

East Malvern Junior Football Club

2024 Annual Report



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2023 EMJFC Committee

President	Dugald McWilliams
Vice President & Child Safety Officer	Caroline Hutchison
Secretary	Georgi Evans
Treasurer	Angus Mackellar
Football Department	Mick Hegan
Football Operations	Andrew Wilson
Sponsorship	Jamie Diab
	Lori Embelton
	Jonathan Brown
	Bart Drew
	Emily Spinks

2023 EMJFC Sub Committee

Merchandise	Sally Wajszel
Social	Beck Odgers
	Tam Garvey
	Mel Hope
	Fiona McWilliams
	Clare McCann
Sponsorship	Dom Guthrie

2023 EMJFC Administration

Administration & Registrar (incl Website/Social Media Communications)	Anne Moore
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President's Report

1. On behalf of the Committee it is my pleasure to present the 39th Annual Report for the East Malvern Junior Football Club Inc, together with the audited Financial Statement for year-end 30 September 2024.

Season 2024 – Club and Community Highlights

2. Once again we had 35 teams across age groups from U8's through to U18 girls. We had over 800 registered players.
3. We maintained the number of teams we fielded this year at 35. We enjoy a healthy position in the SMJFL as one of its biggest Clubs.
4. We enjoyed success in finals this year winning four premierships: U11 Division 4 Mixed Betharas, U11 Division 3 Mixed Sangster, U14 Division 2 Girls Briana and U18 Girls Division 2 Eva
5. Congratulations to all players in our Club and particularly those who competed in finals.
6. I am forever grateful for the devotion our volunteers give each year. Thank you to all our coaches, team managers and team volunteers. Without all of you the Club would not enjoy the success it has this season.

Social Events

7. The Night of Knights once again was the centrepiece of our social calendar. This year it was held at Zagames Hotel in Caulfield North. Once again there was an epic effort put in by our social sub-committee: Mel Hope, Tam Garvey, Bec Odgers and Fiona McWilliams with a special shout out to Claire McCann for her invaluable support.
8. Once again Oli Phillips and Sam Whelan kept the drink supply going on Friday evenings and other social events at the Club. Thanks also to Annabel Embelton and Jerry Xue for their assistance towards the end of the season with the pizza nights.
9. This year we changed our Welcome Day, which was usually held on a Sunday to a Welcome Night on the last Friday evening before Good Friday and the commencement of the Term 1 holidays. This was an extraordinary success and many thanks to Beth Wilson and her organising committee together with Emily Spinks and Dom Guthrie, our sponsorship gurus, for making it a successful and enjoyable event.
10. Many thanks also to Greg Sembelides and his team for running to canteen upstairs on Friday nights and also the canteens at Basil and DW Lucas on the weekends.
11. Another innovation this season was to employ our bar staff (Oli, Sam, Annabel and Jerry) for the end of season pizza nights. This has freed up our committee members to enjoy attending those nights more fully. We also engaged our bar staff for the Presentation Day, with the bar operating from the downstairs area, which worked wonderfully well.

Finals

12. For the first time in many many years the Knights hosted finals on Basil and DW Lucas for the first weekend of finals, hosting semi-finals across many Divisions in the older age groups. DW Lucas also hosted preliminary finals in the second week of finals and grand finals in the third week of finals.
13. There was no greater exhibition of Club spirit than the number of people who put their hands up to do shifts on the BBQ's during those finals. It is important that a Club such as ours, given our size, makes venues such as our home grounds available. The Club enjoyed some financial benefit from its BBQ sales as well as the cake stall (a big shout out to Emily Spinks for co-ordinating all of the cakes and goodies available at the cake stall).
14. I hope that our Club continues to host finals in coming seasons.

Financial Statement

15. Once again the Club is in a healthy financial position courtesy of the magnificent financial management of our treasurer, Angus McKellar, but also the fantastic efforts from our sponsorship team, Emily Spinks and Dom Guthrie. Due to their wonderful industry, the Club has managed to attract significant sponsorship income for the benefit of the Club and all its members.

Sponsorship

16. We have enjoyed a continued partnership with Marshall White Real Estate and many thanks to Dan Wheeler and Hamish Tostevin, who are proud fathers of players at our Club. MHT Dentistry and the team of Matt and Kate Texeira, Tania Hynes-Ronchi and all the team from MHT have been wonderful in their support this season.
17. Chadstone Toyota and its principal, Leigh Matenga, has assisted the Club whenever asked, particularly in relation to its sponsorship of the Welcome Night and also the Presentation Day. Chadstone Toyota have also provided the Club with a number of training balls this season which has been well received by football operations.

Football Operations

18. The end of season 2024 brings with it a changing of the guard. Jono Brown who has been the doyen of all things football operations has been blessed by the arrival of a very impressive prodigy, Bart Drew. Bart and Caz have really stepped things up in football operations this year, establishing a football operations sub-committee at the end of season 2024 with a view to having that set-up rolled out through to season 2025.
19. Jono Brown has been an integral part of this football club for well over 10 years and was duly rewarded with Life Membership.
20. Our friendly ground managers, Matt, Jerry, Oli and Alex have kept things running smoothly on Sundays and throughout the finals period.

Club Awards

21. Congratulations to Sally Wajszel for winning the Volunteer of the Year Award. Sal does an incredible work in our merchandise area and the Club could not function without her. Adrian Parsons and his Knights TV graced all of our Instagram accounts in the lead-up to and throughout the finals. His good humour and ability to really ask the tricky questions was appreciated by all members.
22. The Club appointed two Life Members this year: Jono Brown and David Munro. I have already spoken about Jono and the extent to which he has been involved in the Club over the course of 10 years as a coach and administrator. He will never be far away and is loved by all.
23. Dave Munro has been an invaluable part of the Club fabric for well over a decade and in more recent times has been the Club's Concussion Officer. I owe a personal debt of gratitude to Dave for all his hard work in administering and monitoring all cases of concussion throughout the Club.

2024 Committee

24. I continue to be amazed by the wonderful people we have in our Club, particularly at Committee level. Caro Hutchison, Vice-President and Child Safety Officer is a wonderful person, a wonderful friend and a wonderful administrator. I have been grateful for her wise counsel throughout the course of the season. Georgi Evans, our Club Secretary, maintains effective communications throughout the Club and with the League with her ever-cheery disposition. Her first year in the role has been a triumph. Angus McKellar has, as always, kept a tight rein on the Club's finances for which I am incredibly grateful. Anne Moore, without whom the Club (and I) could not function, as our Club Administrator keeps things ticking along at an administrative level extending from registration of teams and players, to dealings with the League and all manner of social media.
25. The football department of Mick Hegan, Andy Wilson, Laurie Embelton (Head of Girls' Footy) and Jamie Diab have done a wonderful job in Season 2004. Driven by Andy's and Jamie's initiative, we have extended our coaching program by the introduction of Robbie Nahas and Tom Langford who assisted in pre-season training, the grading of some age groups and ongoing coaching assistance throughout the season. This has been a wonderful investment in developing the talent within our Club, improving coaching regimes and assisting coaches.
26. The football operations of Jono Brown and Caz and Bart Drew have been beyond exemplary. Much has already been said about our sponsorship team but one cannot speak highly enough of Em Spinks and Dom Guthrie.
27. Many thanks to our Club Chaplain, Vicky Mustafa. Vicky never ceases to amaze me how she turns up to every home game that the Club plays and also gets around to as many of the finals as she possibly can. Her devotion is unparalleled.

Farewell

28. It is with sadness that we farewell our Club Vice-President, Caro Hutchison and also footy ops guru, Jono Brown.
29. Caro has been Vice-President for the last 2 years but has had involvement with the Club for the last 9 years in various capacities, including that of team manager. She has decided to step down from the committee and will be missed but of course will never be far away.
30. The same can be said for Jono Brown. Whilst we farewell him from the Committee he assures me he will be on hand closely to assist Bart and Caz in their duties in footy ops. In any event, Jono is the only one who has all the phone numbers for the contacts at Stonnington Council so we cannot do without him.
31. I wish all members of the Knight community a happy, healthy and safe summer and look forward to seeing you all back for Season 2025.

GO THE MIGHTY KNIGHTS!

Dugald McWilliams
President

Secretary's Report

Our 2024 season commenced with 795 players registering for the East Malvern Knights across 35 teams. The number of participants was slightly up on last year and was spread across every age group from U8 mixed to U18 Youth Girls.

It has been fantastic to see the retention of players, particularly the U13 year group with four U13 mixed and two girls' teams. Well done to the Footy Department and their coaching teams for creating a footy culture that our players want to be part of.

This season was successful with four of our teams' winning premierships. As a club, we had 14 of a possible 24 teams that played in finals. Of those 14, there were five teams who played in Grand Finals which resulted in the four Premierships. Two of our U11's Mixed teams, our U14 Girls and U18 Youth Girls all brought home Premiership flags.

This year the committee nominated the club to host SMJFL finals for the first time in some years and we were successful in hosting for three weeks of finals. Thank you to all who assisted in setting up, providing food, working on the BBQ, Cake Stalls and in the Canteen to cater for all the visitors to the Club. It was a great financial success with club exposure which should provide us with good standing with the SMJFL so we are able to host finals again next season.

The Knights were very proud to have an inaugural team entered in the SMJFL U8/9 girls competition. The girls had a wonderful season, and we look forward to seeing them progress through the levels of our girls program. Congratulations to Lori and Caro for continuing to grow the Girls Footy Program.

Unfortunately, 2024 wasn't the year that we had wanted with regards to Club behaviour. At the beginning of the season, the committee set a Club-wide goal to try win the SMJFL Best Behaved Club award for 2024. Disappointingly, throughout the season we had to deal with quite a number of complaints and incidents, and therefore we weren't successful in our goal. However, we will continue to work with all involved with the Club to raise our standards and aim to show our players that being a good sport is just as important as being the best on the field.

This season has seen a change of key personnel at the SMJFL with Matthew Brown resigning prior to start of the season and Jamie Howden taking over the CEO position mid-season. We have already had productive conversations with Jamie and look forward to working with him into the future. Recently we have learned that Bree Valance will be finishing at the SMJFL at the end of the year. We await to hear who is appointed to the role of Football Operations Manager and look forward to working with Jamie and his team for next season.

On a personal note, my primary role is to work with the SMJFL and the other Clubs in the League on a range of matters. I have been very grateful that the SMJFL provides plenty of support as well as networking opportunities to build relationships with SMJFL team, and other Clubs' Secretaries and Presidents. These relationships have allowed us to work together with regards to fixtures & ensured that all games were at the appropriate times and that all matches fit on our three ovals. In particular, I have appreciated the assistance of Bree Valance, Doug Haworth and Nathan Broadbent from the SMJFL who have answered the many queries and resolved issues that have arisen. I am particularly grateful for the SMJFL's support of the Knights in managing a sewerage issue on DW Lucas. They quickly moved all games and acted as Ground Managers setting up Moorleigh Reserve early on the Sunday morning themselves, in order that there was minimal disruption to our teams and their opponents.

Within the Knights, I would like to thank Doogs and Caro for their tireless support and advice as I navigated my way through my first season. Thank you to the previous Secretary and Life Member Caz Beadle who has been happy to share her vast knowledge and provided me with guidance when required. Thank you to the amazing group of people on the Knights committee who work so tirelessly to run this club for the Knights community. Thank you to all the parents and volunteers who have given their time and energy to ensure that our teams can take the field this season – your hard work and dedication is greatly appreciated.

This season we have Caro and Jono Brown stepping down from the Committee and we will miss the huge amount of work that they have undertaken for the Club, not just as committee members but in team roles as well. Thank you to you both for all that you have done for the Knights.

Looking forward to seeing everyone back for 2025!

Go the Mighty Knights!

Treasurer's Report

Refer separate document for EMJFC Financial Report 2024

Department Reports

EMJFC Football Department 2024 - Mick Hegan, Lori Embelton, Andrew Wilson, Jamie Diab

The Football Department team began our work for the 2024 season in September of 2023. Between late September 23 and March 24 many discussions via email, phone and meetings had transpired which enabled the Footy Department to be in good shape for the forthcoming season.

- Jamie Diab joined the footy department.
- EOI discussions have begun with those who had been appointed in 2023.
- Est of all age groups re: players for 2024 for the purposes of team nominations to SMJFL.
- Nominations of players for Saints NGA and SMJFL Intraleague.
- Appointment of specialist coaches, BD Sports for kicking skills, Malcolm Bangs for tackling and Robbie Nahas for specific coaching in pre-season across some boys and girls age groups.
- Appointment of age group co-ordinators for each year level.
- Liaison with Council and local cricket clubs for the purpose of establishing timetables & venues for pre-season training.
- Organisation of some pre-season games both internal and external.
- Understanding of the new coach accreditation process from AFL via Coach.AFL for coaches.
- Liaising with Malvern District Auskick regarding potential numbers for under 8's.
- Updating the Football Department Policy.
- Owing to Covid restrictions we didn't pursue the annual Mosman trip.
- Assisting AGC's with team selection. Referral to club policy for age groups.
- Club information session for coaches.
- Introduction of the 'Coach Charter'. Presented at Coach and TM info sessions.
- Preparation of the training roster for winter.

Participation numbers

The club retained a solid percentage of existing players whilst also attracting new players from outside the club. The team participation was to be 35 teams, same as 2023.

Overall our participation numbers for 2024 were slightly up on 2023 by 79.

- 31 schools were represented by girls
- 44 schools were represented by boys

What changed in 2024

The league introduced U9 girl's, the Knights were one of the 5 inaugural participating clubs along with Beaumaris, East Brighton, Prahran and Port Melbourne.

Soft and Hard grading of age groups.

Given recent experience, and consistent with our club philosophy, the club didn't hard grade u11 or u12 boys which some other clubs certainly do. It has been the committee's view that kids in these age groups should continue to share some friendships and experience movement from a previous team to meet other kids and families in our community, however it should be noted that the league wants clubs to hard grade u12 mixed.

Given the league's strong preference for clubs to hard grade u12s, the football department will discuss this subject with the committee and next year's u12 management. i.e. AGC and coaching staff once appointments have been confirmed.

Participation Numbers

Year	Overall	Boys	Girls	Teams Overall	Boys	Girls
2024	795	562	233	35	25	10
2023	788	541	247	35	24	11
2022	796	599	177	34	25	9
2021	851	677	174	38	29	9

- **2019 we had 41 teams, 2020 we had 40 teams.**

Club results

Year	P	W	L	FF	D	BYE	FOR	AGST	%
2024	502	228	268	9	6	15	17375	20085	86.5%
2023	556	298	252	3	6	17	18520	16697	110.92%
2022	521	304	211	9	6	18	21642	17411	124.30%
2021	326	179	129	NR	NR	NR	10159	8324	122.04%

*2021 Covid

P. Lightning carnival games & week 1 experience games not included in 2024. Est 48-52 games

FF = Forfeits.

- **2024, EM 4, Opposition 5.**
- **2023 EM 2, Opposition 1. NR = not recorded**

Finals

2024 - 14 of a possible 24 teams played finals. 5 teams played in Grand Finals. 4 Premierships.

2023 - 18 of a possible 23 teams played finals. 7 teams played in Grand Finals which was the same amount in 2022. 6 Premierships

Premierships 2024 (4)

Congratulations to U11 Boys Divs 3&4, U14 Girls Div 2 and Youth Girls Div 2

- **Attachment 1 - Teams per age group and regos 2019 – 2024.**
- **Attachment 2 - Teams per matches played and age group results 2019-2024.**
- **Attachment 3 - School representation 2021-2024**

Looking ahead to 2025

- Coaching expressions of interest have begun with those appointed for 2025.
- Prahran Senior Football Club will move back to Toorak Park in 2025.
- Scott Kirkwood will join the footy department. Welcome Scotty.

Objectives of the Football Department

Our key objective is to create a safe, supportive and fun environment for all our players and families. Key objectives for 2024 continued to include:

- Working closely with AGC's re all coaching appointments.
- Maintain participation rates. (I want to come back and play next year)
- Sportsmanship and fair play.
- An environment and program that fosters learning (I learned my footy at the Knights)
- Appropriate drills & skills are the key focus of training sessions.
- Coaching staff to ensure there is an element of fun at training.
- Younger teams in their age groups sing the club song together as one at the end of training.
- Build and maintain a strong sense of community (community club not school-based club)
- Develop players to transition into school, youth and then senior football.
- Increase female participation on and off the field.
- To improve the level of education for our coaches across all facets of the game.
- To put forth suitable grading recommendations to the SMJFL for each age group prior to the season commencement.
- Internal coaches' session prior to the season.

Acknowledgement

Thank you to Jono Brown and Caro Hutchison who are both stepping down from their respective roles on the committee. Your humour, expertise and wise counsel will be missed. Thank you for your wonderful contribution.

The Football Department would like to acknowledge all AGC's, Team Managers and Coaches for your tireless efforts throughout the planning stages of preseason to bring all the teams together in preparation for the 2024 season. A shout out to Footy Ops, Bart and Jono, we love you both, thank you.

Thank you to Club President Dugald McWilliams, Club Secretary Georgi Evans & a wonderful committee along with the Knights football community for all the support throughout the year.

Thank you to all Knights players for your participation and contribution to our wonderful club. To the players whose junior careers came to an end in 2024, the club wishes you well in your future endeavours wherever that may be.

Bring on 2025, carn the Mighty Knights. **Best junior AFL club in the world!**

Mick Hegan, Lori Embelton, Andy Wilson & Jamie Diab.

AGE GROUP REPORTS

Under 8 Mixed

The search for coaches and team managers began in earnest before the end of the 2023 calendar year. During February 24 there was a few little more prods here and there from 'Mickey the Pest' and finally the remaining vacancies were filled.

Towards the end of March there had been a few meetings to discuss how many teams, how the teams would be put together, footy department policy, team manager handbooks, club volunteer umpires, registration processes for everyone no matter who you were and what you were doing, add to that coaches accreditation, WWCC, Lightning carnival approach for grading, jumpers, club open day, mouthguards not to mention the most important thing, yes, you guessed it, the first official training night for some of our newest Mighty Knights kids.

I say this every year, but it goes without saying that without Team Managers, teams don't get on the park. A massive thank you to Jess Mitchell & Carla Ball, Sarah Gowland and Matt McCoy who took on the TM role which they handled like they had done it before! I think it is fair to say that you all found out that there was something else that you had to do each day as the season opener drew closer.

Our coaching crew consisted of Chris Ackermann, Trent Seers, Peter Brown, Brad Symmons, Andrew Wilson & Cass Ballard. Trainers Andrea Verhoven, David Volpato, Josh Sheffield, Claire Horan, Edwina McDonald. Club Vol Umpires Charles Nethersole, Corey Wilson, Matt Ball, Adam Cecil, Billy Zarbos, Myles Tehan. Thank you.

A shout out to all the parents that helped in some capacity at training, game day, first aid training or presentation day, thank you. It's a team effort, without everyone chipping in the Knights isn't the great club it is. Last but most important, thank you to our mighty u8s, I look forward to watching your development in the coming seasons.

Mick Hegan AGC

Under 9 Mixed

SMITH

Coach: Cam Doig

Assistant Coach: Richard Teasdale

Team Manager: Chris Green

STONE

Coach: Chris McCarty

Assistant Coach: Tom Hutchings

Team Manager: Sammi Moffat

HIGGINS

Coach: Brad Carmody

Assistant Coach: Anthony Lynch

Team Manager: Simone Fernon/Vicky Hamilton/Warren Crocker

Team Selection (in line with club policy)

I was given the list of the 3 x Under 8's teams from 2023, along with a list of all new registrations for 2024. The first thing I did was tally all the B & F votes from 2023 and sort the kids from highest to lowest.

Kids with 20-70 votes were marked Blue, kids with 10-29 votes were marked Pink and kids with less than 10 votes were marked Green. I then ensured that each team had at least 4 x blue kids and an even spread of pink and green players.

Knowing the coaches for each team I placed their own children and their close friend requests in their teams. Then my next mission was to spread out the primary schools a bit and I was also aiming for a 50% change from the 2023 teams. Plus making sure each child had at least 1, but mostly achieved 2 friend requests.

I also worked closely with the 3 coaches and made allowances for their input.
This is where we landed.

TEAM SMITH		TEAM STONE		TEAM HIGGINS	
55.56% change from 2023		55.56% change from 2023		38.89% change from 2023	
Malvern Primary	5	Caulfield Grammer	3	St Marys	8
Malvern Central	2	Malvern Primary	5	St Rochs	4
Lloyd St	7	Malvern Valley	6	Malvern Primary	5
Solway	2	St Josephs	4		17
Burwood	1		18		
Melb Grammer	1				
	18				

Coaches: Once the teams were locked in, I went about making sure all coaches had done all their relevant training and were registered in Play HQ and with the League.

Umpires: I contacted the umpires from last year and also recruited 4 new umpires. I ensured they all did their training course and registered both in Play HQ and the league.

Trainers: I contacted the trainers from last year and recruited another 2 parents to be trainers. I ensured all trainers completed their CPR and First Aid training and registered in Play HQ.

Team Managers: The Team Managers from last year were unable to do the role again in 2024 (one was repeating U8, one had their child stop footy, and the other was me). So I recruited 3 new Team Managers, I also trained them on their roles and assisted with their enquiries around Play HQ and running the games. I checked in with them throughout the season and triaged any issues.

PRESENTATION DAY AWARDS

Team Smith

Best & Fairest: 1st Will Scheele, 2nd Edward Moon, 3rd Ted Vial

TM Award: Lachlan Bee

Coaches Award: Billy Quail

Most Improved Player: Noah Cooper

Team Stone

Best & Fairest: 1st Will Garvey, 2nd Emilio Kennedy, 3rd Archie Sutphin

TM Award: Freddie Clarke

Coaches Award: William Malkin

Most Improved Player: Sebastian McIntyre

Team Higgins

Best & Fairest: 1st Nate Georgoulas, 2nd Levi Carmody, 3rd Max Lynch

TM Award: Henry O'Sullivan

Coaches Award: Walter Bristow

Most Improved Player: Max Fernon

Thank you to our coaches, umpires, trainers and team managers and match day volunteers.

Looking forward to seeing all our Mighty Knights U9s progress through to U10s next year.

Congratulations to award recipients.

Caz Skudar, AGC

Under 9 Girls

The under nines had a great season with great mix of 9's, 8's and 7's making up the group. This provided for a lot of enthusiasm for both training and games.

Our key focus was on building foundational skills in kicking, hand balling and marking starting off with individual efforts and building that throughout the year with added pressure in the ball user to further simulate game play.

All in all we had a great year with plenty of players to be able to rotate through the bench which also focused on playing your role in a team sport all whilst we had a strong focus on having fun and growing their enjoyment for the game.

With thanks to all that helped throughout the season.

Christian Strauss

Under 10 Girls

East Malvern Under 10 Beasley had a fantastic season. The girls' growth and development was evident with many big wins. Team spirit was strong, with a commendable display of camaraderie and sportsmanship, especially when stepping in to play for opposition teams and still giving their best effort. The Lightning Premiership was a gutsy event. We wrapped up the day with a win, a narrow 1-point loss, and a draw against fiercely competitive teams. The girls should be immensely proud of their contributions this year.

The biggest challenge of the season was fronting up against teams on game day with only 9 players (when we had double that amount). We always offered the opposition players to make up a full team, but not all accepted. If there was a way to be notified of this the day before a match it would have been very helpful.

Natalie Sadler AGC

Under 10 Mixed

The 2024 season was a fantastic year for the under 10's with three teams - Team Reeves, Team Smith and Team Answerth. These teams consisted of over 60 players in total. There were a number of new team managers, coaches and assistant coaches joining the coaching ranks this year.

Thank you for your time and support throughout the year, and we look forward to your continued support in 2025!

We saw considerable skill and tactical improvement year on year. The three teams were very even in terms of skill and football knowledge which enabled great balance between growth and player rotation. The biggest improvement observed was in the match day strategies and teams linking key skills together.

Well done to all the under 10s players, we look forward to seeing you in under 11s next year! A congratulations to the U10 Mixed Best & Fairest winners - Robert Thompson, Hugo Crane and Tom Jenkinson.

Angelo Fazio & Holly Ames, AGC's

Under 11 Mixed

With sixty players registered to play, the East Malvern Knights Junior Football Club opted to field three ungraded Under 11 Mixed teams in the 2024 SMJFL competition. A football season is never linear, and our Knights teams had their share of ups and downs in 2024, however, at the end of the season, all three of our Under 11 Mixed teams made finals with team Betharas and team Sangster winning their Grand Finals.

Returning coaches Pete Ockleshaw and Cadell Duke were joined by first time coach Jason Radley. All three teams had new Assistant Coaches with Massimo Formica helping Jason, Ben Cooper working with Cadell, and we were delighted to welcome two 16-year-old ex-Knights, Brady Ryan and Sam Knowles to assist Pete. From our early coaches' meetings, it was evident that Brady and Sam would bring a fantastic 'players' perspective to the coaching group and the Betharas players.

Initially our three teams were entered into Divisions 2, 3 and 4. All three teams were competitive in the grading games and our division 3 and 4 teams remained in these divisions for the season. In their infinite wisdom, post-grading the SMJFL promoted our division 2 team into Division 1, where they remained for the season.

Despite a challenging season, our Division 1 side scraped into the finals and put up a respectable fight in a losing Semi-final against a very strong East Sandringham team, who went on to claim the Division. Most pleasingly, in the penultimate round of the home and away season, East Malvern lost to East Sandringham by a significant margin. However, in the semi-final, our boys more than halved the gap and deep into the third quarter were still in with a chance to pinch the game. Cadell, Ben, the players and families of Team Mahony competed with skill, determination and resilience in 2024.

Our division 3 side battled hard all year and endured some very physical encounters against some strong opposition. Finishing third, they went into the semi-final against Hampton Rovers as underdog. However, a solid 16-point win saw them face up to their nemesis and minor-premiers, Prahran, in the Grand Final. In blustery conditions, the game was a low scoring, physical, see-sawing affair with important tactical moves being made by both coaches. To the delight of all Malvern fans in attendance, our boys prevailed by 2 points 2.6.18 to 2.4.16 with Ed O'Sullivan being names best on ground. Jason, Mass and the players and families of Team Sangster richly deserve the accolades they received for a very successful year.

Our division 4 Betharas side was full of energy and enthusiasm with a passionate group of coaches, players and families. During the home and away season, Pete and his team only dropped three games, however, they missed the minor premiership by 1.5%. Finishing second, the team then decided to really test the blood pressure of their coaches and parents with one of the most nail-biting finals ever seen. After relinquishing a handy lead, their semi-final against East Brighton went into overtime, with the Mighty Knights eventually prevailing by just 11 points. A more comfortable 15-point win in the Grand Final against East Sandringham saw our boys lift the Cup with Mavi Ahmet crowned best afield. A terrific year from Pete, Sam, Brady and the Betharas players and families was capped with a deserving flag.

Huge thanks and congratulations to our entire Under 11 mixed cohort for an extremely enjoyable and successful season. Thanks also to the EMKJFC Committee, all Knights volunteers, and the Football Operations Team for their support throughout the year. We hope to see everyone back in 2025.

Nick Mann, AGC

Under 11 Girls

The girls were graded into Div 1 which had 4 teams.

I would say that given the small number of teams and competitive nature of the teams involved it was probably a little too intense and not ideal. There needs to be more teams in this division. I understand this gets tricky given the huge spread in player abilities but this very small competition did not bring the best out in players, parents and coaching staff from opposing teams, at times.

The team was very lucky to have someone of Dave Storey's calibre to manage and train the girls and would hope that he continues in this role next year. They have really developed as a team that had fun and built strong friendships.

Thank you also for your support this year.

Mark Gray TM /AGC

Under 12 Girls

The 2024 season for our Under 12 girls team was a year of growth and team spirit! Finishing in a well-deserved third place, losing to the premiers in the semi-final – the team showed improvement across all aspects of the game. With several new players joining the team – some of whom had not played before - there was an early focus on building team chemistry, understanding the basics and developing core skills of kicking, marking and tackling. Throughout the season, the girls showed great enthusiasm and commitment, and clearly enjoyed themselves!

The girls came into the finals thinking they were most likely second best but were thoroughly defeated in the semi-final by an East Brighton team that had mastered short kicks and marking, and were well-organised in knowing how our girls would play. Division one has two exceptionally strong teams in East Brighton and Prahran, with the competition falling away beyond fifth. Our team will need to lift their skills and team work to compete for the Premiership in 2025.

Clare Kennedy AGC

Under 12 Mixed

Pre season began in February, the club organised Robbie Nahas to take the initial 6 weeks which was very well organised and extremely well received by all players and coaching staff.

The season began with 3 teams starting in Div 1, 3 & 5. In line with club policy, the teams weren't hard graded, however more talent was obviously required for Div 1 as opposed to Div 3&5, again in line with club approach in previous years.

Following the completion of grading rounds, Div1 were one win and 3 losses, Div 3 were 4/0 and Div 5 were 2/2. The league in their wisdom promoted Div 3 to Div 2 which resulted in one win and 10 losses from the remaining 11 games, overall percentage of 18.8% from these 11 games. Div 2 were now playing against teams with a lot more talent, some clubs had their first team in Div 2. This approach is very harsh on clubs who have their first team in Div 1. Div 1 wouldn't win another game after grading, they too struggled whereby their percentage for the remaining 11 games was 26.29%.

Our Div 4 team were competitive in about 50% of their remaining 11 games but also suffered some big losses after promotion from grading.

All in all, it was a very tough year for our u12 boys. The club thanks all who chimed in to assist with pre season and throughout the season from coaching staff, team managers and Scott Harmer as AGC.

2025 will bring hard grading to the entire age group and a very well organised pre season.

The club expects our teams to begin in Div 1, 3 and 5 for grading in 2025.

Michael Hegan for Scott Harmer AGC

Under 13 Boys

2024 was about having fun while working hard for the U13 group.

A hard graded approach to our year level for the first time was adopted and with that came mixed results. Our Division 1 team would go on to play in a Grand Final and our Division 3 team a Semi Final. Unfortunately, the Division 5 and Division 6 team would not go on to play finals but had a spirited season regardless.

With 90 boys again spread over 4 teams we continue to enjoy a high retention rate. Proudly the largest year level at the Knights we have embedded a focus on fun while learning and coming together as a community. I am confident that most of the boys would have played with one another by now and if not, they certainly know each other.

What a fabulous community to be part of.

This focus is a result of the fantastic coaches and volunteers that have worked with this group, some all the way back to Auskick, most of whom from U8. Thank you to all of you.

For 2024 I give particular thanks to head coaches Nick Moore, Mark Deacon, Nick Brown and Tim Snow. I am particularly thankful to these four gentleman for;

- fostering a fun yet challenging football environment
- maintaining a focus on team work and making your team mate better
- building a year level game plan and team rules/ethos for the boys to follow
- bringing the boys together through a year level pre-season and encouraging each team to follow and support the other three teams
- working together. We worked so hard to move away from being four teams to being one team and this was our biggest success for the year, closely followed by a premiership!

I also thank the Assistant Coaches and Team Managers that gave so much time to assist each of these coaches. There is a lot that goes into this program and you all contributed so much.

My final thank you is to Robbie Nahas and Tom Langford who gave so much time to plan and execute our pre-season. This was a key element to bringing the year level together and Robbie and Tom were pivotal in the delivery.

Finally, a big thank you and congratulations to the boys. You are a joy to coach, so appreciative and willing to work hard. We enjoy doing this for you as we can see the growth and fun had by all. It is a pleasure to coordinate such a fine group of young boys. On to 2025!

Andrew Wilson AGC

Under 13 Girls

Congrats on another season and many thanks to you Lori and the committee for all your hard work.

Overall, I think all would agree that it was a successful season for both Moloney and Vesely. As you know, it was the first year that we graded the teams, and I do believe it was the right decision.

With only two divisions, we would have been hard pressed to field a competitive Div 1 team if we'd remained ungraded. Beaumaris and Prahran's teams were of a very high-standard and though they came close, Team Moloney was not able to secure a win against either of these teams for the season. It was really pleasing that Moloney made it to the Semi-Final – the team really hit their stride towards the end of the season as the girls became closer as a unit and each player improved their skills and found their strength on the field. Was great that this team got to play on DW in the latter half of the season as we did find they'd 'outgrown' Stanley Grose. They did much better when they could spread their wings on the bigger ovals like Como Park and DW.

From all reports so far, we would expect that most girls from Moloney will return next season as they are hungry to get to a Grand Final. Mat O'Brien has indicated that he would love to continue as coach of the Div 1 team.

Team Vesely did do it tough in Div 2 with only one win for the season. Al Pape (coach) did have his doubts about grading the girls at the start of the season so I would be interested to hear his thoughts on this now. As I said though, having seen the quality of the Div 1 teams I don't believe there was a choice if we wanted to be competitive in this Division. I think it's a great sign that Vesely's B&F winner, Tessa Ingersole, was new to the Club this year. Hopefully, most of the Vesely girls return next season so we can field two sides and if there are three U14G Divisions (like this year), it might be worth thinking about entering a Div 1 and Div 3 team.

I'm sure the coaches would agree that Friday night training for 13 year old girls is challenging to say the least! There was a raft of parties and social engagements for the cohort throughout the season that would often take priority which meant there was rarely a full squad at training! Not sure there is a magic solution to this...just think it's the reality of this age and the coaches did their best with the time they had!!

Pre-season worked well so would be great to do this again next year...a chance for new girls to try out and for the coaches to get an idea of grading.

I would be happy to be Age Group Coordinator for U14G in 2025.

Jacq Carty Salmon AGC.

Under 14 Girls

In season 2024 we saw the merger of two teams from last year, a pure U13 team moving through the ranks, and girls remaining in U14 after playing up in 2023. This led to a large squad of 29 girls which was a massive turnaround from two small teams in 2023 but brought its own challenges.

Hamish Tostevin, head coach of U13 in 2023 joined forces with Alexandra Calogero assistant coach of U14 in 2023, to lead the team this season. The girls didn't take too long to gel, with strong representation from Loreto and Caulfield Grammar, in addition to many girls going to primary school together, most had relationship with each other from the get-go. We were lucky enough to get access to professional coaching from preseason onwards, and although some of those early sessions were hot, the benefit was demonstrated quickly with a win in round 1 against South Melbourne.

The season progressed well with a rotation policy in place to manage the size of the squad and only having 16 girls on the ground on game day. For the last few rounds, we changed strategy slightly in order for all girls to play, which meant many interchanges and a huge bench, but the philosophy was that we wanted all girls to get the experience of playing finals football.

We had a very tough game for round 15 where we had four injured off, but we won and made it through to the first week of finals where we met the top team. Incredibly we kept Oakleigh goalless for three quarters and came away with the win by 4 points and straight through to the GF. The grand final was against St Peters, we knew it would be a close game, and we were thrilled to win 14-7 in very windy

conditions at Wattie Watson. For many girls in the team who had not won a game in 2023, this was a huge turn around.

Hopefully the girls all come back for 2025 and continue their football journey.

Caroline Hutchison AGC

Under 14 Boys

The Under 14s entered 2024 with a tricky number of registered players again, with 55 not being enough for 3 teams and a lot for 2.

The first 6 rounds saw 10 players given the chance to rotate across both teams, we then settled on a 26-player squad for Division 1 under Tom and Jack Andriske and 29 players in Division 3 under Jules Hay, Roger Gribble and Michael Jansen.

The Division 1 side started the season strongly, in a very strong Division with only 6 clubs having teams that could compete at the level. Through the midpoint of the season we were sitting 2nd on the ladder having pushed the then undefeated reigning premier Beaumaris to a tight 7 point loss. As the season progressed, we showed signs of fatigue with a couple of costly late season losses taking away our valuable double chance, dropping from 2nd to 4th on the ladder in the last 2 rounds. A tight semi final loss to East Brighton saw a frustrating end to a season that had seen us play some strong football with an ability to compete with the best, when at our best. The best and fairest was won by Darcy Moreland with Harland Craig runner up – both players having joined from Oakleigh this season to give us some much needed size. Nick Fisher was third despite missing the last handful of games through injury.

In Division 3 we could tell from an early point in the season that the odds were against us. Last year we finished mid table in Division 4 of 5 but this year only 4 Divisions were fielded, leaving us the lowest ranked team in Division 3. As a squad lacking size, the Division 3 team felt this most acutely giving away significant height and weight to opponents on a weekly basis. Jules Hay did an exceptional job focussing on development over results and the boys banded together admirably. The improvement that saw our first win of the season in the 2nd last round before a last kick of the game loss in the final round was particularly rewarding. Best and Fairest went to Tim Houghton from Jack Wood and Harry Pyrlis – all players who had a taste of Division 1 football in the early rounds.

A couple of closing points on the most important measures of success:

Participation – in most rounds both teams had full benches of 6. The coaches did an excellent job of rotating evenly rather than skewing game time to stronger players – even though this may have been to our detriment on the scoreboard at times.

Enjoyment – retention has been excellent in this age group from Under 8 up – early indications are that we expect strong returning numbers again.

Behaviour/spirit of the game – the boys were always respectful (including to umpires/opponents) and really enjoyed each other's company. There were also no instances of any negative parent behaviour or feedback to manage.

Another great season of Knights footy.

Kieran Kennedy AGC

Under 15 Girls

AGC and Team manager working together as a team/ job sharing was a great way to ensure all comms were covered and all EMJFC guidelines and rules were communicated to the team. Also good support structure for each role throughout the season. Team Manager role is enormous and we discussed

possibility of AGC also assisting with weekly comms to team for match day planning and volunteer role assigning. Both AGC and Team manager shared a spreadsheet for the team on google drive with also assisted with coordination of team and parents.

Only negative comment would be around the WhatsApp messaging. Both Team manager and I agreed there were far too many WhatsApp groups to manage or be across. It was very difficult throughout the season trying to cover each WhatsApp group and make sure comms relevant to our team were not missed. Often there was a lot of messaging that was irrelevant to our team but to find relevant comms we needed to scroll through 30 - 40 messages to find it. I don't know what a possible solution to this would be as WhatsApp messaging certainly does provide great support to team management throughout the season.

Vanessa Murray AGC

Under 15 Boys

Under 15 boys ended up with about 48 registered players in 2024 following some hard recruiting to bring in about 6 new players to the club. Several players from the 2023 squads either moved clubs or did not continue with the Knights in 2024.

2024 also saw all new coaching squads for both teams, and a large number of milestone games throughout the season, with several boys across both teams reaching 50 and 100 game milestones throughout the season.

Div 1 Baxter

The Div 1 team was lucky to have Andrew Wallis volunteer as Coach, with Tim Chapman and Rob Tucker supporting as assistant coaches, and Amanda Williams as Team Manager. With new coaches came a new approach and style, which was very well received by the playing group.

The expectations and non-negotiables for the team were set and agreed in advance of the season by the playing group, with leadership positions decided by the boys. Also injected into the team were a number of new faces who had a great impact on the team and were very well received and embraced by the players and parents alike, including a number of indigenous players spread across both teams, and several boarders from interstate.

The team was competitive in Division 1, with several games going against them that they could have and probably should have won, resulting in Baxter missing finals by 1 percentage point.

The approach by the coaches and team led to great connections being developed, with a very enthusiastic team mentality which has resulted in a strong desire to remain together and continue playing post season in the 9's and commit to returning in 2025.

Div 4 Stone

With Jono Brown finally hanging up the coaching boots after many fantastic years having been much loved by the boys and parents alike. Andrew Trotter stepped up to coach (again) and was supported by Clint Hughes, with Stef Brunetti once again as Team Manager. After a very tough 2023 season for the second team struggling to be competitive, 2024 was no better, being consistently beaten by large margins throughout the season by significantly stronger and more able teams.

The playing group was also impacted by lack of availability of players due to school camps and injuries, resulting in forfeits for several games. The lack of a competitive team in this division impacted the desire and motivation for the team throughout the season, and I expect there to be significant pressure on registrations for 2025 as a result with this group of boys.

Thank you to EVERYONE that pitched in in some shape or form to help throughout the season.

Sean Fitzgerald AGC

Under 16 Girls

We had a very successful season- making the Preliminary final and being right in this game until ¾ time. Our team was coached by Edward Kemp who did a great job of encouraging and developing our players, most are who now 4-5 years into their footy careers.

Despite a large squad of 26 players, we did not have any rostering issues as on many weeks there were girls away on school camps, rep footy or other commitments (even factoring in the reduction in players from 18 to 16 in all female football). Early in the season the club requested we move some players into the Youth team to assist their numbers. We resisted this request, and we genuinely believe a squad of this size is required to ensure we get a team on the field every week. Where possible we organised our players to fill in for Youth team when they were short of players in 2024.

Player football development and “game sense” improved significantly over the 2024 season. Without consultation with our coach, I personally believe kicking remains a skill that needs a major focus in improving female player skills next season.

Probably our greatest challenge was managing the infrequent availability of 3 players who were in the Oakleigh Chargers squad. When combined with these players school football commitments it felt that Knights games were bottom on the priority list as parents and school/club sought to manage the players’ “load”. We accept and understand managing of load. However, it seems like a contradiction that players must be registered with a local club to play for Chargers – but that registration is not a two street when we are short of players or need the higher ability players to help us win a game or a final.

Come finals, Oakleigh were very clear that their Knights players were not allowed to play in our finals – when they were most needed.

Upon reflection, having been beaten in the Grand Final in 2023, our expectations were to go one better and win the flag in 2024. With a full squad including the higher ability players this may have been a reality. Without these 3 players, we feel we would have been more appropriately graded as a division 2 team. We request the club look at this issue next season – and it may be more about managing expectations and getting the grading phase right.

A big win over the course of the 2024 season was the repair of our relationship with Beaumaris FC. We thank our President and committee who reached out to the league, Beaumaris and all stake holders who invested their energies to ensure games were played in the right spirit.

Looking ahead, my gut feel is 18-20 players will be available for the Youth team in 2025. We will lose the aforementioned 3 players to Chargers and a few players may cease playing. Our girls will all be Year 11 and we need to pitch a 2-year youth programme approach, the group will be further boosted in 2026 when the Under 16 players progress. Ideally, coach selection for our Youth team should be viewed on a 2-year basis. In the off season we need to encourage our players to recruit some new players for 2025, as a large squad is required to ensure we can field a team every week.

Thank you to Lori Embleton for her tremendous support over the season when week to week issues needed help and guidance. Go Knights

Adrian Parsons AGC

Under 16 Boys

The 2024 season for the U16 Boys will be remembered for many things. The most notable for the club though, was the return of no less than 58 boys, registering and pulling on the Knights jumper. This age group has been a standout since U8's in terms of footy participation, with boys from many schools having now developed fantastic connections through their Knights footy experiences, coupled with a core group of tireless volunteers who have been just terrific role models and mentors for these developing your men.

This age group has experienced success consistently over many years, and most recently two premierships in 2023 and several of our top end talent selected in the Sandringham Dragons U16 representative squad.

The successes of 2023 saw the League grade our two teams in Division 1 and Division 2 for the grading rounds. This proved very challenging for our second team who had effectively jumped two divisions. Post grading this was addressed by the League and the 2024 season proper kicked off with our two teams in Division 1 and Division 4 respectively.

There was certainly a contrast of one field performance this year for our two teams in 2024: For our division 1 team, the season started with some solid wins. However, this on field performance fell away with the team struggling to field players for the majority of the remainder of the season. Regrettably our division 1 team was forced to forfeit games on two occasions due to lack of player numbers. Similar to prior years, the player numbers were adversely impacted by a mix of representative and school footy commitments, injuries and school camps. This combination made fielding a team week to week extremely challenging. On a positive note, with school and representative footy out of the way, the players all came together for the final two rounds of the season, showing glimpses of their very best and enjoying playing with their mates.

By contrast our division 4 team, now graded more appropriately, were very competitive throughout the season with a number of fantastic wins and an infectious positive energy and team spirit. Our division 4 team was also challenged throughout the season with player numbers due to school footy commitments, camps and injuries. Finishing 2nd on the ladder by only percentage our division 4 team played finals.

The boys turned out two competitive finals performances, however, were not able to make it through to the Grand Final. There were a number of individual players who made great contributions to the season, however the real secret behind the success lay firmly in the team first mindset of all the players. I would like to acknowledge and express gratitude to our coaches Thomas Reid, Pete Conquest, Ben Hall and Shaun Gough for the tireless contribution they brought each week throughout the season. Additionally, and importantly a big thankyou to the parents who volunteered their time across a range of roles to enable the U16 boys to play for the Knights.

For many of these U16 boys, this season will be their last with the Knights. I am supremely confident though, that for these boys, they will carry forward with them a set of incredible memories and friendships from their time playing for the East Malvern Knights!

Jim Hemmings AGC

Youth Girls

I'd like to thank the club for the opportunity to be involved with the girls' team over the past few seasons. It's been a rewarding experience, and I've enjoyed my role as Team Manager for the last three seasons, as well as serving as Team Trainer for a few seasons since 2018, following our daughter's arrival at the club in 2017.

I also wanted to mention how great the club's events have been, especially things like the presentations and other team celebrations. It's always fantastic to see the girls recognized for their hard work and achievements, and these events really help build a sense of community and pride within the team.

As we move forward with the U18s, one of the challenges I've noticed is the difficulty in getting players to commit to games, especially with the added pressure of VCE commitments and school football. To address this, I wonder if it might be worth considering a system where a pool of U16-U18 players could be selected across the age groups on a weekly basis. This could help ensure we have enough players available each week, while also giving the girls more flexibility to balance their other commitments.

Additionally, I believe it would be great to see more recognition for the top-age girls, particularly those in their final year. They put in a lot of effort, and it would be fantastic to see greater support from other teams, whether that's by having them cheer on the U18s before or after their games. This kind of team unity could go a long way in fostering a supportive environment.

On a more logistical note, I also wanted to mention the importance of having a reliable training venue, such as DW Lucas, our home ground. It can be difficult to train effectively when the conditions are poor, especially with the ground flooding or being used as a dog park. I believe having access to a more consistent and suitable training space would make a big difference for the girls and help them prepare more effectively for matches.

I also had an idea for a pre-season social event to help the players between the ages of 16-18 get to know each other better. It would be great to organize an event where the girls can build connections and establish a sense of camaraderie before the season kicks off. This could be paired with pre-season training, which would not only help with grading but also create a good foundation for the team. If possible, it would be fantastic to have a structured training session with some experts in the field, and perhaps even an AFLW guest appearance to inspire the players.

Lastly, to enable a smoother process for gathering Working with Children Checks (WWCC), could the player support personnel (parents, guardians, trainers, etc.) be required to add their credentials as a compulsory field during player registration? This could help streamline the process and ensure that all necessary checks are completed well in advance.

Thanks again for everything, and I look forward to hearing your thoughts.

Effi Argiros AGC

Attachment 1															
Age Group	T 2019	T 2020	T 2021	T 2022	T 2023	T 2024	R 2021	R 2022	R 2023	R 2024	Comments 2021	Comments 2022	Comments 2023	Comments 2024	Est T 2025
U8 Mixed	4	4	3	3	3	65	65	57	66			One very young team	VG group	3	
U9 Mixed	4	4	4	4	3	3	84	79	71	55			May not get 3 teams in 25	3	
U9 Girls	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	18			First u9 Girls	1	
U10 Mixed	4	4	4	3	4	3	92	74	75	59			VG group	2	
U10 Girls	2	1	2	2	2	1	33	36	31	18		One very young team	VG group	1	
U11 Boys	5	3	4	4	3	3	85	90	71	61			VG group	3	
U11 Girls	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	23	19		First year U11G	VG group	1	
U12 Girls	3	3	2	2	2	1	33	39	40	23		Mod and Non Mod	Both teams in N Mod	VG group	2
U12 Boys	4	5	3	3	4	3	67	74	87	67			all soft graded teams	All poorly graded by league	3
U13 Boys	2	3	4	2	2	4	89	54	53	88	Numbers dropped by 15 from 2020	Lost a dozen or so from 2021	Tricky rego numbers	Couple of teams poorly graded	3
U13 Girls	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	27	33	47	N/A	New age group		VG group	2
U14 Girls	4	3	2	1	2	1	46	29	34	31			2nd team struggled but had fun	VG group	1
U14 Boys	3	2	3	3	2	2	65	76	52	57	65 was just enough		2nd team poorly graded in Div 2	VG group, 2nd team poorly graded	3
U15 Boys	3	2	2	2	3	2	48	56	75	53	Recruits from Glen Iris helped get 2 nd team		Unusually high regos for age group	VG group, 2nd team poorly graded again	2
U15 Girls	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	27	26				VG group	1
U16 Girls	1	2	2	2	0	1	52	41	0	28				VG group	1
U16 Boys	1	3	1	1	0	2	40	32	0	56				VG group	1
U17.5 Boys	0	0	1	0	0	0	42	0	0	0				NA	1
Youth Girls	1	1	1	1	2	1	10	24	59	23	Merger with St Pauls			VG group	1
Total	41	40	38	34	35	35	851	796	788	795					35

Attachment 2		completed 2024																		
Age Group	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2021	2022	2023	2024	2021	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024
	Teams	Teams	Teams	Teams	Teams	Teams	MP	MP	MP	MP	Won	Won	Won	Won	Byes	Byes	Byes	Byes	Byes	Byes
U8Mixed	4	4	3	3	3	3	28	49	50	35	17	29	22	18	2	2	1			
U9Mixed	4	4	4	4	3	3	36	66	48	38	25	40	20	13	2	0	0			
U9 Girls	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	2	0	0	3			
U10Mixed	4	4	4	3	4	3	26	50	67	42	18	38	34	20	1	1	0			
U10 Girls	2	1	2	2	2	1	18	26	33	14	12	6	22	13	3	0	0			
U11 Girls	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	14	16	0	0	8	7	0	3	0			
U11 Mixed	5	3	4	4	3	3	36	63	47	49	19	38	26	27	0	0	1			
U12 Boys	4	5	3	3	4	3	26	46	64	45	14	20	41	11	0	0	0			
U12 Girls Mod	3	3	2	1	0	0	18	14	0	0	13	3	0	0	0	0	0			
u12 Girls Non Mod	0	0	0	1	2	1	0	15	32	15	0	6	17	10	1	1	1			
U13 Boys	2	3	4	2	2	4	35	31	29	60	27	19	11	23	0	0	3			
U13 Girls	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	12	14	30	0	10	9	9	3	1	1			
U14 Girls	4	3	2	1	2	1	18	16	29	17	6	12	15	12	0	3	0			
U14 Boys	3	2	3	3	2	2	26	47	34	31	10	32	14	11	0	0	0			
U15 Boys	3	2	2	2	3	2	17	27	46	28	9	15	33	12	1	5	0			
U15 Girls	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	17	13	0	0	10	9	0	1	3			
U16 Boys	1	3	1	1	1	2	9	15	0	30	4	11	0	11	2	0	0			
U16 Girls	1	2	2	2	0	1	18	29	0	14	11	15	0	8	1	0	2			
U17 Boys	0	0	1	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Youth Girls	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	15	32	17	6	11	16	12	2	0	0			
	41	40	38	34	35	35	327	521	556	502	197	305	298	228	18	17	15			
										*	**									

MP = Matches played

* covid impacted season

** didn't count all LC games

Attachment 3					School Girls				
School Boys	Yr 2021	Yr 2022	Yr 2023	Yr 2024	School Girls	Yr 2021	Yr 2022	Yr 2023	Yr 2024
Albert Park College	0	0	0	0	Ashwood High School	0	2	2	2
Ashwood High	0	2	2	10	Auburn High	2	1	0	1
Auburn High	8	6	0	1	Avila College	7	5	7	3
Balwyn North Primary School	0	1	1	1	Box Hill Senior Secondary College	0	1	1	1
Bentleigh Secondary College	0	0	0	1	Camberwell High	3	3	4	1
Bialik College	2	3	1	1	Canterbury Girls' Secondary	2	3	3	5
Box Hill Senior Secondary	3	0	0	0	Carey Grammar	0	2	3	3
Brighton Grammar	2	2	4	5	Caulfield Grammar	30	35	45	38
Burwood Heights Primary Schoo	0	0	1	1	Firbank Grammar School	0	1	1	0
Camberwell Grammar	2	2	3	2	Geelong Grammar School	0	1	0	0
Camberwell High	8	4	5	3	Glen Eira College	0	0	0	1
Camberwell South Primary Scho	0	0	0	1	Haileybury College - City	0	3	2	2
Carey Grammar	2	1	1	1	Kelly Club OSHC Preshil School	0	1	0	0
Carnege Primary School	0	1	1	0	Kilvington Grammar School	0	0	0	1
Caulfield Grammar	65	48	50	69	Korowa Anglican Girls	6	5	3	4
Caulfield Primary School	0	1	0	2	Lauriston Girls	3	2	0	3
Cheltenham Secondary College	0	0	0	1	Leibler Yavneh College	0	0	0	1
De La Salle College	13	24	27	28	Lloyd Street Primary	8	10	16	10
East Bentleigh Primary School	0	1	0	0	Loreto College Mandeville	31	35	55	53
Essex Heights Primary	0	4	3	2	Malvern Central School	0	1	1	1
Frank Dando Sports Academy	0	0	0	1	Malvern Primary	12	13	9	12
Geelong Grammar	0	0	0	2	Malvern Valley Primary	3	1	0	0
Glen Iris Primary School	0	1	1	3	Mckinnon Secondary College	0	0	1	0
Hartwell Primary School	0	1	1	0	Melbourne Girls Grammar	2	3	4	5
Hawthorn West Primary School	0	1	1	0	Melbourne Grammar School - Grimwade	0	0	0	1
Huntingtower School, Mount Wa	0	0	1	2	Methodist Ladies	2	0	5	4
Kilvington Grammar School	0	0	0	1	Mount View Primary School	0	1	0	0
Kingswood College	0	0	2	1	Parkhill Primary	0	0	2	2
Lloyd Street Primary	65	54	46	43	Sacre Coeur	23	19	21	19
Malvern Central	3	4	5	5	School Unknown	8	6	5	0
Malvern Primary	97	87	77	66	Schools (1 Student Rego)	13	9	6	0
Malvern Valley Primary	10	6	13	7	SEDA College (Victoria) - AFL - Clayton	0	1	1	0
Mazenod	0	0	0	1	Siena	0	2	3	8
Melbourne Grammar	25	22	19	18	Solway Primary	5	10	11	6
Melbourne Montessori School	0	1	1	0	St Catherine's	0	3	5	3
Mount Scopus Memorial College	0	0	0	0	St Mary's	7	6	12	11
Mount Waverley Secondary Coll	0	0	0	1	St Michaels Grammar School	0	1	1	2
Mount Waverley Heights Primar	0	1	1	0	St Roch's	5	7	9	13
Ormond Primary School	0	0	0	1	Star of the Sea	0	0	2	4
Parkhill Primary	4	0	0	0	Strathcona Girls Grammar	2	0	0	0
Preshil, The Margaret Lyttle Mer	0	0	0	1	Swinburne Senior Secondary College	0	0	1	0
Parkhill Primary	4	0	0	0	Wesley College	3	4	6	13
Rossbourne School	0	1	1	1					
Rowville Secondary	2	0	0	0					
Salesian College	7	3	3	5					
School Unknown	6	13	9	0					
Schools (1 Student Rego)	23	10	12	0					
Scotch College	37	34	31	39					
Solway Primary	52	51	33	35					
South Oakleigh Secondary Colleg	0	0	0	3					
St Joseph's School	5	2	5	10					
St Kevins	111	98	85	84					
St Mary's School	26	28	32	35					
St Michaels Grammar	9	7	7	9					
St Roch's OSHC	27	28	28	21					
Trinity Grammar	2	3	0	0					
Wesley College	8	11	7	8					
Xavier College	46	32	21	30					
Boys	674	599	541	562					
Girls	177	197	247	233					
	851	796	788	795					

EMJFC Football Operations – Jonathan Brown & Bart Drew

Another strong year of improvements in Footy Ops, as the transition to full management by Bart is now complete! It was another year of managing the demands of 3 clubs at Basil, which was again offset by a really positive comradery between EMJFC, EMSFC and Prahran SFC.

Bart took ownership of jumper allocation this year, and the improvement in the processes which he is implementing is evident – fewer jumper swaps, more control of inventory, and an all round improved experience with equipment (and 2025 will be even better).

After the challenges with the paid medics in 2023, the engagement with Leon and Gwyn at Community First Responders was excellent. They provided much improved First Aid Training, Sports Medics, and managed the club supplied First Aid Kits. Needless to say they will be back in 2025!

In order to support out Canteen Operations, the club purchased and installed a new coffee machine in Sheridan Pavillion... which when it was used properly was a great addition to the match day experience. In 2025 Footy Ops will have a real focus on improving the catering offerings from EMJFC – and this is an area where we have the potential to increase income as well as the experience of club members and visitors.

Our Ground Managers for 2024 were Matt (half season), Jerry (whole season), and Ollie who stepped up into a full-role. There is still work to be done in getting the most out of the Ground Managers, but it was a better year for the volunteer staff in terms of the amount of work we were required to do each week – and they were GREAT for the finals when we hosted.

Bart is almost on top of the technical issues which have plagued the scoreboards, but we have also managed to bring Malvern Valley CC on board as a 'supporter' in 2022/5 for Basil oval, which gives us another \$500 a year to use for upkeep and maintenance.

We have seen some movement with provisional council support for fixed coaches boxes and storage at Stanley Grose – this is a project Jono is hoping to get finalised as he sails off into the sunset for the 2025 season!

It was really good to get absolute value of 'the Beast' with the Finals BBQs, Welcome and Presentation days, and also the enthusiasm with which we were able to get additional volunteers for these events (perhaps this is where we say an extra thanks to Em and her persuasive skills!).

After 5 (or 6?) years, Jono has now handed Footy Ops over to Bart – who has immediately stepped up and got an enthusiastic sub committee. We are in a really good position with equipment, processes, and people for 2025, and I (Jono) look forward to watching from the outside, seeing the club and Footy Ops continue to get better!

EMJFC Sponsorship Report – Emily Spinks & Dom Guthrie

The Knights gratefully acknowledge the generous support of our sponsors and encourage all club members to return support to these local businesses to show our appreciation of their support.

Marshall White Armadale, our major sponsor in their second year, have been an incredible support of the EMJFC, again being our jumper sponsor for the 2024 season, thank you again to Daniel Wheeler and his team!

MHT Dentistry, Matt Teixeira was again heavily involved as both a sponsor and supplier of fitted mouth guards to all age groups.

As both Major Sponsors we would like to acknowledge their generous support over the past year, and we look forward to partnering up with them again in 2025.

We'd also like to extend a huge thank you to our Platinum Sponsor, Toorak Autobody, for their generous contribution and continuing to sponsor the goal post pads.

To our Gold sponsors; Chadstone Toyota for hiring the marquee on presentation day, purchasing new footballs, and so much more, LTD Promotional Ware, PNO Insurance and Barry Nilsson, and our Silver Sponsors; Malvern Road Wine & Beer House, Pure Sport Images thank you! We would also like to acknowledge the generous donations to our Night of Knights auction made by Universal Studios (via Jac Carty-Salmon), White & Co and Western Bulldogs, thank you!

Finally, thank you to our Game Day Sponsors who so very kindly donate 'Game Day Vouchers' every round to every age group from the U/8's to U/18's – Banjo's Bistro, Boost Juice, Chargrill Charlies, Clancy's Bakehouse, Grill'd, Mae, Pizza Religion and Yo-Chi.

For all our sponsors to continue with our football club we need to give back to them so let's get behind all of them as they find the necessary funding that allows us to run the club across all areas and this is an area in which our Sponsorship team will be driving again in 2025.

Communications Report – Anne Moore

In 2024 the aim was to increase our audience through engaging and regular social media posts. We continued to remind our community to follow our Instagram / Facebook pages via regular newsletters as social media provides a timely way in which to reach our members.

Our website resulted in 8724 site sessions for the football financial year which is a 7% decrease on the 2023 season. Our unique visitors decreased to 5005 suggesting that more of our membership base are visiting the website on a regular basis and not just at the time of registration. The majority of visitors utilized google to find the website or went direct. Our website is mainly used for registrations and merchandise sales.

We now have 1965 followers on Instagram (15% growth on last year) & 928 followers on Facebook (3% increase vs 2023). Our Instagram page has had consistent growth over the last 4 years and our social media posts have also grown in engagement with an average reach on Facebook of 120 and on

Instagram of 412 (26% increase). While our total reach on Facebook has declined this year, which may be attributable to a changing demographic and increased engagement via Instagram, meanwhile our Instagram reach has once again grown to 18,638 (increase of 10% vs 2023) and content interactions was 14,374. We also posted 27% more content than 2023 (239 posts and 145 stories) which certainly assists in increasing followers and engagement. The post with the largest reach being 3.4k and 117 likes when our U15 Girls Randall team win over the undefeated Port Colts. The post / reel with the most likes for the year was a collaboration with SMJFL announcing Hugo Green's Monash Leader of the Month award for his bike ride in Tasmania to raise funds for Maddie Riewoldts Vision charity in honour of his friend and team mate Will O'Byrne's battle with Aplastic Anaemia.

In 2025 the focus will be on raising engagement with our members via social media via encouraging interaction and submissions. In addition we also need to focus on delivering return on investment for sponsors via our social media channels.

Merchandise Report – Sally Wajszel

It takes a bit of work to get 800 kids dressed. And by Round 1 they were all kitted out in the Knights finest red, white & blue.

It was another busy year in merch. The biggest change was the introduction of the Square registers. This enables faster transactions, less mistakes and accurate reporting. The merch is itemised by size so we know exactly what is selling. As the season progressed we were able to input stock amounts which means by next year we will have accurate stocktaking which will allow us to know what we have in inventory and simplify reordering.

The second big change was encouraging more online orders. We had a large amount of online orders before welcome day. This avoided the massive queues on the day. We had more orders throughout the season. Parents prefer online ordering as it's quick and easy with the kids collecting their own orders at training the majority of time.

We hope to be able to combine Square and Wiz so that every online purchase is recorded in Square and adjusts the stocktake accordingly.

The square registers were also super helpful for the bar, club functions and sausage sizzle/cake stand on Presentation Day. It was also brilliant for the MND fundraiser as we could keep those transactions separate.

As square was introduced after welcome day I'm looking forward to 2025 - being able to simplify and streamline processes and tidy up the merch cupboard!

A huge thanks to the committee members who jumped in and helped on the store and the various parents and kids who I roped in along the way.

It's that community spirit that makes Knights so special.

Sponsors

The Knights gratefully acknowledge the generous support of our sponsors and encourage all club members to return support to these local businesses to show our appreciation of their support.

2024 Sponsors	
Major Sponsor	
MHT Dentistry	189 Darling Road Malvern East Contact: Dr Matt Teixeira 9813 8853
Marshall White, Armadale	1111 High Street, Armadale Contact: Daniel Wheeler 0411 676 058
Platinum Sponsors	
Toorak Autobody	718 Malvern Rd, Prahran
Gold Sponsors	
Chadstone Toyota	1632 High Street, Glen Iris
Barry Nilsson	Level 6600 Bourke Street, Melbourne VIC 3000
PNO Insurance	1911 Malvern Road, Malvern East
LTD Promotional Ware	1/3 Bignell Road, Moorabbin
Silver Sponsors	
Pure Sport Images	Safety Beach
Malvern Road Wine & Beer House	1947 Malvern Road, Malvern East
Game Day Sponsors	
Boost Juice Malvern	Malvern Central Shopping Centre
Chargrill Charlie	216 Glenferrie Rd, Malvern
Grill'd	Chadstone Shopping Centre
Pizza Religion	12-18 Claremont Ave, Malvern
Clancey's Bakehouse	278 Waverley Rd, Malvern East
Mae Cafe	139 Waverley Rd, Malvern East
Banjo's Bistro	East Malvern RSL, Stanley Grose Dr, Malvern East
Yo-Chi	212 Glenferrie Road, Malvern

2024 Sponsors

Honorary Supporters

The Hon. Dr MP Michelle Ananda-Rajah	1/1343 Malvern Road, Malvern
The Hon. Michael O'Brien MP	313 Waverley Rd, Malvern East

2024 Coaches & Team Managers

Age Group	Team	Coach	Team Manager
Under 8	Reeves	Andy Wilson	Jessica Mitchell
	Mahoney	Chris Ackerman	Matt McCoy
	Answerth	Peter Brown	Sarah Goland
Under 8/9 Girls	Rowbottom	Christian Strauss	Danielle McInerney
Under 9	Higgins	Brad Carmody	Simone Fernon / Vicki Hamilton
	Stone	Chris McCarty	Sammi Moffat
	Smith	Cam Doig	Chris Green
Under 10 Girls	Beasley	Nick Kelly	Sarah Barnett / Darren Rosario
Under 10	Reeves	Dean Moore	Julie / Juston Mulder
	Smith	Anthony Ballard	Cassie Hannam
	Answerth	Scott Mitchell	Emily Spinks
Under 11 Girls	Gough	Dave Storey	Mark Gray
Under 11	Mahoney	Cadel Duke	Mark Britton / Dom Guthrie
	Sangster	Jason Radley	Rachael Ralph
	Betharas	Pete Ockleshaw	Joel Meek
Under 12 Girls	McNamara / Div 1	Michelle Bourke	David Heenan
Under 12	Higgins / Div 2	Nathan Brown	Matt Quinn
	Baxter / Div 2	Andrew Sullivan	Jeremy Vile
	Stone / Div 4	Oscar Randerson	Steven Dolan
Under 13 Girls	Moloney / Div 1	Mat O'Brien	Lucy Fox
	Vesely / Div 2	Al Pape	Suzi McCrimmon
Under 13	Campbell / Div 1	Nick Moore	Jenny Diab
	Smith / Div 3	Mark Deacon	Amanda Nelson
	Phillips / Div 5	Nick Brown	Meri Siracusa
	Vickers-Willis / Div 6	Tim Snow	Cathy Lewis

Age Group	Team	Coach	Team Manager
Under 14 Girls	Briana / Div 2	Hamish Tostevin	Mark During
Under 14	Paine / Div 1	Tom Andriske	John Walshe
	Sangster / Div 3	Julia Hay	Jacinta Lasky
Under 15 Girls	Randall/ Div 1	Mark Williams	Annabelle Berryman
Under 15 Boys	Baxter / Div 1	Andrew Wallis	Amanda Williams
	Stone / Div 3	Andrew Trotter	Stef Brunetti
Under 16 Girls	Lucas-Rodd / Div 1	Ed Kemp	Adrian Parsons
Under 16 Boys	Carroll / Div 1	Thomas Reid	James Hemmings
	Sullivan / Div 4	Ben Hall	Xochitl Elenes
Youth Girls	Eva / Div 2	Jamie Pi	Effi Argiros

EMJFC Knights Honour Board

Executive Committee

Year	President	Vice President	Secretary	Treasurer	Registrar
2024	Dugald McWilliams	Caroline Hutchison	Georgi Evans	Angus Mackellar	Anne Moore
2023	Dugald McWilliams	Caroline Hutchison	Carolyn Beadle	Angus Mackellar	Anne Moore
2022	Simon Bell	Dugald McWilliams	Carolyn Beadle	Angus Mackellar	Anne Moore
2021	Simon Bell	Dugald McWilliams	Carolyn Beadle	Nick Fennessy	Anne Moore
2020	Simon Bell	Dugald McWilliams	Carolyn Beadle	Nick Fennessy	Anne Moore
2019	Steve Foulds	Rich Davey	Carolyn Beadle	Paul Sopikiotis	Natalie Barnes
2018	Steve Foulds	Rich Davey	Carolyn Beadle	Paul Sopikiotis	Natalie Barnes
2017	Steve Foulds	Philip McCabe	Steven Strong	Paul Sopikiotis	Steven Strong
2016	Steve Foulds	Philip McCabe	Steven Strong	Paul Sopikiotis	Steven Strong
2015	Roy Fish	David Arnold	Andrew Close	Rob Andriske	Steven Strong
2014	Marc Gauci Roy Fish	Tony Phillips David Arnold	Andrew Close	Rob Andriske	Steven Strong
2013	Chris Ralph	Marc Gauci	Andrew Close	Rob Andriske	Steven Strong
2012	Chris Ralph	Marc Gauci	Marc Gauci	Rob Andriske	Steven Strong
2011	Lewis Bearman	Marc Gauci	Marc Gauci	Rob Andriske	Noel Scully
2010	Lewis Bearman	Marc Gauci	Marc Gauci	Rob Andriske	Noel Scully
2009	Lewis Bearman	James Deighton Marc Gauci	Marc Gauci	Rob Andriske	Noel Scully
2008	Simon Heath	James Deighton Marc Gauci	Marc Gauci	Rob Andriske	James Deighton
2007	Roger Teale	Simon Heath	Marc Gauci	Rob Andriske	James Deighton

Year	President	Vice President	Secretary	Treasurer	Registrar
2006	Roger Teale	Simon Heath	Rob Mills	Cam Christie	Cam Christie
2005	Greg Thomas	Roger Teale	Rob Mills	Cam Christie	Cam Christie
2004	Greg Thomas	Rob Sandilands	Lyn Gray	Cam Christie	Cam Christie
2003	David Hodge	Rob Sandilands	G. Hustwith	Greg Thomas	Lyn Gray
2002	David Hodge	Rob Sandilands	James Nixon	Lyn Gray	Lyn Gray
2001	David Hodge	Rob Sandilands	James Nixon	Lyn Gray	Mike Rady
2000	Bruce Hulls	David Hodge	Mike Rady	Lyn Gray	Robert Baird
1999	Bruce Hulls	Bruce Wickett	Mike Rady	Ruth Bennett	Kerryn Gilchrist
1998	B. McMenamin	Bruce Wickett	Chris Erickson	Bruce Hulls	Peter Nowatschenko
1997	B. McMenamin	Greg Hope	Simon Rofe Chris Erickson	Bob Glaister	Colin Fairweather
1996	B. McMenamin	Greg Hope	John Barry	Bob Glaister	
1995	Tim Collie	Andrew King	John Barry	Bob Glaister	
1994	Tim Collie	David Duggan	Helen Frost	Alan Picone	Ian Farrell
1993	Ross Carruthers	David Duggan	Helen Frost	Alan Picone	Ian Farrell
1992	Ross Carruthers	John Rosier	Cheryl Newsom	Ian Johnson	Ian Farrell
1991	John Rosier		Cheryl Newsom	Ian Johnson	John Howden
1990	John Rosier	Geoff Seebeck	Cheryl Newsom	Vas Banschikov	John Howden
1989	Geoff Seebeck		Cheryl Newsom	Peter Clarke	John Howden
1988	Geoff Seebeck	Peter Duncan	Cheryl Newsom	Peter Clarke	John Burk
1987	Peter Duncan	Cam McDonald	Helen Whiley	Peter Clarke	
1986	Peter Duncan	Cam McDonald	Helen Whiley	Helen Whiley	

Life Members

Maurie Fanning	2002
Bob Glaister	2002
Peter Harley	2002
John Barry	2003
Rob Sandilands	2005
Stewart Gray	2005
Cheryl Newsom	2006
Lyn Gray	2006
Brian Sampson	2007
Roger Teale	2009
Lewis Bearman	2012
Brian Eva	2012
Chris Ralph	2015
Robert Andriske	2015
Tony Phillips	2016
Roy Fish	2017
Steve Foulds	2020
Steve Strong	2020
Carolyn Beadle	2021
Heidi Sutherland	2021
Mick Hegan	2022
Julian Battistella	2022
Paul Sopikiotis	2023
Jonothan Brown	2024
David Munro	2024

Past EMJFC Players to play VFL/AFL/AFLW

Darren Baxter	Footscray, Hawthorn
Michael Lockman	Richmond
Will Sangster	Sydney
Rupert Betheras	Collingwood
Ezra Poyas	Richmond
Jackson Paine	Collingwood, Brisbane
Tom Campbell	Western Bulldogs, North Melbourne, St Kilda
Ed Vickers-Willis	North Melbourne
Alicia Eva	Collingwood, GWS
Brianna Green	Fremantle, WCE
Tilly Lucas-Rodd	Carlton, St Kilda
Pepa Randall	Melbourne, GWS
Jack Higgins	Richmond, St Kilda
Angus Styles	Sydney
Bailey Smith	Western Bulldogs
Noah Answerth	Brisbane
Olivia Vesely	St Kilda
Abbi Moloney	Collingwood
Eliza McNamara	Melbourne
Winnie Laing	Carlton
Jack Mahony	North Melbourne

Conor Stone	GWS
Ned Reeves	Hawthorn
Charlie Rowbottom	Gold Coast Suns
Matt Carroll	Carlton
Emily Gough	Essendon
Grace Beasley	Melbourne
Lachie Sullivan	Collingwood
Ethan Phillips	Hawthorn



Major Sponsors:



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