



the blast

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club news

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Welcome to the Season 2009- President's Report

After a false start, finally welcome to the 2009 season as round 1 got underway over the weekend of the 18/19 April. Welcome to the Rockets if you are a first time player or parent, and great to see you back again if you are a returning to the club.

The 2009 season sees the continuing development of the Rockets with a number of new initiatives already underway;

It's fantastic to see so many teams returning from last season particularly from the U12, U14, U15 & U17 ages as well as the expansion in our Senior teams. We must be doing something right.

The Rockets continue our strong support of Girls and Ladies football through our Rockettes teams. Thanks to the efforts of Jean and Veronica we have teams participating in every year of the GDSFA age competitions from U10, U12, U14, U16, U18 & AAL.

We are extremely proud to have Ned Kelava and the team from Dutch Touch to run our In-house development programme. Ned and his team will coordinate the 'Dutch Circuit Model' a coaching development tool that helps our U6 & U7 youngsters to learn to play football better. Great to have you on board guys.

In many ways a return to Premier League at the Rockets is a blast from the past, it has been quiet a number of years since the Rockets last fielded a team at the elite level of the GDSFA competition. I would strongly encourage everyone to get along, watch and support Paul and the Premier League boys in their quest for glory. This is certainly a great pathway for the continuing development of our players.

This year Patrick Pestana has taken the mantle for coordinating our Funskills programme. Pat has been a player at the Rockets for many years, and it is fantastic to see him contributing to the development of the club in a different capacity. I am sure everyone in the Funskills programme will enjoy Pat's contributions.

As anyone may know being a Goalkeeper can at times be the most lonely and challenging position on the field. Gabriel Verdi is continuing to offer coaching and development to our young keepers. Get along to one of Gabby's games and you can see first hand what he has to offer as he flies through the air pulling off one spectacular save after another.

This year we are hosting some matches at Gilroy College our thanks to them for their support not only throughout not only grading process but also the entire season.

This is shaping up to be a fantastic season, with a number of other initiatives still to be delivered to make everyone's season fun and enjoyable.



Snapshot: Round 2 results

Juniors

U8 Blue:	Win	5 - 2	Vs. St. Michaels
U10 Div 2 :	Draw	3 - 3	Vs. Winston Hills
U10 Div 4 :	Loss	0 - 7	Vs. Wenty Waratah
U11 Div 6 :	Loss	1 - 3	Vs. Granville Waratah
U12 Div 2 :	Loss	2 - 5	Vs. Castle Hill United
U12 Div 3 :	Won	3 - 2	Vs. P.C.Y.C Parramatta
U14 Div 3 :	Won	6 - 2	Vs. Winston Hills
U14 Div 4 :	Loss	2 - 4	Vs. Guildford County
U15 Div 2 :	Loss	2 - 5	Vs. Toongabbie
U15 Div 3 :	Loss	1 - 10	Vs. Dundas
U17 Div 2(B) :	Loss	0 - 7	Vs. Baulkham Hills
U17 Div 2 (W) :	Loss	1 - 8	Vs. Wenty Waratah

Seniors

Premier League	Draw	2 - 2	Vs. Kellyville Kolts
Res Grade			
Premier League/1	Won	1 - 1	Vs. Kellyville
U35 Div 5:	Won	3 - 1	Vs. Granville Kewpies
Senior 3's:	Won	3 - 2	Vs. Castle Hill United
Senior 5's:	Loss	0 - 4	Vs. Lidcome Waratah
Senior 6's:	Won	3 - 1	Vs. Auburn District
Senior 7's:	Loss	0 - 2	Vs. Greystanes
Senior 8's:	Loss	0 - 2	Vs. Greystanes
Senior 11's:	Won	3 - 2	Vs. Pendle Hill

Ladies

U10G Div 1 :	Won	14 - 0	Vs. Winston Hills WHT
U12G Div 1 :	Won	13 - 0	Vs. Winston Hills
U12G Div 2 :	Won	4 - 0	Vs. North Rocks BLK
U14G Div 2 :	Loss	1 - 4	Vs. Kellyville
U16G Div 2 :	Won	1 - 0	Vs. Winston Hills
U18G Div 1 :	Won	2 - 1	Vs. Winston Hills
AAL2 :	Draw	1 - 1	Vs. Winston Hills
AAL3 :	Won	2 - 1	Vs. Winston Hills
AAL5:	Won	2 - 1	Vs. Winston Hills





Match Reports

U8 Blue

Rockets 5 vs St Michaels 2

Well what a beautiful Autumn morning for the under 8 Blue team to start the soccer season playing at Bella Vista Oval against St Michaels. Both teams very excited and ready for a great game. The rockets showed great team work by passing the ball and making outstanding runs by Shaun and Sebastian up the field towards the goal posts with great goals in the first half scored by Daniel and Liam.

St Michaels tried for goal a few times but thanks to the keeper Sam they were unsuccessful. St Michaels managed to score in the second half but great defence by Patrick, Kristian, Arjun and Saxon allowed the rockets to take control of the ball in the second half, great team work with Mitchell and Reign allowed Daniel to score again for the rockets resulting in a great first win.

Man of the Match – Mitchell.

Well Done!!

U10/2

Rockets 3 vs Winston Hills 3

A tentative start to the game by the boys who soon found their rhythm. Some good early attacking runs by us had Winston Hills scrambling in defense. Ruben scored a great first for us from a cross by Aaron. Our defensive boys had plenty of work and stopped Winston Hills on numerous occasions. Winston Hills were eventually able to even up the score and it was 1 all at half time.

An good early goal in the 2nd half by Mason was very encouraging but Winston Hills hit back and the scores were even again. Oliver scored our 3rd with a strong strike but your guessed it they scored again. 3 all was the final score which was a fair result on the day. All the team played a crucial part in the result on the day. Thanks to Jacob in goals who had plenty running at him all day. Our defensive line was strong and the score would have been much higher if not for there efforts.

A great start to the season and I am sure there will be plenty of wins for us this year.

U10G Div 1

Rockets 14 vs Winston Hills WHT 0

This year's U/10 girls side consists of mostly brand new players playing in their first season. After a tough time in the trial matches we were anxious about how we'd go in the first round of the season proper.

There was no reason to worry though as Gina got us off to our first goal from the kick off only minutes into the game. Not to be outdone by her sister, Maria followed with a goal of her own. Hannah had a great game all round rewarded with our third goal before putting a beautiful pass through to Maria for her second.

Maria got her hat trick shortly after before two brilliant individual goals from Celeste taking us to half time 7-0 up.

The defense in the first half was impenetrable with Emily, Chelsea, Courtney and Abbey holding the opposition almost entirely out of our half. Lauren in goals didn't touch the ball for the entire period. To get the girls more into the action, we brought them up front for the second half. Showing their versatility, this was rewarded with two goals to Lauren and three belting goals to Emily including one that saw her dribble from half way through the entire defense! Celeste put two more in the net in the second half seeing us through to an incredible 14-0 final score.

Bianca and Jessica did a fantastic job in the midfield throughout and had a lot to do with keeping us well into the opposition's half for the majority of the game. I was especially impressed with our passing and tackling in the game and if we keep this up we're sure to do well this year!!

Player of the match: Celeste

Hills Life

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U12 Div 2

Rockets 0 vs Castle Hill United 5

It was a tough hit out for the 12/2's in this first round with the score getting away from us in the second half. However the score did not reflect the numerous breaks made by the Rockets and the possession which was even between both teams.

In the second half numerous breaks were made down both the left and right sides. Divan , Tae and Simon linked up with some accurate passing and continually made strong drives down the left side.

Vlad provided great long balls to Niany and Harry D from the place kicks. Niany and Harry D used these well and made some long runs down the right; Niany concluding these with some strong shots on goal but unfortunately none of these could pass the keeper.

Divan navigated skilfully through some very heavy traffic in the centre feeding good balls to Hugh and Giuseppe the front, but we could just not get that much needed goal. Defense at the back was mostly solid with Vlad and Simon covering a lot of ground. Carter delivered many well timed tackles giving us back possession .

There was a lot of positive play the boys can build on for next week.

Man of the match : Niany well done !

U12 Girls Div 1

Rockets 13 vs Winston Hills 0

Round 1 kicked off to a flying start for the girls this year.... the wet weather overnight had us a little worried that we would be washed out but we all rolled out of bed and got down to the oval and played in rain and sunshine.

All the girls have worked hard over the off-season, which was evident on the field this week. They held their structure extremely well (especially playing a player short) and dominated the majority of the play for the duration of the game. There were a few little errors throughout the game which we will be working on throughout our season but all in all we were absolutely delighted with their efforts.

All the girls (Dominique, Brielle, Madeleine, Kiana, Chloe, Kaye-Celine, Caitlin, Bailey, Gloria and Emma) deserve a big pat on the back!!! A special salute goes to KC who is not only our newest player, but she has not played soccer before and is playing up an age group. KC did very well chasing down the ball and clearing it and for her efforts almost scored a couple of goals. Well Done KC!!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GIRLS FOR THEIR FIRST WIN OF THE SEASON!!

Player of the match this week went to Bailey for her tireless effort all game. Congratulations Bailey!!!!



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U12 Girls Div 2

Rockets 4 vs North Rocks BLK 0

A cold wet morning couldn't dampen the enthusiasm as the girls took on their first game as a team. Some great passing and team work led to great goals by Sophie and Emma C.

A change in goal keeper at half time saw Brienna B run riot and Stephanie I save some great attempts by North Rocks.

Fantastic effort from all with special mentions to those having their first run Jessica P, Jessica M, Kristina A and Katherine B all of whom showed great talent and tenacity.

Well done to all, its going to be a fun year.

U14 Girls Div 2

Rockets 1 vs Kellyville 4

First game on a rainy and windy Sunday morning against Kellyville saw our girls struggle against the wind in the first half. Kellyville seemed to be constantly attacking but our defence led by Cassie and a strong goalkeeping performance by Rae Lee kept the score to 2-0 at half time.

With the break and some strategic positional changes the Rockets girls managed to take advantage of the wind and score a goal through Rae Lee. Unfortunately we were unable to keep up the momentum and Kellyville managed to sneak through another 2 goals giving a final score of 1-4 to Kellyville.

Player of the match went to our newest recruit Amy-Maree with her non stop effort and positive attitude during the whole game.

U14 Div 3

Rockets 6 vs Winston Hills 2

Goal Scorers: Freddie 1 goal, Rumtin 2 goals, Luke 2 goals, Yousef 1 goal

A good game to watch because there was a lot of good passing and calling for the ball. Chris did some great passing shots across the goals setting-up the play for goal scoring. Rumtin, Keeno and Freddie all kicked some powerful shots at goals

Defence was strong again with good marking by the two Mathews and Liam. The midfielders chased down the attackers and passed well amongst themselves and to the forwards. Ryan did persistent tackling, particularly in the first half, and broke through their defence many times.

Player of the Match: Chris

U16 Girls Div 2

Rockets 1 vs Winston Hills 0

Finally the season is underway. It was very evident it was the first game for a long time, with both teams struggling to string some passes together. But in time we were able to build up some momentum and have a number of good raids into the opposition half. Unfortunately we were having trouble finishing, and the scores were level.

Playing with only 10 for most of the first half and only 11 for the rest of the game tested the girls fitness on a big field. We attacked very well in the second half through the midfield and had a number of close chances to take the lead. Eventually a very impressive bit of thinking by Sabrina of a set piece gave Maddie a great opportunity which she took very well. After some tense moments and some great defence and goalkeeping we held on for a great start to the season. A lot to improve on but great commitment by everyone, running all day and giving 100%.

Goal Scorer: Maddy

Player of the Match Bronte

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U17 Div 2 Blacks

Rockets 0 vs Baulkham Hills 7

The first game of the season was a real challenge for the Under 17 Div 2 , Blacks , as they only had 9 players against a Baulkham Hills who had a full team and 3 reserves .

Sensational effort in the first half as the Rockets not only defended well but were able to have several good tries at scoring a goal. Outstanding effort from Scott whose speed and skillful play kept Baulko worried . Jake who was recovering from a bad ankle injury, held a strong defense with Karl, Pascall and Kiko.

Great effort from Cameron along with Blake and Omid created quite a few opportunities for the team . The second half was a real test of will power and stamina , and Jared did well to keep the ball out of goals with so many tries from the opposition .

However towards the end Baulkham Hills were able to score 6 goals against us as our team began to tire . Although we lost , Rockets put up a good fight .

With a full team, this should be a good season

AAL 2

Rockets 1 vs Winston Hills 1

It was a slightly chilly afternoon, with some rain clouds descending when the AAL2 took to the field for the first game of the season. With the majority of the team coming up from last years Under 19, it was the first opportunity for the newly formed AAL2 to play together competitively.

Sherryn and Vanessa were our Co-Captains for the game and provided leadership both on and off the field. It was a slow start to the first half, with both teams trying to obtain some possession.

AAL 2 cont..

A key substitution by "super sub coach Sal" – (filing in whilst Mark was away), resulted in a great goal to Alana.

Both teams were pulled up by the introduction of the new laws as to tackling players, which lead to a greater degree of penalties. Early in the second half, a freakish kick outside the 18 yard box by Winston Hills was taken by the wind and just missed our keeper's hands.

The last 20 minutes of the game saw, the Rockets back on the attack, but despite our attempts, we were unable to break through.

Great efforts by Elise and Jasime on the wings, and with corners.

Player of the Game- Rebekah Walshaw, she played and entire game, never gave up, and keep dropping in defence and attacking when needed. **Great Work Ladies!!! Thank you goes to Sal for coaching us on the day....**Next week we play North Rocks at Rydalmere Park.

Senior 7's

Rockets 0 vs Greystanes 2

As the new season kicked off we were all on a high after a fairly successful trials period. Rallied by our captain Jason, we began the game in a quick tempo, free flowing manner.

Greystanes were struggling to match us as a team but we just couldn't get the break through needed and went into the half at 0-0. The second half started much like the first where our striker Soren hit the crossbar with a great header and was unlucky not to score.

Unfortunately due to some misjudgment Greystanes got the break through and quickly scored a second. We pushed but couldn't finish and the score ended at 2-0.

Not a result to be disheartened by because we played very well and as our team develops as a team, only two words come to mind: OPPOSITION BEWARE! See you next week

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www.rockets.net.au/theblast

