



FERNDALE FLASH

RD1
5/4/18

#marchasone

AROUND THE GROUNDS

The Ferndale Flash, WRITTEN BY PLAYERS FOR PLAYERS will be here all season long to keep you in the know.

Seniors (M) vs Pegs 2pm (A)

Season 2018 will present a new frontier for SMSAFC with the clubs first appearance in Premier football. There was heartbreak and anguish after coming agonisingly close to premiership glory in Division 1 last year, however the playing group and coaches have stuck together to take the same core group into 2018.

We have lost last years BnF winner, Uncle Timmy Dudgeon back to his homeland and key defensive posts, Hatchet Angley and Vampire Kenyon opting to take a year off. Despite this, the playing group will be buoyed by the appearance of some new faces - Louis Holmes returns to partner up with Manny Dolan in the forward line; Our midfield will receive a boost through James Sharp becoming a Saint; Brett Borland, Boner Hunt have come down from Old Scotch along and Daniel Waters & Dane Hicks will strengthen our ruck stocks.

Erwin Leyden is once again in charge of the reigns and has been swift in progressing our quick hands and fast moving game style that we enjoyed throughout 2017. Expect to see more of the same (and some extra) in 2018! This year Erwin will appreciate the support of Ant Murphy, who has taken on role of assistant coach following his great success as Reserves coach over the past few seasons. Murph will predominantly take control and assist in the development of our midfield group.

Two preseason games against Haileybury and Monash Blues showed our capability to compete against two Premier B clubs. Despite not having a full strength side for either match, SMS went goal for goal against Haileybury and had a gallant 8 goals loss to Monash Blues.
Cam Butler

Reserves (M) vs Pegs 11:40 (A)

Season 2018 for the reserves will resemble a throwback to previous years with the return of Premiership players Scott Gatehouse and Andrew Morris to coach and player respectively. Unfortunately falling at the last hurdle in season 2017, the Reserves are looking forward to proving themselves in a new division, beginning this Saturday against fellow newbies, PEGS.

For the reserves it will be PEGS looking to make amends after re-affirming the 2016 grand final victory by securing a spot in the grand final at their expense in 2017.

The reserves will keenly welcome returning club favorite Tommy Whittle to the midfield and new full back Scott Haughton to free up Nick Ludwig for more time in the ruck or even a few games in the seniors.

With only a very short time playing together across the two practice matches, it is not easy to judge the Reserves form going into round 1 but there were promising signs. The Baxter Brothers looked dangerous in the forward line against Monash and our tried and tested midfield is looking reinvigorated with Choco Opt-Hoog, Jack Ryan and Rowdy all reaping the rewards of a big pre-season.
Andrew Morris

Thirds (M) vs Mazenod (A)

The threes have a lot to look forward to in season 2018 as the rest of the mens sides finally join them in Premier C, Jack Byrnes has completed his apprenticeship under the DOC and is now seniors coach, lets hope he is more of a Simon Goodwin than Nathan Buckley.

Numbers have looked great on the track, with the threes consistently been great; Angus Ife, Harry Mieselbach and Olly Ridge just to name a few.

LAST WEEK

Seniors (M) 2017 GF

SMS: 10. 7. 91
PEGS 15. 14. 104

Best Players: T. Dudgeon, J. Perriam, C. Angley, J. Elliston, J. Kenyon, L. Dykes

Goal kickers: L. Dykes 4, M. Dolan 4, D. Ryan 2, S. Jones, C. Angley, D. Grant, B. Andrews

Reserves (M) 2017 GF

SMS: 6. 3. 39
Ormond 13. 13. 91

Best Players: J. Evans, M. Howard, A. Pathirana, N. Baxter, B. Semmler-Farr, J. Strangward

Goal kickers: N. Baxter 2, R. Williams, K. Reynolds, J. Strangward, X. Leonard



Butler's Crystal Ball

D'Arcy Grant to get sunburnt twice in rounds 1-4

Louis to not leave the 50 metre are goal square

Charlie to have less trips away with his misso and to win BnF

No Darts Dolan to kick another 70

AROUND THE GROUNDS cont...

Thirds (M) cont.

Andrew Morris

Similar to the reserves in that it is hard to judge form going in the round 1 with lack of independent game time, however Premier B reserve side Monash were on the back foot in the first half against an all 3s side.

Andrew Morris

Seniors (W) vs Old Camberwell (H) 2pm

Season 2018 will bring a lot of excitement amongst the women as we enter our second year of football, this season in Premier B. After bringing home the Division one premiership cup in an exciting one point win over West Brunswick in our first season of footy, the girls are feeling ready for the challenges that Premier B will bring.

Big congratulations to the girls who this season have been selected into their respective women's VFL squads (Bec Grant, Lisa Davie and Tash Rappos), we hope to still catch you about SMSAFC for a few games this year! We also welcome down the large list of new players, among them the likes of Stephanie Lawrence and Ruby Svarc, who are sure make a big impact this season.

With two convincing preseason wins against Brunswick Renegades and Monash Blues, our form is looking good for a big first round hit out against Old Camberwell, who were the reigning premiers of division two in the 2017 season.

Damian Sutherland returns as head coach and under the new leadership group of Rachel Gill (C), Jas Cannizzo (VC), Annemieke Thorbecke (Dep. VC) and Grace Barry (Dep. VC), the 2018 season is expected to be as thrilling as all Rach's marks!
Grace Barry

Reserves (W) vs Old Camberwell (H) 12pm

It's shaping up to be an exciting season for the women's reserves this year. Moving into Premier B, we will be facing off against many teams who are fielding a reserves team for the first time this year.

Although unlucky in our practice match against Brunswick Renegades, we proved to be in good form and remained

competitive in our intraclub practice matches. 2017 was the first year of footy for many reserves players, so we have come into the 2018 season with a whole year of development and experience under our belts. We are looking stronger, sharper and more focussed than before. With the addition of a thirds team, our playing list is guaranteed to remain competitive every week which we hope will make for some great games this season.

We have many new and existing players in the team this year, which has created a fresh and exciting dynamic. We welcome the return of Stef Binks and Eliza Meals, who's 2017 seasons were tragically cut short by a broken collar bone and torn ACL respectively.

Coached by Simon Brownhill and captained by Eliza Tivendale, we hope to follow in the footsteps of the one's by bringing home the premiership this season. If our trainings are anything to go by, it's sure to be a fun and positive season ahead for the whole team. Yeah the two's!!
Fiona Murphy

Thirds (W) Exhibition (H) 10am

After a very successful 2017 for both Womens teams we have seen a number of new girls come down to the club to participate in presason.

With such significant growth in numbers a development thirds side has been put together to accommodate all girls at the club. The VAFA competition unfortunately only allows each club to field two official sides throughout the 2018 season so the Thirds team will take part in a series of exhibition matches with the first being held this Saturday.

We've come a long way with the help of Simon, Damian, Luke, Paul, Shane and Ian. From not being able to kick the ball properly in January, to now completing drills using the whole oval and various kicks, it's safe to say we've improved a tremendous amount in a short period of time.

A tough hit out against Brunswick renegades twos, and the first game for many of our girls, proved to be a lot of fun and a great introduction to footy.
Fran Di Natale and Maisie Barry

LAST WEEK

Thirds (M) 2017 Rd 16

SMS 4. 3. 27
Marcellin : 26. 14. 170

Best Players: L. Hawkins, J. McCoy, J. Strangward, L. Powing, T. Clancy, D. Postma

Goal kickers: J. McCoy 2, J. Strangward, E. Rocke

Seniors (W) 2017 GF

SMS 3. 2. 20
West Brunswick 3. 1. 19

Best Players: N. Rappos, L. Davie, R. Grant, J. Cannizzo, A. Thorbecke, R. Gill

Goal kickers: L. Davie, G. Barry, R. Grant

Reserves (W) 2017 Rd 11

SMS: 1. 1. 7
St. Kevin's: 10.6. 66

Best Players: E. Burton, C. Soderstrom, B. Clark, B. Baker, E. Tivendale, K. O'Neill

Goal kickers: B Clark



The Journey to Prem C

2017 WILL BE A YEAR that history will look fondly upon for St Mary's Salesian Amateur Football Club. The club nearly doubled in size with the inception of two women's teams, three out of five senior teams reached grand finals and the club was promoted into premier football for the first time. Although missing out on the illustrious mens senior premierships, the women's senior team were able to capitalise on a dominant inaugural season to bring home the silverware.

2018 will answer the question of whether a local club without a strong school or junior club affiliation can match it in the premier divisions. With the return of senior coach Erwin Leyden, the club returned to finals in division 1 and was rewarded with promotion after a win in the first week over Ormond. Attention must now turn to the task ahead of competing in the highest division the club has ever played and we'll explore the challenges ahead here today.

To start, lets look at the clubs that have previously been promoted and how they have fared.

Old Geelong and Old Mentonians were promoted in 2016 and both just missed out on finals in their first year of Premier C football, finishing 5th and 6th respectively. SMS won 1 out of 2 games against Old Geelong in 2016 but were no match for Old Mentonian's dominant start to the season.

2015's promotions do not reflect as kindly, both Ormond and Kew were relegated within two years of promotion in premier football. Ormond's disastrous grand final loss to Kew after a dominant 17-1 season in 2015 haunted their

2016 campaign and resulted in first year relegation.

Taking a step back to reflect on the performance of the past 10 teams to be promoted from the divisions into Premier C football. We see an average of 6 wins finishing 7th.

- Only 4 out of 10 teams were relegated in the first year in Premier C
- 1 team out of 10 won the premierships in their first year: Hampton Rovers in 2014, moving straight onto Premier B where they have remained.
- 1 other team, Peninsula, was promoted from Division 1 in 2012 and was elevated into Premier B in their 4th year of Premier C football. We will be taking the drive down the coast this year however as they have faced relegation back into Premier B

As expected, the size and resources available of clubs in Premier C football is a step up from Division 1. Comparing the 2018 Premier C teams with 2017 Division 1 teams;

- **7 out of 9** Premier C 2018 teams are old boys clubs, compared with 3 out of 9 Division 1 2017 teams. The 2 teams that are not old boys affiliated, Fitzroy and Williamstown are both established community clubs, have strong juniors and are not in private school feeder zones.
- 5 out of 9 Premier C 2018 teams have a 3rds team, while Division 1 2017 only 3 out of 9 did. *Brunswick NOBSP did have a clubbies team

- Since 2015, only 3 out of 9 Premier C 2018 teams have

played in a division lower than it, and 2 out of 9 have played in Premier B.

However SMS' elevation into the premier divisions will be boosted by additional benefits other clubs may not have been able to fully capitalise::

- **Boosted recruitment** through presence as a local club without a strong old boy school culture. The arrivals of solid talent to slot into the senior team including Dan Waters, Brett Borland and James Sharp are a testament to this.
- **Boosted mens recruitment** through strength of women's sides. The preseason has warmly welcomed many players to the club thanks to the quality of our womens sides including Dane Hicks, Billy Duncan and Matt Hirschberg.
- **Unique home ground advantage** at Ferndale Park. Most premier C players wouldn't have played on a ground the size of Ferndale since juniors: Ferndale is 139m long, the MCG is 171m.

In truth, this analysis is irrelevant and St Mary's Salesian's performance in 2018 will come down to one thing, our determination to win games of football. As Hampton has shown, premierships in your first year after promotion are possible and I'm glad we are expecting nothing less.

Andrew Morris

UNDER THE GRILL



Stephanie Binks
Reserves (W)
Paramedic at
Ambulance
Victoria



Manny Dolan
Seniors (M)
Carpenter

Who has thrown a birthday party for their pet? Maddie Campbell
Who has a tattoo they regret? Maddie Campbell
Who clogs the toilet at their friends house and doesn't say anything? Maddie Campbell
Who regularly orders UberEats from 3 streets away? Maddie Campbell

Who doesn't believe we landed someone on the moon? Harry Meiselbach
Who has a tattoo they regret? Manny Dolan
Who seems like they were home schooled? Ben Andrews
Who peaked in High School? Darcy Grant



Stefan Gusts
Seniors (M)
Electrician at
Stowe Australia



Eliza Stanley
Seniors (W)
Studying Law

Who will yell at you for not sorting the recycling? Xave Leonard
Who's wardrobe hasn't changed in 10 years? Jos Opt'Hoog
Who peaked in high school? Heath Chipperfield
Who has a tattoo they regret? Manny Dolan

Who has thrown a birthday party for their pet? Eliza Stanley
Who doesn't believe we landed a person on the moon? Bec Grant
Who peaked in high school? Maddie Nunan
Who seems like they were homeschooled? Nick Bussell



COMING UP



Womens Fundraiser for St Patricks Day Bushfires
11:30am-4:30pm Saturday 7th
April Ferndale Park



4th Annual Beer Pong Championship
7pm-11pm
Saturday 11th
April Ferndale Park



Gold Saints Lunch with Bob Murphy
12pm-2pm
Saturday 5th May
Ferndale Park