

MT LOFTY DEVILS

SATURDAY 19 AUGUST 2017

mtloftydevils.com.au

MT LOFTY V ONKA VALLEY

Welcome all Devils supporters back to Arkaba Oval for our last HFL home game for the 2017 season against Onka Valley.

This year we have seen some improvement in our A Grade with a number of young Mt Lofty born and bred players starting to establish themselves as A Graders.

Tomorrow sees our senior women's team in the first week of finals playing Greenacres at home (let's hope the rain holds off).

This week we also heard the great news that Dylan Moss from our A Grade men's team, proposed to our women's A Grade captain Shae Pacifico-Hart (perhaps we could see the

ceremony and reception at the Devil Dome?). Hopefully by the end of the year, we'll see marriage equality and the opportunity to get married will be extended to our entire Mt Lofty Family.

Today at our annual Chairman's Lunch we look forward to hearing from Crows inaugural CEO and AFL Hall of Fame inductee, Bill Sanders. It should be another great lunch and will be interesting to hear some of the behind the scenes stories of the early years of the Crows.

KYM WELSBY, CHAIRMAN

A Grade

We enter this last home game for the season with a sense of optimism and another chance to get a win.

Again, we have played patches of strong football over the past few weeks but have been unable to put together a four-quarter effort. Our game against Torrens Valley turned disastrous when we lost Captain Sam Miles at the end of the third quarter with a serious injury after having already lost Vice Captain Alex Weeks. We are hoping these players both have a speedy recovery.

Our last game against Lobethal was frustrating in that we had plenty of chances to win the game but were unable to get over the line. Besides gifting Lobethal a few goals with silly

mental and skill errors in our defensive fifty, we also scored 19 points at the other end of the oval. Our two Eyre Peninsula recruits in Luke Andrews and Luke Orbons were among the best players along with Luke Mallyon with clearly his best game for the year.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our match day support staff in Jo Paddick and Jessica Hanson (trainers), David Bennett (runner/Assistant Coach) and the very switched on Paul Scamoni (team manager/Assistant Coach).

SCOTT MADSEN, A-GRADE COACH

From the Lofty Legends Group

Family Cabaret

Thank you very much to all of the supporters and players who assisted at, or attended, the Family Cabaret held last Saturday night. It was a great night with some impressive dance moves to favourite old hits.

HFL 50 Year Reunion

This year marks 50 years of the HFL in its current format. To celebrate the occasion the HFL will be holding a reunion on Sunday 1 October from 2pm at the Hahndorf Resort

We will be contacting past Interleague players and coaches, HFL Life Members and Mail Medallists.

Match Day Partner



apcmtbarker.com.au

Coming up...

Visit the club website or check out the Mt Lofty Devils Facebook page for more information.

AUG 20 SANFL U12s (12pm) at Arkaba Oval v SMOSH West Lakes

AUG 20 SEMI FINAL Women's A Grade (1.30pm) v Greenacres at Arkaba Oval

AUG 26 U13s, U15s, U17s, senior men's teams at Blackwood

SEP 8 Modifieds Presentation Night at the Mt Lofty Clubrooms
5.30pm - 8.30pm

OCT 7 Senior Presentation Night at the Arkaba Hotel

Congratulations to the Mt Lofty teams that are playing in the finals. More details will be available on the website mtloftydevils.com.au or on our Facebook pages.



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Under 13s

As we arrive at our final home game for the season I can confidently say we are improving every week.

We come into today having won five of our last six games and really excited about the challenge today and next week against two of the top sides.

The coaching group has been amazed at the closeness of our group, and wins against Mt Barker and Lobethal last week have given the players a belief that they can compete with any team on a given day.

The transition for a lot of our players from Under 11s to under 13s has been a steep learning curve but we have tried to keep the message very simple and emphasise that they have to start thinking a lot more about the game and their role in any specific position on the ground.

Thanks to all the parents, trainers and team managers – we all hope there will be a few more wins before the year's out.

JOSH BIGGS

Women Bs

The Supa Bs finished their inaugural season with a BANG and a win at home against Nairne last week.

This year, 51 ladies played in our Women's B Grade team, 35 of them for their FIRST EVER game of football. In chats pre-season, 70-80% of the new girls had NEVER EVEN WATCHED a game of Aussie Rules footy before. They have learnt so much and come so far.

Our three captains plus over half of what started out as usual B Grade team have played A Grade this year – including a number of first year players. I could not be more proud, and I know Rick feels the same.

I have also been excited to see how far the girls in the inaugural Women U18s have all developed in just one year – many of whom have been willing to 'give it a go' and fill in for our B Grade. Well done girls!

It's been a great year and we've learnt so much but most of all we have had a stack of FUN! Thanks for having us as part of the Devil family.

Good luck to all the teams today and to the A Grade girls in the finals! Give 'em Hell Devs.

MEGAN BILLERWELL, COACH

Senior Colts

Hello everyone! I can't believe that today is the second last game of the home and away season.

Over the last couple of weeks we have had a couple of wins and one loss last week, but it looks like we will finish the season in fourth place and play finals.

This is a great achievement for the team as at the start of the year we looked a long way from finals, but with the team's improvement over the season we are in the mix and who knows what can happen in the finals!

I would like to thank all the boys for their commitment to the season for training and playing hard each week.

I would also like to say thanks to Glenn, Jon, Mark, Jason and Jack and to everyone who helped with jobs over the season.

Boys good luck in the last couple of games and in the finals. Remember the game plan - Play hard, Rush, Immediate, Possession (RIP).

CHRIS MCTAGGART, COACH

Women As

The Devils line up at Arkaba Oval in the first Semi Final tomorrow against Greenacres after beating them by five goals last week in the final minor round.

The girls have hit a purple patch in the past month even with mixed results on the scoreboard. They are pushing hard in the right direction with fantastic results in the last three games suggesting they are closing the gap on the opposition teams.

Jay Z, Amy Wood, Siân Beavers, Bridget Lindsay and Sophie Nicholls – all first year players – featured in the best players last game. It's very pleasing that our first-year players are stepping up at this time of the season.

We lose Phoebe Rowberry to concussion this week but we all know she will bounce back as soon as possible.

Tess Maple will lead the team tomorrow and along with her sister Ellen, Lucy, Alex and Elsie, will provide experience having played finals football last year.

We expect the girls to work hard in trying conditions and hopefully take the points and go through to another week of finals footy!

SHANE GOULD, COACH

B Grade

Last home game we had a big win over the heavier fancied Torrens Valley who we kept goal-less.

We played a brand of footy we've been working on at training all year. It was great to see the boys play a tough and clean brand of footy in heavy conditions. We proved to be too strong on the inside and moved the ball exceptionally well.

James Telford had another stellar performance, proving to be one of our most constant performers. The ever reliable Michael "Nipple" Stapleton proved too silky in heavy conditions as others came down to his pace level. It was great having multiple forward options with nine goal kickers including multiples to the skipper Tom "Toadfish" Zampa stepping up and leading the way.

Last week we travelled to Lobethal needing a win to put us into fifth on the ladder. However, with a few out, our depth was tested and we again relied on too few. We just couldn't hit our straps in blustery conditions and couldn't match the intensity of Lobethal. Jan Molloy kicked two goals and Nick Cullen put his hand up to play after being crook all week while Darcy Williams had his most consistent game for the year. It was disappointing to go down by five points with a number of missed opportunities but we welcome Onkas today and look forward to the challenge.

TOM MORGAN, B-GRADE COACH

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