

Newsletter

2012

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BURWOOD
ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL CLUB



Presidents Report

Murray Ralfs

2012 was a good season for Burwood football. We had a very good run with the weather with only one game cancelled. Our numbers were down on previous years almost definitely due to the response to the earthquakes. But our numbers in the lower grades looks promising.

We had 14 teams made up of 208 kids. As well for the first time since 2000 we had a senior men's team playing in the Player Development League. Well done to all those involved who got this off the ground.

Well done to our Management Committee for organising our teams and players this year, this is a major task throughout the year. Another group of people who deserve many thanks are our coaches for their efforts through the year – thank you for a job well done.

The Whole of Football Plan introduced by NZ Football last year is well under way and becoming very successful at Burwood. Our First Kicks group (4-6 years) has taken to this program well and Saturday mornings has been a lot of fun for them all. This year the Fun Football (7-8 years) started off and our club grouped together with Papanui-Redwood and Western to form a hub of football teams that played each Saturday morning. In 2013 Mainland Football will be introducing the next step in the plan – Mini Football hubs (9-10 years).

We have received a good level of sponsorship this year, many thanks to NZ Community Trust, Mainland Foundation and the Lion Foundation for their sponsorship. As well we received special funding from FIFA to purchase new goalposts, thank you to FIFA. Our current ones were partially broken as a result of the earthquake. We will be installing the new ones in 2013.

To all the players, coaches and parents, I wish you all the best for the summer and we look forward to seeing you back next year.

Junior Club Captains Report

Don MacDonald

An interesting season this year, whilst our player numbers were significantly reduced, due to many families relocating from our catchment area, those that stayed had a good season with very little weather induced disruption. Our newly formed Senior PDL team did themselves proud in their first season and I hope we'll see them for many more. Our First Kicks and 7/8th grade introduced the new Whole of Football plan and this was a great success. Thanks must go to all the parents and supporters standing on the sidelines encouraging our players. Have a good summer and we'll see you all back next year.

2012 Sponsors: – thanks for your support:

- NZ Community Trust
- Lion Foundation
- Mainland Foundation

Annual General Meeting

Monday, 29 October 2012, 7.30 pm

Venue – to be advised

Burwood Penalty Shootout Winners

- 7th to 8th Grade Jamie Williams
- 9th to 10th Grade Jayden Hawker
- 11th to 13th Grade Cameron Brown
- 14th to 17th Grades Isaac Rose
- Senior Ben Johnstone

2013 Registration Mail Out

The club will be mailing out the 2013 registration forms and details early next year (late January/early February). If your address has changed in the last 7-8 months or you intend moving in the next 5-6 months could you please contact the club with the change of address details:

Burwood AFC, P O Box 38050, Parklands, Christchurch 8842

or via the club email admin@burwoodafc.co.nz

First Kicks (4-6 Years)

First Kicks has had a great season this year. I have had reliable game day leaders each week to implement the Whole of Football program. Most importantly we have been able to deliver a quality experience to all the players who took part. Positive comments from the parents in attendance have made the success of this program and I look forward to another good season next year. To all those players going on to 7th Grade, good luck, and for all those who will be returning I'll look forward to your enthusiasm next year. Thanks to Kirsty Townsend, Arran Hunter and Nathan Ralfs for their help.

Coordinator – Don MacDonald

7th Tigers

Although we didn't win any games I would like to say that we had a very successful year, we had fantastic parent support and our players gained some fantastic skills in persevering, and became great defenders really getting in their opponents faces to make it difficult to pass awesome work. Most importantly they all gained some great skills in playing and working together as a new team, giving each other lots of support and encouragement. All of our team were very committed to play each week and looked forward to Wednesday night practices, unfortunately this was affected by the weather.

Coach – Kim Avery

7th Asteroids

Team: Ruby Carter, Oliver England, Noah Gilpin, Ethan Majendie, Kendra McDonnell, David Nicholson

Coach – Mike England

8th Jaguars

The Jaguars have had a great season. The team has bounded ahead in terms of skills and teamwork. It was great to see so many children return this season from our 7th grade team and with some great additions - Kane, Calyb and Brooke – we developed a winning combination. Although the new Whole of Football format was supposed to take the 'competitive' side of games away I am very proud to say that we only lost two games throughout the season and managed to score a lot of goals! We had a lot of fun, and I really hope to see everyone back for another season next year.

Coach – Gareth Williams

8th Wizards

This year has seen the introduction of the "Whole of Football" introduced to 8th Grade. Burwood joined with Western and Papanui Redwood to hold a session at Redwood Park every Saturday morning. This was a real success with a chance for some warm ups, skill development and a game all at once.

The Wizards had a tough start to the season with only five in the team for a start, but it swelled to eight by the end of the year. We had a season of mixed results but we have seen some real progress in the skills of the players and the way they worked as a team. The best indication of this progress can be seen with the results of three games against one of the Papanui Redwood teams. The Wizards lost 4-1 in the first game, drew 3-3 in the second game and won 3-0 in the third game! It's been a real pleasure to coach the boys and a big thank you to all the parents for their ongoing support of the team.

Highlight of the year: Mainland Football held a morning for 8th grade teams at ASB Football Park where we played on the artificial pitch against other clubs from Christchurch. Mainland Football did a great job of running the event and we had a lot of fun. We also won all three of our games!

Coach – Garry Taylor

9th Comets

The boys and girls of the 9th grade Comets really adjusted well to playing their first season on a larger field with goalies and having to learn the offside rule. Everyone had a go at being goalie some stand out goalies were Shae, Jayden, Greta and Jack. Aimee was a great support in defense and then Paul and Claudia in the midfield helped a lot to set up some of the great goals to Javaan, Jayden, Jack, Jordan, Mackenzie and Noah up the front.

This year we also had Whole of Football Plan (WOFB) on 3 of the Saturdays. This meant the teams played two games on the same day with activities in between.

I really enjoyed training nights and having my older son Anton assist with the coaching. A huge thanks to Phil for covering for me while I was away and also for doing the subbing on game day, Darren for doing some refereeing and Mike for your timekeeping. Lastly the parents, grandparents family etc who got the team to practise each Thursday and to the game on Saturday.

Coach – Paul Wylaars

10th Meteors

We had a fairly large team consisting of 11 boys and only one girl to keep them under control.

Overall we have a very successful season winning all our games convincingly except two, both of which were against the dreaded Parklands Gold development squad. Despite having 12 players and only being able to field 7 at a time we managed to maintain a consistent strategy and great on field communication. This was a champion team filled with champion players. Well done kids!

Team: Joshua Brink, Benjamin Cummins, Jamaine Taylor, Hayden Taylor, Liam Taylor, Emily Whitnall, Zebulun Hamill, Kobe Mallon-Marsh, Sam Page, Marshall Rayne, Jayden Schofield, Ben Comfort

Coaches – Keith Marsh and Steve Whitnall

11 B

Our 11B Burwood team started the season with some mismatched games but played on and held their heads up high for the rest of the season to get some credible results. All of our players developed skills and strategies and are all round better players which we are proud to have coached this year.

The team was: Matteo Brennan, Xavier Brown, Joshua Edwards-Lowry, Joshua English, Dylan Hider, Ben Lloyd, Toby McNab, Tyler Phillips, Willem Russ-Hofmans, Ethan Saywell, Tyler Selman Levi Tipple

Coach – Ashley Brown

11 A

After having a few training and team building sessions pre-season, the boys hit the ground running winning 6 of 7 games. They missed out on being moved to division 2 just on goal difference.

They then played the first of 2 amazing 10 goal thrillers. They lost to a Parklands team 6-4 in an end to end game. Our team performance was outstanding and on another day the result could have easily gone in our favour.

The next 5 games produced 5 wins, which put us 2nd in the league behind a very good Ferrymead Bays team who had been moved down from Division 2. We had to beat Ferrymead in the final league game to top the table.

Now the other 10 goal thriller. We didn't get off to very good start to the game 2 down in the first 10 minutes, then 4-1 down at half time. The attitude and determination shown over the next 25 minutes was exceptional. 5-2 with 10 minutes to go, we drew 5-5. The coach and parents of the opposing team came over and sportingly congratulated our boys on their amazing comeback.

In the knockout competition we reached the final, but narrowly lost 2-1 against the same Ferrymead team.

No superstars, individual performances too many to mention. Just a great bunch of boys who worked so hard for each other and all had a fantastic season. I wish them all the best for the future.

Thanks to all the families and friends for their support, especially Hudson for his help at refereeing and training.

Coach – David Brown

Assistant Coach: Hudson Bond

12 A

Thanks to Jonathan Challies, Keegan Hepburn, Lochlan Miller, Mana Placid, Joshua Knowles, Ethan Gould, Loughton Romeyn, Jared Thompson, Logan Parkinson and Finesi Lagokamu for a really great season this year. Even the training was something to look forward to. We all had a great season! All players have improved so much and are really taking responsibility for their positions. Thanks to all the parents that helped this year, their support of the kids really makes a difference. A special thanks to Mana, our player of the year.

Coach – Kevin Thompson

12 B

The team was: Oscar Andrews, Andre De Rose, Isaac Ellery, Isaac Hider, Connor Hunt, Scott Kilkelly, Geena Klaver, Bailey McDonnell, Olivia McDonnell, Alex Reddish, Georgia Smith

Coaches – Corey & Jordan Reddish

13 A

A tough old year for the 13A's this season. After starting the competition in Div 4 and having a reasonable run there, we were 4th at the end of the first round. We were then for some unknown reason promoted into a higher grade which tended to make life just a little difficult for us. To the lads credit though they turned up every week and really gave it their best. We probably weren't helped by so many of our training nights being washed out either. So all in all a difficult year for the team but even faced with the challenges we had the guys showed a great team spirit and we had a lot of laughs along the way so thank you guys for that. Have to say it was another season with a great group of parents too whose support was solid even when things weren't going our way.

Coach – Andy Johnson

14 A

Injury and illness made this a very tough season for the 14th grade team having to play with the bare 11 or even short on a few occasions. I am incredibly proud of the effort shown by the team in those situations. We started the season in div 3 and after some very good win's were promoted to div 2 where win's were harder to come by, but far more rewarding when we got them. A big thanks to the parent's who lined the field each week and to Tony Wyatt (my assistant coach) for all his help at training's and on game day. Your support was very much appreciated. Cheers.

Coach – Stefan O'Neill

15 A

The 15A team started the 2012 season playing in Division 3 and found this to be quite tough losing all games. The team was made up of varying skill levels and experience, this didn't help our cause. As well there were only 12 players in the squad for most of the year and several times we played with 9 and 10 players, this makes things tough. The boys worked hard and tried their best. Training was difficult at times given the numbers in the squad. In the second half of the season we dropped down to Division 5 and this was a better level for us. And we finished 2nd in this division and could have easily won it if we'd had 11 players in some of the games.

Given all this, these lads worked hard throughout the year and their effort in the games could not be faulted. I enjoyed coaching these lads, thanks for your efforts. Also thanks to all the parents for their support of the team and myself. Special thanks to Craig and Shona for their help during the year. Finally have a great summer and we'll see you next year.

For the record: Played 17, Won 7, Drew 1, Lost 9. The team was (goals scored in brackets): Timothy Bragg (3), Nathan Breen (11), Jason Brown, Liam Brown, Logan Fairbairn (1), Charles Francia (9), Chenhui He (3), Shayne Hooper, Jack Keppel (1), Matthew Marshall (1), Joshua Ralfs, Bradley Van Brucken (1), Jordan Neville

Coach – Murray Ralfs

17 A

The under 17A season began with much of the previous seasons team returning, plus new guys from other sides. We started well with big wins over Oxford and Christchurch Boys. Some tough games followed against Waimak and Parklands which we lost narrowly.

Mid season we were plagued with injury and illness, during this period we struggled with a few key guys unable to play. The others battled hard though and played well.

By the end of the second round we had all back on deck and put some excellent performances together, winning the final three games in a row and beating Waimak 2-0 in the last game to finish 3rd in the competition.

I would like to congratulate all the lads for a gutsy and enjoyable season which was a pleasure to coach. Win loss ratio was: Played 16, Won 10, Lost 6.

The players were: Nathan Ralfs (Capt.), Ben Mayo, Scott Heads, Ryan Woods, Adam Green, Jamie Fisk (Goalkeeper), Jayden Wise, Liam Clydesdale, Matt McClurg, Brad Van Eyk Menkman, Jordan Mines, Aiden Mather, Campbell Crimp, Simon Thornton, Sam Davidson.

Thanks heaps for the support from all the parents. A special thanks to Brent Davidson, Steve Woods and Murray Ralfs. These guys helped coach, train and also referee games for me.

Cheers all and hope to see you back next year.

Coach – Richie Mayo

Senior – Player Development League B

Having previously coached various age groups and senior teams for the last 19 years I decided to have a break in 2012. At a meeting and in a conversation with Murray Ralfs, Murray asked me how an advert could be placed on the Mainland Football web site as Burwood were looking for a coach of their PDL team. As I knew the bulk of the team from my coaching days at SBHS and also coached one of the player's brother at Nomads United, I told Murray not to put the advert in and I would take the team if it was alright with Burwood.

This was approx 10 weeks into the playing season and I was starting to twiddle my thumbs on Tuesday and Thursday training nights and was actually missing coaching and looking forward to the challenge. I also knew that the team already had a couple of capable hands taking care of the boys and pointed this out to Murray who said that it was felt that the players needed another step up to what they could offer.

Mark Tolchard and Phil Ward were in charge of the team at that point in time, and I just took the same book that they were reading from and continued from the bookmark to the last page.

Mark and Phil have been a valuable asset to the team and I am truly grateful to their assistance as I am sure the players are.

My first job was to have a look at the team who were languishing at the bottom of the league, and straight away I identified a couple of deficiencies. The training schedule was upped to now have 2 nights a week with one of those at ASB Football Park.

A friendly was arranged for my first week in charge, a team pulled out of the league that created a bye, the focus of this game was not on the result but to put structures in place and have a role and a responsibility for each player, we actually won that game against a Men Div 4 team. Players worked hard at training and the season was turned around so much so that the team finished 4th on the table at the conclusion of the league. After the league finished came the League Championship Cup which saw the team play a team that they thrashed 6-0 the week before and Universities who were 2nd in the league.

The next two games would be the biggest games the team had played to date if they won these two they would be in the finals.

The first game up was against the team that the players thrashed 6-0, the opposition were more pumped up to play football than Burwood were, and although Burwood won 1-0 it was never comfortable, next game against Universities was a different situation in the league Uni twice beat Burwood 5-3 and 3-1, this was the game that we had to be at our best, Burwood were 3-0 up with 20 mins to go, then 3-1 "nek minute" 3-2 with a nail biting last few minutes the team did prevail and were through to the final against Cashmere Technical at ASB Football Park.

Having been in finals before it was important to have the players relaxed and not under stress of the big occasion, this was just another game that we had to win, we will play our style of football with the same intensity that has given this team a 6 game winning streak was the message that I sent out.

I went into the game in detail but some key points, a defensive error cost us a goal, team lost Jamie Auld with a dislocated knee cap, equalised through Michael Bull, lost another goal to another defensive error, Cashmere Technical player sent off, penalty for Burwood which Ben Johnstone slotted from the spot 2 all and it looked like the game had turned in our favour. Cashmere Technical scored straight after kick off to another out of character defensive error, defence had been a rock all season, 20 mins to go Burwood threw everything at them but it was just not to be. Final score Cashmere Technical 3 Burwood 2. The players were dejected and bitterly disappointed as they knew that over the last 8 weeks or so they had that winning feeling and losing was a bitter pill.

After the game I said who would have imagined that at the beginning of the season you would be sitting dejected at ASB Football Park because you lost in the final, it has been a fairytale ride for the players but that is football for you and a reason why we all live and breathe for the game.

Next challenge for most of the team is the U19 Tsunami in Labour weekend at Linfield Park, where they will play against the best 19 year olds in the South Island. I will help them through this tournament.

Next challenge for the club is keeping the team together strengthening the player base and finding a new coach as having previously coached various age groups and senior teams for the last 20 years I am deciding to have a break in 2013.

Players: Reuben Adams-Cook, Jamie Auld, Michael Bull, Timothy Crimp, Mark Dadson, Olly Gooday, Tom Gooday, Nick Haggerty, Keegan Hilhorst, Ben Johnstone, Isaac Malpass, Tom Nash, Jamie Poole, Nicholas Tolchard, Ethan Vickery, Nicholas Ward

Coach – Yours in football Colin Grant