

## 2013 Alexandra miss finals again

The Seniors began with a new Coach Lee Rowe, a few new players Spencer Ratcliffe, William Walker, Chase Pearce and Under 18 Will Goonan. Neil Oakley, Luke Heard and a new look Chris Mullins had also returned to the team. The ground was good as were conditions for football although a blustery wind favored the south end.

Alexandra began well to the Railway end with seven goals to two and surprised the home side who thought they had recruited well. Alexandra's scoring was curtailed in the second term but the defence also did well to keep their side in front. The Thunder made up some leeway during the third qtr and Alex's lead was reduced to a goal as Alex headed to the south end for the last quarter. Alex. ran to out the last quarter better and came home with a comfortable 15 point win 18.7 to 14.16. Best: Damien Toomey (3 goals) good all game but again showed his ability to lift in the last quarter and drag his team over the line. Jedd Hamill, strong and accurate with seven goals provided the target up forward. Cory Jack just keeps on giving his all. Chris Mullins and Luke Heard. New players Spencer Ratcliffe and William Walker also showed that they'll be good acquisitions as they settle in.

Alexandra were at home to Powelltown for round two and although Alex. started well an eight goal to 2 second quarter gave the straight kicking visitors a 21 point lead at the main break. Powelltown also won the third qtr. to lead by 39 points as teams changed over for the last time. Alexandra kicked six goals to three in the last but were still 26 points short at the final siren as Powelltown kicked 21.11 to 16.15 and win for the first time at the Showgrounds. For Alexandra Ryley Norris was best as he continually won possessions in the midfield and created opportunities. Damien Toomey continued his fine form marking strongly and bringing others into the game. Chris Mullins and Neil Oakley were also good contributors whilst young Will Goonan and Ben Woolard showed plenty of potential.

Alex. travelled to Kinglake for round three as always, wary of the weather on top of the mountain but were greeted with a good day for football and the ground in near perfect condition. Alex had to make four changes to last week's team bringing in young players to replace those unavailable. The first three quarters were relatively even as the home side pressured Alex. Only a goal separated the teams at three quarter time but a seven goal last quarter gave the Rebels a good win 17.14 to 11.12. . Best: Damien Toomey (2 goals) marked strongly all game and fed the ball out to running players to open up the game. Neil Oakley (3) was very lively and initiated many attacking moves. Chris Mullins covered plenty of ground and used his experience to advantage. James Kidd led the defence marking strongly but punching when needed. Jedd Hamill had a good battle with his opponent but five good goals gave him the edge. Andrew Moravski. William Walker and Ben Woolard (3) also were in good form.

The Senior team who again had to make many changes due to injuries and other commitments, challenged the Yarra Junction Eagles for second position on the ladder. Four first quarter goals from eight shots to two by the home side got the rebels off to a good start. Hoping to continue on with their good form in the second quarter, Alex. seemed to lose concentration and forgot to do all the things that they did earlier and failed to make any use of the breeze favouring the hill end. Yarra Junction took the initiative and with three goals went to a two point lead at the main break. Alex. keen to get the first goal of the third quarter got the ball forward but again missed opportunities until Neil Oakley roving well goaled on the run. Yarra Junction was playing with more system as Alex always seemed to misjudge the bounce of the ball. The Eagles seemed to get easy goals where the Rebels struggled the ball forward. Similar to the last home game Alex were having as many forward entries as the visitors by were inaccurate or took the wrong option whilst the Junction's accuracy gave them the edge. Alex. had the advantage of the breeze but faced a 23 point deficit at the last change. Coach Lee Rowe stressed the game was still winnable if the Rebels returned to the game plan. Alex. attacked early and Spencer Ratliff goaled after Chris Mullins won a contest. McDonald and Conner Heaslip continued to kick Alex. forward but only behinds resulted until Ratliff long kick turned square in the goal square to liven up the crowd who now were also starting to believe Alex could win. Heaslip in everything earned a free and the following 50m penalty got Alex to within four points and Alex were now on top. Both sides added behinds before Yarra Junction goaled from a goal-square scrum to get some breathing space with 3 minutes to go. Alex added the last behind but again more shots 8.15 lost to 11.4. Best: William Walker whose pace and long kicking has been bonus so far this season. Brent McDonald,s ability to win the ball in close and use it cleverly is another plus as is the form of another ex under 18 Conner Heaslip who had a brilliant last quarter. Neil Oakley on ball, Ben Cooper, and Chase Pearce in defence headed the list.

Alexandra were next host to traditional rivals Yea for the sixtieth time since the War, the two clubs having played each other 120 times in home and away fixtures over fifty years in four different Leagues..Until last Saturday's game, the record stood at Alexandra 62 Yea 57. Of those 62 wins exactly half have been at the Showgrounds. Since

Yea rejoined the YVMDFL the record is Alex 10 wins and two losses. The game began with the Yea Tigers showing that they had come to play and made the home side look slow as they ran the ball the length of the ground after kick-ins to goal. Alex were against the breeze favouring the town end but they were not handling the ball cleanly and their disposal by both hand and foot was often well astray. Yea kicked the first four goals and were playing the better football before Ryley Norris kicked Alex's first goal. Jedd Hamill marked strongly and kicked the Rebels second but Yea went to the quarter time break with a well deserved 19 point lead.

The wind was favouring the town end goal as it mostly does and Alex. worked their way to the lead by half time due to a tight defence and some good attacking football. Despite having the wind in their face the Rebels were able to outscore the Tigers in the third term and set up a comfortable 35 point lead as the coaches gave their final addresses to their sides for the game.

The last quarter belonged to Alex. as Yea could not find the goals at the hill end whilst Alex. kicked five more from many more opportunities. Ratliff was prominent during the last giving off a goal to Goonan, missing a couple of easier shots before bending one from the pocket himself. Norris kicked the 18<sup>th</sup> goal but unselfishly gave off to Moravski and Woolard as Alex shared the ball well. Alex eventually won 19.17 to 9.7 to move into third place but with tough games ahead at Seville and hosting undefeated leader Healesville after the Inter-league break. Best players: Ryley Norris with 5 goals and plenty of possessions around the midfield was the dominant player on the ground. Bart Wallace was back to his 2012 B&F form, using his strong marking at CHB. Damien Toomey continues to be a very important player in the team with his marking, ruck-work and leadership around the ground. Sam Kidd, Spencer Ratliff and Ben Woolard (3) also were amongst the votes as was Jedd Hamill with five goals.

Alexandra next travelled to Seville where they have won only twice since returning to the YVMDFL to challenge the second placed Blues in round 6. The ground was in good condition albeit a little slippery after a shower during the Reserves game. Alex. began to the Warburton highway end (uphill) and although they contained the home team were unable to get the ball forward in a position to goal. The defence led by the experienced Kidd brothers were able to contain the Seville forwards as Alex went to the first break trailing by 20 points. Seville knowing how to play the irregular shaped ground were able to goal at the top end. Damien Toomey was at his best trying to lift his side resulting in goals to Neil Oakley and Dylan McPhail. Oakley using his pace and experience again, kicked his second goal to give the Rebels a spark. Sam Kidd, running off his opponent received the ball in a scoring position and kicked Alex's fourth goal as Alex. were showing plenty of fight.

Seville kicked the first two goals of the third quarter with full-forward Jones causing the Alex. defence plenty of angst as usual. McPhail was in everything for the Rebels and found Bart Wallace for Alex's fifth goal. With William Walker and McPhail involved Alex moved the ball end to end but the Seville defence turned them out. Seville added further goals and looked ominous but the Rebels kept coming as Cory Jack found Jedd Hamill on the top side for a good goal. Toomey, winning a centre clearance found Wallace who again marked strongly and goaled. David Bourke, playing well got the ball to Hamill via McPhail for the Rebels eighth goal as Alex closed the gap to 26 points. Two late goals to Seville blew out the margin to 38 points at the last change.

Although a win was probably out of the question after Seville kicked the first goal of the last quarter, Alex. never gave in and Oakley goaled from a free and 50 m penalty. Steve Parker, becoming more confident every senior game marked and dashed through the centre resulting in another goal to Oakley. Oakley also kicked the next Alex. goal after using his roving skills to win the ball and finish. Alex. were playing the game right out and moved the ball the length of the ground finishing with Steve Steiner who kicked Alexandra's twelfth and last goal of the game.

Alex. had won the last quarter and Coach Lee Rowe was pleased with the efforts of the team who finished with a creditable 22 point loss 12.4 76 to 15.8.98. which was approximately the gap at quarter time. Best: Damien Toomey continues his great form, his efforts in the ruck and round the ground marking were inspirational. William Walker has provided his new club with dash and penetrating kicking whilst Dylan McPhail also gives the side pace and aggression at the ball. Neil Oakley with five goals, his biggest tally for some time was lively and clever up forward. Sam and James Kidd handled the defensive pressure well despite Jones (Seville) always to kick goals against Alex. from accurate disposal

Round 7 after the Inter-League break saw the Senior side include Lucas Flemming and Chris Mullins to challenge undefeated ladder leader Healesville at the Showgrounds. Alex. had not played "the Bloods" since 2009 and had not beaten Healesville, then coached by Jeff Bates, since 1984 in our first venture into the YVMDFL. Despite much needed substantial rain, the ground was in great condition as Healesville attacked for behinds. Both sides were hard at the ball in the slippery conditions with Alexandra up to the contest. Alexandra trailed by only three points at quarter time and 10 at the log break in an interesting contest. Alex. reduced the margin to 6 points and the stage was

set for a great last quarter but the visitors seemed to find another gear and their edge in class enabled them to go on to a comfortable win 12.14 to 7.6 as the Rebels did not score in the last term

Best: Cory Jack was right in his element in a hard, tough encounter with plenty of contested possessions to be won. Chris Mullins also was a hard working combatant who always enjoys a tough challenge. Sam and James Kidd both did a great job in defence and were right on top until late in the game. Lucas Flemming back after missing with injury was a welcome inclusion and Jedd Hamill (4goals) caused the Healesville defence many problems.

Round 8 was the first of the second round of games and the Seniors were hosts to third placed Yarra Glen and were keen to get back on the winning list after creditable performances against the top two sides in the last two games.

The first half was relatively even as the defences of both sides were on top limiting both sides to a total of nine goals between them with the visitors holding an eleven point lead at the half-time break. As has often been the case this season the third quarter was where the Rebels lost the game only adding a single goal, leaving them trailing badly (29 pts) at the last break. Alex. finally found the way to goal in the last quarter bringing the crowd to life and causing the Thunder defence some angst but the Glen steadied with late goals to seal a 14.13 to 10.6 win

Best: Lee Ragg in probably his best game ever for the Rebels was strong in defence and his marking turned many threatening attacks. Chris Mullins, Dylan McPhail, Ryley Norris, Conner Heaslip and Damien Toomey headed the remainder. Alex now go to Powelltown and need to string a few wins together to give them a chance of playing in the finals...

The Seniors in sixth place on the ladder and one win outside the five needed a good showing against the Demons to stay in touch for a finals spot. The Rebels kicked downhill in the first quarter and started well with the first two goals but the home side steadied and held a narrow lead with a goal just before the siren. The Rebels defence was under immense pressure in the second quarter and was unable to restrict the demons who extended their lead to around five goals. The home side kicked a couple of goals to start the second half and the Rebels were able to respond with a couple of goals but were unable to reduce the margin at the last change. The last quarter was even with the demons holding strong to finish seven goals in front 17.15 to 11.9 at the last siren. Unfortunately Bart Wallace had been added to the injury list, requiring surgery on his hand. Best: Ben Cooper, Will Goonan (5) William walker (2) Dylan McPhail, Sam Kidd, David Bourke.

The senior side welcomed Damien Toomey back after missing the Powelltown game and Daniel Steel after missing a season or so also Alasdair Hutt to replace the injured Bart Wallace, Stephen Steiner and Andrew Moravski. Alex. badly needed a win to keep any hopes of finals alive and faced Kinglake who unfortunately were short of players and had to play some who had already had a game in the Reserves. (been there, done that)

Alex. were always headed for a big win against bottom place Kinglake and gradually increased the lead each quarter. With six last quarter goals Alex. were able to record their highest score for the season but the defence led by the Kidd Brothers also played their part as can be seen by the final score.

Kinglake's inability to kick a goal was the first time this has happened since Deletite only managed 0.5 to Alexandra's 14.2 in 1946 in the Upper Goulburn F.L. and was the lowest score against Alexandra at the Showgrounds since Powelltown managed only 1.2 in 2007. Best: Neil Oakley (5 goals) spending more time up forward is in great form and even his marking above his head was a feature of his game. Chris Mullins (4) has also become a regular multiple goal-kicker this season also leading and marking strongly. Youngsters William Walker and Ben Woolard (4) provide pace and long kicking across the centre whilst Ben Cooper uses his strength to win many important possessions. Using his experience Cory Jack continues to win plenty of the ball.

Round 11 was at Yarra Junction where the Senior team include Brandon Kapakoulakis in for his first senior game for Alex. since 2011, Spencer Ratliff and Andrew Moravski back after injury for their season defining match with Yarra Junction. The ground was in excellent condition and the weather fine after the fog.

The home side began well with a seven goal to four first quarter and with good teamwork and running football continued the pattern into the second term giving them a five goal lead at the main break. Only Alexandra's accuracy 8.1, kept them in the game. The Alex. defence contained the home side in the third but Alex. could not find a way to goal. The last quarter was even but the visitors could not make any headway into the margin. Again Alex. could not match it with one of the top sides and again the third quarter had been a problem.

Best: Damien Toomey (2 goals) continues his fine season and gives his all trying to lift the team. Cory Jack loves a contest and usually comes out on top. Lucas Flemming looks to have gotten over his injury and his dash and use of the ball from the half-back line was good. Jake Steyger (4) also coming back after injury is getting fitter and his strong marking and straight kicking were important, Chris Mullins and Ben Cooper shaded others.

Alex made the relatively short trip to Yea for Round 12 with three changes to the team. Coach Lee Rowe stripped for his first game on field whilst Stephen Steiner and Andrew Marshall also come into the side.

The Recreation Reserve was in good condition although a little slippery after morning showers and the home side keen on their first win of the season took an early lead after Alex. had attacked for a series of behinds. The Tigers appeared to want the ball more and capitalized on Alexandra's poor manning up through the centre of the ground to kick the first three goals of the game. This gave the Tigers the half-time lead in a low scoring affair as Alex. again struggled up forward. Alex. finally got some system into their forward work after half-time and finished up comfortable winners 13.10 to 4.10. Best: Ben Woolard in his best game for the club so far won many possessions and continually sent the Rebels into attack. Lucas Flemming controlled the game particularly after moving to the centre. Ben Cooper always strong at the contest was a good player whilst James Kidd led a mean defence. Brandon Kapakoulakis and Neil Oakley provided pace and drive around the packs. Damien Toomey along with Cory Jack kept his side in the contest particularly in the first half. Coach Lee Rowe certainly showed that he has been a very talented player who reads the play well and certainly plays well above his height and weight.

Round 13. The Senior team included David Bourke, William Walker and Dylan McPhail to replace further injured players for their game against second placed Seville. Conditions were good for football at the Showgrounds as Alex. were keen to break an eleven game losing streak against Seville. Alexandra again struggled to score early in the game which was virtually over at half-time as the Blues led by some nine goals. The third term was more of the same as Seville with Kane Jones well on top went further ahead. Playing for pride, Alex. actually won the last quarter but by then the pace had gone out of the game. Alex 7.11 to Seville 18.11. BEST: Ben Cooper won the best player award with a determined game just in front of Cory Jack, Damien Toomey, William Walker, Sam Kidd and Brent McDonald.

The Senior team made five changes including the inclusion of Jack Elkington back after missing 12 weeks with a hand injury, Ryley Norris, Chase Pearce, Alasdair Hutt and Daniel Steel to cover further injuries from round 13. The ground at Healesville was in good condition but was awash after some heavy mid-day showers. Alex. were first to mount a serious attacking move as Norris marked strongly by the home side defence were able to clear and goal at the eastern end. The conditions resulted in many contests and neither side were able to win the ball in the clear. Healesville scored their second goal before Norris kicked Alexandra's first score, a behind. Neil Oakley started a promising forward move ending with Sam Kidd but his shot fell short. Healesville kicked their third goal before Alex. had chances that failed to penetrate the strong home side defence.

The second quarter was a battle of defences as Alexandra kicked the only goal of the quarter (Steel) whilst Ben Cooper was doing a great job on the League leading goalkicker. Alex. halved the quarter aided by some inaccuracy by the home side and felt that they were in with a chance of causing an upset trailing by only 19 points as players retreated to the rooms to try and warm up. Healesville soon ended any thoughts of the former fantasy as they took complete control in the third quarter and kicked eight goals straight whilst Alex through Steel and Andrew Moravski managed two as the rain eased for a period of play. Goals came much easier to the home side in the last quarter as conditions tired the Rebels and allowed the top side to use their skills to advantage. Alex fought the game right out and lost no friends amongst the few who made the trip to Healesville. BEST: Damien Toomey continues to provide great leadership and he marked the ball as if it was dry. Ben Cooper although giving away height and weight did a fine job on Barklay although the strong marking forward finished with 6 goals. William Walker, Neil Oakley, James Kidd and Riley Norris just shaded many others who tried to stem the tide.

Alexandra again with many changes to the side were at home in Round 15 to fifth placed Yarra Junction who had looked as good as any team Alex. had encountered this season in their last meeting at Yarra Junction. Conditions at the Showgrounds were near perfect for football as Alex. began to the town end. Alex. started well, tackling strongly and applying good pressure which enabled them to lead narrowly at the first change. Yarra Junction came back with a seven goal second quarter but only take a five point lead to the main break as Alex. matched it with the Eagles. Scores were locked at 11.9 each at three quarter time after a terrific third term. The last quarter would probably decide whether Alex played finals and unfortunately the visitors were able to go to the front early and hold on for a 14.13 to 14.9 win. Best: Damien Toomey (7), Ben Cooper, William Walker, Ben Woolard, Brandon Kapakoulakis and Will Goonan with a special mention to Jock Blakeney and Andrew Marshall who doubled up.

Round 16. Alexandra returned to Healesville to play the League leader for the second time in a fortnight and unfortunately little had changed. The weather was again cold and wet and the home side far too good for the injury weakened Alexandra team. The only difference was that this game was played under lights at the Healesville

Recreation Reserve which was in great condition. It was the first time that the Rebels had played under lights since the early days of the Tungamah League where we competed in the Goulburn Valley pre-season competition at Tatura. The Alex defence did a good job holding the strong Healesville team to seven first half goals but our inability to kick goals meant we were never going to challenge the top side. The Rebels could only manage 2.4 for the game to 17.13. BEST: Midfielders Neil Oakley and Brandon Kapakoulakis both reveled in the conditions and played well above their weight. In defence Sam Kidd aided by brother Jim tried hard to repulse the relentless attacking moves aimed mostly at the big forward and won many contested possessions. Ben Cooper again used his aggression at the ball to repulse many Healesville attacking moves. Damien Toomey continues his fine leadership but all players are to be congratulated on their commitment.

The Seniors missing many players from their best side travelled to Yea in round 17 to challenge the Tigers as part of the Safe and Caring local derby. Yea, after a recent win were confident that they could upset their old Waranga rival and break an eight game losing streak. Yea started brightly as they have in the two previous encounters this season as they kicked the first two goals. Alex, eventually got going and led narrowly at quarter time. Alexandra maintained the lead as each team added three second quarter goals. The third quarter was again close as Alex stretched the lead out to 16pts but it was still anybody's game. The game trend continued in the last quarter with the visitors just that little bit better going on to win 13.14 to 10.8. BEST: Will Goonan, Damien Toomey, Ryley Norris, Lucas Flemming, Brandon Kapakoulakis and Jedd Hamill (5 goals).

Alexandra were at home to Kinglake for the last round of home and away games for the 2013 season. The Senior team was led out by 300 game player Cory Jack. Cory began in the Reserves at Benalla in 1996 after playing in the Under 17s and was promoted to the senior team for the first game of the 1997 season. Cory captained the side for many seasons and played in the 2000 and 2008 premierships. Cory epitomizes what being a good country footballer is all about and has given great service to the game of football and the Alexandra club in particular. The Showgrounds was in good condition albeit a little slippery due to an earlier shower during the Reserves for the match against Kinglake who have struggled during the season and have requested VCFL guidance to assist in their immediate future. Kinglake began kicking with the blustery wind favouring the town end goals and a couple of early goals gave them hope but Alex soon took control and led comfortably at quarter time. A ten goal second quarter (five to Lee Rowe) ended the game as a contest. Alex went on to record a big win against the under strength Kinglake team 30.19 to 9.4. But unfortunately six of Alexandra's seven wins have been against the two bottom sides. Our inability to beat those above us even at the Showgrounds is a problem that we must learn to overcome to be a finalist. BEST: Ben Cooper continued his fine form with another good game. James Kidd controlled the half-back line and used accurately his left foot to advantage. Damien Toomey again won in the air and brought other players into the game with hand-ball. Brandon Kapakoulakis was at his ground level best winning many possessions with courage and pace. Lee Rowe again gave the supporters a glimpse of his undoubted skills with eight goals from strong marks and his ability to read the play and Cory Jack was carried off the ground to the applause of his current and past team-mates with whom he has shared many of those 300 game with.

#### RESERVES ELIMINATION FINAL at WARBURTON Aug. 25<sup>th</sup> 2013

The Alexandra Reserves travelled Warburton to contest the Elimination final against Yarra Junction. These teams had played three times during the season with Alex, winning both games at Alexandra with less than a goal separating the teams on the last two encounters. For just about the first time for the season the Reserves went into the game with a full complement of 22 players. Yarra Junction won the toss and kicked to the river end indirectly favoured by cross breeze but it was Alex who looked sharper early when firstly Luke Heard then Daniel Steel goaled. Steel again marked strongly but due to the blood rule Heard took the kick and scored his second goal. Yarra Junction kicked their first goal after a couple of behinds but the remainder of the quarter was tight as play rebounded between the half-back lines and Alex held a nine point lead at the first change. The two big forwards continued to cause the Yarra Junction defence many problems as they were again involved in the next angle goal to Heard at the river end Andrew Wood was defending well as was Chase Pearce. Alex used the ball well finishing with Michael Miller for the Rebels fifth and again good teamwork enabled Steel to kick his third goal after receiving from Andrew Marshall. Alex, were winning the inside 50s as Miller and Stephen Parker were able to drive the ball forward repeatedly. A lapse in concentration and discipline enabled the Eagles to kick the last two goals of the half

and get back into the game trailing the Rebels by 14 points at the main break. Jock Blakeney had a chance when play resumed in the all important third quarter but missed, then Yarra Junction kicked the next goal to reduce the margin to single figures. Alasdair Hutt won a free at half-back and aided by a 50m penalty kicked a steady goal Paul Francis and Daniel Creed using all their experience repulsed many Junction attacks whilst Jason Shaw won many ground level contests. Steel, showing his class kicked Alexandra's eighth goal giving the Rebels a 20 point lead at the last change. Alex kicked the first score of the last quarter, a behind before good team-work allowed Parker to kick a fine angle goal but Yarra Junction came back with the next goal. However, Alex. had all the answers although they were off target during the last quarter. Alex. used the clock well as they defended around the boundary to run out comfortable 24 point winners and progress to the first semi-final next Sunday. BEST: Andrew Wood, Steven Parker (1) Andrew Marshall, Daniel Steel (3) Michael Miller (1) Travis Carter, Jason Shaw and Paul Francis in an even team effort.

RESERVES: FIRST SEMI-FINAL at WARBURTON Sept 1<sup>st</sup> 2013

The Reserves returned to Warburton for the First Semi-final against Yarra Glen last Sunday. Alexandra had made five changes to the winning side that had defeated Yarra junction for the game against Yarra Glen who had won both home and away games during the season. Spring like weather saw the ground was in good condition as Yarra Glen won the toss and kicked to the river end. The Thunder were first into attack for a goal Alex could only manage a minor score early as Yarra Glen looked more settled. Play was scambly early as both sides tackled strongly. Yarra Glen got their second goal half way through the first quarter and when Jock Blakeney and Brandon Kapakoulakis combined for the first Alex. goal to Ethan Hamill, the Rebels could have been satisfied with their efforts. Yarra Glen roved well to score a third goal late in the term to lead by 15 points at the first change. Alex began the second quarter well with another goal to Hamill and followed it up immediately with a third goal to Luke Heard. A free and an undisciplined fifty meter penalty enabled Yarra Glen to go forward and eventually goal and regain the momentum and take control in the second half of the second quarter leaving the Rebels with a daunting thirty three point deficit at the main break. Alex. were more competitive in the third quarter and the defence did well to restrict the Glen to a solitary goal but in near perfect conditions could not make any impact on the score-board at the other end leaving a forty point deficit at the last change. Alex never gave in and fought the game right out but every Alex. goal was answered by one from Yarra Glen who ran out comfortable winners 12.9.81 to Alex. 6.7.43. It was a disappointing result for the Rebels but they were outplayed for most of the game. Alex gave away many free kicks, most of which were probably there but some undisciplined fifty meter penalties resulted in Yarra Glen goals when the game was up for grabs. Goals: Ethan Hamill 2. Luke Heard, Brandon Kapakoulakis, Steven Hedger and David Bourke. Brandon Kapakoulakis never stopped trying and his effort to lift the side was great. Stephen Parker also put in a strong effort on the ball whilst Paul Francis defended well with strong marking and long kicking. Andrew Marshall, Daniel Creed, and Daniel Roper also were mentioned among the best. Coach Ian Hamill thanked the players for their efforts over a difficult season often short on player numbers and was thanked by Captain Jason Krijt for his efforts coaching and having to often play.

BEST and FAIREST voting

Seniors. D.Toomey 76. C.Mullins 32. R.Norris 25. B.Cooper 24. N.Oakley 23. C.Jack 17. S.Kidd, W.Walker 16. W.Goonan, L.Ragg 13. B.Kapakoulakis, J.Kidd 11. S.Ratliff 8. L.Fleming, S.Steiner, B.Woolard 6. B.McDonald, S.Parker 4. J.Hamill 3. C.Heaslip, L.Rowe 1. J.Elkington, L.Heard, J.Krijt, D.McPhail, C.Pearce, B.Wallace 1.

Reserves. S.Hedger, M.Miller 26. J.Williamson 22. C.Pearce 18. J.Blakeney 15. B.Cooper, M.Herridge, S.Steiner 14. D.Bourke, J.Shaw 13. S.Parker 12. D.Roper 11. W.Cody, J.Hamill 10. I.Hedger 9. E.Hamill, J.Leary 8. T.Carter, J.Kidd, A.Marshall, J.Steyger 7. R.Carter, D.Creed, P.Francis, L.Heard, P.Wallis 6. A.Carpenter 4. A.Hutt, D.NcPhail, D.Rouget 3. W.Goonan, C.Heaslip, B.Kapakoulakis, A.Wood 2. J.Krijt, L.Ragg 1.

At an enjoyable function in the Clubrooms on Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> presentations and trophies were presented to the following: Life Members. Dick Jack, Dawn Jack, Cory Jack and Julie Steyger in recognition of their continued service for over a decade.

Presentations were also made to Jason Krijt 350 games, Cory Jack 300 games and Michelle Jack 300 games, Paul Francis 150 games, Michael Heyes 100 games and Stephen Hedger (Under 16 coach.)

The Presidents Trophy was awarded to Barbara Skerritt and Jess Lucas the Trainers award.

Ray Chanter was awarded the Barry (Sprague) Thompson Clubman award whilst Jodie Collins won the Andrew Whitling Volunteer Award. The Netball Presidents award was presented to Melissa Stephens by Maggie Hamill who announced that she was retiring after 18 years involvement. Ladies Committee President Kath Hedger presented the club with a very substantial cheque and thanked all her helpers.

Trophies were then presented to the following:

FOOTBALL Seniors / Reserves. *Best and Fairest, Runner-up* (as per the above voting) *Most Consistent*: Cory Jack / Andrew Carpenter. *Most Determined*: Neil Oakley / Daniel Roper. *Most Improved*: Ben Woolard / Jason Shaw. *Best First Year*: Ben Cooper / Billy Cody. *Leading Goal-kicker*: Jedd Hamill (33) / J.Blakeney (28) *Coaches Trophy*: Dylan McPhail, Ryley Norris / Chase Pearce.

NETBALL A / A res/ B /B res. *Best and Fairest*: Lauren Steyger / Hailey Elkington / Ashley Halligan / Holley Fogarty-Nippard. *Runner-up*: Jess Walker / Brooke Pearce / Ebonnie Twining / Kate Mullins. *Most Determined*: Belinda Shaw / --/ Ashleigh Creighton/ -- . *Most Consistent*: --/ Sally Krijt / --/ Karen Richards. *Most Improved*: Rebecca Wallis / Jess Lucas / Abbey Purcell / Ally Burr. *Coaches Trophy*: Sasha Mason / Brodie Wheelhouse / Tess McDonald / Jess Lewis.

President Ray Steyger thanked all footballers and netballers for their efforts over the season particularly congratulating Damien Toomey who won the YVMDFL 2<sup>nd</sup> Div. Best and Fairest, all club trophy winners and the Reserves team for making the finals along with the netball teams who also made the finals particularly the B reserve team who won their way through to the grand final only to be beaten by Yea.

Presentation functions for the Junior Football / Netball awards were held on Oct 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. Trophies were presented to the following;

FOOTBALL Under 16/ 14 / 12. *Best and Fairest*: Isaac Hedger / Peter Cairns / Nathan Stewart. *Runner-up*: Jordan Purcell / Cooper Phillips/ Jordan Laurie-Rhodes. *Most Consistent*: Ethan Ritchie / Kallagun Wilson / Dean Warren. *Most Determined*: Jeremy Alphonso-Hine / Harrison Murdoch /Tom Rouget. *Most Improved*: Nicholas Bell / Mitchell Dunsford / Isiah Findlay. *Best first year*: Lewis Wetzel / Lachlan Ingram-Smith / Henry Meggitt. *Best Utility*: Hamish Perry / Corey Malcolm /Archie Smith. *Coaches Trophy*: Dylan McIntosh / William Ellis /George Sinclair.

NETBALL. Under 16/ 14/ 12. *Best and Fairest*: Kayla Muller, Rebecca Wallis /Caitlan Haggis / Ellie Hedger *Runner-up*: Bethany Cairns / Chelsea Skerritt / Maddie Fox. *Most Improved*: Lilly Cox / Ashley Smith / Matilda Walker. *Most Determined*: Olivia Twining / Melita Laurie-Rhodes / Eliza Leckey. *Coaches Trophy*: Emma Malley /Himali Collins / Alexia Andreou.

All football and netball players received A.F.N.C. 2013 Medals