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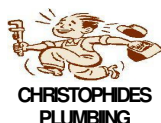
IMB WOLLONGONG LIONS: Round 4

Premier Division Seniors

Wollongong Lions **8-10-58**
Pennant Hills **18-10-118**

The scoreboard does not do justice to the performance of the seniors on the weekend. Travelling all the way to Pennant Hills to take on last year's premiers is just about the toughest task in Sydney AFL. To do so without about 8 regular first-graders makes the task all the more difficult. Despite this, we managed to play some of our best footy of the year and took it right up to Penno for most of the day. Unfortunately, the scoreboard does not truly reflect the closeness of the match, nor does it show just how well we played. We let Penno get the jump on us, as they kicked 5.0 in the first quarter of an hour. Pleasingly, we did not let the margin blow out in the last 5 minutes of the quarter as has been the case all year. The second quarter led to plenty of goal-scoring opportunities for the boys, but again we were unable to convert these and we trailed by 55 points at the major change. The third quarter was by far our best quarter of footy for the year as we kicked 6 goals to 3 to cut the margin to 40 points at the final change. We

continued this into the last quarter, and at one point brought the margin back under 30 points, however we were never able to get any closer, and Penno managed to kick a few late ones on us. A 10 goal loss is never good, but as Trev stated at training there were plenty of positives to be taken out of the game. 17 year old debutant Mitch Thomson had a blinder as he took a million pack marks and won a considerable share on the tap-outs both in the centre square and around the ground. Matty Adamson picked up a lazy 39 stats off the back flank (according to master statistician Cam Stanton), and skipper Adam McConnochie picked up countless stats around the ground. Special mention must be made of some of the 'shut-down' roles performed by some of the boys on the weekend. Brad Patterson and Sam Jenner tagged former Phelan Medallist Charlie Richardson completely out of the game, whilst Angry Justin Ayre did a number on last year's medallist Matt Carey in the second half. Congratulations also to the 6 boys who made their first grade debuts on the weekend, all of whom put in valuable contributions. If we can put in the same effort and determination this weekend against Balmain, I'm sure we can bring in the \$1000 Draw with a win!!



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First Division

Wollongong Lions	2-4-16
Pennant Hills	18-16-124

Well, Penno are always a strong team in the reserves, and the weekend proved that once again. I thought the effort of the boys in the first quarter was top notch however, as they managed to keep the scoreboard tight, and would have had more of the ball than their opponents. Unfortunately, with 3 Under 18s backing up, and a number of boys still looking for match fitness, we fell away considerably, particularly after half-time. That said, the boys played some good footy in patches, and with the return of a number of players this week to First Grade, they will also be able to put out a much stronger outfit this week against UTS. Alex MacKenzie had a great game across half-back and through the middle, as did 'Player's Playa' Nick Mitchell. Tim Robb filled the space at half-back nicely, whilst consistent performers Mitch Daly and Pete Veerhuis battled manfully all day. Thanks to the 18s boys who backed up in muggy conditions. UTS proved in the pre-season that they will be a tough side to beat this year, so the boys will need to play at their best to chalk up their first win this weekend.

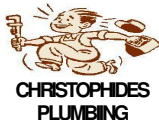
Under 18s

Wollongong Lions	4-5-29
Pennant Hills	19-15-129

The Under 18s' unbeaten run came to an abrupt stop on the weekend as they were well and truly dismantled by the Pennant Hills youngsters. Unfortunately, the Lion cubs could not match the enthusiasm or ferocity of the Penno boys and fell well short of the mark. The great thing about footy is there is always next week, and I'm sure the cubs would have learnt a few things from Penno, which they will be able to put into practice this week at home. Michael Moss was the best of the cubs and was ably supported by Blake Schneider and Jack Mahoney. Big Mitch 'SimCity' Simpson and Jake Evans also put in good efforts. Hopefully, the boys can reverse the result and get back on the winners' list this weekend.

Rising Star Award- Round 4

Congratulations to Mitchell Thomson who has received the Sydney AFL Rising Star nomination for Round 4!! Mitch's sensational debut included numerous pack marks and a number of hit-outs across the ground. This is all the more impressive as Thommo has primarily played his footy as a defender. This nomination is a real positive for the club and highlights the hard work Mitch has put in over the pre-season.



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Undoubtedly, Mitch will be a prominent first-grader for the rest of the season.

Lions News and Reviews

\$1000 Draw- May 9

You know the drill people; get your tickets this week off Wooma or myself at training on Thursday or at the game on Saturday. Tickets can also be bought on the door on Saturday night. We'd prefer if you could get your monies in on Thursday night as this will let give us an idea on how much catering we will need to do (catering=Boony buying ham steaks and frozen chiko rolls). As always, there will be plenty of fun to be had on the night, so get around to your mates one last time and help make this night a success.

NB: It should be noted that newly-nominated rising star Mitch Thomson will be turning 18 on the 10th, so there will be plenty to celebrate once the draw finishes at 12pm.

NNB: As always, the famous Lions horse races will be run on the night and we need some humorous names people!! Generally these names are linked to a Lions personality. Some examples could be 'Erin is a girl's name' trained by Erin Franklin, 'Hates to have a rant in the huddle' trained by Dave Goodley, 'Looks like a P.O.W' trained by Jimmy Weavers etc etc. If you have

any thoughts or suggestions, I'll open the floor at Kangaroo Court tomorrow night.

Exciting Stuff!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Siren

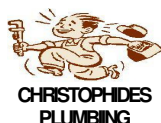
Thankfully, El Pres has sourced and installed a new siren to replace the one that sounded like Dave Goodley banging out a Snipers' chorus. Unfortunately, this is an unbudgeted expenditure, but I'm sure the change in tone will be appreciated by all.

Canteen

The loaner pie-warmer which we have been using for the past 4 years has been reclaimed by the owner. Thankfully, Col has made a trip to Bing Lee and bought another one, which means hot pies for all. Again, this is an unbudgeted expense.

Scoreboard

New numbers have been installed to save the operator's fingers on those cold Towradgi Beach nights. The numbers are also bigger which will help some of the older players read the score!! Thanks to Barb Bartlett for helping out with the installation on the weekend. Well done also to El Pres who has installed permanent fluorescent lights for night games.



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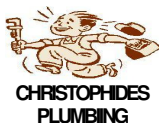
Club Admin Points Update

We are tracking quite well with the pre & game-day activities which attract points, including those being looked after by the game-day teams. So far we have achieved ...% of total points available over the first 4 rounds. In total we have approx 94% of the potential points (pre-season [100%], non game-day [100%] & game-day 84%), of which in turn means we have earned approx \$950 of the total \$2,000 available. To get our maximum we need to get all the game day activities undertaken correctly [e.g. wearing the correct gear] and stay away from yellow & red cards.

Fees

Boys, fees are now well overdue. Get them in ASAP to get Col off my back (the most important thing), and also to save both he and Steve from coming around to hound you personally (which they shouldn't have to do). Please make arrangements to have these paid, or at least partly paid, by this weekend's games against Balmain. Internet banking is available for those who are technologically capable.

Jimmy Weavers; straight out of Changi



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