

The Gap Pastime Club

Junior Newsletter

September 25th 2009



Sydney FC Training Session

Hot off the Press – due to the impressive playing surface at The Gap another major soccer team has chosen our facilities for their final training session prior to taking on the mighty Brisbane Roar. Following in the footsteps of Glasgow Celtic earlier this year Sydney FC will be training on the Gap field at 5pm this Saturday ahead of their game against the Roar on Sunday 27th September. We don't expect that any time will be allowed for signings but you are welcome to view the training session from the field or Club house.

Men's Senior Team – Retain Division 1 Status & Searching for a Team Sponsor for the 2010 Season

BREAKING NEWS - Football Brisbane last night came to their senses and announced that The Gap FC would retain their spot in Division 1 for 2010 – this is great news – the club is very pleased with this decision.

The 1st team senior men's are looking for a Team Sponsor – anyone interested please contact Gerry McAvoy – gerry.mc@aapt.net.au

Committee Members Required

We have the following vacancies on the Junior Committee which need to be filled over the next couple of months prior to the commencement of the 2010 season:

- U6-U8 team co-ordinator
- U13 & above team co-ordinator
- Ground Marshall co-ordinator
- Football operations co-ordinator
- Team kit co-ordinator
- Fixture & Results co-ordinator
- Events co-ordinator

We are also looking for people to assist - as members of smaller committees established to focus on specific tasks including:

- Fundraising
- Team Photo Day
- Presentation Day
- Annual Family Day

Harcourts

THE GAP

Date Grabbers

Saturday 26th **September**

Come on down and watch Sydney FC train on the Gap fields at 5.00pm

Sunday 27th **September**

Treat the family to a blockbuster at Suncorp and cheer on The Roar when they take on Sydney FC – kick-off 3.00pm (*note: for a chance to win loads of Roar stuff join the Orange Army Junior Brigade-*
www.brisbaneroar.com.au

Sunday 11th October
Presentation Day - see article in newsletter

Saturday 30th & **Sunday 31st January** **2010**

2010 Season Sign-On Weekend

The Gap Pastime Club Inc, PO Box 69, The Gap, 4061. Tel: 3300 6004.

Website: <http://www.gapfootball.org.au>.

Email: juniors@gapfootball.org.au

Whilst we do need people who will be committed to the roles the actual impost on your time will be minimal – no more than two hours a week – including attendance at a monthly committee meeting over a beer or two!

This is a good way of meeting other parents in the community and you will find it rewarding – without people to fill these roles the Club may no longer be able to offer your kids such a great environment in which to enjoy playing their football – this would be a real shame.

To find out more and volunteer your services please contact either Stuart Watt – Club Secretary (watt.stuart@gmail.com) or Mark Payne – Junior Section Treasurer (cheriemark1613@aapt.net.au)

Sponsorship Opportunities

Being a Community based Organisation the Club is dependant upon sponsorship from local businesses and what better way for you or your business to show your support of YOUR football club?

The sponsorship options are really limitless – we can tailor something according to whatever companies are looking for. Whilst the most popular options are either a sign-board on the main field or jersey sponsorships you can also sponsor the match balls, training gear or ground signage – whatever you want we can do a deal!

Rental of a signboard on the main pitch costs \$500 each year for a 24 month period - all sign writing/erection costs are also borne by the sponsor.

The jerseys range in cost according to the age of the team – for U6-U8 it's \$350, for U9-U10 it's \$530 and for the U11's and above it's \$750.

For further details please contact Stuart Watt – Club Secretary (watt.stuart@gmail.com)

Presentation Day

Presentations for the mixed junior teams will be held at the clubhouse on Sunday October 11th – this will be the opportunity for all players to be presented with their medals. Team photographs will also be available for those who purchased them.

There are also some important housekeeping tasks which all team managers need to perform on this day – the return of match books, training gear and team jerseys – it is vital that these items are returned on 11th October.

Coffee and snacks will be available to purchase during the morning and meals will be available for purchase in the Club House from mid-day.

The running schedule for the presentations is as follow:

9.00am	U6's	9.45am	U7's
10.45am	U8's	12.30pm	U9's & U10's
2.00pm	U11 & U12's	2.40pm	U13,U15 & U16's

The Gap Pastime Club House Update

Normal trading hours are Friday & Saturday 2pm to 10pm and Sunday 12 to 6pm.

Wondering where to hold your next big function? Why not give The Gap Football Club a try. Our club can cater for all types of functions including: Birthday parties, Trivia nights, Presentations, and Social meetings. With a large dance floor and fully functional bar and kitchen, there is no event we can't do. A new tapas style food menu will be coming soon and is available for all functions. We have also just installed two brand new digital TV's to watch and enjoy all your sport.

So whether you wish to hold a function or just come down for a quiet drink and watch the football, the Gap Football club is here.

Regards – Jeremy

Club Infra-Structure Works Update

Lighting Project.

The Gap Pastime Club Incorporated received a Queensland Minor Facilities grant to upgrade lighting and undertake field works at the club in 2009. The work is nearly complete and the following changes have been made:

1. Addition of two new poles and four new lights on the main field. Re-wiring the power feed from the canteen to the pump house removing the overhead power feed and allowing for the lights to be turned on at the top rather than having to walk down to the pump house.
2. In 2010, the field will be moved two metre sideways towards the club. This will allow for fields to be placed on the creek side and for the club to comply with the new field requirements under FFA regulations – more on this in the next newsletter !
3. As a consequence of the upgrade the Number 2 field has two new lights and it is hoped that this field may comply with the required 100 lux for night games. Testing will occur during the off season.
4. Field 3 and 4 has had the addition of a new pole and two fitting, therefore a real increase of one new light, leaving only one more pole to be upgraded in the longer-term when the club has funds

The club will also be upgrading the fence around the main field. The new fence will be 1.5 metre high and is hoped that this will reduce the risk for young children chasing balls over the fence. Field 2 will also have gates installed in area currently fence off with barrier mesh.

All fields will be upgraded in the off-season with top soil, fertiliser and aeration. The club will be paying particular attention to the outer areas of the main field for training purposes. An additional two irrigation lines will be run to ensure these outer areas are as green as the main field.

The club is also looking to doing the other following works:

1. Render the canteen
2. Replace vinyl floor in the club house
3. Replace art work on entrance sign
4. Trophies cabinet for main club house
5. New sign on main road (Council Approval will have to be sought)

However all works are dependent upon funding being available and committee prioritisation.

Regards – Lee Gannon

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Rooball Referee's Wrap-Up

The 2009 season for Rooball referees kicked off on Sunday, 29 March with a gathering of interested U12s-U15s attending the Club grounds for a briefing session for the coming season by junior DOC, Darren Parry. Some 17 volunteers from the junior ranks offered their services for Rooball reffing for the season (these would later 'swell' to 20) and, after the initial briefing, the Rooball refs in waiting were run through their paces in order to direct and correct them with regard to rules for the U6-U8, U9 and U10 competitions.

The first competition games kicked off on 04 April with just over half of the Rooball refs getting a run on that first weekend. There was a two week break over the Easter school holidays, but by the completion of the second round, on 18 April, each of the Rooball refs had had a chance to cut their teeth on a game or two.

The Rooball ref program for the year was structured so that, where possible, each Rooball ref got at least two games per week, but this meant that they reffed every other week. The Rooball ref draw took into account a number of the Rooball refs' commitments to their own team's game times (both Club and school) and for those with playing siblings, the timings of those games also.

During the season, there were 270 U6-U8 games programmed at The Gap, with another 107 U9 & U10 games programmed. Each week a draw was put together (sometimes in a more timely manner than others) to let each of the Rooball refs know what their commitments were for the weekend. Each Saturday during the season, with the exception of three rained-out weekends, the Rooball refs would show up and take charge of the junior games, with a minimum of fuss, and the maximum of effect.

Without the efforts of this small, but willing, band of volunteers, the conduct of the junior fixtures would have been a far more complicated affair, and it is through their efforts that the junior games were able to be effectively conducted each week.

Well done to all concerned and I hope that we see a good number of you back for next year.

Regards – Lindsay Perryman

U13 Brisbane Junior League Team Wrap-Up

The club's U13 Brisbane Junior League (BJL) team confirmed their status as one of Brisbane's most talented teams with a hard-fought 3-2 victory in their grand final. The Gap boys had a slow-start in this competition, which is the top division in Brisbane as it includes the best sides from both north and south of the river. After recording losses in their opening three matches, the boys found their form and went on to finish fourth at the end of the home and away season. They stunned previously unbeaten Brisbane Wolves 2-0 in the major semi-final - a score line which could have been even more lop-sided in favour of The Gap had they enjoyed a little luck. In the final, The Gap overcame an early goal and a 2-1 half-time deficit to beat Queensland Lions - on their own home turf - 3-2 in the grand final. It was a great effort and richly deserved for a very talented team that plays its football the way the game is meant to be played.

Regards – Stuart Watt

U12 Division 4 Season Wrap-Up

As a coach, my focus was for a top 4 finish. The entire team worked very hard for the whole season and was rewarded with a Premiership. This from a coaching / DOC point of view is the ultimate goal; it proves we were the best team in our division. Although we did compete and lost the Grand Final it means nothing, as it shows we lost **one** game!! In Australia there is too much focus on Grand Finals, as a result young players are devastated if they lose. I witnessed 3 players from the losing team before our game sitting on the side line and crying their hearts out because they lost **one** game. Their mothers were holding them tightly, trying to console them. Is this where our focus should be? I say remove the Grand Finals, just keep the Premierships.

I would like to take this opportunity to praise the following players as their efforts were outstanding this season. Fletcher Campbell - Supporters Player of The Year, Elliott Peet - Coaches Player of The Year. My two most reliable and consistent players: Dylan Twomey and Lachlan Trembath. Arguably the best striker in the division - Christian Cruse. Maddie Elliott who showed no mercy to boy or girl. Kurt Young who can read the game like a book. Alex "The Animal" Gow, Harry "H Man" Robertson, Isaac Li, Kaiwan Thompson, Christian Hedemann. The rocks at the back, Callum Greenheld and Nat Kurchaski and finally the best Captain I have ever had in over 13 years of coaching John McAvoy. Finally thanks to Graham Peet, our manager for keeping me in check. We had a ball this year!!

Regards - Darren Parry

U11C (Division 6 North) Season Wrap-Up

The Gap's U11 Div 6 Nth team took out the grand final of their competition on Saturday, 12 September on a warm spring day up at North Star's fields at Zillmere.

Following a very successful home and away season in which the team won 10 of its 14 fixtures, and after finishing 2nd on the competition ladder, the team found themselves the week prior up against 3rd placed Pine Hills in their semi-final. The semi-final was a nail biting game that was ultimately drawn 1-1 at full time, necessitating two 10 minute periods of extra time. Despite already having played their hearts out for the first 50 minutes, the team dug deep, knocking in a second goal in the first period extra time and then hanging on to take out the semi-final and set up a showdown with minor premiers Redcliffe PCYC.

Preparation for the grand final was fairly low key, with the troops going through the drills that had held them in good stead for the better part of the year the Wednesday prior. The loss of one of the team on holidays meant that on the day, the team would only have one substitute. Despite having lost to Redcliffe by one goal twice during the season, the team was confident on the day and their spirits were raised by the fantastic level of family support on the day and the carnival atmosphere they brought with them - streamers, banners, pom poms and loud cheering voices all at the ready.

The game started off evenly but with Redcliffe showing some of the form that had taken them to the minor premiership. Not to be outdone though, the team returned fire and midway through the first half knocked in a goal that would see the team's spirits lift enormously. It was well known in the supporter's group that the team had not lost a game during the season from in front, and with the first goal in for The Gap, things were looking good and players' and supporters' confidence alike lifted.

Our defensive line played out of their skins on the day and repelled all of Redcliffe's attacks with dogged determination and a never-say-die attitude that saw them first to the ball throughout the game. With the midfield now getting good service from the backline,

the game opened up and, following some lovely lead up play through the midfield we were able to knock in a second goal to go to the break 2-0 up.

The half time break was one of high expectation but (largely) contained emotions. The troops knew that they were in a great position but that Redcliffe would throw everything at them in the second half and that they still had 25 more minutes worth of 'fighting' to go. As expected, Redcliffe came out hard in the second half, but once again our midfield and backline were resolute. Soon, the midfield started to dominate their opposition as the clock ticked down and a result for The Gap seemed more and more probable. After opening up the Redcliffe defence one more time and slotting a third goal in with some five minutes to go, the result was assured and when the referee blew full time, there were excited celebrations by players and supporters alike.

For a no frills team that started the season in U11 Div 7 Nth and who, through their early results, went up a division, the result was due reward for a group of children who worked hard to further develop their skills during the season and who stuck to their game plan with unswerving devotion in the one that mattered.

An outstanding result for a great little team.

Regards – Lindsay Perryman

U7 Competition Wrap-Up

I think that all parents would agree what a long way their players and teams have come compared to when they started out in the U6 competition back in April 2008 – the kids now have two full seasons under their belts and both their ball skills and understanding of the tactical aspects of the game grow each week – no longer are they like bees to a honey pot – well not for the full twenty minutes each half!

Whilst the main focus with this age group is still on having fun there aren't many kids who didn't know exactly what the score was at the end of the game – be it 5-9, 8-2, 3-1 or 2-2 – the main thing is that they all seem to enjoy it – win or loose.

I think that all the U7 Managers & Coaches would agree that Tottenham Hotspur set the benchmark this year – as the nucleus of their team did last year in the U6 competition – we all look forward to locking horns again next year!

Regards – Mark Payne

Men's Senior Team Wrap-Up

After the success and jubilation following last year's promotion from Premier Division Two to Premier Division One the senior men's teams came right down to earth this year.

The top side finished third from the bottom of the table and going on the directions from Football Brisbane at the beginning of the season that only two teams would be relegated we would have comfortably survived in this Division finishing 12 points ahead of Grange Thistle who were second last. However, during the season Football Brisbane changed the rules advising, without consultation with clubs, that three sides were to go down and this has meant that officially we are relegated. There is some hope however that as Football Brisbane reviews the re-entry of two teams that played in the State League we might be able to stay up after all.

What went wrong this season was undoubtedly the consistency of the team not just from one game to another but more so during games. We were superior in both games against

eventual winners of the Division Pine Hills but not over 90 minutes and when we weren't in the game we typically conceded goals. Another example was against Toowoomba Raiders who finished fifth yet didn't beat us in our two fixtures, nor looked like beating us. Yet in the first game against Grange Thistle who finished below us we played woefully at their ground and were beaten 2-0.

The coaching staff firmly believed we had the talent to compete in this Division and at times showed this expertly. However there were too many occasions when the side didn't gel as a unit, conceded soft goals and suffered injuries to key players at crucial times.

The Premier Division One team fared a little better than the top team being sixth in the league however they finished only a couple of points ahead of five teams all the way down to second bottom. They also suffered from inconsistent performances and while no opposing ever really dominated them they often came off the park with no points to show for their endeavours.

The last top side game of the season, a 6-2 hammering of Grange Thistle, allowed the club to send off in grand style Dominic Kibbey a long serving and loyal player who has indicated he will not be playing top side football next year. If only we had played like this in a number of other games.

Latest news from Football Brisbane – they have come to their senses and the Gap FC retained their spot in the Div 1 for 2010, the club is very pleased with this decision.

The 1st team senior men's are looking for a Team sponsor, anyone interested please contact Gerry McAvoy at gerry.mc@aapt.net.au

Regards Gerry McAvoy

Girls & Womens Teams Wrap Up for 2009

2009 was always going to be a milestone year for The Gap, its first without Rob Askew and the first in which the women's competition was forced to compete with the Rebel League competition for players. But in its new DOC Wayne Hammond, The Gap Women's Football is lucky to have found someone who is prepared to go the extra mile. Under Wayne and his coaching team women's football at The Gap has thrived.

From the outset it was going to be tough. Firstly the Rebel League decimated numbers in the Under 16 division, then it rained and rained, and then teams were temporarily evicted from their training fields at The Gap High. But women's pulled together and pulled through.

This year The Gap Women's fielded 5 junior girls teams and 3 senior women's teams. At the end of fixtures a number of teams in the Junior Girls competition were unlucky to make the final four – the Under 16 Div 1, both Under 14 Division teams and Under 13 Div 2 all finished the season very close. Wayne reported a steady improvement in play across the season especially in the Under 14 Div 3 and Under 12 Div 2 teams. In his final report of the season Wayne noted that all junior girls teams finished fixtures with games they could be really proud of.

The Open Premier and Open Premier Reserves began their season well. Both teams struggled with injuries to key players early in the season; Tosh Roma in Prems and Michele Skinner in Reserves. Both teams struggled to cope with players' commitments to representative competitions. Yet both teams finished their season in number two position on their respective ladders. Meanwhile the Gap Women's social team Div 7 Blue quietly

went about the business of playing football and having a good time together. They have not forgotten what it's all about.

Sadly the season finished for The Gap Women's on Saturday with both Premis and Reserves losing their sudden death semi-final games. Premier League, The Gap 0 Mt Gravatt 1; Reserves, The Gap 0 Lions 4. More sadly Premis coach Mel Andreatta announced she would not be seeking to renew her coaching contract for 2010. The Premis squad will miss her enormously but wish her all the very best.

Planning is already underway for both Junior Girls and Senior Women's in 2010. Already ideas are being tossed around for making things better. If you wish to participate in planning please come to our next committee meeting.

A hearty thank you to coaches, trainers and team managers, to players and their families, to every volunteer who donned a 'Grounds Official' vest or ran a line, who picked up chairs and carted bins or who attended meetings. Thank you to my core committee team of Glenys, Gai and Laura. Thank you especially to Wayne for sticking with us. Have a great [short] off-season! See you all next year.

Regards – Elizabeth Musgrave

News wanted

Finally, we don't want this newsletter to be filled only with committee news. It's a club newsletter and it should carry your news too. So if there is something happening with your team, or one of your players has done something outstanding, or there is something happening that you'd like others to know about, then let me know and I'll do my best to include it. You can contact me at: cheriemark1613@aapt.net.au

Regards - Mark Payne – Junior Section Treasurer

Current Junior Committee Members

Michael Scott – President (MScott@runge.com.au)

Stuart Watt – Secretary (watt.stuart@gmail.com)

Mark Payne – Treasurer (mark.p@woollamconstructions.com.au)

Paul Elliott – U9-U12 Team Co-ordinator (paule@civdec.com.au)

Lindsay Perryman – Rooball Refing Co-ordinator (Lindsay.d.perryman@msq.qld.gov.au)

Jackie Knight – Club Registrar (jknight26@hotmail.com)

Please contact any of the committee members on the above mentioned e-mails if you have any questions/issues/concerns with regards the Junior Section of The Gap Gators Football Club.

Details of the next committee meeting will be sent out in due course and we look forward to welcoming new committee members (mums, dads, grand-parents and friends!) over the coming months – as they say **"many hands make light work"** – this is especially true when you are dealing with just under 500 kids!

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