

FIGER TALK

EPPING EASTWOOD FOOTBALL CLUB INC.

President's Letter

Well, it's been some time since our last Tiger Talk, caused by interruptions to play and lost game time due to the last lot of rain. At this stage, the last 2 weeks lost will be played at the end of the 14 weeks of competition. GHFA builds in 2 weeks to allow for bad weather within the competition. Any further interruptions will cut into the Round Robin Competition.

We are now into the second half of the competition and we find ourselves with a mixed bag of results. Some teams are doing very well and some with opportunities to improve their position.

Last weekend, I watched our last team in the State Cup, the 35/1's, play at Yagoona. They took to the field with a depleted team (numbers), some of whom were carrying injuries. At half time we were down 4 goals to zero. Despite this, in the second half they played with great determination and turned the game around finishing the stronger with the final score 4-3. With extra time, I'm sure we could have won the game, especially if we had all our players on deck. Never the less, it was a great effort to get that far in the competition. These guys have made and continue to make an important contribution to your club. Talking of results, our 14/1's have been playing extra games on Sundays as part of the competition to make up for the fact that more than 50% of the team will be playing in New Zealand over the holiday period with Epping Boys High School. We would have been greatly disadvantaged if we hadn't been granted this by GHFA. Our thanks to them and the other clubs who accommodated us on these occasions.

We welcome Benjamin William Mitchell, our newest Tiger born last Monday night at just over 3Kg. Both mum Erin & Ben are doing well. Dad Jarrod, who plays 35/3's and is on the Management Committee, is over the moon. Ben's uncle is Anthony who plays 35/1's.

The rescheduled photo day is Saturday July 3rd at Boronia Park. Your manager has all the details regarding time & cost. Please have your envelopes ready to hand in.

Still on dates, the club picnic is set down for the first week in September at Boronia Park. The Management Committee has decided that it is all free, including the food component for everyone. There will be a sausage sizzle after the presentation of trophies U6 – U16. We hope to have some

ISSUE 5 JULY 2010

Inside this issue

President's Letter	1-2
The Value of	
Sponsorship	2-3
Team Photos	4
Team Reports	5-6

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EPPING EASTWOOD WEBSITE

For all the competition tables and results of your EEW Tigers teams see www.eppingeastwoodtigers.com.au



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116 Glendenning Road, Glendenning 2761 ph: (02) 8805 2300 Web: www.periaus.com.au games as well as our jumping castle. Everyone is welcome. More details to follow.

The Club Dinner will be held at the Epping Club on Saturday September 18th. Cost will be \$50 per head or \$80 a couple. This will be a buffet meal, which proved very popular last year. This is a great opportunity for us all to come together as one, listen to a guest speaker and enjoy each others company. Bookings are essential.

You may have noticed people (mostly players), wearing new style club jackets. They are available on order at Boronia Park. We do have a few in stock, large size. If you are interested come and have a look at a sample. Orders can be placed at the canteen. Also, the last of this years Entertainment Books are available from the canteen.

You will notice an article on sponsorship in this issue, which I commend to you. We owe a lot to our sponsors. They collectively give us more than just dollars. Our club is very fortunate that they show a genuine interest in the activities of our members and our club.

Till next we meet, Go You Tiger's Go!

Regards, Ian Kendal 98581605 Feedback is most welcome. Please forward any comments to eewtigers@tpg.com.au

The Value of Sponsorship

This is sometimes not appreciated by the membership, the 'extras' and indeed some of the basics which are covered by the support we receive. If this was withdrawn we would have three choices:

- 1. Increase Fees
- 2. Cut back in providing the extras
- 3. Increase Canteen prices

Let's look at some items under the heading of 'Extras'.

Grounds

As we continue to grow the need for extra training facilities has become an ever growing expense. For some years we have managed to secure Epping Oval for 2? nights at a cost of \$1800 per season and Roselea for 1 night at \$800 per season, thus relieving some pressure on Boronia Park.

The ultimate objective is to develop F red Spurway Reserve as a 4 night per week training ground. We have been trying to convince Council to develop the area as it is the last remaining ground in our area that is available for some development. Our proposal initially is to develop a strategic plan that incorporates passive as well as sporting requirements. From our point of view it requires lighting, at an estimated cost of \$80 000, to be financed by Grants, Council and also to some small extent ourselves.

Coaching

We have a policy of reimbursing players fees in full if they assist in coaching our Junior teams. It is pleasing to see that the number of senior players who are 'putting back' their experience into Junior sides this year has increased and that the fee reduction totals almost \$5000. As well as paying these fees we are also encouraging these players to attend coaching classes to improve their teaching skills. In the last two seasons almost \$2000 has been spent and we will continue with this as it gives our Junior teams better training and that should equate to better players and enjoyment.



Balls – Promotion

For some years we have provided all mini players (U6, 7 & 8) with their own training ball which they bring to training each week. In the last 2 years we have extended this to include all U9 through to U13 players. The total cost is almost \$1600 per season. This promotes goodwill, makes coaching easier & improved and encourages the players to practice at home.

Shirts

One thing we do well is to turn out our teams looking professional. Over 50% of these costs come from our 'Extras' funding. In the last 2 seasons we have renewed all of our mini's shirts (100) and last season we commenced in our Junior sides with the new 'breathing' fabric designed for players comfort. This is still ongoing. This current season we have renewed our Premier League shirts (40) and also our Senior Over 35's side (18) with the latest technology material from Nike. One senior player who has played with us since U/6 said 'this is the best shirt I have ever played in'. This new gear is not cheap but we will continue to invest in this program along with our new attractive shorts (which the player purchases at cost price). We do look excellent and it is spreading through the Club.

Administration

We are becoming more reliant on technology in order to function efficiently. The demands placed upon us at all levels of our sport means we can 't rely on the volunteer to provide information. We have to put ourselves in a situation that we can capture data, store it and report as required. To this end, we are currently investigating doing more online to collect and distribute information, to have the ability to talk to our players direct via technology be it email, text message or newsletters. At the same time we will streamline our accounting systems. Anything that can save us time and that provides a service to players, coaches and managers and also our all important supporters, is a worthwhile investment in the future.

Sundry Items

- In this season, as in previous, we have renewed or added to training equipment at both Boronia Park and Epping Oval.
- We have renewed the barbeque with a heavy duty unit – this now contributes 75% of the hot food provided.
- We have replaced the pie oven which was over 20 years old.
- We are looking at renewing our current refrigeration. We purchased this second hand over 20 years ago. It is now very difficult to secure parts for this. (Granted a new one won 't last this long).
- We purchased a set of full size portable goal posts which gives us flexibility pre-season.

Yes, there are many things that some may take for granted. All clubs have sponsorship. We are indeed most fortunate to have the ones we have. More importantly, they have supported us for a long time, without demands and we should collectively be mindful and grateful for their continuing support.



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TEAM REPORTS

We welcome match reports and team photos from all of our teams. Around 50 words would be great. We try to publish every 2 weeks. Send your reports and pics directly to michmagu@bigpond.net.au

Under 8 White

This week the Tiger's Under 8's White Team put up some great defence against the Hills Hawkes B, with Will taking a goal in the first few minutes. The game was fast and Millsy, Ben and Corey made consistently skilled tackles to keep possession of the ball. Despite the excellent goal keeping skills of Ryan, and Cam putting his entire body (and head) on the line, the Hawkes managed to even the score by the end of the first half.

Things did no slow down in the second half and while Liam saved a number of goals from getting through, the Hawkes claimed another 2. The Tigers worked together as always and did not give up the chase and their teamwork payed off when Brian claimed a final goal, taking the full time score to 2 - 3 Hawkes way.

Under 14/3 (12/6) EEW 2 Putney 1

The Tigers are back after three weeks of football were canceled due to rain, and we looked forward to playing Putney Rangers, in which we beat 4-1 in our last encounter.

We began with a bang when Aaron Collyer scored in the first minute, but no goals were to come for the rest of the half, from either side. The second half started in earnest and Matt scored another goal to make it 2-0. Putney drew one back soon later, and it looked to be an exciting final few minutes, with a penalty awarded to the Tigers which hit the post, Matt chipped the goalkeeper to hit the crossbar and Damien had several chances in front of goal, but couldn't convert any.

The man of the match was Aaron having a solid game in the midfield

with a mention going to Andy for leading the defense.

N.Ever Offside

Under 11/5 Wk 4

EEW 2 vs Glenhaven 1

The 11/5s travelled away from home soil for the first time this season to take on Glenhaven. Both halves were action-packed with numerous attempts at goal by both teams. Tejas made some great saves in goals and Sasha and Alister both scored for the Tigers in the first half. In spite of some great defensive work, Glenhaven were also able to score late in the first half. Sam got a ball in the head but after a few minutes rest on the sideline he came back even stronger with unbeatable defence for the rest of the game. Allan also got a ball in the face and hit the deck but that didn't stop his dazzling attack. The score remained at 2-1 and after repeated corners and attacking moves from both teams in the dying minutes, great saves by Robin and all the backs and a lot of nail-biting on the sideline the final whistle blew with the Tigers winning a hard-fought and very entertaining game. Player of the Match – Robin Jiang.

Under 11/5 Wk 5 EEW 0 vs Redbacks 1

The 11/5's kicked off at View Street grounds in the heart of Redback territory on the appointed time of 10.15am. The Tigers attacked the Redback defence aggressively with Josh taking shot on goal in the 8th minute of the game, the ball went wayward and the team was pushed back. After 18 minutes of play we found ourselves deep in our own half, Sasha G performed strongly in goals organising the defensive plays which saw off a number of Redback corners. At the completion of the half the score was tied at nil all. The 2nd half commenced with the same domination as in the first; Dean & Tejas had particularly outstanding performances committing to the ball in aggressive fashion. At three quarter time the Redbacks made a lucky break and managed to score a goal much to the dissatisfaction of the boys. However the team's passing play has improved greatly with many breaks created with Sasha, Josh, Alister & Alan all having clear space to run. Defensively the team also performed strongly with Angus a stand out. Tom our coach was vocal all day, being clearly heard from the opposite end of the park, his cajoling fired up Lisha W who was not shy in her encouragement of the team. Unfortunately the Tigers ran out of time and were denied an equaliser.

Under 13/ 1 Wk 6

WPH 3 vs EEW 2

An early start for us today, the boys were pumped and eager to get the game started. With the luxury of 14 players, we were in hope of our first win of the season. As the game got up and running, we played beautifully as a team, slotting one home in the first ten minutes: goal scorer, Aaron. However, once again, we fell asleep and began playing like every other game, as individuals. This caused us to concede three goals up to half time. But today, we had the spirit to keep going, pushing our opposition straight away from the start of the second half. Our hard work paid off, Scott scoring a goal in an open net. This got our spirits up. We never gave up, stopping every attack they had and creating some of our own. Coming down to the last ten minutes, we had our opposition pinned

in their own third, battling for a goal. Unfortunately, we could not manage to get the ball into the net, and by the end of the match, the score remained 3-2. Another loss for us, but today we showed great fighting spirit and as we always say, if we keep playing as a team we will surely win a game. Congratulations to Asad who was man of the match.

Under 11/5 Wk 6 EEW 2 vs Holy Cross 2

The boys from the under 11/5's played valiantly this week, almost taking out the game altogether. The defenders held off the attackers well in the first half, and did their best in the second. The first half was finished off with a score of 1-0, our way, scored by the mid-fielders. They then went on to score the second goal later as well. In the second half, our guard was let down a bit, and unfortunately this allowed the Holy Cross College team to score their 2 goals, the final drawing goal just a minute before the end. As usual the tackling, passing and dribbling was brilliantly done by the boys. Player of the Match - Nathan Teasdale.

Under 11/5 Wk 7 EEW 0 vs Eastwood St Andrews 1

The game was played locally in Eastwood against Eastwood St Andrews (one of the best teams in the group). Both halves were action packed and quite a feast to watch. The entire game was fast paced. Robin and Nathan were the Goal keepers on our side for the 1st and 2nd half respectively. Robin in the first half was involved in some of the best saves that we have seen this season. The defence involving Hayden and Nikhil was sensational by limiting the opposition's chance to score. The first half ended with no goals being scored by either team. It looks like the break gave the energy for the opposition to score their first goal and they achieved this by breaking our defence in the first 5 minutes into the second half. It is important to mention few players such as Sam, Angus, Nathan, Alan, Alister and Tejas to have involved in good tackles. Overall the Tigers and the Eastwood team had equal chances (5 each) in the form of corners and none were converted. Tigers did come very close to scoring goals but unfortunately missed this by an inch or so. Well done Tigers, to have limited the Eastwood team to very low scoring game. Better luck next game. Player of the Match - Angus McAuley.

Under 13/1 Wk 7 EEW 2 vs Ryde Saints United 2

On 22nd of May, the under 13/1s played Ryde Saints United. It was a closely contested game, with both sides playing good football. EEW scored first, quickly followed with an equaliser by Ryde. Ryde struck again just before halftime. After halftime the intensity picked up and EEW got one back from a well placed free kick. At fulltime the score was 2-2. Well done EEW on a good result!

Under 11/5 Wk 10 EEW 0 vs WPH 5

The boys defended hard and played well but unfortunately lost 5-0 to West Pennant Hills. All the boys gave it their best but the game on Saturday wasn't to be their day. Player of the Match -Alan Wang.

Under 13/1 Wk 10 EEW 0 vs RAV (Blue) 7

This was always going to be a difficult match against the top ranking team. The boys can be congratulated for giving 100% the entire game. Despite being several goals down at half time, we lifted the tempo in the second half and continued to create chances. Josh made some spectacular saves, and Jeff, Kai, Max and Asad were ever tenacious in defence. Matt and Azza (our man of the match) worked well as our mid-field dynamic duo, and Scott looked threatening as striker every time he had the ball. Ultimately, the final score did not truly reflect the level of competitive play. Then again, the score didn't matter, just the Tigers' invincible heart and passion for playing the game - the beautiful game. Go Tigers!

Under 14/3 (19/6)

West Epping Derby, U14/3, EEW 6 YMA 2

The same opponents, the same result, and we are still on top of the league. We had our full team minus Andy, and YMCA had just lost 13-1 in their previous week's fixture so both sides had something to prove- and along came YMCA and netted the first goal. We equalised immediately from the kick off, and roared to a 3-1 lead until they pegged one back at 3-2 to make it a thrilling finish.

The win was wrapped up with a penalty from David. Damien scored 4 goals and Mark scored one goal making it another convincing victory over our Epping rivals. A mention goes to James, Cyrus and David, and Man of the Match went to Alex for making fine stops kepping YMCA's tally low.

N.Ever Offside

The Tiger Talk is published every 2 weeks during the season, holidays excluded. Please email team reports and action photos directly to Michelle McCoy at michmagu@bigpond.net.au by Wednesday morning each week. 50-100 words max! Don't forget to include Team Age, Name and Week Number, ie. "U/6 Red Wk 1".