



# FERNDALE FLASH

RD12  
28/6/18  
#marchasone

## AROUND THE GROUNDS

### This week: Seniors (W) vs Brunswick Renegades (H) 2pm

Last week, Melbourne recorded some of its chilliest temperatures of the year and Saturday proved to be no exception at Gordon Barnard Reserve in Balwyn. Despite these trying conditions, the girls came out "fiery hot" from the first bounce. Steph Lawrence immediately showed off her skills by snagging some spectacular contested marks in the forward 40 to further impart us with a three-goal lead at the conclusion of the first quarter.

Our backline proved to be impenetrable, keeping our opposition score to a mere 3 points at half time. An undoubtedly deserving "Best on Ground" was awarded to Sarah Yule who provided onlookers with an unwavering "Sicily-like" performance. Ruby "Silky" Svarc carved up the midfield (both figuratively and literally), teasing her defenders with her speed and strength to crucially clear the ball away from congestion. Avalon Tickle's strong rucking led to her winning many crucial taps. Admittedly, she appeared to spend more time in the air than on the ground, which left us to question if she is in fact housing small planes in her shoes.

Heading into the fourth quarter with a 15-point lead, we were instructed not to lose our composure by skipper, Rach Gill. The intensity and aggression by Old Camberwell in this quarter rapidly increased which served to remind us that this game was far from over. However, their efforts were to no avail as we slammed our foot on the accelerator to secure a comfortable 33-point win. With the echo of our song still ringing in their changerooms, we left the ground with big smiles on our faces and ready to party. *Zali Rayment*

### This week: Reserves (W) vs Brunswick Renegades (H) 12p m

From the starting bounce on Saturday the girls were in fine form, eager to have another reason to celebrate that night. The ball didn't make it into our defensive fifty the first quarter and our backline were getting cold watching their own game from the wrong end. Eventually Simon decided we didn't need a full back anymore and sent Elly Obradov to run up the field and play on ball. Elly and Tash Hastie both put on a show, scoring three goals each out of our total fifteen.

After half time we dropped back to 16 players each, so that Old Camberwell could have some form of a bench. No disrespect to our opposition, but we began to treat the game as a training run, working on developing our "own brand of football" that the coaches favour so much. We also played around with positions, and some girls got the chance to play where they hadn't before. Sarah Duldig scored her first goal and proved herself as more than just

the strong defensive player we've come to rely on. Meg Boyd, Lucy Turnbull and Elise Burton also excelled in the middle. Old Camberwell's score of 1-0-6 speaks to the strength of our defensive team.

Looking to this weekend, the girls are excited to challenge themselves against the Brunswick Renegades who are just below us on the ladder. Another win against the Renegades will reaffirm our capability and allow us to charge on into finals.

*Adrienne Jones*

### This week: Thirds (W) vs Brunswick Renegades (H) 10am

No Game ☹️

### This week: Seniors (M) vs Old Ivanhoe (A) 2pm

The oceans tides are often dictated by the gravitational forces exerted by the Moon, the Sun and the rotation of the Earth. In effect, it is the combination of these factors that contribute to the rise and fall in sea level. In 2018, it has been a constant battle for our Senior team to get the right combination of factors to experience the euphoric 'rise' of victory. In 2017, these factors aligned for our adversary, PEGS Football Club, who were able to overcome the SMS Seniors in the D1 Grand Final. As a result, this season has been a constant battle against the waves of Premier C football.

The side had been buoyed by the inclusion of our forward line's 'Big 3'- Jack Elliston, Louis Holmes and Manny Dolan (in that order), instilling belief amongst the group after a very disappointing display in the previous week's match.

The group were challenged to respond...

After PEGS kicked the first three goals of the game, SMS were able to begin gaining ascendancy. The ruckwork of Dane Hicks, the stoppage efforts of Nick Bussell, Ben (R)Andrews' rebound and the collective surge of defensive pressure allowing us to respond with 2 goals of our own. At quarter-time, we felt like we had wrestled back momentum, even though PEGS remained a few points in front.

As good sides do, PEGS lifted their work rate in the second, forcing us to make simple mistakes (Joel blames the old balls at training- not your Erwin). Yet again, lapses in concentration and defensive pressure allowed PEGS to get a run on in the 2nd quarter. 5 easy goals were kicked in the space of 10 minutes, sapping the energy and belief that had culminated from the previous half hour's efforts.

## LAST WEEK ☹️

### Women's Seniors

St Mary's Salesian 7. 7 (49) def Old Camberwell 2. 4. (16)

Goals: S. Lawrence 3, R. Grant 2, J. Firmin 2

Best: S. Yule, R. Svarc, M. Stanley, E. Stanley, M. Furphy, A. Angley

Ground: Gordon Barnard Reserve

### Women's Reserves

St Mary's Salesian 15. 9 (99) def Old Camberwell 1. 0 (6)

Goals: E. Obradov 3, N. Hastie 3, K. Wilson 2, P. Heath, F. Murphy, C. Davies-Kildea, D. Scercia, M. Nunan, M. Boyd, S. Duldig

Best: B. Young, E. Obradov, C. Murray, N. Hastie, K. Wilson, S. Duldig

Ground: Gordon Barnard Reserve

### Women's Thirds

BYE

## Stefan's Stand up

1. Have you ever had Jewish coffee? Israeli good
2. Why did the scarecrow win an award? It was outstanding it's field
13. don't trust stairs they're always up to something

## AROUND THE GROUNDS cont...

To our credit, we responded after half-time; creating chances in front of goals, yet were unable to capitalise. That, in the sense, was the ball game.

Whilst, we still search for our second 'W' of the season, plenty of positives were taken out of the match. Dane Hicks continues to impress, Nick Bussell has enjoyed his best month of consistent senior football, and the bleeding and dramatic improvement of players such as Will Douglas and James Curwood will hold the club in good stead for the future.

The focus on improvement has been a trend over the past few weeks, and slowly the results will take place. The tides will turn...

*Heath Chipperfield*

### This week: Reserves (M) vs Old Ivanhoe (A) 11:40am

Coming off a goalless drubbing the week before, with Stefan Gusts, Andrew Morris and Tom Whittle all unavailable for selection, few bookies would have gotten around the Sainters. This was combated with the squad only having 19 players, with Harry Meiselbach, Ro Nickless and Ned Baxter, doubling up with a 3's and 2's game.

The 3's have had a hot run against PEGS, claiming the chocolates in their four most recent encounters, so coach Gatehouse looked towards the 3's to provide some inspiration to get over PGS. The first decision was to bring in Tom Fly due to his successful meme week and due to holding down the backline fort in the most recent encounter against PEGS. The second decision was to ensure that Sam 'The Glove' Garlepp was playing so he could matchup against his sparring partner 'Damo.' Known for his top-notch sledging Damo questioned whether The Glove was playing his first Reserves game for the season, just to match-up on him. Answering with a straight bat, The Glove noted that he was brought into the team just to man up on PEGS worst player. The first quarter was as spicy as the chat between Damo and The Glove, with the Saints being able to end the Stanza with a 10 point lead.

Playing as an offensive stopper, Blair Reynolds objective of the day was to get him and his man as far away as possible from the footy, a task that was disconcertingly too natural to Blair. It must have been a stressful business trip the week before for Scott Haughton because he was seemingly taking out all his frustrations on the littlest blokes for PEGS. Twice he squared up and hit a PEGS bloke into another dimension, his tenacity on the ball and the opponent raised the tails of the Sainters who went into halftime with a 9 point lead.

Brain-fades and chat to the umpire got PEGS back into the game. For the 2nd week in a row 'The Cheese' was issued to a Resies player, this time for Sam '7' Febvre telling the umpire he was too much of a coward to pay a free kick. Holding onto a two point lead heading into the final quarter, we knew we had to dig deep to get over the line. The quarter was marred by rolling mauls to prevent the opposition from scoring, however, it was the class of Big Nick Alexopoulos and Jake Evans that dragged us over the line. Firstly, it was Jake's 80 metre bomb that got the Saints ahead and then a

bounce from God that saw the ball move at right angles that got Big Nick an unlikely goal. Bloody oath it felt good getting a hard fought win and as The Glove pointed out to Damo it was going to be a long ride back over the west gate when you don't get a kick.

*James Gallus*

### This week: Thirds (M) vs Marcellin (A) 11:40am

Top team St. Bernards Thirds had to work hard to shake off a hard working St. Marys Salesian Thirds eventually winning by 43 points.

SMS (ninth) had a big challenge versus St. Bernards (first) but were quietly confident of performing well.

In the first term, the Saints kicked to the Glen Iris Road end and both sides played attacking footy. St. Bernards midfield provided their forwards with many opportunities to score but they were inaccurate around the goals and booted 3-8. At the other end SMS replied with 2-3 to trail by 11 points at quarter's end.

The Snowdogs again shaded the home team in the second quarter although there wasn't a lot in it. The Saints were defending well and getting the ball forward on a number of occasions. St. Bernards took the honours with three goals to two and held a 16 point advantage by half-time. For SMS, first-half goalkickers were Ned Baxter and Sam Matheson (2 each).

The Saints refused to go away and outplayed their highly rated opponents for the first 15 minutes in the third stanza. During this time, Matt Hirschberg led a capable backline, while Harry Meiselbach, Cam Rose, Tom Clancy and Rowan Nickless were effective players around the ground. Majors resulted from James Ellis, N. Baxter and Tim Matheson and by mid-term scores were tied 7-7 to 6-13. At this point, the Snowdogs were able to lift their intensity and add two six-pointers to open-up a 14 point break by the final change.

St. Bernards were able to go on with the job in the final term adding five goals, while Jon Yodgee replied for the home team. SMS fought the game out well but allowed the visitors in for three easy six-pointers near the end. By siren time, the Snowdogs had prevailed by 43 points

From the game:

- The Saints took the game up to their more fancied opponents and were not disgraced. Ned Baxter (3) and Sam Matheson (2) were multiple goalscorers, while Matt Hirschberg, Harry Meiselbach, Tim Matheson and Cam Rose tried hard.

- Coach Jack Byrnes would be pleased with the endeavour of his players and has a challenging away match against Marcellin next Saturday.

*Ron Redding*

## LAST WEEK ☹️

### Seniors

St Mary's Salesian 7. 10 (52) def by PEGS 15. 8 (98)

Goals: L. Holmes 4, J. Strangward, H.

Chipperfield, M. Dolan

Best: B. Andrews, H. Chipperfield, D. Hicks, L. Holmes, W.

Douglas, N. Bussell

Ground: Ferndale Park

### Reserves

St Mary's Salesian 8. 9 (57) def PEGS 6. 11 (47)

Goals: L. Brownhill 3, N. Alexopoulos 3, J.

Evans, X. Leonard

Best: B. Reynolds, N.

Baum, J. Evans, L.

Brownhill, O. Baxter, S.

Haughton

Ground: Ferndale

Park

### Thirds

St Mary's Salesian 8. 9 (57) def by St

Bernards 13. 22 (100)

Goals: N. Baxter 3, S.

Matheson 2, J. Ellis, J.

Yodgee, T. Matheson

Best: M. Hirschberg,

H. Meiselbach, T.

Matheson, C. Rose, T.

Clancy, R. Nickless

Ground: Ferndale

Park

# Ferndale Park; Blessing or Burden?

Ferndale Park is as synonymous to St Mary's Salesian as a duck is to water; its unique size and round 11 mud patches make it an interesting annual encounter for opposition teams.

I would be surprised if you could name me a sports team that won more away from home in any sport, but just like the western teams in the AFL, SMS win proportionally more games at home than others (no I have not done the math).

It is not a 3.5 hour flight and heavily one sided crowd that gives us our edge, but primarily the length and width, Ferndale (according to D. Malcolm) is 139m long and 120m wide at its widest. The MCG by contrast is 171m long and 146m wide. Yes the MCG is wider than Ferndale is long. I no longer feel as bad for my inability to get a kick whenever I line up at center half forward on a Saturday afternoon at Ferndale.

No wonder we play our best footy at home when have played on this size ground every second week for as long as we've known. It's one less 30m kick into the forward line, it's 25m less wing to spread

into and a whole lot more contested footy to win.

Playing half our games at a ground with a disproportionate advantage at first glance is a desirable proposition. That's half our games we would expect to win more so than any other team in the league (assuming other clubs don't have as unique home grounds). More wins of course means a higher chance of playing finals, but this of course is where the advantages end.

VAFA don't play finals at Ferndale (unless your a 2013 under 19 north semi final winner ), and they usually don't play finals at grounds similar to Ferndale. They're longer, they're wider and generally foster a different style of footy than what we see at Ferndale.

This leads us to a trade off: is having a unique sized home ground with a greater home ground advantage better than having a home ground that is run of the mill? We never really got a choice

In 2017 the men and the women seniors won both home and away,

putting this article to shame, with both teams going very deep into finals time.

The 2016 men's senior's year really showcased Ferndale's advantage with a 75% win/loss at home but only a 20% win loss away, such a difference we didn't see finals time.

The women's reserves even in their first season proved the winning hypothesis correct, having all 3 of their wins at home but none away.

Looking back over the past three years for all teams, we have a 71% winning rate at home but only a 48% winning rate away. Most notable example of this differential in my memory is the 2016 scalp of eventual division 1 premiers Old Geelong by 60 points.

Playing at home is always an enjoyable day for the Saints especially in a season like the mens this year, but is this giving us the best chance in the pointy end of the season?

*Andrew Morris*



# UNDER THE GRILL

## LOOK A LIKES



Please send through suggestions to Andrew Morris 😊😊

## FLASH RANKINGS

1. L Holmes 28.2	19. E Tivendale 15.48	37. T Ham 9.14	55. B Anderson 5.87
2. M Dolan 25.29	20. A Kerr 15.45	38. H Miesalbach 9	56. B Semierr-Farr 5.67
3. S Lawrence 24.18	21. J Elliston 15.42	39. Z Rayment 7.97	57. J Yodgee 5.53
4. R Nickless 22.71	22. N Rappos 14.69	40. E Mcdonald 7.93	58. M Howard 5.42
5. C Angley 22.36	23. R Svarc 14.28	41. S Byrnes 7.88	59. M Opt'Hoog 5.36
6. T Whittle 22.06	24. M Quin 13.87	42. A Thorbecke 7.7	60. M Stanley 5.22
7. S Gusts 21.65	25. G Barry 13.48	43. N Baxter 7.57	61. S Matheson 5.11
8. B Borland 20.62	26. A Schifferle 13.02	44. A Tickle 7.5	62. N Ludwig 4.73
9. K Wilson 20.46	27. J. Newton 13.02	45. N Evans 7.34	63. H. Ellis 4.72
10. A Morris 19.69	28. J Strangward 12.51	46. Z Hibert 7.3	64. M Bulte 4.47
11. A Angley 19.61	29. N Hastie 12.41	47. A Bush 6.93	65. N Edwards 4.46
12. T Wightman 18.67	30. X Leonard 12.04	48. C Gibbs 6.91	66. W Douglas 4.39
13. R Gill 18.21	31. M Boyd 10.65	49. S Klimpsch 6.77	67. J Ryan 4.32
14. M Flora 17.63	32. K. Aabryn 10.46	50. J Barrie 6.7	68. M Furphy 4.11
15. B Andrews 16.48	33. S Haughton 10.08	51. E Stanley 6.69	69. D Ryan 4.05
16. T Fly 16.26	34. D Hicks 9.88	52. E Burton 6.66	70. F Ravida 4.01
17. J Evans 16.08	35. N Alexopolous 9.87	53. J Ryan 5.99	
18. F Murphy 15.96	36. M Leung 9.54	54. J Gallus 5.99	



COMING UP



Gold Saints Lunch  
12pm Saturday 17<sup>th</sup>  
July  
Ferndale Park



Social Event  
7pm Saturday 28<sup>th</sup>  
July  
Ferndale Park