

# SANDRINGHAM DRAGONS



Season 2016

Yearbook

# Season Review

The Sandringham Dragons' 2016 campaign was a season that exceeded everybody's expectations culminating in a premiership and record draft haul. The team came together overcoming on and off-field challenges to perform strongly throughout the finals series winning from fifth place.

Talent Manager Ryan O'Connor was pleased to see the hard work and commitment of Dragons staff and players at all levels be rewarded when at times you can still work really hard but not quite get the results due to how competitive it is. He said it was very rewarding to see the players do well and showed not only how talented and hard working the players were but also how talented and committed all the Dragons staff were in their individual roles.

A stretch of strong performances throughout the middle of the year and the fighting spirit to win close games against the likes of Calder Cannons and Western Jets allowed the squad to be well placed heading into the finals series.

A two-point win over the Eastern Ranges in Week 1 of the finals saw Sandringham well placed to go all the way. After comfortable wins against top-placed Dandenong Stingrays and Geelong Falcons, the Dragons faced a fierce Murray Bushrangers outfit in the final at Etihad Stadium.

A hard-fought close win saw a number of standout performances with Andrew McGrath enhancing his stock as the number 1 pick. The best-on-ground display saw him gather 38-disposals and eight clearances.

The Dragons had successful squads at all levels with the Under 16s team winning the Metro championships and having a number of boys represented at state level. The Under 18s team had eight boys representing their state during the Championships with Andrew McGrath, Tim Taranto, Oliver Florent, Jack Scrimshaw, Hamish Brayshaw, Corey Lyons and Lachie Filipovic representing Vic Metro and Will Setterfield playing for New South Wales and the Allies.

After the Grand Final, the Dragons were also represented at the All-Stars game held at Punt Road Oval. Florent boosted his draft stocks during this game, being judged best afield from the Michael O'Loughlin side after gathering 29 disposals, seven clearances and seven inside 50 entries.

The Best and Fairest presentation was a time to award individual accolades and celebrate the team's success as a whole. Corey Lyons was awarded the best and fairest with 34 votes, emulating the achievement of his older brother and Gold Coast Suns player, Jarryd back in 2010. Joshua Trew, Darcy James and Reuben Hayward rounded out the top three with 31 and 30 votes respectively.

The National and Rookie Drafts held in late November saw Sandringham break records with five of the top 11 from the Dragons squad: Andrew McGrath (Essendon, No.1), Tim Taranto (GWS, No.2), Will Setterfield (GWS, No.5), Jack Scrimshaw (Gold Coast, No.7) and Oliver Florent (Sydney, No.11).

A further two players were taken in the national draft, Cameron Polson (Carlton, No. 59) and Corey Lyons (Brisbane, No. 71) and Lochie Filipovic (Melbourne, No. 8) in the rookie draft.

Ryan O'Connor believed it was fantastic to see all of the boys get their opportunity from McGrath at pick 1 to those taken in the rookie draft and those who will be playing at VFL and local levels this upcoming season.

He described the group as highly motivated, disciplined and driven which allowed them to experience so much success both on and off-field in 2016.





Coach Jeremy Barnard was filled with pure emotion upon seeing the success of the top-end players getting drafted.

“Seeing the high end players getting drafted, I was filled with immense pride in being able to see those guys able to start their AFL dream,” he said.

“When you have such a successful year it becomes total vindication for the whole program, the football department and also the Dragons as a whole, that we are on the right path, coaching the rights things, preparing the players the right way ... if we didn't we wouldn't have had the draft and the premiership that we got”

As with all success come a number of challenges that the Dragons as whole overcame throughout the season. O'Connor said that one of the greatest challenges was managing 72 boys who as individuals are quite different and try to help them and their families to juggle commitments to school sport while also studying and in many cases preparing for final exams.

“From players, to staff and parents everyone was there for each other and the boys grabbed their chances anytime they could,” he said.

“As a club it is really important for us to promote a commitment to family, school and sport ... having a balance, so the boys work to develop and be their best on and off the field.”

Jeremy Barnard strongly affirms that the aim of the Dragons Football department is to prepare the players leaving the program as best as possible to play senior footy, whether that is at AFL, VFL or a local level.

“We don't want people to drop out ... only a small amount of people can get drafted but for the rest you still have a good footy career ahead of you ... we are just as happy to see players at VFL or local level as we are at the AFL” he said.

A new life member was inducted at the Best and Fairest night. Peter Thomas is the Dragons long-time physiotherapist who has been a part of the Dragons for many years. His commitment to Sandringham, along with his knowledge and AFL experience, has been key in assisting many players to stay fit and experience the best out of their time at the Dragons.

For season 2016 the coaches and Football Ops staff developed a new welfare program to take a further step towards creating an environment where all players, staff and volunteers feel secure while they are striving to get the very best out of themselves. The purpose was to establish an “R U OK” philosophy where there is a strong bond and relationship between players and players and staff both at and away from footy and everyone is able to check in and support each other.

The Dragons take pride in being more than a club and being an all-encompassing family where everyone is able to feel comfortable and maximize their experience at the TAC Cup.

With over 62 volunteers now across the entire program and more than 450 players across all the squads the Dragons would like to extend their greatest gratitude for all the work community partners and sponsors have put in. The club would not be able to provide the level of what they do without the help from our major partners and sponsors.



# Round 1 vs Northern Knights

A commanding 90-point victory signalled to the rest of the competition that the Sandringham Dragons had playing finals well in truly in their sights this season after missing out on the knock-out stages in 2015.

After a delayed start to the match, the Dragons come out with a bang, dominating the contest and clearances, which in turn created a plethora of scoring opportunities.

In the opening quarter alone Sandringham had 19 inside 50s compared to Northern's six.

And whereas in 2015, goal scoring seemed difficult, the Dragons' forwards were able to kick accurately more often than not to enter the first break with a healthy lead.

Coach Jeremy Barnard repeatedly tells his players throughout the season to expect momentum changes and for teams to fight back, and that's exactly what the Knights did, reversing the deficit on every KPI except the scoreboard.

The Knights wayward kicking (2.6 in the second quarter) meant that Sandringham entered the main break 18 points ahead but with the momentum well and truly against them.

After an animated rev-up from the head coach and some more controlled critiquing from the line coaches, the Dragons were able to reverse the tide again in the second half and then ride the momentum wave for the entire half.

Scoring became easy after the Dragons seized control of the ball around the stoppage, going on to kick a massive 95 points in the second half to record one of their largest victories of recent times.

Coach Barnard admitted post-match that he was disappointed that the Dragons had let their opponents back into the match but recognised the complete second half effort by his players.

In large victories most players have good games and this was the case in Round 1, with the Dragons recording 11 individual goal kickers and no one playing a poor game.

Two players stood out however, and were recognised with individual awards on the day.

Oliver Florent received the Coaches Award in recognition of his tactically astute performance.

On multiple occasions he was able to win the inside ball, and then spread the ball quickly helping the Dragons develop their outside run.

Best on Ground was awarded to Lachlan Filipovic, who in such a clear victory showed impressive defensive intention and desire to win the contested ball and impact every scrum.

The manner in which the entire playing squad ran out the game showed fantastic aggressive intent and sent a warning sign to the rest of the competition that the Dragons mean business in 2016.

<b>Northern Knights</b> (53)	2.0	4.6	5.10	7.11
<b>Sandringham Dragons</b> (143)	6.5	7.6	14.9	22.11

## SANDRINGHAM DRAGONS

**Goal Kickers:** H. Mclean 5, A. Zimmerman 3, T. Taranto 3, W. Setterfield 2, I. Morrisby 2, A. Krakauer 2, C. Lyons, A. Sakeson, A. McGrath, C. Polson, G. Lok

**Best Players:** L. Filipovic, O. Florent, T. Taranto, H. Mclean, G. Lok, R. Hayward



# Round 2 vs Calder Cannons

Despite only executing their game plan for three quarters, Sandringham remained one of four undefeated teams after two rounds of TAC Cup football.

The opening quarters were much the same for the Dragons as they were the week before.

Sandringham dominated the contested ball and were able to lock the ball inside their forward half, recording an incredible 28 forward half turnovers in the first two quarters.

After keeping the Cannons scoreless in the second quarter, Calder's players responded in the second half and at the same time Sandringham's intensity dropped.

Unlike in the first six quarters of the season, Sandringham were unable to dominate possession and were forced to scurry and scramble in defence.

With their defensive intensity challenged and their attacking ball movement stagnating, the Dragons disappointedly only kicked three behinds in the final quarter while the Cannons rallied from 41 points down at three-quarter time within 12 points at the final siren.

The ending of the match was disappointing by the Dragons but they did enough early on to secure a win despite not playing their best football for four quarters.

In a game where many players fell away late, two Dragons were recognised for outstanding four-quarter efforts.

Corey Lyons received the Coaches Award and Max Williams was adjudged Best on Ground.

Both players showed confidence throughout the match, dedication to winning the contested ball and showed an unfailing commitment to playing according to the designated game plan and to the Dragons' trademarks.

While it was promising to win back-to-back matches, the boys would have been disappointed with the final quarter efforts.

<b>Calder Cannons</b>	2.3	2.3	4.5	9.7 (61)
<b>Sandringham Dragons</b> (73)	5.3	7.6	10.10	10.13

## SANDRINGHAM DRAGONS

**Goal Kickers:** A. Jarnestrom 2, O. Florent, A. Krakauer, I. Morrisby, C. Lyons, M. Mitchell-Russell, J. Trew, J. Smith, A. Zimmerman

**Best Players:** M. Williams, C. Lyons, O. Florent, C. Polson, A. Jarnestrom, D. James



# Round 3 vs Western Jets

**Sandringham** had to weather a fierce final-term comeback from the **Western Jets** to hold on by 10 points at Burbank Oval on Saturday.

The Dragons looked to have the game sewn up after a five-goal-to-two third quarter gave them a 33-point advantage at the last break but the Jets didn't die wondering, demonstrating their improved competitiveness this year.

**Western Jets**                      1.1   5.3   6.3   10.9 (69)

**Sandringham Dragons**       4.2   6.3   11.6   12.7 (79)

## SANDRINGHAM DRAGONS

**Goal Kickers:** W. Walker 3, K. Nissenbaum 2, H. Johnson 2, T. Maloney 2, O. Florent, T. Cameron, H. Burt

**Best Players:** B. Tokatlidis, G. Lok, W. Walker, D. James, H. Mclean, H. Burt



# Round 4 vs Northern Territory

Heading into Round 4 after only suffering one loss for the season, many would have forgiven Sandringham for losing their heads and taking their eye of the club goal of team football.

Their Round 4 opponents the Division II state team, Northern Territory was a side filled with audacious, unhinged talent but weren't renowned for travelling well or playing great team focused football.

Coach Jeremy Barnard was adamant in his pre-match address that the Dragons made sure that the match was played on their terms, acknowledging that allow the free-wheeling Territory boys too much space on the outside to run and carry would mean that Sandringham would spend most of their team chasing their opponents around the ground.

Instead Sandringham opened the first half with outstanding team first football.

The Dragons not only dominated possession and scoring to lead at the main break by 54 points, but they had also out tackled the Territory team, showing a commitment to the contest and 'Trademark Dragons' football.

While in the second half Northern Territory tried to stage a comeback on the back of some electrifying ruck work and a slight drop in intensity by Sandringham, the damage was already done and only wayward kicking by the Dragons (8.7 in the second half) prevented a hundred point margin.

Sandringham goal kicking propensity continued with 12 goal kickers for the match and Oliver Florent, Michael Rogers, Cameron Polson, Will Walker, Isaac Morrisby and Hayden Mclean all kicking two majors.

Ashley Krakauer, Sandringham's captain for the day turned in a best-on-ground performance running rampant in the midfield to collect 24 possessions, 11 handball receives and 5 marks.

Dragons coach Jeremy Barnard was pleased with the way Sandringham played out the game.

"We played pretty good footy...we played good, solid Dragons footy, so we were pretty happy," Barnard said.

<b>Sandringham Dragons</b>	6.4	10.8	15.11	18.14	(122)
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<b>Northern Territory</b>	2.1	2.2	5.4	7.7	(49)
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## SANDRINGHAM DRAGONS

**Goal Kickers:** O. Florent 2, M. Rogers 2, H. Mclean 2, W. Walker 2, I. Morrisby 2, C. Polson 2, G. Lok, M. Williams, T. Taranto, W. Setterfield, Q. Montanaro, A. Zimmerman

**Best Players:** A. Krakauer, A. McGrath, C. Polson, O. Florent, T. Taranto, H. Mclean





# Round 5 vs Murray Bushrangers

“You can take a draw as a win or loss and in this case I’m taking this as a win” head Coach Jeremy Barnard after this week’s nail biting draw against top of the ladder Murray Bushrangers.

Coming into the match with 16 changes to the squad and 7 debutants the performance of the team was relatively unknown.

However with the breeze at their backs, the Dragons piled on 18 points to 2 in the first quarter and had it not been for 6 behinds the score line could have been greater.

To Murray Bushrangers credit, they were able to capitalize on the wind with a 5 goal to 1 second quarter to take a 9 point lead into half time.

At half time, knowing the players could now match it with the top side, the coaches told them to continue with what they were doing and believe that they could win.

The third term saw an even contest with the Dragons scoring 4 goals to 3 to trail by 6 points heading into the final term.

With the wind still alive and heading towards Murrays goals it would be presumed the goals would come that end. Instead the Dragons surged early to grab a 2 goal lead halfway through the quarter.

Unfortunately the Murray Bushrangers were able to snag 2 late goals after numerous inside 50’s to tie the game up 73 points apiece.

Darcy James received the Coach’s Award for his tireless work in defence all day while Harrison Burt was awarded Best on Ground after collecting 42 disposals.

**Murray Bushrangers**      0.2   5.4   8.7    11.7 (73)

**Sandringham Dragons**    2.6   3.7   6.13   10.13 (73)

## SANDRINGHAM DRAGONS

**Goal Kickers:** T. Maloney 4, G. Lok 2, Z. Straker, H. Burt, T. Cameron, J. Trew

**Best Players:** H. Burt, D. James, T. Maloney, G. Lok, J. Trew, Z. Straker





# Round 6 vs Gippsland Power

A low of eight degrees and two days of rain aren't what the doyen of football commentary Dennis Cometti would describe as "perfect conditions for footy."

Contrary to popular belief however, a sodden track and a slippery pill don't actually bring the field closer to together but separate the players further apart based on skill level.

Wet weather football requires clean hands, low bodies and astute awareness of the changing conditions to win games but above all else, a mental capacity to accept that for four quarters it won't always be pretty but it will definitely be hard – (and that you will more than likely be fully aware of the knocks you took the next day.)

Coach Jeremy Bernard reminded his players of the ins and outs of wet weather football but left his troops with one final message: enjoy the conditions.

And in the opening half, that's exactly what the Dragons did.

Early on, the match seemingly depended solely on stoppages.

As the side that won the centre clearance nearly always found an entry inside their forward 50, which – for the first quarter at least – then resulted in a goal.

The clearance balance in the second quarter shifted in favour of the Dragons and the result was a 4.3 quarter and a 37-point lead at the main break.

Throughout the match Sandringham had been wasteful with their ball movement, too often bombing a rushed long and high kick into their forward 50, which allowed Gippsland's bigger bodied defenders to mop up the entries and try to score off the rebound.

This movement issue was resolved in the final quarter as the Dragons kicked 6 goals in the final term – ending the match with a +100 -point total for the third time this season.

The coaching staff were very impressed with Sandringham's application on the day as the weather conditions, long bus ride and Sunday fixture are all things that create fatigue prior to the first bounce – but no signs of fatigue were seen on the day.

While a large proportion of the playing cohort had good games, one player shone for the Dragons. Andy McGrath exemplified everything required to succeed in the wet.

McGrath's outstanding workrate saw him collect 44 possessions, his clean skills by hands and feet saw him dispose at 70% efficiency and his hunger for the contest saw him lay a match best 19 tackles – as such he was deservingly adjudged Best on Ground for the match.

Yet another win places Sandringham second on the TAC Cup ladder – two points behind the undefeated Dandenong Stingrays'.

<b>Gippsland Power</b>	1.1	2.3	4.8	7.13 (55)
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<b>Sandringham Dragons</b>	4.1	8.4	10.6	16.8 (104)
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## SANDRINGHAM DRAGONS

**Goal Kickers:** A. Zimmerman 4, T. Maloney 3, J. Trew 2, H. Mclean 2, Z. Straker 2, C. Lyons, A. Jarnestrom, H. Brayshaw

**Best Players:** A. McGrath, H. Mclean, H. Burt, C. Lyons, K. Beveridge, A. Jarnestrom



# Round 7 vs Oakleigh Chargers

The re-scheduled Round 7 match between Sandringham and Oakleigh resulted in the Dragons' first loss of the year, on what was a frustrating day for the Sandringham squad.

During the warm up, the energy and excitement coming from the playing squad was palpable but perhaps the Dragons were too tightly spun, as the opening quarter was not some of Sandringham's best football. Ground ball errors and passing mistakes riddled the Dragons all match, but especially in the opening quarter which offered Oakleigh four shots for goal off turnovers - that luckily for Sandringham - the Chargers didn't make the most of.

The Dragons responded in the second quarter, lifting their pressure around the stoppages and creating an impact on the scoreboard.

Sandringham's 5.2 second quarter pulled the Dragons to within two points at half time.

The second half saw the Chargers pull away however, as the errors continued for the Dragons.

Vic Metro trials meant that many of Sandringham's top age players and members of their leadership group were missing, and at times it showed as the Dragons were caught off guard with their structure and game play tactics throughout the second half.

The younger Dragons squad should be commended on battling out the second half however, as never did Sandringham throw in towel.

This was shown in the tackle count, which the Dragons won convincingly laying twice as many tackles as the Chargers.

The large list of absentees also allowed some different players to have some time in the spotlight with two such players being Harrison Burt and Ashley Krakauer who adjudged the two best players on the day.

While the squad will be disappointed with the loss, receiving a reality check early in the season isn't always a bad thing.

**Sandringham Dragons**      1.2   6.4   7.8   9.10 (64)

**Oakleigh Chargers**      2.6   6.6   11.10   14.12 (96)

## SANDRINGHAM DRAGONS

**Goal Kickers:** H. Mclean 2, T. Cameron 2, I. Morrisby 2, Z. Hawker, K. Nissenbaum, A. Zimmerman

**Best Players:** H. Burt, A. Krakauer, M. Rogers, H. Mclean, J. Gorman, I. Morrisby



# Round 8 vs Bendigo Pioneers

Despite coach Jeremy Barnard's mid-week and pre-match premonitions about the dangers of being ambushed after a lengthy break, the Dragons were victims to just that – an ambush by the Bendigo Pioneers.

The much improved Pioneers seemingly enjoyed the ideal weather and ground conditions and started the Round 8 clash with the vigour of the team with something to prove.

Bendigo dominated clearances and possession of the inside ball early, which resulted in the home team getting many quality looks Inside 50.

The one-way traffic resulted in four early goals for the Pioneers and left the Dragons camped in their defensive 50. Sandringham eventually finished the opening term goalless.

From then on, the match became a struggle but Bendigo's four goal buffer was never dented.

While Sandringham were unable to either capitalise on their inside 50 entries or trap the ball in their front half, Bendigo were making sure all of their entries counted.

No one more so for the Pioneers than Kayle Kirby, who despite plenty of attention from the Dragons defenders managed to use his goal sneak skills to claim six majors for the day.

The trends of Bendigo dominating the contested phases of play continued for the duration of the match, and the result was a comfortable win for the home side.

The coaching staff expressed their disappointment and concern during the post-match debrief, imploring the playing group to not let their training and playing standards drop again, like they had during the game and throughout the preceding week.

"As a coach, its concerning when we don't train with the appropriate intensity during the week," Head coach Jeremy Barnard said.

"Our training intensity will always match our playing intensity and we need to make sure that we are holding ourselves to Dragons standards every week, no matter who our opponent is."

While as a collective the playing group lowered their colours somewhat in Round 8, two players had exceptional games and bucked the trend of a perceived lack of pressure and effort.

The Coaches' Award was presented to Liam Marshall. The key position player was willing to play his role regardless of position throughout the match and on a day when many weren't up for the contest, he clearly showed intent around the scrimmages.

'Best on Ground' was adjudged to be Reuben Hayward, who showed true leadership from the backline, marshalling his back six on a day where the defenders were given plenty of attention by their direct opponents.

<b>Bendigo Pioneers</b>	4.2	7.5	11.6	13.8 (86)
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<b>Sandringham Dragons</b>	0.2	3.5	5.6	7.9 (51)
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## SANDRINGHAM DRAGONS

**Goal Kickers:** W. Walker 2, T. Cameron, H. Brayshaw, J. Mangoni, R. Hayward, H. Mclean

**Best Players:** R. Hayward, L. Marshall, J. Trew, C. Lyons, H. Mclean, W. Walker



# Round 9 vs Eastern Ranges

Winter has come, but so have the Dragons after they notched up their sixth win for the season.

On a day when grey enveloped Box Hill City Oval and the ground would have been rated as "heavy" at best, many would have expected a dour, classic wet weather contest to ensue.

Instead the brave spectators were greeted with a lively opening contest where the two teams found plenty of benefit in winning the centre clearances.

The heavy track meant the ball was waterlogged early, making quick ball movement difficult.

The Dragons found this out early, as they struggled with turnover kicks in the opening quarter that allowed Eastern to camp in the their attacking 50. Sandringham were good enough to weather the storm however, and made the most of their limited opening term opportunities, kicking four-straight to enter the first break with an unlikely lead.

Already this season Sandringham have shown moments of team brilliance but nothing that compared to their 7.1 second quarter.

While the wet and heavy conditions caused a drop in disposal efficiency, the Dragons were able to implement a territory focused game style which was aided by ferocious forward pressure.

From there, it seemed only a matter of time before the Dragons would go on to kick a goal as their accuracy belied the conditions - Sandringham's first minor score didn't occur until late in the second quarter.

It is safe to say that the quality of the game in the second half slowly shifted towards more traditional wet weather footy, with repeat stoppages and territory tactics taking over as the fatigue levels increased within both camps. So while the Dragons only kicked 4.5 in the second half, it was more than enough to claim an emphatic 43 point win.

The win was all the more impressive due to the nature in which every Sandringham player approached the contest, just a week after lowering their colours in a shock loss to the Pioneers.

Two players especially showed their class and willingness to compete in the trying conditions.

Corey Lyons was acknowledged with the Rocksalt Coaches' Award for yet another superb all-round performance.

Lyons ended the day with an equal match high three goals but his contested ball work was perhaps even more impressive, as he racked up 18 possessions and seven clearances.

The Fin Fitness Best on Ground was Josh Trew after an outstanding two-way game from the developing forward.

Trew not only was able to kick two goals but also lead the front six with his defensive pressure ending the match with seven tackles.

The win now puts Sandringham third on the TAC Cup ladder, only six points adrift of competition leaders, Geelong Falcons.

The TAC Cup will take a break for the Queen's Birthday long weekend, with the Dragons next fixture being a Sunday game against Northern Knights at Preston City Oval.

There is other football action happening over the long weekend however, as seven Sandringham Dragons have been selected to play in Vic Metro's National Championship run.

<b>Eastern Ranges</b>	2.4	4.5	4.10	7.11 (56)
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<b>Sandringham Dragons</b>	4.0	11.1	13.4	15.6 (96)
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## SANDRINGHAM DRAGONS

**Goal Kickers:** C. Lyons 3, W. Walker 3, T. Maloney 2, H. Mclean 2, J. Trew 2, D. James, J. Mangoni, J. Howard

**Best Players:** J. Trew, C. Lyons, H. Mclean, H. Brayshaw, W. Walker, G. Lok





# Round 10 vs Northern Knights

“Dragons slay Knights in fourth quarter barrage”

Players were greeted by a sodden and muddy Preston City Oval and with the early Sunday morning start, many would have forgiven a sluggish start to the match but the opening quarter was anything but sleepy.

While it wasn't particularly pretty, the contest was ferocious as tackles and pressure acts from both teams almost outnumbered possessions.

The trend of the opening half was repeat stoppages, as the heavy and beat up track in the middle of the field prevented either side from transferring the ball across the field quickly. The stifled ball movement and rolling mauls meant space to kick was at a premium, in turn forcing both sides to try and steal goals from difficult angles.

Head coach Jeremy Barnard reminded his charges at half time that patience and resilience would be required to break the Knights down and that anything else other than a four quarter effort would result in a loss.

The match trends continued in the third quarter, but it was the Knights with the momentum, creating six scoring shots to Sandringham's one. Credit must be given to the Dragons' defence however, as they forced the Knights to attempt to score from difficult angles and under immense pressure.

Entering the final break, only two points separated the sides and the soft surface was having an effect on the fatigue levels of all players. Not that you would have noticed during the fourth quarter.

The slugfest of repeat stoppages and gang tackles made way for end to end football and a downpour of goals.

The Dragons kicked the first two and the last three goals of the quarter to eventually break open the game and secure a comfortable four-goal win.

After the match Barnard commended the team on their willingness for the contest and their resilience.

“Sometimes it takes a while to break the other team down,” Barnard said.

“Sometimes it takes a half, today it took three quarters and that's what we want. It's why we play footy – for the contest and it was good to see us embrace that today.”

One player who showed his love for the contest was Goy Lok, who was recognised with the [Rocksalt](#) Coaches' Award. Always a physical presence around the scrimmages, Lok also provided plenty of run through the Dragons' midfield with 14 handball receives and 12 inside 50s to go with his 28 disposals.

Another player to have a massive impact on the game was Harrison Burt who was adjudged Fin Fitness' Best on Ground.

Burt highlighted his leadership qualities with an imperious four-quarter effort in multiple roles.

He found plenty of the ball, (collecting 29 possessions) was explosive from the breakdown (with 10 clearances) and impacted the scoreboard with vital goals in the first and the final quarter.

Yet another away win for the Dragons sees them now sit third on the TAC Cup ladder, entrenched in the Top 4 by six points.

**Northern Knights**      1.2    2.5    3.10    6.10 (46)

**Sandringham Dragons**   1.4    3.7    3.8    10.10 (70)

## SANDRINGHAM DRAGONS

Goal Kickers: H. Burt 2, T. Maloney 2, J. Trew 2, K. Beveridge, C. Larkin, K. Nissenbaum, J. Howard

Best Players: H. Burt, G. Lok, J. Trew, K. Beveridge, A. Trusler, K. Nissenbaum



# Round 11 vs North Ballarat

The perfect conditions were emphasized by Head Coach Jeremy Barnard during Sandringham's on-field meeting as staff and players alike stripped off their warm layers to acknowledge that niggling excuses were just that, excuses – it wasn't cold, or wet and even if it was Barnard wanted his Dragons to accept it and move on.

The pre match experiment paid early dividends as well, with the Dragons kicking the opening two goals of the match from slick centre clearance plays.

After conceding the early momentum however, the Rebels went about playing their trademark brand of football – 'possession asphyxiation', as North Ballarat's methodical, measured and accurate short kicking game starved the Dragons of possession and strangled Sandringham's run. The result was a seven-goal turnaround and Sandringham entered the first break 29-points down.

Throughout the second quarter, Sandringham looked stunned by the events of the first quarter and were unable to mount a fight-back. Too often Dragons players were second to arrive at a 50/50 ball, the last to create an outnumber around the scrum and slow to spread and create run.

But while Sandringham were severely outplayed in the second quarter, the Dragons showed enough grit (and were perhaps the beneficiaries of just a little luck) to square the second quarter at 2.1 a piece.

Sandringham's rooms at half-time were initially filled with an air of disappointment, but that was quickly killed off by the coaching staff, who went about re-setting their lines in a controlled manner, when many would have ranted or raved. The methodical approach to a problematic first half seemed to give the Dragons a belief that they were not out of the match, and their actions in the third quarter proved their resolve.

A five goal to two third term, saw Sandringham crawl back to within 9-points of the Rebels at final break on the back of smart and aggressive ball movement but more importantly increased defensive efforts.

The final quarter was a high quality tussle, with the momentum in Sandringham's favour for the majority of the quarter but with the Rebels finding a goal against the run of play often enough to hold the Dragons' at arm's length.

As the game entered its dying stages, a moment arose for a match winner and fortunately for Sandringham, it was a Dragon at the end of the call. With 24 seconds remaining Kye Beveridge found some space inside 50 to get free, receive a well weighted handball that allow him to sidestep his opponent and line up for goal.

The result: a four-point victory for Sandringham and another valuable against-the-odds away win. From disappointment at halftime to ebullience at the post-match, the players enjoyed one of their most raucous renditions of the club song this season. In his post-match address Barnard commended his players for their strong fightback, despite not playing their best football and for taking on the suggestion of his pre-match address.

"Before the game we outlined the three factors the decide a battle," Barnard said.

"They were: firepower - and we were even with the opposition there, field position - we clawed that back in the second half and morale – which was key for us today."

"Last season we most probably would have lost that game, but this year we have proven multiple times that we are up for the fight."

In a game where Sandringham got ambushed early, every player must be commended for showing the resilience to fight back.

Rueben Hayward, Thomas Maloney, Kane Nissenbaum and Harrsion Burt were all highly commended for their combative and resilient efforts on the day.

**North Ballarat Rebels** 7.0 9.1 11.3 13.5 (83)

**Sandringham Dragons** 2.1 4.2 9.6 13.9(87)

## SANDRINGHAM

Goal Kickers: J. Trew 4, W. Walker 2, H. Burt, K. Beveridge, C. Larkin, H. Mclean, L. Harris, A. Sakeson, I. Morrisby

Best Players: J. Trew, A. Sakeson, R. Hayward, K. Nissenbaum, T. Maloney, H. Burt



# Round 12 vs Geelong Falcons

“Third times a charm,” as the saying goes and for the third time in as many weeks Sandringham overcame a poor start to come away with the four points.

In what must now be a worrying trend for Dragons players and staff alike, Sandringham were ambushed in the first quarter against a slick Geelong Falcons outfit.

The Dragons are a much lauded defensive team, on average only allowing their opponents to score 66 points per game (ranked No.1 in the TAC Cup) but in the opening quarter, it looked as if the floodgates were about to burst open.

Geelong were able to control proceedings by winning the ball quickly from stoppages and then used their efficient ball movement to get on the outside of the Dragons and use their speed to create scoring opportunities.

The slightly shell-shocked Dragons did manage to get things back on level terms in the second quarter, but were unable to prevent the leaking of goals, as the game turned into a match of aerial ping-pong, with most centre clearances resulting in a goal.

Despite trailing at halftime, the mood in the Dragons’ rooms wasn’t despondent – it was however, all too familiar as it was the same position they had been in the week before against the North Ballarat Rebels.

Luckily for Sandringham however, was the fact that they responded in the same fashion as seven days ago, wrestling back the lead with a five-goals-to-two third term.

The deluge of goals was on the back of a stellar performance by key forward Hayden McLean who kicked three goals in the third quarter and four for the match.

Belief was restored at the final break but the Dragons still needed to find a way level up the clearance count around the stoppages, which was fast becoming the Falcons only route to goal.

Nerves must have risen sharply after Geelong kicked the opening goal of the fourth quarter to level the game and from then on it was end to end football from two evenly matched teams, in all aspects expect one – goal kicking.

Geelong squandered their final seven shots, for a return of 0.7 compared to Sandringham who made their chances count – a return of 2.1 was enough for the Dragons to complete their third “Great escape” in three weeks.

Despite the obvious concerns around Sandringham’s opening quarters, the coaching staff were impressed by the players’ resilience and belief, mentioning that it now seems that Dragons players never believe that they are out of a match until the match is over.

After a long away campaign, Sandringham now return home as they prepare to lock away a spot in the finals and hopefully a position in the TAC Cup’s Top 4.

**Geelong Falcons** 3.3 6.5 8.5 9.12 (66)

**Sandringham Dragons** 0.1 4.2 9.5 11.6 (72)

## SANDRINGHAM DRAGONS

**Goal Kickers:** H. Mclean 4, T. Maloney 2, J. Smith 2, M. Rogers, L. Harris, I. Morrisby

**Best Players:** R. Hayward, M. Williams, H. Mclean, J. Trew, G. Lok, A. Krakauer



# Round 13 vs Gippsland Power

The strange feeling of déjà vu must be a constant now at Dragons HQ, as for the fifth consecutive week Sandringham while not playing their best football managed to secure a comfortable win.

While the players and coaches alike were unwillingly to make excuses, it was acknowledged that the plethora of week-to-week changes to the playing line up does make it hard to execute four quarters of elite level, team first football.

This was evident in the opening half against Gippsland Power, as both teams struggled to find flow, with the players seemingly having to feel out not only their opponents but also the playing styles and structures of the teammates.

The result was a very scrappy opening half of turnover dominant football and while the Dragons created the bulk of the scoring opportunities, Sandringham were unable to capitalise on their forward entries and were in turn exposed on the rebound by the Power.

While the “old school” half time revs up in the style of Terry Wallace and company are generally frowned upon these days, sometimes they still work to great effect and head coach Jeremy Barnard’s passionate plea to his players at the main break spurred the Dragons into action.

After being incapable for two quarters to collect groundballs cleanly or kick accurately for goal, everything finally seemed to click in the third quarter.

The eight goal to three term set the match up for the Dragons, who were then good enough to shut Gippsland out of the contest to secure a comfortable 26-point win.

While obviously pleased with another win, Barnard did highlight that his squad had plenty of room for improvement, especially in the lead up to finals.

“We’re playing winning football, but we’re not playing good football,” Barnard said.

“We’ve got at least 40 percent improvement up our sleeve at the minute.”

“They’ve really applied themselves,’ we’ve just got to fix up some of the nuances of our game.

“Anyone who has been around footy long enough however, realises you don’t want to play your best footy now, you want to play it at the back end (of the season).”

Some of that improvement will come once Sandringham’s Vic Metro players enjoy some quality training and playing time together, especially since two players in particular had outstanding return games.

A best-on-ground display by Hamish Brayshaw, who slotted four goals in the third quarter, ignited the Dragons’ five goal win.

Tim Taranto received the Coaches’ Award, as the talented inside midfielder and forward continued his strong vein of form that saw him selected as part of the U/18 National Championships All-Australian team.

The win sees the Dragons sit second on the TAC Cup ladder, two points behind Geelong Falcons and in a strong position for the run into finals.

**Sandringham Dragons** 1.6 3.8 11.8 13.12 (90)

**Gippsland Power** 2.2 4.4 7.6 9.10 (56)

## DRAGONS

**Goal Kickers:** H. Brayshaw 4, T. Taranto 2, A. Brayshaw 2, T. Maloney, G. Lok, H. Mclean, A. Sakeson, I. Morrisby

**Best Players:** H. Brayshaw, T. Taranto, C. Lyons, O. Florent, R. Hayward, J. Trew





# Round 14 vs Dandenong Stingrays

After a month of pinching games that the Dragons arguably deserved to lose, Sandringham were finally punished for yet another poor first quarter after they suffered an 8-point loss to the Dandenong Stingrays at Trevor Barker Oval last Saturday afternoon.

First quarters have been an issue for the Dragons since the Round 7 bye and the blustery conditions at TBO made it very difficult for Sandringham to buck this trend.

The Stingrays were seemingly more willing to take up the contest at the source, leading the count comfortably for tackles and pressure acts in the first quarter. With the heat turned up, the Dragons were forced into disposal errors, committing 18 turnovers in the opening quarter. The result was a 20-point deficient at quarter time, a margin that Sandringham was lucky to get away with due to the fact the Stingrays only kicked 3.4.

The match continued in much the same way for the next two quarters, as Dandenong's relentless willingness to create outnumberers at the scrimmages made it impossible for Sandringham to maintain any dangerous field position.

Dandenong's on-ball pressure forced the Dragons in making errors, especially by foot and at the end of three quarters, it was only the Stingrays poor goal kicking that gave Sandringham any hope of a comeback.

After trailing all day and being outplayed at the source, the Dragons rallied in the final quarter, kicking four unanswered goals in the fourth term to cut the margin back to two points. But as had been the problem all day, Dandenong were able to win a critical contest, find run through the middle of the field and score the match winning goal.

In his post-match de-brief head coach Jeremy Barnard admitted that the result was fair for the effort his side put in.

"We knew before the game that the Stingrays would be a tough inside team and we were unable to match them today," Barnard said.

"While the coaches are proud of the fight the boys showed in the final quarter, the reality is we can't keep getting ambushed early in games and expect to win. It's something we need to fix, but we have time to fix it."

Talent Manager Ryan O'Connor lamented the fact that it was difficult to select six players that had notable games, as collectively the group had played poorly.

Joshua Trew, Lucas Barrett, Thomas Maloney and Rueben Hayward were all commended for their efforts on a day that was tough for attackers and defenders alike.

The Coaches' Award was presented to fullback Liam Marshall for his effort that included 11 disposals, 4 marks and 3 rebound 50s.

More importantly however, Coach Barnard highlighted the fact the Marshall was now beginning to play with a confidence that fit his skill set.

"Liam has struggle this season with some confidence, but games like today show that he belongs at this level," Barnard said.

Best on Ground was adjudged to be tough, in and under player Darcy James. While James' well-rounded stat sheet of 18 disposals, 6 marks and 6 tackles was impressive on its own, it was his intent and physical presence that most impressed the coaches.

"Darcy has been involved with the Zebras (VFL) throughout this season, and that showed today," Barnard said.

"He played like a man amongst boys."

**Sandringham Dragons** 0.2 2.3 3.5 7.6 (48)

**Dandenong Stingrays** 3.4 4.8 6.12 7.14 (56)

## SANDRINGHAM DRAGONS

Goal Kickers: T. Maloney 2, H. Mclean 2, C. Lyons, H. Brayshaw, L. Murphy  
Best Players: D. James, L. Marshall, J. Trew, T. Maloney, R. Hayward, L. Barrett



# Round 15 vs Murray Bushrangers

Keen to right the wrongs of an uncharacteristic home loss the round before, Sandringham opened their Round 15 clash against Murray with an offensive onslaught.

Aided by a strong breeze in the first quarter, the Dragons managed to kick five goals and keep the Bushrangers scoreless in an emphatic opening term.

The Dragons with the knowledge that they would be kicking against the wind in the final term went about locking down the Bushrangers in the second quarter, successfully restricting them to only three goals to take a reasonably healthy 17-point lead into half time.

Despite a productive opening half, the Dragons were unable to repeat their opening quarter scoring deluge, as the Murray defence stifled Sandringham's run and restricted the Dragons to just the solitary goal in the third term.

With the wind whipping around the huddle at the three-quarter-time break, the Dragons knew they would be up against it and a strong fourth quarter performance by Murray proved them right.

The Bushrangers piled on seven goals in the final quarter and with the wind in their backs, Murray were able to run over the top of the Dragons, not only in the match but also on the TAC Cup ladder as the win saw the Bushrangers move a game clear of Sandringham with only two rounds remaining.

While both players and coaches alike were disappointed about being on the wrong end of a game of "two halves," the Dragons cohort were pleased with the fact that they had righted one of the niggling wrongs that had been hampering their performance for the last month, as the Dragons' 34-point first quarter was their first opening term win in over a month.

While collectively the squad dropped away in the second half, two players stood out on day.

Max Williams was presented with the Coaches' Award after a strong defensive display especially during Murray's second half comeback.

"We were really impressed by Max's mental and physical intensity today," backline coach Mick Roberts said in the post-match debrief.

Impressively, Sandringham's best player was Corey Lyons, who responded well to a strong review from the coaching staff during the week after a poor performance in the previous round.

"Corey lifted his effort and work rate without the ball today, something that we spoke about during the week," head coach Jeremy Barnard said.

"He has a tremendous character, and he showed that today by taking on the week's feedback and implementing it in his performance today."

**Sandringham Dragons**      5.4   6.5   7.8   8.11 (59)

**Murray Bushrangers**      0.0   3.6   4.7   11.10 (76)

## SANDRINGHAM DRAGONS

**Goal Kickers:** C. Lyons, H. Mclean, H. Brayshaw, J. Trew, T. Maloney, H. Burt, W. Walker, A. Krakauer

**Best Players:** C. Lyons, M. Williams, H. Burt, T. Maloney, R. Hayward, H. Mclean



# Round 16 vs Oakleigh Chargers

“Dragons ambushed by rampant Chargers”

After a convincing, albeit wind-assisted, first quarter win in Round 15, Sandringham had hoped that their first quarter worries were behind them but Oakleigh proved that there was still more work to be done for the slow starting Dragons.

The Chargers seemed unaffected by the heavy and sodden playing surface at Warrewee Park, as Oakleigh went on a scoring rampage creating ten scoring shots to the Dragons’ one, leaving Sandringham stunned and 39 points behind at the first break.

The break didn’t stop Oakleigh’s momentum either, as the Chargers kicked the opening two goals of the second quarter to essentially put the game beyond doubt well before the completion of the first half.

Despite an animated address at half time, even coach Jeremy Barnard’s energy could not revive the match for the Dragons, as the Chargers kicked another five goals in the third term, quickly creating a match that Sandringham would rather quickly forget.

By the fourth quarter the match had lost all of its sting and both sides were going through the motions, grinding slowly towards Oakleigh’s 55-point win, coincidentally the Chargers’ first home win of the year.

There was palpable disappointment in Sandringham’s rooms after the match, with both staff and players alike agreeing that the club’s colours had been lowered on the day.

While Andrew Brayshaw (13 disposals, 4 tackles, 3 inside 50s) and Ash Krakauer (26 disposals, 7 marks, 4 inside 50s) were praised for being the stand out players on the day, everyone agreed that collectively that was not a lot of positives to take away from the match.

The embarrassing loss also saw Sandringham slide out of the Top 4 for the first time in 2016, leaving the Dragons a lot of work to do in Round 17 to regain their finals double-chance.

<b>Oakleigh Chargers</b>	6.4	9.5	14.7	17.9 (111)
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<b>Sandringham Dragons</b>	0.1	2.2	5.5	8.8 (68)
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## SANDRINGHAM DRAGONS

**Goal Kickers:** I. Morrisby 2, H. Brayshaw 2, C. Lyons, W. Walker, H. Mclean, T. Taranto

**Best Players:** A. Krakauer, A. Brayshaw, T. Taranto, L. Murphy, A. McGrath, H. Brayshaw



# Round 17 vs Bendigo Pioneers

*"Dragons prove their finals credentials with commanding end of season win"*

After a month of poor results and disappointing football, Sandringham have steadied their ship prior to finals with an emphatic win over the Bendigo Pioneers.

Played as a curtain raiser to the afternoon's VFL game, the Dragons opened the game with skills and scoring power fitting of the elite football environment.

While they might have been playing against a side that had struggled to win away during the TAC Cup season, it wasn't the fact that the Dragons were leading early that impressed the coaches and onlookers but the manner in which Sandringham played.

After the previous three rounds of stagnant ball movement and timid decision making, the Dragons looked willing to take the game on, to use aggressive ball movement and take the most direct line to goal.

The most exciting aspect of the Dragons' dominant first half effort however, was their defence as they restricted the Pioneers to just the one goal to half time – signs that their team defence, when firing, is one of the best in the TAC Cup.

While never the aim coming into the match, the massive first half lead meant that there was a slim chance that the Dragons could reclaim their spot back in the Top 4 but this slim hope was quashed by a short lived fight back by the Pioneers.

It is always hard for teams to remain relentless when leading by massive margins and the Dragons proved no different as structural discipline and defensive intensity dropped off in the second half.

Sloppy goal kicking in the final quarter also went a long way to confirming that the Dragons would finish outside the Top 4 as a 4.10 final quarter was enough for a 96-point win but not enough for a finals double-chance.

Tim Taranto lead the Dragons to their empathic final win of the home and away season with a best on ground performance that included 33 disposals, 9 marks and a goal.

Fellow midfielder Corey Lyons also starred (33 disposals, 8 marks, 3 tackles) while Oliver Florent (15 disposals, 5 marks, 5 tackles) was outstanding up forward and Will Setterfield (29 disposals, 3 tackles, 2 goals) impressed in only his third game of the season.

In promising signs, the Dragons had 13 different goal kickers, including Isaac Morrisby and Hamish Brayshaw who kicked four goals apiece – but the overall team effort of 21.25 will most likely see set shot goal kicking on the training agenda this week.

Having finished fifth, a mere 3.85% behind the fourth place Bushrangers, the Dragons will face eighth-placed Eastern Ranges in an Elimination final in two weeks time, and will have to take the "hard route" if they are to claim TAC Cup glory in 2016.

**Sandringham Dragons** 4.4 13.9 17.15 21.25 (151)

**Bendigo Pioneers** 1.0 1.0 6.1 9.1 (76)

## SANDRINGHAM DRAGONS

**Goal Kickers:** I. Morrisby 4, H. Brayshaw 4, M. Williams 2, W. Setterfield 2, O. Florent, J. Scrimshaw, C. Lyons, A. Zimmerman, T. Maloney, A. McGrath, K. Beveridge, A. Krakauer, T. Taranto

**Best Players:** T. Taranto, O. Florent, W. Setterfield, R. Hayward, A. McGrath, C. Lyons





# Elimination Final vs Ranges

Sandringham came from 23 points down in the third quarter to pip Eastern in a thriller at IKON Park. Ranges forward Jaidyn Stephenson established the game-high margin when he booted his fourth goal, but the Dragons responded to snatch the lead by the last change. Eastern edged in front again in the final term, but Sandringham hero Corey Lyons slotted the match-winning goal soon after.

**Sandringham Dragons** 3.4 4.5 9.10 10.17 (77)

**Bendigo Pioneers** 5.5 5.9 8.13 10.15 (76)

## SANDRINGHAM DRAGONS

**Goal Kickers:** H. Brayshaw 2, I. Morrisby 2, C. Lyons, T. Maloney, J. Scrimshaw, H. Mclean, T. Taranto, W. Setterfield

**Best Players:** C. Lyons, A. McGrath, T. Taranto, C. Larkin, L. Murphy, A. Krakauer

## EASTERN RANGES

**Goal Kickers:** J. Stephenson 4, J. Begley 2, J. Lynch, C. Brown, D. Clarke, J. Gallucci

**Best Players:** J. Stephenson, H. Stanley, J. Gallucci, D. Clarke, J. Lynch, J. Begley



# Semi Final vs Stingrays

The Dragons knocked the minor premiers out of the finals in straight sets and advanced to a preliminary final against the Geelong Falcons by controlling play throughout the contest at IKON Park. Sandringham put the first three goals on the board before Sam Fowler scored Dandenong's opening major on the quarter-time siren. A Josh Battle goal brought the Stingrays closer early in the second term, but the Dragons answered with the next three – including two of Tom Maloney's four goals for the game – to take a 24-point lead into half time. Fowler bagged his second major within a minute of the restart before a Sandringham midfield led by Corey Lyons, Will Setterfield and Tim Taranto took over the game, dominating possession and kicking goals with ruthless efficiency.

**Sandringham Dragons** 3.2 6.6 9.9 13.13 (91)

**Dandenong Stingrays** 1.2 2.6 3.6 4.6 (30)

## SANDRINGHAM DRAGONS

Goal Kickers: T. Maloney 4, C. Lyons 2, I. Morrisby 2, O. Florent, G. Lok, A. Krakauer, T. Taranto, W. Setterfield

Best Players: T. Taranto, A. Sakeson, A. McGrath, T. Maloney, L. Murphy, R. Hayward

## DANDENONG STINGRAYS

Goal Kickers: J. Battle 2, S. Fowler 2

Best Players: H. Clark, J. Stewart, M. Pohlke, M. DeWit, T. Glen, M. La Fontaine





# Preliminary Final v Falcons

The Dragons continued their run to the TAC Cup Grand Final from fifth position by coming from behind to defeat the second-placed Falcons at IKON Park a week after knocking off minor premiers the Dandenong Stingrays. Geelong initially caught Sandringham napping, kicking six of the first seven goals of the game to open up a 31-point lead early in the second quarter. But despite losing play-maker Will Setterfield to injury by half time, the Dragons worked their way back into the contest with Tim Taranto (four goals) dynamic up forward, Andrew McGrath prolific in the middle and Max Williams a wall down back. The Falcons were ultimately stopped in their tracks as five unanswered final-term goals saw Sandringham overcome a 10-point deficit at the last change to prevail.

**Sandringham Dragons** 1.1 3.5 5.7 10.10 (70)

**Geelong Falcons** 5.2 6.2 7.5 7.6 (48)

## SANDRINGHAM DRAGONS

Goal Kickers: T. Taranto 4, O. Florent 2, L. Filipovic, H. Mclean, J. Trew, T. Maloney

Best Players: T. Taranto, L. Filipovic, O. Florent, H. Mclean, C. Lyons, A. Brayshaw

## GEELONG FALCONS

Goal Kickers: P. Dowling 2, H. Elliot 2, J. McLachlan, J. Bennett, Z. Zdybel

Best Players: J. Blood, H. Elliot, C. Parish, M. Diamond, B. McNamara, L. McCartney



# Grand Final Squad

## GRAND FINAL Vs MURRAY BUSHRANGERS



### EXTENDED BENCH

- 3. J. Trew  
Beaumaris
- 21. K. Nissenbaum  
Ajax
- 23. K. Beveridge  
St Peters
- 32. M. Williams  
Beaumaris
- 39. L. Harris  
Caulfield Grammarians
- 40. Q. Montanaro  
Beaumaris
- 41. A. Brayshaw  
Old Haileyburians
- 42. C. Constable  
Old Haileyburians
- 70. E. Casey  
Ormond





# Grand Final vs Bushrangers

The Sandringham Dragons claimed the 2016 TAC Cup premiership with a tense 17-point triumph over the Murray Bushrangers in Sunday's Grand Final at Etihad Stadium.

The match was an arm wrestle throughout, with the Bushrangers still only five points behind the Dragons with three minutes remaining in the match. However, late goals to **Tom Maloney** and **Josh Trew** secured Sandringham's third TAC Cup flag after previous successes in 1999 and 2011, with the final scoreline 12.13 (85) to 9.14 (68).

The Dragons reached the Grand Final from fifth position after the home-and-away season, with head coach Jeremy Barnard's group defeating the Eastern Ranges by two points, minor premier the Dandenong Stingrays by 61 points and then the second-placed Geelong Falcons by 22 points during the finals.

Sandringham midfielder/defender **Andrew McGrath** won the TAC Medal as the best player on the ground following a influential second half that saw him record 38 disposals and eight clearances for the game. **Tim Taranto** was also tough and prolific with 31 disposals, 11 tackles and five inside-50s, while **Jack Scrimshaw** (24 disposals, five tackles, one goal) starred in both defence and attack.

Opportunistic forwards Maloney, **Ash Krakauer** and captain **Hamish Brayshaw** all kicked two goals, but it was the Dragons defence that held things together with Murray controlling the stoppages for much of the contest. **Reuben Hayward** (25 disposals, six marks), **Ari Sakeson** (21 disposals, nine marks), **Darcy James** (13 disposals, seven rebound-50s, six tackles) and **Max Williams** (13 disposals, five marks) were reliable under pressure and took time to find the best option when rebounding the ball off half back.

The Bushrangers were well served by hard-nut midfielders **Will Brodie** (22 disposals, seven clearances, six tackles) and **James Cousins** (20 disposals, eight inside-50s, six clearances) in close, as well as the dynamic **Charlie Spargo** (24 disposals, five inside-50s, five tackles). Key backman **Ryan Garthwaite** proved to be a constant wall in defence with 24 disposals, nine marks, six tackles and six rebound-50s, while **Nick Richards**, **Todd Marshall** and **Trent McMullan** all booted two majors up the other end.

Sandringham was on the board within the first two minutes of the game through an Oliver Florent goal from a forward-line stoppage, but a grinding defensive battle was staged for much of the first quarter. Murray's early dominance at the contests led to a clear advantage in inside-50s, but the Dragons kept the Bushrangers to just one major in the opening term.

With **Corey Lyons** (24 disposals, one goal) and **Harrison Burt** (24 disposals) getting busy, Sandringham threatened to break the game open with two quick goals to start the second stanza, but a 16-point advantage was quickly eroded as three Murray majors snatched the lead back. In the dying minutes of the first half though, Brayshaw intercepted a kick inside 50 and Maloney capitalised on a clean centre clearance to send the Dragons into the main break 12 points ahead.

After being well held before half time, Lachlan Tiziani – Murray's goalkicking hero from its previous two finals – threatened to catch fire early in the third quarter when he kicked a goal following a contested mark, but the 19-year-old could only manage two behinds and one out-on-the-full from three chances soon after. A Louis Pinnuck major brought the Bushrangers back to level pegging, but with McGrath and Taranto imposing themselves on the match, Sandringham forced some crucial turnovers inside 50 to create a 10-point gap at the last change.

Goals to tall targets Marshall and McMullan put Murray back in front just minutes into the final stanza, but with both teams then missing several gilt-edged chances in front of goal, a classy snapped major to Scrimshaw gave the Dragons a lead they wouldn't relinquish. Maloney and Trew's late goals were the icing on Sandringham's premiership cake.

**SANDRINGHAM DRAGONS** 2.2 6.6 9.8 12.13 (85)

**MURRAY BUSHRANGERS** 1.4 4.6 7.10 9.14 (68)

**Goal Kickers:** T. Maloney 2, H. Brayshaw 2, A. Krakauer 2, O. Florent, J. Trew, G. Lok, C. Lyons, H. Mclean, J. Scrimshaw  
**Best Players:** A. McGrath, O. Florent, C. Lyons, A. Sakeson, T. Taranto, A. Krakauer



# Season Ladder

1	Dandenong Stingrays	17	14	3	0	0	1479	1117	132.41	56
2	Geelong Falcons	17	13	4	0	0	1610	1192	135.07	52
3	North Ballarat Rebels	17	12	5	0	0	1583	1206	131.26	48
4	Murray Bushrangers	17	11	5	1	0	1518	1179	128.75	46
<b>5</b>	<b>Sandringham Dragons</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1439</b>	<b>1152</b>	<b>124.91</b>	<b>46</b>
6	Oakleigh Chargers	17	8	9	0	0	1266	1254	100.96	32
7	Calder Cannons	17	8	9	0	0	1346	1465	91.88	32
8	Eastern Ranges	17	7	10	0	0	1482	1366	94.32	28
9	Gippsland Power	18	6	12	0	0	1340	1584	84.60	24
10	Western Jets	5	13	0	0	0	1168	1624	71.92	20
11	Bendigo Pioneers	18	4	14	0	0	1299	1792	72.49	16
12	Northern Knights	18	4	14	0	0	1192	1660	71.81	16
13	Queensland	2	2	0	0	0	192	147	130.61	8
14	NSW/ACT Rams	2	1	1	0	0	168	177	94.92	4
15	Northern Territory	2	1	1	0	0	116	184	63.04	4
16	Tassie Mariners	2	0	2	0	0	112	211	53.08	0

# Season Statistics

			Kicks							Handballs		Disposals			Marks			Ball Gets		Possessions		Frees		Stoppages		Zones			Scores		
#	Player	Position	Mt	KL	KS	KI	KC	K	KE%	HE%	H	D	DE%	HR	CM	UM	M	HB G	LBG	CP	UP	FF	FA	HO	C	T	I50	R50	G	B	SA
1	H.Burt	Mid	17	1.7	7.6	4.5	1.2	15.0	62.0	79.2	6.2	21.2	67.0	8.0	0.0	5.2	5.2	2.5	2.6	6.9	14.2	0.6	0.7	0.1	3.3	2.4	3.1	1.9	0.3	0.5	0.7
2	J.Trew	Mid-Fwd	17	3.0	2.8	3.0	1.5	10.4	56.8	79.0	7.0	17.4	65.8	7.6	0.4	2.9	3.4	2.8	1.8	6.2	11.5	0.9	1.8	0.2	1.8	5.4	4.3	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
3	K.Beveridge	Gen Def	16	1.5	5.8	2.1	1.4	10.8	67.6	82.1	8.4	19.2	73.9	8.9	0.3	4.2	4.5	2.1	2.2	5.5	14.1	0.9	0.8	0.0	0.8	3.4	1.1	2.4	0.2	0.0	0.3
4	R.Hayward	Gen Def	16	1.4	4.9	1.6	0.8	8.8	72.9	82.9	8.1	16.8	77.7	6.8	0.2	3.2	3.5	2.1	2.2	5.8	10.9	0.6	0.2	0.0	1.2	2.1	0.9	2.1	0.1	0.0	0.4
5	H.McLean	Key Fwd	15	1.3	2.4	2.0	0.4	6.2	61.3	76.9	5.2	11.4	68.4	2.8	1.7	3.3	5.0	1.3	0.6	4.3	6.9	0.7	0.8	7.2	0.9	2.1	1.4	0.3	1.6	0.8	0.5
6	C.Larkin	Key Def	14	1.2	3.4	1.1	0.4	6.1	74.4	85.9	5.6	11.7	79.9	3.7	0.3	3.1	3.4	1.5	1.6	3.9	7.8	0.3	1.0	0.4	0.1	3.4	0.4	1.4	0.1	0.2	0.4
7	T.Maloney	Gen Fwd	14	0.2	2.9	1.9	0.4	5.3	58.1	86.0	7.1	12.4	74.1	1.9	0.6	1.9	2.4	2.8	3.1	7.9	4.9	0.9	0.4	0.0	1.2	3.4	1.6	0.1	1.4	0.7	1.9
8	D.James	Gen Def	13	1.0	4.1	1.5	0.8	7.3	69.5	87.9	4.5	11.8	76.5	3.9	0.2	3.0	3.2	1.5	1.1	4.0	7.5	0.7	1.7	0.1	0.5	3.5	0.6	2.2	0.1	0.0	0.1
9	L.Filipovic	Ruck	12	0.9	1.1	1.3	0.5	3.9	53.2	85.9	5.9	9.8	72.9	3.3	0.2	2.4	2.7	2.0	1.2	4.2	6.1	0.6	1.6	24.9	1.8	3.2	0.9	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.2
10	G.Lok	Gen Fwd	12	5.6	3.6	2.7	1.3	13.2	69.6	77.5	6.7	19.8	72.3	6.9	0.3	4.5	4.8	3.1	2.5	7.8	12.7	0.9	1.0	1.2	2.9	4.6	5.2	1.8	0.5	0.3	0.8
11	K.Nissenbaum	Mid	12	1.4	4.2	2.5	1.5	9.7	58.6	83.7	7.2	16.8	69.3	6.0	0.0	3.7	3.7	2.9	1.5	5.8	11.0	0.8	0.3	0.0	1.4	2.8	2.4	1.1	0.2	0.2	0.4
12	C.Lyons	Mid-Fwd	11	3.1	5.5	4.9	1.6	15.2	56.9	79.6	9.4	24.5	65.6	9.2	0.3	4.5	4.8	2.1	3.3	10.0	14.7	2.3	0.5	0.1	4.7	2.5	3.2	1.9	0.8	0.9	0.5
13	W.Walker	Gen Fwd	11	1.2	1.8	1.7	0.7	5.6	56.5	73.0	3.4	9.0	62.6	2.8	0.6	1.5	2.1	1.3	1.6	3.8	5.0	0.2	0.9	0.0	0.5	2.3	1.5	0.3	1.4	0.7	0.3
14	M.Williams	Key Def	11	1.1	3.2	2.1	0.5	6.9	61.8	75.5	4.8	11.7	67.4	2.6	1.5	3.4	4.9	1.8	1.3	5.5	6.3	0.6	0.9	0.9	0.3	1.6	0.5	1.9	0.3	0.1	0.3
15	A.Krakauer	Mid-Fwd	10	0.5	5.7	2.1	0.4	8.7	71.3	86.0	10.0	18.7	79.1	6.1	0.0	3.7	3.7	2.5	3.0	7.6	11.1	0.9	0.4	0.0	2.6	3.5	2.2	0.6	0.5	0.2	1.1
16	I.Morrisby	Key Fwd	10	0.6	3.3	2.5	0.4	6.8	57.4	74.4	4.3	11.1	64.0	2.8	0.9	3.3	4.2	1.4	1.0	4.0	6.8	0.5	0.8	0.9	0.3	1.2	1.3	0.0	1.6	0.9	1.1
17	L.Murphy	Gen Def	10	1.8	3.9	1.9	0.8	8.4	67.9	80.0	5.5	13.9	72.7	4.7	0.1	3.9	4.0	1.4	1.4	3.6	10.0	0.7	0.9	0.1	0.8	1.8	1.7	2.3	0.1	0.2	0.7
18	A.Sakeson	Gen Def	10	2.5	3.7	2.0	0.7	8.9	69.7	84.2	7.6	16.5	76.4	6.0	0.9	4.3	5.2	1.0	2.6	5.6	11.1	0.7	0.5	0.2	1.2	2.6	2.0	2.1	0.3	0.4	0.5
19	L.Marshall	Key Def	9	0.6	2.2	0.8	0.8	4.3	64.1	68.4	2.1	6.4	65.5	1.7	0.2	1.8	2.0	0.9	1.0	2.3	4.1	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1	2.2	0.3	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.1
20	M.Rogers	Gen Fwd	9	1.9	2.8	3.4	0.7	8.8	53.2	86.5	4.1	12.9	63.8	4.1	0.2	2.6	2.8	2.0	1.7	5.4	7.4	1.0	0.4	0.0	1.8	2.9	3.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.8
21	H.Brayshaw	Mid	8	4.0	5.1	3.9	1.1	14.1	64.6	73.6	6.6	20.8	67.5	6.4	1.4	5.4	6.8	2.1	2.4	7.6	13.1	1.0	0.8	0.1	2.1	4.9	3.8	2.6	1.8	0.8	0.8
22	P.Lewis-Smith	Gen Def	8	1.5	3.1	2.5	1.0	8.2	57.6	72.5	6.4	14.6	64.1	3.2	0.4	2.6	3.0	2.6	3.4	7.5	6.4	0.9	0.5	0.0	1.1	2.5	0.9	2.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
23	B.Tokatidis	Gen Def	8	1.1	4.0	1.4	0.5	7.0	73.2	82.8	3.6	10.6	76.5	5.0	0.2	2.1	2.4	0.1	1.6	2.9	7.6	1.0	0.8	0.0	0.2	2.5	0.6	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
24	L.Barrett	Gen Def	7	1.1	2.6	2.0	0.6	6.3	59.1	74.4	6.1	12.4	66.7	4.1	0.0	2.1	2.1	3.3	1.6	5.9	6.7	0.4	0.6	0.0	1.7	4.0	1.6	1.4	0.0	0.3	0.3
25	O.Florent	Gen Fwd	7	3.7	4.3	3.7	0.9	12.6	63.6	89.1	7.9	20.4	73.4	6.0	0.4	4.6	5.0	2.3	3.1	8.7	11.9	1.1	0.7	0.6	4.6	5.0	5.4	0.7	0.9	0.9	1.4
26	J.Gorman	Gen Fwd	7	1.6	2.9	2.6	0.1	7.3	62.7	67.4	6.6	13.9	64.9	6.6	0.0	3.4	3.4	1.3	1.3	3.4	10.9	0.6	0.4	0.0	0.7	2.7	2.3	0.7	0.1	0.6	0.3
27	J.Smith	Ruck	7	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.3	2.1	60.0	83.3	3.4	5.6	74.4	1.3	0.6	1.3	1.9	0.7	0.7	2.6	3.1	0.3	1.3	13.1	0.1	1.0	0.7	0.1	0.4	0.0	0.3
28	A.McGrath	Gen Def	6	3.5	7.5	3.7	0.7	15.3	71.7	93.3	17.5	32.8	83.2	15.0	0.5	5.5	6.0	3.8	3.5	11.2	21.0	1.2	0.2	0.5	6.2	5.8	3.5	2.5	0.3	0.2	0.8
29	Z.Straker	Key Fwd	6	0.2	1.2	1.2	0.3	2.8	47.1	86.4	3.7	6.5	69.2	0.2	0.8	1.5	2.3	0.8	2.2	4.5	2.2	0.5	0.0	3.2	0.3	3.0	1.0	0.0	0.5	0.2	1.3
30	T.Taranto	Mid-Fwd	6	1.7	6.2	4.5	1.3	13.8	57.8	86.1	13.2	27.0	71.6	8.7	1.2	5.8	7.0	5.2	2.8	12.0	15.5	1.2	1.7	0.7	4.8	6.3	4.5	2.2	1.3	1.7	2.0
31	A.Zimmerman	Gen Def	6	0.7	2.8	2.2	0.3	6.0	58.3	85.7	2.3	8.3	66.0	2.2	0.0	1.2	1.2	1.8	1.5	4.3	4.3	0.7	0.3	0.0	0.5	1.7	1.8	0.0	1.8	0.5	1.2
32	M.Mitchell-Russell	Key Fwd	5	0.8	1.4	2.2	0.0	4.4	50.0	80.0	1.0	5.4	55.6	1.0	0.4	1.4	1.8	0.6	0.8	2.6	2.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.2	0.8	1.2	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.4
33	T.Cameron	Gen Fwd	4	2.2	3.0	1.8	0.8	7.8	67.7	88.9	4.5	12.2	75.5	3.0	0.0	4.8	4.8	1.8	1.2	3.5	9.2	0.8	1.8	0.2	0.8	3.0	1.5	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.2
34	C.Diggle	Gen Def	4	1.0	3.2	1.2	0.5	6.0	70.8	75.0	6.0	12.0	72.9	3.0	0.0	3.8	3.8	1.5	3.2	5.0	7.5	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.2	3.8	0.0	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
35	Z.Hawker	Key Fwd	4	0.0	1.0	0.8	1.5	3.2	30.8	65.5	7.2	10.5	54.8	1.8	0.8	1.5	2.2	3.2	1.0	7.0	3.5	1.2	0.5	6.5	2.5	2.8	0.8	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0
36	J.Mangoni	Gen Fwd	4	1.2	0.8	1.0	0.0	3.2	69.2	55.6	4.5	7.8	61.3	1.5	0.0	1.0	1.0	1.8	2.2	4.8	3.0	1.0	0.2	0.0	0.8	2.8	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.2
37	A.Brayshaw	Gen Fwd	3	2.0	1.7	1.0	0.7	5.3	68.8	78.6	4.7	10.0	73.3	3.3	0.7	2.7	3.3	1.0	1.0	3.3	6.7	0.0	0.3	0.0	1.0	2.0	2.3	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.3
38	L.Harris	Gen Fwd	3	0.7	1.0	1.7	0.0	3.3	50.0	70.6	5.7	9.0	63.0	1.3	0.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	0.7	4.0	4.7	1.0	0.3	0.0	1.3	1.7	1.3	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.3

# Season Statistics

			Kicks							Handballs		Disposals		Marks		Ball Gets		Possessi ons		Frees		Stoppage s		Zones		Scores					
39	J.Howard	Gen Fwd	3	0.3	1.0	0.3	0.0	1.7	80.0	100.0	3.0	4.7	92.9	1.0	0.3	1.3	1.7	1.0	1.3	3.3	2.3	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	3.0	0.3	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.0
40	A.Jarnestrom	Gen Fwd	3	1.0	2.7	1.7	0.7	6.0	61.1	78.6	4.7	10.7	68.8	2.3	0.0	2.0	2.0	1.7	1.7	6.7	4.7	2.0	1.0	0.0	1.3	3.3	0.7	0.0	1.0	0.7	0.3
41	H.Johnson	Ruck	3	1.0	2.7	2.3	0.3	6.3	57.9	85.7	7.0	13.3	72.5	3.7	0.3	2.7	3.0	2.7	3.0	6.3	7.0	0.3	0.7	12.0	3.0	3.7	2.3	0.7	0.7	0.3	0.7
42	Q.Montanaro	Gen Def	3	0.7	1.3	1.0	0.7	3.7	54.5	80.0	3.3	7.0	66.7	1.7	0.3	2.3	2.7	1.0	1.7	3.3	4.3	0.3	0.7	0.0	0.3	1.7	0.3	1.0	0.3	0.0	0.3
43	C.Polson	Gen Fwd	3	1.3	4.7	4.0	1.0	11.0	54.5	85.0	6.7	17.7	66.0	8.7	0.0	3.0	3.0	1.0	3.3	5.3	13.3	0.7	0.7	0.0	1.0	2.7	4.3	1.3	1.0	1.0	1.7
44	J.Scrimshaw	Gen Def	3	3.3	3.0	4.0	3.3	13.7	46.3	65.6	10.7	24.3	54.8	12.3	1.0	4.0	5.0	2.7	3.3	8.3	17.0	0.7	0.7	0.0	1.0	3.0	2.0	4.0	0.3	0.3	1.0
45	W.Setterfield	Mid	3	3.3	4.0	3.0	0.3	10.7	68.8	81.6	12.7	23.3	75.7	8.7	0.7	2.0	2.7	3.3	5.0	11.3	12.3	0.7	1.7	0.7	4.7	4.7	3.0	1.3	1.7	0.7	1.7
46	A.Styles	Mid	3	1.0	3.0	1.0	2.0	7.0	57.1	58.8	5.7	12.7	57.9	5.3	0.0	3.3	3.3	1.7	2.0	4.0	9.0	0.3	1.3	0.7	1.3	3.0	1.7	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
47	A.Trusler	Mid-Fwd	3	1.0	4.3	3.7	0.7	9.7	55.2	78.9	6.3	16.0	64.6	6.7	0.0	1.3	1.3	2.7	4.7	7.7	8.3	0.3	0.7	0.0	3.3	2.7	4.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	1.0
48	E.Casey	Ruck	2	0.5	1.0	2.5	0.5	4.5	33.3	60.0	2.5	7.0	42.9	2.0	0.5	0.5	1.0	1.0	2.0	5.0	2.5	1.0	1.0	37.0	3.5	2.0	1.5	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
49	C.Constable	Key Def	2	0.5	1.5	0.5	0.0	2.5	80.0	61.5	6.5	9.0	66.7	3.5	0.5	1.0	1.5	2.0	1.0	3.5	5.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.5	3.0	0.5	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
50	L.Forbes	Gen Fwd	2	0.5	0.5	2.0	1.0	4.0	25.0	50.0	4.0	8.0	37.5	4.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.0	0.5	4.0	4.5	0.0	0.5	4.5	1.5	2.5	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.0
51	A.Lowe		2	0.5	3.5	0.5	0.0	4.5	88.9	72.7	5.5	10.0	80.0	4.5	0.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	3.5	6.5	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.5	1.5	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
52	G.Nagle	Gen Def	2	0.5	1.0	2.0	1.0	4.5	33.3	100.0	3.0	7.5	60.0	2.5	1.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	4.0	4.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.5	4.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
53	J.Bakes		1	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
54	J.Gibbins		1	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	100.0	60.0	5.0	7.0	71.4	0.0	1.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	2.0	5.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	16.0	0.0	4.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
55	J.Hille		1	2.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	3.0	66.7	100.0	3.0	6.0	83.3	4.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	5.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
56	B.McCoy	Mid	1	1.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	5.0	40.0	90.0	10.0	15.0	73.3	5.0	0.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	7.0	9.0	7.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	2.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
57	H.Persson	Gen Def	1	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	0.0	83.3	6.0	8.0	62.5	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.0	1.0	6.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	8.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
58	S.Williams	Gen Fwd	1	0.0	0.0	2.0	1.0	3.0	0.0	63.6	11.0	14.0	50.0	5.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	6.0	8.0	6.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0



Thank You to our Staff and  
Volunteers!



# Best and Fairest

On 34 votes after a fantastic end to the 2016 Season, Corey Lyons was announced as the Dragons best and fairest winner for season 2016. This achievement emulated his older brother's, Jarryd Lyons, efforts in 2010 when he took him the Dragons award.

He thanked his parents first; the time and effort they have spent getting him to football throughout his junior football and ensuring he enjoyed his football. Lyons always felt there had been external pressure in him trying to live-up to his older brother's and father's achievements but he never felt this from his family to which he was grateful. The next thank you was to the coaching staff for their guidance and work with himself and the rest of the playing group.

Reuben Hayward and Darcy James were called up to the podium for placing 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Dragons Best and Fairest. They finished with 30 votes a piece while Josh Trew held on for 2<sup>nd</sup> place on 31 votes. After a tough bottom age year Josh with a knee injury worked hard in the gym over the off-season and pre-season to set his 2016 season up. He played every game for the Dragons and his athleticism from a half-forward flank and then pushing into the midfield at times saw him become an integral part of the team.

As the thank you's continued to roll for the support staff, he left a final thank you to the playing group and their efforts in season 2016 and for giving him the opportunity to become a premiership player.

## **Best and Fairest Award Winners**

Best and Fairest - Corey Lyons (34 Votes)

Runner Up Best and Fairest - Josh Trew (31 Votes)

3rd Place Best and Fairest - Reuben Hayward & Darcy James (30 Votes)

## **Other Award Winners**

Best First Year Player - Hayden McLean

Player of the Finals - Andrew McGrath & Tim Taranto

Most Improved - Reuben Hayward

Fiercest Dragon - Darcy James

Coaches Award - Liam Murphy & Thomas Maloney

Honest Efforts Award - Tim Taranto & Ash Krakauer

Life Member - Pete Thomas

# Best and Fairest Votes

PLAYER	VOTES
COREY LYONS	34
JOSH TREW	31
REUBEN HAYWARD	30
DARCY JAMES	30
HARRISON BURT	28
OLIVER FLORENT	28
HAYDEN MCLEAN	28
TIM TARANTO	27
GOY LOK	26
ASH KRAKAUER	24
ANDREW MCGRATH	24
MAX WILLIAMS	23
KYE BEVERIDGE	22
TOM MALONEY	22
CONOR LARKIN	21
LACHLAN FILIPOVIC	19
ARI SAKESON	17
LIAM MURPHY	16
HAMISH BRAYSHAW	15
KANE NISSENBAUM	14
ISAAC MORRISBY	13
WILL SETTERFIELD	12
ANDREW BRAYSHAW	10
JACK SCRIMSHAW	9
WILL WALKER	9
MICHAEL ROGERS	8
LIAM MARSHALL	8

PLAYERS	VOTES
BILLY TOKATLIDIS	7
LUCAS BARRETT	6
ANTHONY ZIMMERMAN	6
JOSH GORMAN	5
ALFIE JARNESTROM	4
CAM POLSON	4
ZAC STRAKER	4
TOM CAMERON	3
CHRIS DIGGLE	3
PERRY LEWIS-SMITH	3
JAMES MANGONI	3
JESSE SMITH	3
ANGUS STYLES	3
ETHAN CASEY	2
CHARLIE CONSTABLE	2
LACHLAN HARRIS	2
JULIAN HOWARD	2
HUGH JOHNSON	2
ALEX LOWE	2
AARON TRUSLER	2
JACOB BAKES	1
LUKE FORBES	1
ZAC HAWKER	1
MAX MITCHELL-RUSSELL	1
QUINTIN MONTANARO	1
GEORDIE NAGLE, HOWIE PERSSON	1

# Sportsmart Player Awards

Each week the Dragons in alignment with Sportsmart, Fin Fitness and Rocksalt name a Best on Ground and a Coaches award.



## **Round 1 vs Northern Knights**

Best on Ground: Lachlan Filipovic

Coaches Award: Oliver Florent

## **Round 2 vs Calder Cannons**

Best on Ground: Max Williams

Coaches Award: Corey Lyons

## **Round 3 vs Western Jets**

Best on Ground: Billy Tokatlidis

Coaches Award: Goy Lok

## **Round 4 vs Oakleigh Chargers**

Best on Ground: Ash Krakauer

Coaches Award: Andrew McGrath

## **Round 5 vs Murray Bushrangers**

Best on Ground: Harrison Burt

Coaches Award: Darcy James

## **Round 6 vs Gippsland Power**

Best on Ground: Andrew McGrath

Coaches Award: Hayden McLean

## **Round 8 vs Bendigo Pioneers**

Best on Ground: Reuben Hayward

Coaches Award: Liam Marshall

## **Round 9 vs Eastern Ranges**

Best on Ground: Josh Trew

Coaches Award: Corey Lyons

## **Round 10 vs Northern Knights**

Best on Ground: Harrison Burt

Coaches Award: Goy Lok

## **Round 11 vs North Ballarat Rebels**

Best on Ground: Josh Trew

Coaches Award: Ari Sakeson

## **Round 12 vs Geelong Falcons**

Best on Ground: Reuben Hayward

Coaches Award: Max Williams

## **Round 13 vs Gippsland Power**

Best on Ground: Hamish Brayshaw

Coaches Award: Tim Taranto

## **Round 14 vs Dandenong Stingrays**

Best on Ground: Darcy James

Coaches Award: Liam Marshall

## **Round 15 vs Murray Bushrangers**

Best on Ground: Corey Lyons

Coaches Award: Max Williams

## **Round 16 vs Oakleigh Chargers**

Best on Ground: Ash Krakauer

Coaches Award: Andrew Brayshaw

## **Round 17 vs Bendigo Pioneers**

Best on Ground: Tim Taranto

Coaches Award: Oliver Florent

## **Elimination Final vs Eastern Ranges**

Best on Ground: Corey Lyons

Coaches Award: Andrew McGrath

## **Semi Final vs Dandenong Stingrays**

Best on Ground: Tim Taranto

Coaches Award: Ari Sakeson

## **Preliminary Final vs Geelong Falcons**

Best on Ground: Tim Taranto

Coaches Award: Lachlan Filipovic



# Vic Metro and All Stars

Congratulations to the following Sandringham Dragons players selected in the 2016 Vic Metro Under 18 Squad:

Andrew McGrath

Corey Lyons

Oliver Florent

Hamish Brayshaw

Jack Scrimshaw

Tim Taranto

Lachie Filipovic

Jesse Smith

Cameron Polson



## All Stars Game

Tim Taranto and Ollie Florent starred in the NAB All-Stars Under 18 clash at Punt Road Oval on AFL Grand Final Eve. A packed crowd saw the Chris Judd side beat the Michael O'Loughlin team by 38 points, winning 15.7 (97) to 8.11 (59). Florent was judged the best player from the O'Loughlin side, which was coached by Tadhg Kennelly, after gathering 29 disposals and seven clearances.

The classy midfielder, who played in the Sandringham Dragons' TAC Cup premiership, also registered seven inside 50 entries, highlighting his run and carry and poise.

Clever midfielder Tim Taranto, also fresh from playing a key role in the Dragons' flag, continued his super end to the season with 19 disposals and four goals to be judged the best player from the Judd side.

Taranto's propensity to step up at the big moments in a game saw him rise in the eyes of many recruiters.



Source: <http://www.afl.com.au/news/2016-09-30/draft-prospects-florent-and-bolton-star-in-all-stars-clash>

# TAC Cup Team of the Year

The 2016 TAC Cup Team of the Year was announced at this years Morrish Medal with 3 Dragons being prominent enough throughout their year in the TAC Cup to warrant selection.

Andrew McGrath was awarded a spot on the Half-Back Flank where he dominated all year. Tim Taranto featured on the Half-Forward Flank and Lachlan Filipovic was adjudged the best ruckman in the competition, earning selection in the TAC Cup Team of the Year.

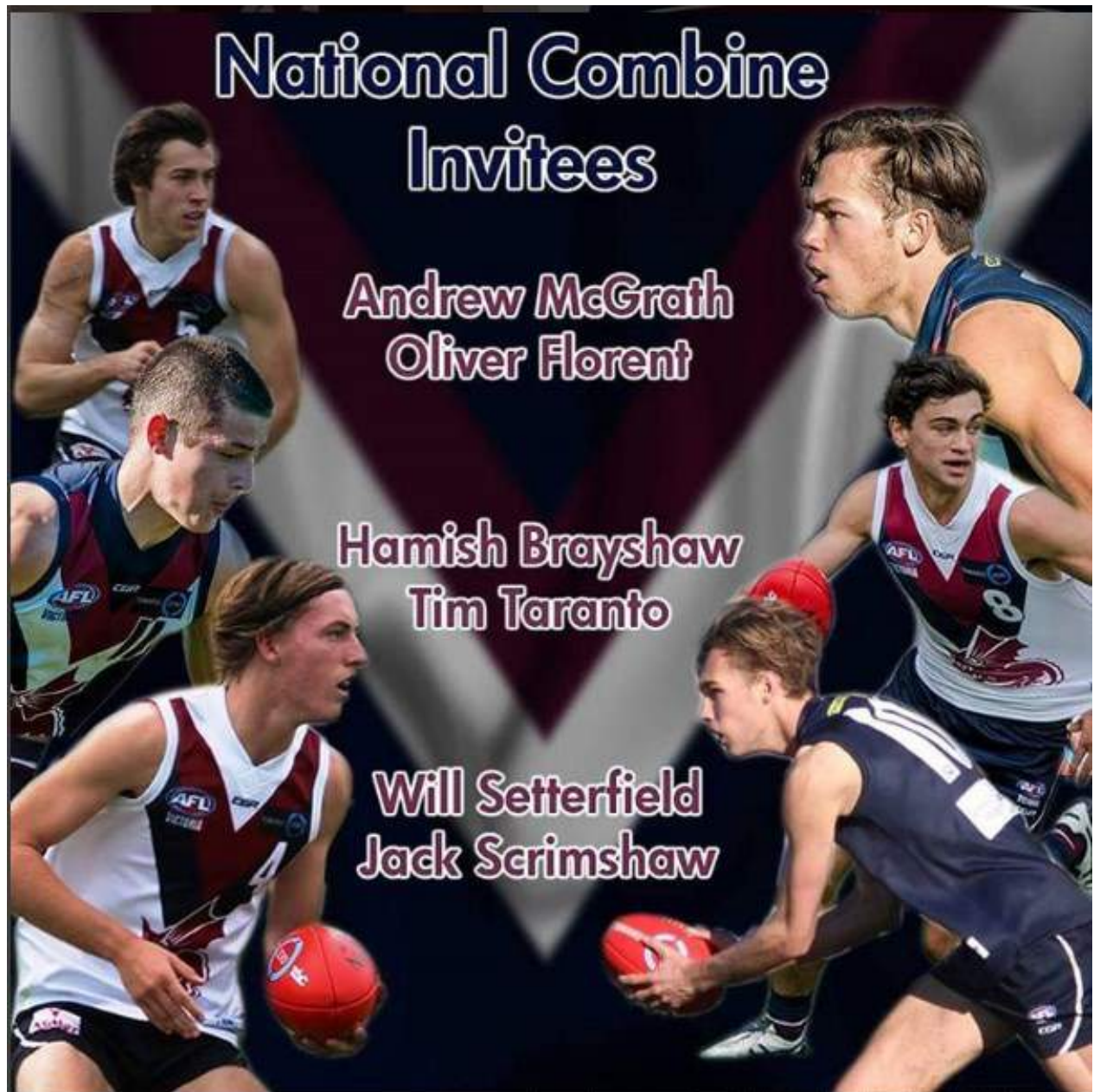
In addition to this, McGrath and Taranto were selected in the prestigious 2016 NAB AFL Under-18 All Australian Team.



## TAC Cup Team of the Year 2016:

<b>Back:</b>	Brodie Romensky Western Jets	Josh Patullo Gippsland Power	Mason Blakey Northern Knights
<b>Half-Back:</b>	<b>Andrew McGrath</b> <b>Sandringham Dragons</b>	Jack Maibaum Eastern Ranges	Taylin Duman Oakleigh Chargers
<b>Centre:</b>	Willem Drew North Ballarat Rebels	Dylan Clarke Eastern Ranges	Joseph Atley Bendigo Pioneers
<b>Half-Forward:</b>	Daniel Venables Western Jets	Josh Battle Dandenong Stingrays	<b>Tim Taranto</b> <b>Sandringham Dragons</b>
<b>Forward:</b>	Brett Blair Geelong Falcons	Patrick Kerr Oakleigh Chargers	Sam Fowler Dandenong Stingrays
<b>Followers:</b>	<b>Lachlan Filipovic</b> <b>Sandringham Dragons</b>	Hugh Mcluggage North Ballarat Rebels	Will Brodie Murray Bushrangers
<b>Interchange:</b>	Josh Begley Eastern Ranges	Callum Brown Eastern Ranges	Luke Bunker Northern Knights
	James Cousins Murray Bushrangers	Sam Hayes Eastern Ranges	James Worpel Geelong Falcons

# Dragons at the Combine





# U16's

The Sandringham Dragons U16 Academy Squad is a program that not only focuses on the football development of the player but has a holistic approach to the player. The players are educated on everything football which also includes the latest and up to date information on nutrition, discussions and advice on how to manage their school and football commitments, educating the players on the impacts of their training loads, the importance on rehabilitation to mention a few.

Each year, we start off with approximately 70 players who are invited to join the U16s squad and these boys generally have graduated from the U15s program and the U14 program. The 16s program is unique in itself because it is the first time the players are exposed to scrutiny from AFL club's recruiting staff and includes possible selection in the Victoria Metro U16 team which is run by AFL Victoria.



To reach this goal the squad is put through a series of practice matches which culminates in a squad of thirty (30) being selected to participate in the AFL Victoria Metro Championships over Easter. Below is a list of the players who participated in the Championships:

Dean Bradley, Tristan Brunning, Angus Hanrahan, Troy Brimble, Jack Denborough, Dawit McNeish, Jesse Patrick, Liam Danielis-Morley, Nick Stamatis, Lachlan Newman, Davis Seager, Adam Ossip, Liam Stocker, Ward Williams, Luke Macquire, Jake Turner, Harry Reynolds, Anthony Seaton, Jake Gazzola, Bailey Smith, Ryan Macdermid, Alistair Richards, Sam Forbes, Joel Crocker, Callum Jones, Harry Houlahan, Sam Stynes, Will Kennedy, Max King, Ben King.

Our first game of the carnival was against Eastern Ranges. The boys put in a fantastic performance to run away 63 point winners.

**SANDRINGHAM DRAGONS 13.10 (88) def EASTERN RANGES 3.7 (25)**

#### Goals

Sandringham: Jake Turner 3, Max King 2, Will Kennedy 2, Jack Denborough, Nick Stamatis, Bailey Smith, Ben King, Dean Bradley, Alistair Richards

#### Best players

Sandringham: Max King, Ben King, Nick Stamatis, Bailey Smith, David Seager

Our second game saw a similar result as we overcame the Western Jets by just over 5 goals.

**SANDRINGHAM DRAGONS 13.11 (89) def WESTERN JETS 8.8 (56)**

#### Goals

Sandringham: Patrick 2, Crocker 2, Kennedy 2, M.King 2, Seaton 1, Denborough 1, Seager 1, Smith 1, Richards 1

#### Best players

Sandringham: Ward Williams, Liam Stocker, Callum Jones, Joel Crocker, Ryan MacDermid

As a result of the successful Metro Championships and their performance over the Championships, the following players were invited to train with the initial AFL Victoria U16s Metro Squad:

JOEL CROCKER, SAM FORBES, CALLUM JONES, WILL KENNEDY, MAX KING, BEN KING, ALISTAIR RICHARDS, DAVID SEAGER, ANTHONY SEATON, BAILEY SMITH and SAM STYNES. It was pleasing to note that the Sandringham Dragons had more representatives than other TAC Cup metro clubs in the initial squad.

After extensive training and a series of selection games the following players were selected into the final Vic Metro 2016 U16s squad – JOEL CROCKER, MAX KING, BEN KING, ANTHONY SEATON, BAILEY SMITH and SAM STYNES.

While those boys were lucky to be included, the remaining members of the Dragons 16s squad continued to train with the end result being our own Selection Carnival in September. The September Carnival is where the players put into place all of the learnings from the program with the prize being invited to participate in the preseason program of the Sandringham Dragons TAC Cup U18 squad.

The Carnival is a series of controlled intra club games where the feedback is instant. We congratulate those players who were lucky enough to be invited to the 2016/17 U18s preseason program. For those that weren't so lucky we hope you enjoyed your experience with the Dragons program and you were able to take some of the learnings with you.



# U14's & 15's

The 2016 U15's Dragons Program began in early February, and it was clear from the start that we would have a very promising group of junior footballers to work with.

With 50 of the program's players involved in the SMJFL interleague program, it wasn't until August we were able to train together as a full squad. Unfortunately we were unable to conduct an U14's development squad this year; however this enabled us to utilise the U 14 coaches with the U15's program which turned out to be very beneficial for all involved. I would like to give a big thanks to Steve Walton, Aldo Mangoni and Lou Colella for their assistance with training up until the U14's launched their program in July.

Training commenced at St Bedes College before moving to Trevor Barker Oval in April, where it would remain for the rest of the year. We would like to thanks the Sandringham Zebras Football Club for allowing us the opportunity to train at such an elite facility.

With 50 of the boys training with the SMJFL interleague squad, we started with a squad of 45 and were very pleased to see a few of the boys promoted up to the SMJFL interleague squad. In late June we held a trial game to put into practice the game style, game sense and skills we have been focusing on at training. The results were extremely pleasing with the boys quickly picking up what the coaches were teaching. In late July when the Interleague boys joined in training, it was great to see the 45 who had started with us leading the way on the training track as they helped the interleague boys get up to speed as quickly as possible.

When it came to selecting players to advance through to the U16 Academy, it was pleasing to see that 33 of the original 45 gained an invite. The trial games in September were certainly a highlight for the year as a number of players certainly put their hands up to be a player to watch in the future.

Finally, I would like to thank Craig Wallace for all his assistance in the Office, our Coaching group listed below, Mick Lovejoy and Jackson Kornberg for their specialist skills and time, along with the parents for making the sacrifice to get the players to training for an early start at 4.30pm.

Under 15 Coaches for 2016:	Nick Moodie, Ken Johnstone, Brad York, Brett Bruce, Lou Folino and Jim Lansdown (Administration).
Under 14 Coaches for 2016:	Steve Walton, Matt McLennan, Paul Corrigan, Lou Colella and Aldo Mangoni.

- Mick Roberts (Junior Talent Pathway Manager)

# Dragons Staff

## OFFICE STAFF

Talent Manager	Ryan O'Connor
Football & Operations Manager	Craig Wallace
Football & Operations Assistant / Assistant Coach—FWD	Jackson Kornberg
Football & Operations Assistant / Statistician	Ryan Hodder
Property Steward	John Wood
Local Football Liaison Officer	Jim Lansdown
U16 Team Manager	Joel Williamson

## FOOTBALL STAFF

TAC Head Coach	Jeremy Barnard
Assistant Coach—Midfield	Danny Ryan
Assistant Coach—Backline / U16 Assistant	Mick Lovejoy
Assistant Coach—Bottom Age	Fraser Cameron
Game Day Football Manager	Ian Penn
Runner	Tony Regan
Statistician / Journalist	Gordon Meredith
Junior Talent Pathway Co-ordinator	Mark Cooke
Junior Talent Pathway Assistant	Kenny Johnston
U16 Junior Development Coach	Stephen Nash
U16 Assistant Coach	Brad Berry
U15 Head Coach / U15 Program Co-ordinator	Mick Roberts
U15 Assistant Coach	Lou Folino
U14 Head Coach / U14 Program Co-ordinator	Steve Walton
U14 Assistant Coach	Lou Colella
U14 Assistant Coach	Aldo Mangoni

## MEDICAL

Doctor	Robert Vorich
Doctor	Michael Dickinson
Physio	Peter Thomas
Sport Psychologist	Melissa Weinberg

# Dragons Staff

## **STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING**

U18 High Performance Manager	Nathan Rogers
U18 Rehab Co-ordinator	Liana Vlanjankov
U18 Strength and Conditioning Co-ordinator	Sam Hardefeldt
U16 Strength and Conditioning Co-ordinator	Justin Hong
U16 Rehab Co-ordinator / U18 Assistant	Tarryn Fisher
U14/15 S&C Co-ordinator	Kadeem Aarons
U18 Strength and Conditioning Coach	Matthew Vassie
U18 Strength and Conditioning Coach/Trainer	Rebecca Herft
U14/15 Strength and Conditioning Assistant	Lachlan Butler
Nutritionist	Toni Hamilton

## **TRAINERS**

Head Trainer	Bob Taylor
Trainer	Ian Cawthorne
Trainer	Rebecca Herft
Trainer	Lynda Britten
Trainer	Adam Lerner
Trainer/U18 Rehab Assistant	Baelee Kireka-Mark

# Dragons Sponsors

The Dragons would like to thank all sponsors throughout the year who have made it possible for this club to run and provide an elite platform for all our players.

The major sponsors for the Sandringham Dragons are:

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Victor Sports



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# Photos





# Photos





# Photos



SANDRINGHAM	
GOALS	BEHINDS
13	12
POINTS	90

AWAY	
GOALS	BEHINDS
9	10
POINTS	64



# AFL Debutants



## Josh Clayton

Debut:	Round 22
Games:	2
Avg disposals:	6
Avg marks:	2.5
Avg tackles:	2
Goals:	0.1

Josh broke through for his AFL Debut in round 22 against Geelong, where he collected 6 disposals and kicked one behind. He gained further experience by playing in round 23 against St. Kilda, with the hope of establishing a spot in Brisbane's best 22 from 2017 onwards.

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## Kurt Heatherley

Debut:	Round 20
Games:	1
Avg disposals:	11
Avg marks:	6
Avg tackles:	2
Goals:	0.0

Kurt made his AFL debut against Melbourne and it was an incredible achievement as he was the first New Zealand-born player to play at AFL Level. His form was consistent at Box Hill and will continue to throw his name up for senior selection in 2017.





# Dragons Going Places



Josh Kennedy — 1st in Sydney B&F, Grand Final Runner Up and winner of the inaugural Gary Ayres Award as the player of the finals after an outstanding Grand Final performance against the Western Bulldogs. Capped off a stellar season with All Australian honours.

Zach Merrett — 1st in Essendon B&F and polled 17 votes in the Brownlow Medal

Max Gawn— 2016 All Australian Ruckman and polled 16 votes in the Brownlow Medal

Fletcher Roberts — 2016 Premiership player with the Western Bulldogs

Josh Kelly—Preliminary Finalist and 4th in GWS Best & Fairest

Tom Hawkins—55 goals and 7th in Geelong Best & Fairest

Jack Gunston—51 goals and 7th in Hawthorn Best & Fairest

Jack Watts—5th in Melbourne Best & Fairest

Tom Lynch—42 goals and 3rd in Adelaide's Best & Fairest

Xavier Richards—Grand Finalist with Sydney Swans



# Dale Tapping joins Brisbane Lions



COLLINGWOOD VFL coach Dale Tapping has been lured north, joining the Brisbane Lions' revamped coaching panel under Chris Fagan.

The 51-year-old will bring a wealth of experience to the Queensland club and his appointment follows the return of former Lions captain Jed Adcock as an assistant coach.

Tapping was named the 2016 VFL coach of the year after leading the Pies' reserves to second spot on the ladder, before a heavy preliminary final defeat to eventual premiers Footscray.

He played 105 games for Prahran in the VFA (now the VFL) and was on Melbourne's list in 1988 but didn't play a senior game.

Tapping also coached at amateur level with Old Scotch and led TAC Cup side Sandringham Dragons to the premiership in 2011 before joining the Magpies.

He was Collingwood's midfield development coach in 2012 and then took charge of the VFL squad, leading the team to four-straight finals appearances.

"Dale is a great relationship builder, a good communicator and an experienced coach," Lions football manager David Noble said.

"He's coached in his own right and has a strong track record with player development and is ready to take on a key assistant role."

Source: <http://www.afl.com.au/news/2016-10-24/former-collingwood-vfl-coach-dale-tapping-appointed-as-brisbane-lions-assistant>

# Swans name Captain Kennedy



The Sydney Swans leadership will see a passing of the baton, with 2016 Club Champion Josh Kennedy being named the Swans new captain.

Kennedy takes the reins from co-captains Jarrad McVeigh and Kieren Jack, who have elected to step aside from their captaincy roles but will remain in Sydney's leadership group.

Dan Hannebery, Luke Parker and Dane Rampe have been named vice captains. The makeup of Sydney's eight-man leadership group will remain unchanged, rounded out by defenders Nick Smith and Heath Grundy.

The appointment coincides with Kennedy recommitting to Sydney for a further three seasons. The 28-year-old had been due to become a free agent at the end of 2017, but he will now remain a Swan until at least the end of 2020.

Kennedy enjoyed another outstanding season in 2016, claiming his third Bob Skilton Medal, third All Australian guernsey, the Gary Ayers Award as the AFL's best player in the finals series, and the Paul Roos Award as the Club's best finals player. The No. 12 also became a Sydney Swans Life Member after notching up 150 games in red and white.

Since joining the Swans in 2009, Kennedy has placed in the top three of Sydney's Club Champion award each year and led the league in contested possessions and clearances over that time. He has played 170 out of a possible 173 matches since moving to the Harbour City.

Swans senior coach John Longmire said Kennedy's appointment is a credit to his consistency and character.

"Josh is a highly-valued member of our leadership group who consistently sets high standards every week and is a significant driver of our team's performance," Longmire said.

# Merrett in Elite Company



Essendon midfielder Zach Merrett has become the club's youngest best and fairest winner in 35 years after claiming this year's Crichton Medal.

The third-year Bomber was rewarded for his outstanding season by being the runaway winner of his first club best and fairest award with 378 votes, ahead of leading goalkicker Joe Daniher and top-up player James Kelly, who shared second place on 273 votes.

Stand-in captain Brendon Goddard finished in fourth place with 269 votes, while midfielder David Zaharakis closed out the top five with 257 votes.

At 20 years and 333 days old, Merrett became the youngest winner of the Bombers' club champion award since Neale Daniher took it out in 1981 aged 20 years and 228 days.

It is an apt finish to an outstanding season for Merrett, who was unlucky not to be named in the Virgin Australia AFL All Australian squad of 40.

Merrett's 34-disposal finish to the season in last week's win over Carlton saw him break the club record for the most disposals in a season.

His 657 possessions (at an average of 30 a game) eclipsed the mark set by Jobe Watson in 2012. Merrett also captained the Bombers to their round 21 win over Gold Coast and emerged as a future star of the competition.

"Zach was our most consistent performer this season and is a deserving winner of the 2016 Crichton Medal," coach John Worsfold said.

"Zach played some exceptional football this season, and that was built off the back of his professionalism, living elite standards and a hunger to improve and develop with each game."

Merrett was also awarded the best clubman award and was named the best defensive player for the Bombers, after ranking fourth in the competition for pressure acts and turnovers forced and 18th in the League for tackles.



# Woodward Works to Re-ignite Career



FORMER Hawthorn and Sandringham Dragon midfielder Alex Woodward has joined Collingwood's VFL team in 2017 as he works to re-ignite his AFL career following three knee reconstructions.

Woodward played just two senior games in five seasons at Hawthorn after being selected in the 2011 NAB AFL Draft.

He returned from his third knee reconstruction late in 2016 playing four games for the VFL before being delisted.

He was overlooked both at the drafts and as a delisted free agent but tweeted his determination to continue pursuing his AFL career after the rookie draft concluded.

Woodward is one of the best players in the VFL, having won the 2014 J.J. Liston Trophy.

The 23-year-old told *collingwoodfc.com.au* he had not given up hope of resuming an AFL career but he knew that his only focus could be on playing for the Magpies in 2017. "AFL is obviously a goal, but team success comes first I think," he said. "I just want to get back to basics in terms of getting some consistent footy out and enjoying my footy again."

Source: <http://www.afl.com.au/news/2016-12-08/exhawk-alex-woodward-looks-to-pies-for-vfl-lifeline>

# Congratulations Andrew McGrath

**Congratulations to Andrew McGrath who has been drafted to the Essendon Football Club at pick number 1 in the 2016 National Draft, capping off a fantastic year for the Dragons.**

McGrath is an exciting prospect who showed his dash through the mid-field and half back this season. He has an accomplished football CV having played for Brighton Grammar Schools first premiership team this year as captain as well as stints in the Vic Metro squad, where he was co-captain. His outstanding work-rate was on display against Gippsland Power in Round 6, where he collected 44 disposals, 19 tackles and 14 clearances to cement himself as a top 5 prospect. McGrath also showed he could stand up in big games when he collected 38 possessions in Sandringham's TAC Cup Grand Final.

McGrath's athletic background allows him to be quick footed and agile. His movement into the midfield towards the later part of the season saw his clearance work improve (fourth most of the players invited to the combine) and him win more of the ball. His versatility as a player is one of his biggest assets, with impressive efforts on the last line of defence for Vic Metro and Sandringham, as well as moments through the centre of the ground and along the wing.

Understandably, Essendon are thrilled to have secured the services of a player of his quality with List & Recruiting Manager, Adrian Dodoro describing McGrath as a player with the "constitution to walk in and play AFL football next year, he can play midfield, he's got a defensive mindset and he's just a brilliant prototype for the modern game."

"His season has just been unbelievable ... His job on Ainsworth in the nationals was exactly that ... a bit more maturity and assertiveness which has been great to see, his ability to navigate off-field pressures and other commitments at school or with Vic Metro has been absolutely outstanding." – Ryan O'Connor, Sandringham Dragons Talent Manager





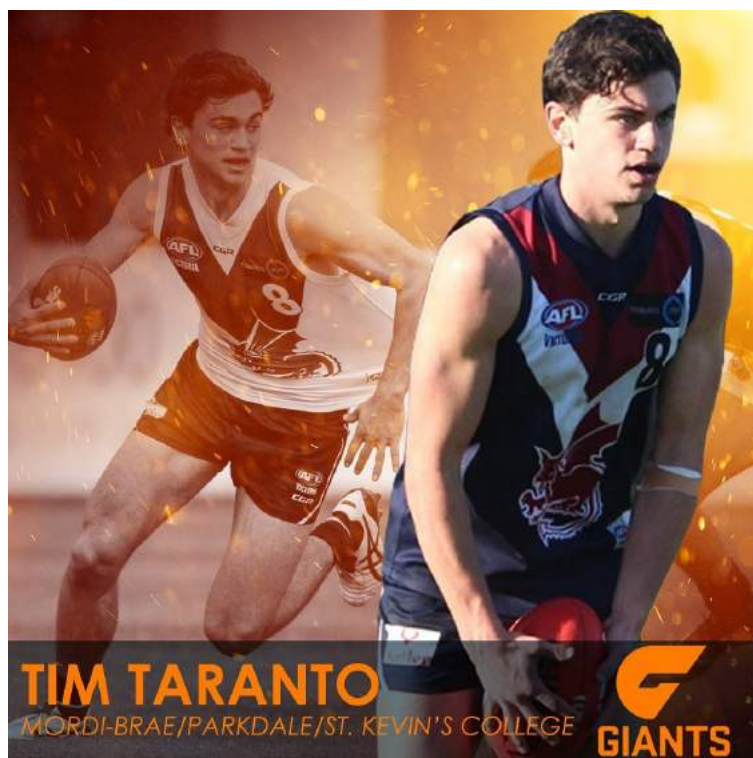
# Congratulations Tim Taranto



**Congratulations to Tim Taranto who has been drafted to the Greater Western Sydney Giants at pick number 2 in the 2016 National Draft.**

Taranto's basketball background, strong build and ability to move through traffic has likened him to Collingwood's Scott Pendlebury. His football smarts and ability to read the play allowed him this season to propel the footy to teammates when under pressure. His goal sense and vision inside 50 has him placed as one of the strongest performers of this year. His key role in the Vic Metro championship wins and being named in the All Australian forward line, allowed him to cement himself as a top 10 prospect. Taranto is the perfect player for any team looking to build a midfielder with forward capabilities.

"He is amazing over his head for his size. He knocks up getting the footy. What people don't realise about him is his one per-centers. He gets the high 20s in touches, but he would also lead our tackle count or shepherd marks, shepherd spoils. We set our groups a target of eight of those acts and he averaged 14." - Ryan O'Connor, Sandringham Dragons Talent Manager



# Congratulations Will Setterfield

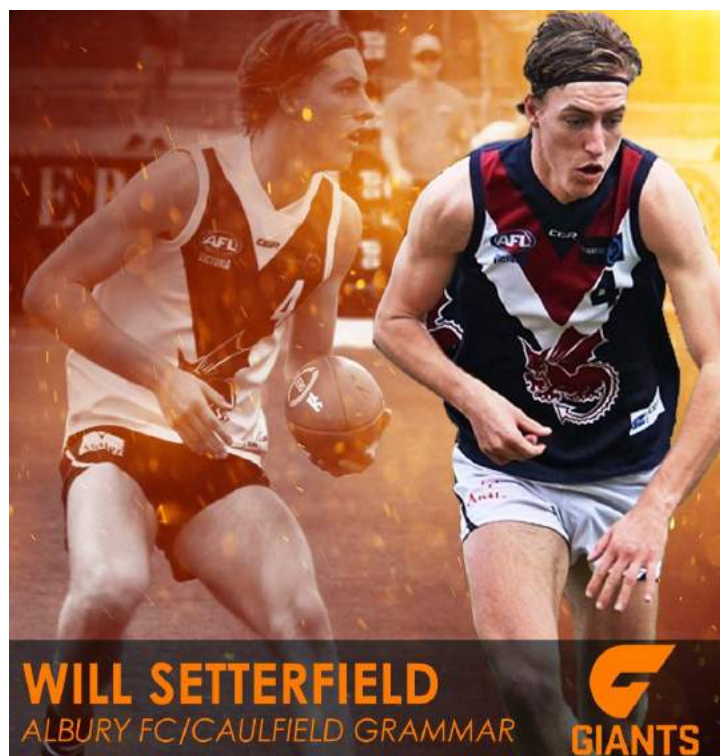
**Congratulations to Will Setterfield who joins teammate Tim Taranto in being drafted to the Greater Western Sydney Giants at pick number 5 in the 2016 National Draft.**

A modern, prototype midfielder similar to Marcus Bontempelli, whose contested ball and inside work has put him on the radar as a top 10 pick. Part of the GWS academy zone and border at Caulfield Grammar School, Setterfield also represented the Allies in the under 18 championships. Setterfield has struggled with injuries in the past but has shown in 2017 that when he



is fit, he can be a damaging player around stoppages. He averaged 4.7 clearances and 6.8 tackles during the TAC cup, with a monstrous 16- tackle effort against the Eastern Ranges in the elimination Final.

“His NSW game against the NT in the carnival was his carnival peak. And then some of his form in the TAC finals as a big-bodied mid rolling forward, you can see why people are really excited about him.” - Ryan O’Connor, Sandringham Dragons Talent Manager





# Congratulations Jack Scrimshaw

Congratulations to Jack Scrimshaw who has been drafted to the Gold Coast Suns at pick number 7 in the 2016 National Draft.



Quad and foot-issues ruled Scrimshaw out for much of 2015 and the first half of the 2016 season before making his Sandringham Dragons debut. Through the under 18 championships his kicking efficiency was considered elite (76.2 per cent), although he struggled in his opening month at the Dragons. Scrimshaw was an outstanding contributor for the rest of the season.

His performance in the 2016 TAC Cup Grand Final, in which he gathered 24 disposals and kicked an important goal in the final term to kick his team clear from the Murray Bushrangers emphasised his ability to perform in big games.

Scrimshaw averaged 16 disposals from three games in the 2016 NAB AFL Championships and ranked third in the competition for effective tackles (four per game); while he jumped up the draft order on the back of a strong end to the season.

“He showed he can play back or forward and he can play mid once his tank builds up a bit more. He still has to fill out and mature with that frame, it’s just exciting.” - Ryan O’Connor, Sandringham Dragons Talent Manager

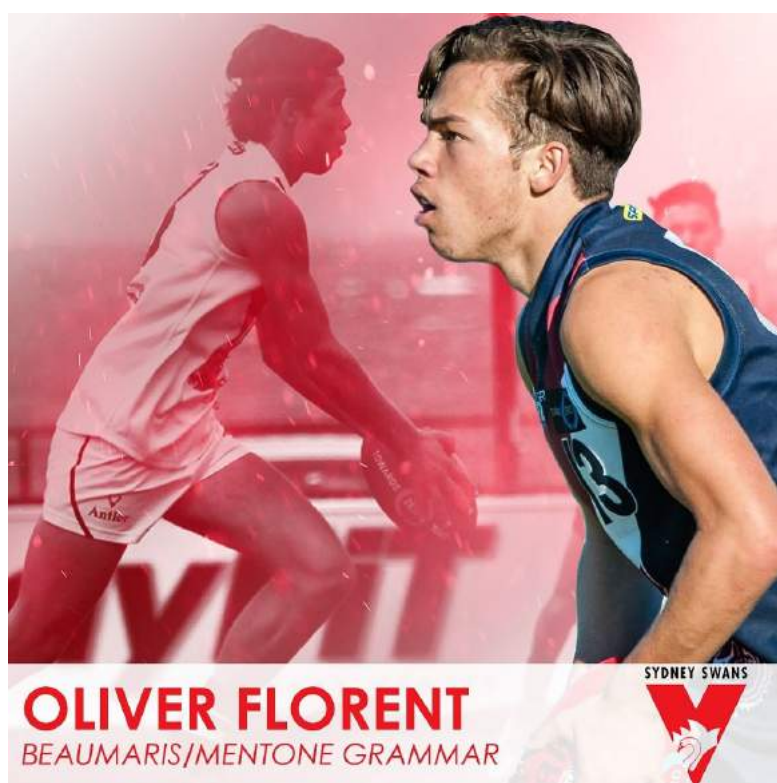


# Congratulations Oliver Florent

**Congratulations to Jack Scrimshaw who has been drafted to the Sydney Swans at pick number 11 in the 2016 National Draft.**

Florent played strong football at all levels this season as a half-forward. He showed a spark inside 50 with his burst of speed and agility, although his scoreboard impact was limited. His tackling efforts make him a hard-working, team-oriented player. He dealt with personal tragedy this season but continued to battle and show resilience, reflected in his best on ground performance in the NAB AFL U18 All Stars game after collecting 27 disposals, seven clearances and seven inside 50s. Florent will be expected to develop into an athletic half-forward who has the ability to push up the ground. His agility and x-factor make him a worthy first round pick.

“Really proud of him and there’s been a lot said about how he was able to finish the season. It’s a lot of credit to him and his family. Putting all those things aside he is a special little footy talent. Whether it is an outside mid role or inside mid role or whether it’s a forward role you just see him oozing AFL. There is a real x-factor about him in the way he moves around the field and delivers the footy.” - Ryan O’Connor, Sandringham Dragons Talent Manager





# Congratulations Cameron Polson

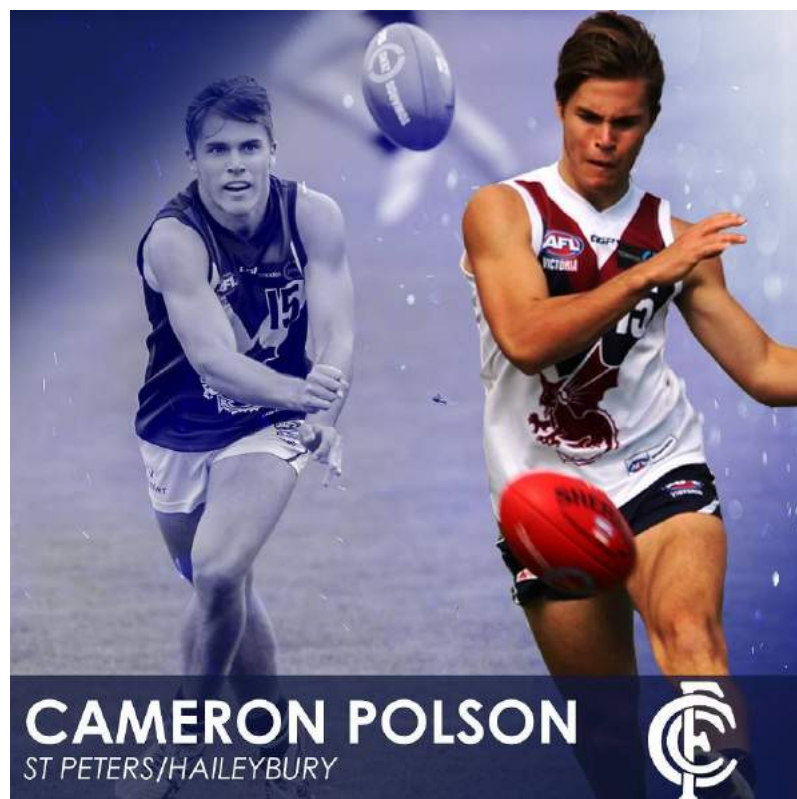
**Congratulations to Cameron Polson who has been drafted to the Carlton Football Club at pick number 59 in the 2016 National Draft.**



Polson was ruled out for much of the season with a shoulder injury but showed some good sign early on in the TAC Cup season. Played APS football for Haileybury and kicked four goals in a quarter to get the over the line in a close game against Xavier. Polson plays his best football across half forward averaging 17.7 disposals this season. His performance in the Vic Metro trial game was also notable with 16 disposals and 4 tackles.

“He is definitely in the mix of that small to medium mid/forward. It has been hard because it has been so long since he played— he got injured in

the Haileybury–Caulfield. It was bad luck, but he has worked hard on getting his shoulder right and making sure if it is put under the pump again he is ready to go. His form at school and in the first Vic Metro trial was pretty damned good so hopefully he has done enough to create interest and get that opportunity.” – Sandringham Dragons Talent Manager Ryan O’Connor



# Congratulations Corey Lyons

**Congratulations to Best & Fairest winner, Corey Lyons who has been drafted to the Carlton Football Club at pick number 59 in the 2016 National Draft.**

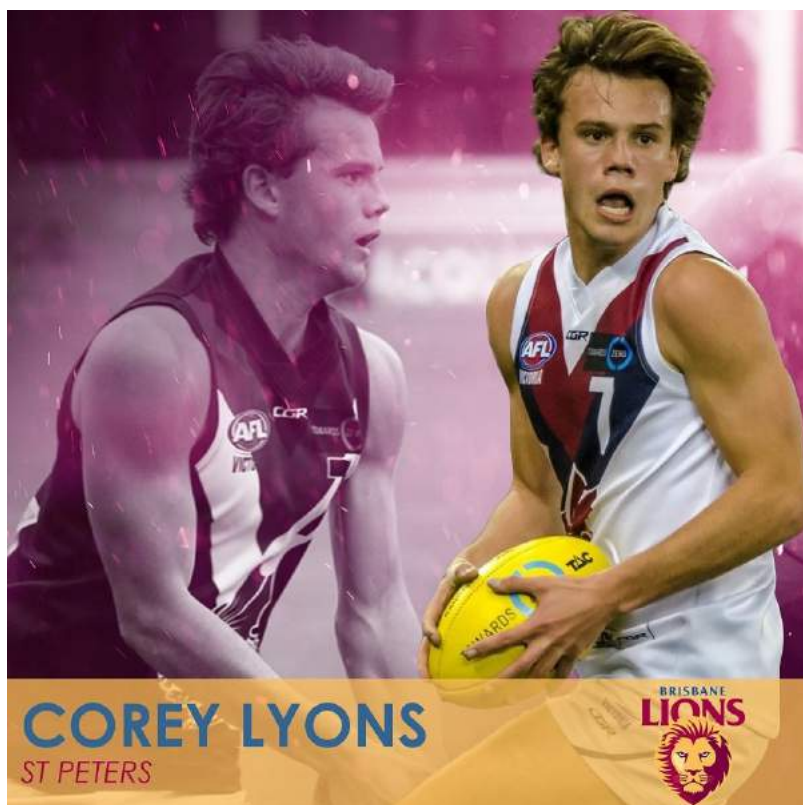
Brother of Gold Coast's Jarryd and 2016 Best & Fairest winner, he couldn't have done much more to get drafted.

Taken with pick 71, Lyons is an inside midfielder who plays in a similar vein to his brother Jarryd at the Gold Coast.

He is a very smart player and despite lacking run away from the contest, Lyons uses his high footy IQ to find space

Lyons averaged 24.3 disposals and 4.3 clearances per game this season. Speed and kicking have been an area of focus for him, with his kicking improving throughout the season.

"Ripper kid who really understands the game and can break it down and talk about the tactics and the structure of it. I thought he had an outstanding season and was able to play well at nationals and in the later part of the season." – Sandringham Dragons Talent Manager Ryan O'Connor





# Congratulations Lachlan Filipovic

Congratulations to Lachlan Filipovic who has been drafted to the Melbourne Football Club at pick number 8 in the 2016 Rookie Draft.



Filipovic is raw to the AFL having moved across from Basketball three years ago. Sandringham Graduate and All-Australian Ruckman Max Gawn worked with him in a coaching capacity throughout the year with and speaks highly of his improvement and his competitive nature.

He improved in ruck contests as the season progressed but has plenty of potential, averaging 21.3 hitouts per game. He also followed up with strong work around the ground. A strong tackler, he also

has a good work rate. Filipovic needs to focus on finding more of the football around the ground but will be a good prospect for the Melbourne Football Club who have taken him as a rookie.





# Photos





# Photos





# Photos





# Players Profiles - Leadership Group

## 11. Hamish Brayshaw Captain



**Height:** 186cm  
**Weight:** 85kg  
**Local Club:** Haileybury  
**Games Played:** 12  
**Disposals:** 20.8  
**Goals:** 18  
**Best:** 3

## 7. Corey Lyons Vice Captain



**Height:** 182cm  
**Weight:** 78kg  
**Local Club:** Beaumaris  
**Games Played:** 15  
**Disposals:** 24.5  
**Goals:** 14  
**Best:** 10

## 5. Andrew McGrath



**Height:** 179cm  
**Weight:** 75kg  
**Local Club:** East Brighton  
**Games Played:** 10  
**Disposals:** 32.8  
**Goals:** 2  
**Best:** 7

## 61. Hayden McLean



**Height:** 196cm  
**Weight:** 91kg  
**Local Club:** Beaumaris  
**Games Played:** 19  
**Disposals:** 11.4  
**Goals:** 27  
**Best:** 10

## 14. Liam Murphy



**Height:** 182cm  
**Weight:** 76kg  
**Local Club:** Murrumbeena  
**Games Played:** 14  
**Disposals:** 13.9  
**Goals:** 1  
**Best:** 3

## 8. Tim Taranto



**Height:** 186cm  
**Weight:** 82kg  
**Local Club:** Parkdale  
**Games Played:** 10  
**Disposals:** 27.0  
**Goals:** 14  
**Best:** 9

## 1. Ashley Krakauer



**Height:** 172cm  
**Weight:** 69kg  
**Local Club:** Ajax  
**Games Played:** 14  
**Disposals:** 18.7  
**Goals:** 8  
**Best:** 6

## 28. Lachlan Filipovic



**Height:** 199cm  
**Weight:** 90kg  
**Local Club:** Ormond  
**Games Played:** 16  
**Disposals:** 9.8  
**Goals:** 1  
**Best:** 2

## 16. Harrison Burt



**Height:** 183cm  
**Weight:** 74kg  
**Local Club:** Ormond  
**Games Played:** 21  
**Disposals:** 21.2  
**Goals:** 6  
**Best:** 7

## 9. Reuben Hayward



**Height:** 182cm  
**Weight:** 75kg  
**Local Club:** Ormond  
**Games Played:** 20  
**Disposals:** 16.8  
**Goals:** 1  
**Best:** 9

# Player Profiles

## 2. Darcy James



**Height:** 184cm  
**Weight:** 80kg  
**Local Club:** St. Bedes Mentone  
**Games Played:** 17  
**Disposals:** 11.8  
**Goals:** 1  
**Best:** 4

## 3. Josh Trew



**Height:** 180cm  
**Weight:** 73kg  
**Local Club:** Beaumaris  
**Games Played:** 21  
**Disposals:** 17.4  
**Goals:** 15  
**Best:** 8

## 4. William Setterfield



**Height:** 190cm  
**Weight:** 79kg  
**Local Club:** Caulfield Grammar  
**Games Played:** 6  
**Disposals:** 23.3  
**Goals:** 7  
**Best:** 2

## 6. Goy Lok



**Height:** 181cm  
**Weight:** 84kg  
**Local Club:** Mazenod College  
**Games Played:** 15  
**Disposals:** 19.8  
**Goals:** 7  
**Best:** 6

## 10. Jack Scrimshaw



**Height:** 193cm  
**Weight:** 79kg  
**Local Club:** Beaumaris  
**Games Played:** 3  
**Disposals:** 24.3  
**Goals:** 1  
**Best:** -

## 12. Tom Cameron



**Height:** 188cm  
**Weight:** 67kg  
**Local Club:** Melbourne Grammar  
**Games Played:** 4  
**Disposals:** 12.2  
**Goals:** 5  
**Best:** -

## 13. Oliver Florent



**Height:** 183cm  
**Weight:** 75kg  
**Local Club:** Beaumaris  
**Games Played:** 11  
**Disposals:** 20.4  
**Goals:** 9  
**Best:** 7

## 15. Cameron Polson



**Height:** 177cm  
**Weight:** 76kg  
**Local Club:** St Peters JFC  
**Games Played:** 3  
**Disposals:** 17.7  
**Goals:** 3  
**Best:** 2

## 17. Billy Tokatlidis



**Height:** 179cm  
**Weight:** 72kg  
**Local Club:** Murrumbeena  
**Games Played:** 8  
**Disposals:** 10.6  
**Goals:** -  
**Best:** -

## 18. Conor Larkin



**Height:** 191cm  
**Weight:** 78kg  
**Local Club:** Mordi-Brae  
**Games Played:** 18  
**Disposals:** 10.8  
**Goals:** 2  
**Best:** 1

# Player Profiles

## 20. Ari Sakeson



Height: 190cm  
Weight: 81kg  
Local Club: East Brighton  
Games Played: 14  
Disposals: 16.5  
Goals: 3  
Best: 3

## 21. Kane Nissenbaum



Height: 177cm  
Weight: 73kg  
Local Club: Ajax  
Games Played: 14  
Disposals: 16.8  
Goals: 4  
Best: 2

## 22. Michael Rogers



Height: 180cm  
Weight: 81kg  
Local Club: East Brighton  
Games Played: 9  
Disposals: 12.9  
Goals: 3  
Best: 1

## 23. Kye Beveridge



Height: 178cm  
Weight: 66kg  
Local Club: St James College  
Games Played: 20  
Disposals: 19.2  
Goals: 3  
Best: 2

## 24. Liam Marshall



Height: 189cm  
Weight: 95kg  
Local Club: Parkdale  
Games Played: 9  
Disposals: 6.4  
Goals: -  
Best: 2

## 25. Tom Maloney



Height: 178cm  
Weight: 74kg  
Local Club: South Melbourne Districts  
Games Played: 18  
Disposals: 12.4  
Goals: 28  
Best: 5

## 26. Max Mitchell-Russell



Height: 190cm  
Weight: 85kg  
Local Club: South Melbourne Districts  
Games Played: 5  
Disposals: 5.4  
Goals: 1  
Best: -

## 27. Perry Lewis-Smith



Height: 180cm  
Weight: 75kg  
Local Club: Other  
Games Played: 8  
Disposals: 14.6  
Goals: -  
Best: -

## 29. Zak Hawker



Height: 193cm  
Weight: 86kg  
Local Club: St Peters JFC  
Games Played: 4  
Disposals: 10.5  
Goals: 1  
Best: -

## 30. Jesse Smith



Height: 199cm  
Weight: 98kg  
Local Club: Caulfield Grammar  
Games Played: 7  
Disposals: 5.6  
Goals: 3  
Best: -

## 31. Luke Forbes



Height: 191cm  
Weight: 83kg  
Local Club: Parkdale  
Games Played: 2  
Disposals: 8.0  
Goals: -  
Best: -

## 32. Max Williams



Height: 192cm  
Weight: 91kg  
Local Club: Beaumaris  
Games Played: 11  
Disposals: 11.7  
Goals: 3  
Best: 3



# Player Profiles

## 33. Hugh Johnson



Height: 194cm  
Weight: 90kg  
Local Club: Collegians  
Games Played: 3  
Disposals: 8.0  
Goals: 2  
Best: -

## 34. Barclay Miller



Height: 194cm  
Weight: 85kg  
Local Club: Beaumaris  
Games Played: -  
Disposals: -  
Goals: -  
Best: -

## 35. Anthony Zimmerman



Height: 172cm  
Weight: 74kg  
Local Club: East Brighton  
Games Played: 6  
Disposals: 6.7  
Goals: 11  
Best: -

## 36. Chris Diggle

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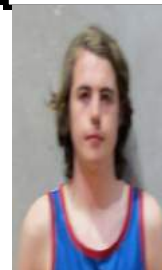
Height: 185cm  
Weight: 75kg  
Local Club: Caulfield Grammarians  
Games Played: 4  
Disposals: 6.0  
Goals: -  
Best: -

## 37. Alfie Jarnestrom



Height: 173cm  
Weight: 67kg  
Local Club: Hampton  
Games Played: 3  
Disposals: 10.7  
Goals: 3  
Best: -

## 38. Will Walker



Height: 187cm  
Weight: 75kg  
Local Club: Hampton  
Games Played: 11  
Disposals: 9.0  
Goals: 15  
Best: -

## 39. Lachlan Harris



Height: 170cm  
Weight: 67kg  
Local Club: Hampton  
Games Played: 3  
Disposals: 9.0  
Goals: 2  
Best: -

## 40. Quintin Montanaro



Height: 186cm  
Weight: 70kg  
Local Club: Beaumaris  
Games Played: 3  
Disposals: 1  
Goals: 1  
Best: -

## 41. Andrew Brayshaw



Height: 182cm  
Weight: 75kg  
Local Club: Hampton  
Games Played: 3  
Disposals: 10  
Goals: 2  
Best: -

## 42. Charlie Constable



Height: 189cm  
Weight: 76kg  
Local Club: East Sandringham  
Games Played: 2  
Disposals: 9.0  
Goals: -  
Best: -

## 43. Lucas Barrett



Height: 177cm  
Weight: 71kg  
Local Club: Beaumaris  
Games Played: 7  
Disposals: 12.4  
Goals: -  
Best: -

## 44. Angus Styles



Height: 185cm  
Weight: 73kg  
Local Club: East Malvern  
Games Played: 2  
Disposals: 12.7  
Goals: -  
Best: -

# Player Profiles

## 46. Jackson Hille



**Height:** 187cm  
**Weight:** 80kg  
**Local Club:** Ormond  
**Games Played:** 1  
**Disposals:** 6.0  
**Goals:** -  
**Best:** -

## 47. Sebastian Williams



**Height:** 177cm  
**Weight:** 71kg  
**Local Club:** Hampton  
**Games Played:** 1  
**Disposals:** 14.0  
**Goals:** -  
**Best:** -

## 48. Geordie Nagle



**Height:** 184cm  
**Weight:** 76kg  
**Local Club:** East Malvern  
**Games Played:** 2  
**Disposals:** 7.5  
**Goals:** -  
**Best:** -

## 49. James Mangoni



**Height:** 183cm  
**Weight:** 64kg  
**Local Club:** Hampton  
**Games Played:** 4  
**Disposals:** 7.8  
**Goals:** 2  
**Best:** -

## 50. Lachlan Heigh



**Height:** 186cm  
**Weight:** 84kg  
**Local Club:** St. James College  
**Games Played:** -  
**Disposals:** -  
**Goals:** -  
**Best:** -

## 51. Joshua Gorman



**Height:** 178cm  
**Weight:** 78kg  
**Local Club:** Beaumaris  
**Games Played:** 7  
**Disposals:** 13.9  
**Goals:** 1  
**Best:** -

## 52. Charlie McGaw



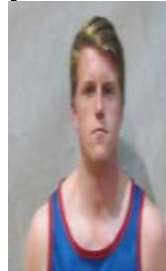
**Height:** 185cm  
**Weight:** 69kg  
**Local Club:** East Malvern  
**Games Played:** -  
**Disposals:** -  
**Goals:** -  
**Best:** -

## 53. Aaron Trusler



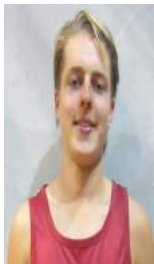
**Height:** 169cm  
**Weight:** 64kg  
**Local Club:** Ormond  
**Games Played:** 3  
**Disposals:** 16.0  
**Goals:** -  
**Best:** -

## 54. Howie Persson



**Height:** 190cm  
**Weight:** 95kg  
**Local Club:** St Kilda City  
**Games Played:** 1  
**Disposals:** 8.0  
**Goals:** -  
**Best:** -

## 55. Oscar Dowd



**Height:** 181cm  
**Weight:** 72kg  
**Local Club:** East Malvern  
**Games Played:** -  
**Disposals:** -  
**Goals:** -  
**Best:** -

## 56. Nick Lloyd



**Height:** 185cm  
**Weight:** 76kg  
**Local Club:** Dingley  
**Games Played:** -  
**Disposals:** -  
**Goals:** -  
**Best:** -

## 57. Jacob Bakes



**Height:** 180cm  
**Weight:** 70kg  
**Local Club:** Other  
**Games Played:** 1  
**Disposals:** 1.0  
**Goals:** -  
**Best:** -

# Player Profiles

## 58. Sam Cameron



**Height:** 188cm  
**Weight:** 68kg  
**Local Club:** East Brighton  
**Games Played:** -  
**Disposals:** -  
**Goals:** -  
**Best:** -

## 59. Isaac Morrisby



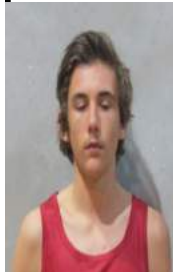
**Height:** 191cm  
**Weight:** 90kg  
**Local Club:** East Malvern  
**Games Played:** 10  
**Disposals:** 11.1  
**Goals:** 16  
**Best:** -

## 60. Joshua Gibbins



**Height:** 196cm  
**Weight:** 77kg  
**Local Club:** Beaumaris  
**Games Played:** 1  
**Disposals:** 7.0  
**Goals:** 0  
**Best:** -

## 62. Zac Straker



**Height:** 189cm  
**Weight:** 81kg  
**Local Club:** Mordi-Brae  
**Games Played:** 6  
**Disposals:** 6.5  
**Goals:** 3  
**Best:** -

## 63. Brendan McCoy



**Height:** 181.5  
**Weight:** 69kg  
**Local Club:** Other  
**Games Played:** 1  
**Disposals:** 15.0  
**Goals:** -  
**Best:** -

## 64. Alex Lowe



**Height:** 185cm  
**Weight:** 80kg  
**Local Club:** East Malvern  
**Games Played:** 2  
**Disposals:** 10.0  
**Goals:** -  
**Best:** -

## 65. William Burmeister



**Height:** 176cm  
**Weight:** 64kg  
**Local Club:** Beaumaris  
**Games Played:** -  
**Disposals:** -  
**Goals:** -  
**Best:** -

## 66. Louis Williams



**Height:** 190cm  
**Weight:** 81kg  
**Local Club:** East Malvern  
**Games Played:** -  
**Disposals:** -  
**Goals:** -  
**Best:** -

## 67. Devlin Brereton



**Height:** 182cm  
**Weight:** 67kg  
**Local Club:** Beaumaris  
**Games Played:** -  
**Disposals:** -  
**Goals:** -  
**Best:** -

## 68. Cooper Balic



**Height:** 186cm  
**Weight:** 80kg  
**Local Club:** Mordi-Brae  
**Games Played:** -  
**Disposals:** -  
**Goals:** -  
**Best:** -

## 69. Jai Hale



**Height:** 195cm  
**Weight:** 88kg  
**Local Club:** Mordi-Brae  
**Games Played:** -  
**Disposals:** -  
**Goals:** -  
**Best:** -

## 70. Ethan Casey



**Height:** 201cm  
**Weight:** 96kg  
**Local Club:** Ormond  
**Games Played:** 2  
**Disposals:** 7.0  
**Goals:** -  
**Best:** -



## 71. Julian Howard



**Height:** 179cm  
**Weight:** 66kg  
**Local Club:** Mordi-Brae  
**Games Played:** 3  
**Disposals:** 4.7  
**Goals:** 2  
**Best:** -

## 72. Nathan Murphy



**Height:** 186cm  
**Weight:** 78kg  
**Local Club:** -  
**Games Played:** -  
**Disposals:** -  
**Goals:** -  
**Best:** -