped up to contribute. Kane Garner and Chantelle Gordon set the bar very high with their enthusiasm for the game, while the veteran Dominic Favorito provides a steadfast approach to the ball. Tough defenders Liam Thursfield, Jake Tomasic and Brandon Micallef were constant stumbling blocks in the backline, repelling Coburg's forward moves. Big Theo Causon showed his improving mobility has increased his output in the game, while Patty Micallef backed up his run in the Seniors with another good workout in the Two's.

Collecting the four points guaranteed the Reserves finishing fourth on the ladder, making their way into their first ever Final Series. There was much excitement!