



# WEST BRUNSWICK AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB

PRESIDENT: BETH COOK  
SECRETARY: HENRY PAEZ

SNR MEN'S COACH: BILL IRVING  
SNR WOMEN'S COACH: JOSH MELICAN

SENIOR PREMIERSHIPS:  
1960, '80, 2002, '08, '14, '15

RESERVE PREMIERSHIPS:  
1989, '98, 2015, '18

## Season 2019 The Birdsnest

Vol. 49 No. 3

### Early Days...

The structure of the season having two games, then a break for Easter, and come back for the ANZAC game has created a challenge for many of the clubs in the Men's sections. The stand out club at the moment is the fellow Parkville club, UHS VU who sit on top of the table with having won their first four games.

In the Women's Sections, the West Brunswick teams have taken all before them and posted solid victories in the VAFA Premier level of the competition, with the Reserves undefeated and on top of the ladder with four wins.

In the Men's teams there has been quite a lot of changes in playing personnel which has led to moments in games where the team loses focus, enabling the opposition to gain winning breaks. In the Women's teams there has also been quite a lot of personnel changes but the women have been able to maintain momentum, whilst it seems the men have not.

Another challenge for the club is managing the six teams that are in the competition. The Men's thirds team has a shorter season than the regulation eighteen games, as well as a bye due to an uneven number of teams in the grade, and a VAFA additional bye added by the administrators. The Women's thirds are not part of a VAFA draw, and are currently negotiating games on a bit of a week to week basis due to particular to ground and opponent availability.

These challenges become difficult over the season when injuries to players means the teams have new faces filling roles in the team. The management of fitness, form, rehabilitation and 'team momentum' can be an impact on the winning/losing scorecard.

Amateur football mirrors many other competitions, whether they are paid or not, as all clubs face this problem. Sometimes it can simply come down to luck where the best players stay on the park for

the season, and the teams are able to maintain a winning game plan week to week. That's what our teams are striving for as they attempt to put their stamp on the grade.

### Results: Men's Seniors Round 3

The pre-game build up was very good on the back of the win over the Bullants before Easter. The Magpies wanted to replicate the strong start but they knew the Bears would be a very different encounter based on season 2018 and other competition intel. The Kew ground is very 'round' so its only three kicks goal to goal, or ten kicks should a team choose to play the boundary.

The Magpies got out to a good start with the wind favoring one end, but it was also gusty. The Magpies had a handy lead in the first term, kicking four goals and holding the Bears to a single. The second term saw the Magpies maintain good pressure on most occasions and just before half time were leading by six goals. There were a few 'clangers' as the siren neared, allowing the Bears to grab some momentum as the first half finished.

Senior coach Billy Morgan was none too impressed, but encouraged the boys to get focused on the next phase of the game. The Bears however upped their pressure and running making it almost impossible for the Magpies to score. The Bears managed to 'squeeze' the Magpie forwards whilst creating opportunities for themselves.

The Magpies only managed seven scoring shots to twenty in the second half, being beaten by 22 points.

<u>Kew FC</u>	1.3-9	4.3-27	9.9-63	<b>14.13-</b>
				<b>97</b>
<u>West Brunswick AFC</u>	4.1-25	9.4-58	9.7-61	<b>11.9-75</b>

**Goal Kickers:** C. Perkins 3, S. Fleming 2, B. Irving 2, R. O'Kane, J. Beer, L. Buckler, C. Weston

**Better Players:** C. Perkins, S. Fleming, D. Ferrier, R. O’Kane, B. Watson, C. Ferrier

## Round 4

Our clash against the Raiders at home was a game of two very different halves. In the first quarter the Magpies got off to a good start, assisted by the breeze favouring the Park Street end, and managed five goals to one through swift and accurate ball movement. The second term was disappointing as the Raiders were able to break the ‘press’ and added seven goals to three to go into the long break with a lead.

The third term was the Magpies’ chance to control the game, and whilst play was patchy the pressure on the ball carrier was significantly greater than in the first half. The Magpies managed only two goals for the quarter but missed some ‘very gettable’ shots allowing the Raiders to have a ‘sniff’ of victory. The final term was tight and uncompromising but there were many skill errors by both sides allowing turnovers when calm was required. The players gave their all but the Raiders hung onto the lead to win by a goal.

<u>West Brunswick AFC</u>	5.3-	8.5-	10.10-	<b>11.11-</b>
	33	53	70	<b>77</b>
<u>Old Paradians</u>	1.3-9	8.7-	9.8-62	<b>12.11-</b>
		55		<b>83</b>

**Goal Kickers:** B. Irving 5, C. Perkins 2, S. Devlin, S. Fleming, J. Lewis, D. Ferrier

**Better Players:** J. Meade, D. Ferrier, R. O’Kane, L. Buckler, S. Butler, A. Jones

## Men’s Reserves

### Round 3

Our match against the Bears was extremely disappointing for Coach Ben Sexton. The game v the Bullants before Easter put on show what the team is capable of delivering but the first half v Bears was very disappointing. The team was close to ‘full strength’ and was expected to score highly. They managed only three goals to nine by half time, very much below expectations.

After a bake from Beno, the boys lifted their intensity and managed to outscore the Bears 32 to 21 points, proving they were more than capable. The issue of ‘slow starts’ is being reviewed and plans are underway to develop a strategy to avoid it!!!

## Round 4

The round 4 clash against the Raiders saw the Magpies get going early and it was a very different outfit from the week before. The Magpies controlled the play, leading the match from the start to the end, withstood the challenges from the opposition and finished the game strongly to run out winners by 17 points.

## Men’s thirds

### Round 4

The VAFA have our thirds in Section 3 competition which includes some of the clubs in our seniors draw and a few others. Our first two games were against top four sides in Williamstown and Richmond Central, and the Round 3 match was a bye. So we were ‘lucky’ in playing St Johns in round four who are on top of the table undefeated. The Magpies were outclassed by a younger fitter side and went down by 47 points.

## Women’s seniors

### Round 3

Round 3 is always the perfect round to revisit old foes, so our Senior Women’s team headed off to Glen Iris to match up against the Saints. Just in case anyone had forgotten about the rivalry between the mighty Magpies and them - the Saints took the pregame time as an opportunity to raise their 2018 premier blue premiership flag.

The team was buoyed by the return of club hero Bridie Walsh as well as the debut of Coline Duquet. Excitingly, Taesha Alberico and Kris Kithararis also featured in the starting line up after some scintillating form in the reserves in previous weeks.

Our Magpies, clad in their fresh ANZAC jumpers, were strong in the first term and finished with an 8-point lead. Thereafter the scoreboard was quieter until the final term when the Magpies, led by a prolific Gemma Grey, upped the ante.

They worked tirelessly throughout the last term and an eventual fifteen point win saw the Saints march back to the change rooms whilst our Magpies were flying high.

<u>SMS</u>	1.1-7	2.1-	2.5-17	<b>3.6 - 24</b>
		13		
<u>West Brunswick AFC</u>	2.3-	2.5-	2.6-18	<b>5.9-39</b>
	15	17		

**Goal Kickers:** G. Macpherson 2, K. Krithararis, A. Mack, H. Lawrence.

**Better Players:** Y. Jones, A. Mack, D. Heckmann, G. Zink, G. Macpherson, S. Stewart.

#### Round 4

The senior women returned home for round four and faced off against St Kevin's.

It was a close match for the first half of the game with the Magpies trailing by four points at the main change. However, St Kevin's managed to kick away in the second half to claim the four points. Nonetheless, our Magpies were gallant in defeat and will no doubt bounce back stronger than ever.

WBAFC is definitely a community club and this was seen when the Walsh sisters combined in a skillful display; wherein Junior Walsh (GV) captured the ball and launched an expert handball to Senior Walsh (Bridie) who then executed a great kickout. Feel good moments like these is what West Brunny football is all about.

<u>West Brunswick AFC</u>	1.1-7	2.3-	3.4-22	<b>4.5-29</b>
		15		
<u>St Kevins</u>	2.2-	3.2-	5.5-35	<b>7.5-47</b>
	14	20		

**Goal Kickers:** G. Macpherson 3, G. Gray.

**Better Players:** Y. Jones, G. Gray, G. Macpherson, S. Kenny, D. Heckmann, E. Lippmann.

#### Reserve Women's

##### Round 3

The Women's Reserves team had a new look this week with the return of Matilda Asser from injury and Alex Cheal from overseas. Joining them was Anna Christie, Marnie Walsh, Elise Thorbecke, Maddi Stewart and Saskia Wallis who were all named for their first reserves game for this season.

This game provided a gritty contest from the start as the Saints got onto the board first and stayed on top until the main break. However, the Magpies were not done for the day. Instead they regrouped for the second half with two majors in the final term from the classy Simona Castricum sealing the win.

This win was hard fought with some injuries occurring throughout the game. Notably, Hillary Grover left on crutches and Laura Perri finished the game with an impressive cut and black eye.

<u>SMS</u>	1.0-6	1.2-8	1.2-8	<b>1.5-11</b>
<u>West Brunswick AFC</u>	0.0-0	1.0-6	1.4-10	<b>3.4-22</b>

**Goal Kickers:** S. Castricum 3

**Better Players:** A. Cheal, C. Conway, A. Salter, H. Grover, S. Castricum, M. Asser.

#### Round 4

This round proved to be a bit of a test for our women's reserves team. After three weeks of serious form, they were challenged by St Kevin's who were leading by fifteen points at the first break.

The second term was quieter for St Kevin's and our Magpies managed to get the ball into our forward half. However, St Kevin's were again on a roll in the third term whilst the Magpies battled with injury.

Conversely, the final term was owned by our Magpies' as they staged a comeback for the ages booting home three unanswered goals to snatch a victory from the jaws of defeat. They remain undefeated after the first month of the season. Well done to all!

<u>West Brunswick AFC</u>	0.0-0	0.3-3	1.3-9	<b>4.6-30</b>
<u>St Kevins</u>	2.3 -	2.3-	3.6-24	<b>3.6-24</b>
	15	15		

**Goal Kickers:** A. Cheal 2, L. Jaffer, S. Veit.

**Better Players:** A. Cheal, C. Conway, S. Veit, E. Arc-Dekker, L. Harris, S. Bogle.

#### Women's Thirds

##### Round 3

St Mary's Salesian v West Brunswick

The Women's thirds team took to the field for the second match of the season. Excitingly, nine debutants trotted out in the mighty black and white and did the club proud.

The Saints controlled the first half as our Magpies found their feet and gelled together as a team. From thereon the Magpies were hot on the

Saints' tail with the sides kicking two goals a piece in the third term before an arm wrestle ensued in the final term.

In the end, our Magpies were close but no cigar. However, they showed skill and dedication that has everyone at the club excited for their future games.

<u>SMS</u>	2.1-13	3.3-21	5.4-34	<b>6.4-40</b>
<u>West Brunswick AFC</u>	0.1-1	1.4-5	3.4-22	<b>5.4-34</b>

## Round 4

West Brunswick v Monash Blues

The Women's thirds team took on the Monash Blues at home to kick off our super Saturday.

They got off to a 'flyer' with two majors in each of the first two quarters whilst simultaneously keeping the Blues to a single major. The half time break did not stop their momentum as they returned to the field to boot home another three in the third term.

The final term was quieter but nonetheless a resounding victory was achieved.

<u>West Brunswick AFC</u>	2.2-14	4.2-26	7.3-45	<b>7.4-46</b>
<u>Monash Blues</u>	1.0-6	1.1-7	1.2-8	<b>2.4-16</b>

## Forthcoming Social Functions

**The Annual Ball**  
**Saturday 1 June 2019**  
**Venue & ticket details to follow**

**Pride Round**  
**Round 6: Sat 18 and Sun 19 May matches**

**Indigenous Round**  
**Round 7: Sat 25 May at home**

## Noticed That...

- Ocker & Joan are off to Gilligans Island for a couple of weeks, along with Ginger, MaryAnn and the Professor.

- Hats off to Schippy for his very courageous mark running against the flow of the ball and being crunched by an opponent coming in the opposite direction.
- Nicknames are a curious thing particularly this year with Meatball, Future, Electric Eel, Chainsaw, and Swag just to name a few.
- Everyone took off on 'flight night' and thankfully there were no delays with passport control.

## Golden Magpies

Thanks to the following who have become Golden Magpies for season 2019. Last week I reported eleven contributors, but there is in fact many more:

CLIFF BASTOW	PETER GUATTA
BRUCE IVEY	HEATHER GUATTA
LUKE FERGUSON	PHIL LEATHAM
GRANT BUCKLER	CHRIS HATZISTAVROU
SARI BAIRD	FRANK GERTDZ
ANTHONY GIBSON	ROD TOUZEL
JOE RAITI	OCKER FYFFE
BOB GREEN	ARTHUR OZOLS

The club has two ways to become a Golden Magpie, accepting payment via:

- Pay 'on line' via the club website (<https://wbafc.com.au/product-category/memberships/>)
- Passing money over the Bar/Canteen at home games and filling out the registration form

Unfortunately, I only previously reported those who had made payments via our bank account, so apologies whilst I try and get this sorted out.

This year the membership fee is \$60. Last season we had over 50 golden magpies, the contribution goes a long way in helping the football club provide first class services to our players and take some of the pressure off fees.

## Current Sponsors



We are pleased to continue with our major sponsor of the men's and women's teams. EFEX Group. EFEX is a young and keenly progressive managed services company that devises and deploys print, IT, network, cloud and voice and data solutions

that are flexible, scalable, elegantly simple yet extremely robust, and surprisingly cost effective. We right-fit a mix of award-winning hardware and services to deliver faster workflows. You will easily recognise the difference that reduced downtime and a single point of contact to support, maintenance and helpdesk issues can make to office productivity.

Other major sponsors for 2019 include new pub sponsor PA's Rooftop and Bar, women's sponsor, Boost Juice Barkly Square and men's sponsor, Hawkers Brewing:



**Hawkers**

The club is looking for sponsors in any form. If you would like to promote your business in the Birdsnest, website or around the club get in contact with Bridie Walsh (brighdin.r.walsh@gmail.com). We can get you promoted in many wonderful ways: posters, tickets, t-shirts, special dedications, small ads on banners of milestone games, inside the inner sanctum, etc.

## The 2019 fixture

The full season's fixture is available on the club website and can be accessed any time.

### Men's seniors and reserves

May	11	v	Oakleigh	Home
May	18	v	Peninsula OB	Away
May	25	v	Prahran	Home
June	1	v	Therry Penola	Away
June	10		Queen's Birthday	

### Women's seniors and reserves

May	11	v	Fitzroy	Home
May	19	v	Melbourne Uni	Away
May	25	v	Old Trinity	Home
June	1	v	Kew	Away
June	10		Queen's Birthday	

## Looking for Volunteers

We are looking for volunteers to help out around the club – in any capacity. Casual once-off basis or a few Saturdays during the year. Jobs include time keeping, goal umpire, running the boundary, match day manager, scorer, helping in the canteen on a Saturday or perhaps cooking up a pot of bolognaise for the players for Thursday night selection. Contact Nahkita Wolfe on 0408 022 039 or Hugh Baird on 0411 035 719 if you can assist in any way.

## Keeping in Contact

The club's has a linkedin Group – West Brunswick Amateur Football Club

If you've changed your email address send an email to the club - westbrunswick@gmail.com - to update your details.

## Our Website:

With more people around the club is it any wonder our website is being updated more often. Some photos from Saturday's game are on there as well as lots of other stuff. We have a selection of videos and other footage that is good fun. Go to [www.wbafc.com.au](http://www.wbafc.com.au). Should you have something to say or whatever, you can also contact the club on westbrunswick@gmail.com.