



#### **Centre Bounce**

Apologies for the late release of this weeks newsletter. I managed to get to see the U15's (naturally) and some of the U16's girls finals matches last weekend and I must say the girls were really great! What an exciting game! I had to prise myself away though due to the Girls AUSKICK, which continues to inspire young girls with 44 participants this week!

Don't forget Presentation Day at the Clubhouse Kaleen Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 10.00am.

Amanda Ongania – Vice President vicepresident@belconnencatsafl.com.au

## **AROUND THE GROUNDS**

Nationals:

**U12's Girls Nationals:** 







Our 6 Magpies girls Jess, Poppy, Addi, Amy, Evelyn & Elsie competed for the ACT at AFL Nationals in Albury and performed extremely well with a 49 point win over NT, kicking at least a goal in every game, and being competitive against the best sides in the country.

Honourable losses to Queensland (7-8), WA (8-29), NSW (6-22), Victoria (6-25) & SA (12-44). Coached by Belconnen Magpies Hall of Fame player Andrew Smith who brought great structure and comradery amongst the team, saw great individual development across the group for the week. Jess voted joint players player for the week an outstanding achievement. We look forward to seeing our girls play in their 12s and 14s grand finals on Sunday 27th August.

### **U12 Boys Nationals:**



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The ACT boys started well, beating the Northern Territory on the first day of competition. They had physical contests against NSW and Queensland, and made their opponents earn hard fought wins. Despite being on the receiving end of heavy losses against WA, SA and Victoria, the boys never gave up and had a great opportunity to test themselves against the strongest opposition in the country.

On an individual note, Lee received a Sportsmanship Award for demonstrating care for an injured opponent. Cooper and Charlie were also voted co- captains by their teammates and had the honour of leading the ACT team.

Congratulations on a great week of footy, boys!

**U15's Boys Nationals:** 



Another highlight from the recent Under 15's Australian Football Championships in Ballarat was Brodi Bugden from our U15's team being named ACT Players Player for the tournament

A huge honour to receive an award that's voted on by your teammates, Well Done Brodi

**U15's Girls Nationals:** 



A massive congratulations goes to Jade Brazier who was named in the All Australian Team at last weeks Under 15's Australian Football Championships in Ballarat.

Teams:

**Girls Only AUSKICK:** 





Handballing and kicking is going well.

U12's Girls – Belconnen Magpies 9.4.58 v Eastlake 3.0.18

Goals: 4 Poppy, 1 to Addi, Belle, Amelia, Jess & Elsie

Best: Poppy, Jess, Elsie, Meredith, Harriet, Mia and Hannah

Qualifying final v Eastlake at Aranda and after an undefeated season had recently had a narrow 3 point win over the Demons, and the Demons came out of the blocks fast kicking the only 2 goals of the quarter.

Coach Grace challenged the girls to improve their defensive side and they responded well in the 2nd quarter kicking 4 goals to nil for the quarter. Meredith and Mia were strong across half back making sure they repelled any Magpies entries. Harriet was doing a great job against the ACT ruck, and our midfield were winning the contest getting the ball forward on many occasions, as well as some quality shepherds.

In the 3rd quarter the Magpies continued to play well with Charlotte making

In the last quarter the Magpies continued to combine well, Izzy connecting with Hannah for some quality midfield work, and great marks to Ellie, Amelia and Belle, who kicked a long range goal from her mark. Poppy kicked her 4th for the game in a best on ground performance. The Magpies will enjoy the week off before the Grand Final on Sunday 27th August.

U14's Girls – Belconnen Magpies 6.4.40 v Queanbeyan 3.1.19

Goals: Bernice (2), Torkieah (2), Alyssa, Brady

Best: Ash, Jess, Bernice, Zali, Marisa, Kelsie

Excitement levels were high ahead of our Qualifying Final against Queanbeyan on Sunday, with a grand final spot up for grabs.

And on the back of another superb team effort, on home turf at Aranda Oval, we came out victorious in a really tough contest. It was finals footy at its best – so well done girls!

The most pleasing part of the weekend's performance was that no one was overawed by the occasion. Everyone stepped up when it was their turn to have an impact, and many players delivered their best game of the year. The tackling pressure and intensity from both sides went up another level, and we never took a backward step.

Going into the final term 8 points up, but with the game still well within either

hard running.

With our win, we've now earned the week off, and we await the result of Sunday's Preliminary Final between Queanbeyan and Ainslie to see who we will meet on Grand Final Day.

U15's Belconnen Magpies – Belco Magies 5.7.37 v Ainslie Red 11.5.71

Bests: none recorded

Unfortunately, Ainslie Red had the better of us. The boys just couldn't link up like they have in the past and every time they tried; Ainslie were all over them. They still have one more chance to reach the GF (talk about doing it the hard way!) and they remain positive and upbeat.

Bring on Marist!









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U16's Girls – Belconnen Magpies 7.8.50 v Eastlake 2.6.18

Goals: Caydie, Jade, Lola, Makayla and Laura

Best Players: Piper, Hikari, Jade, Hannah, Laura and Caydie

Each girl played with such determination to come away with a strong win of 50

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U17's - Cats 6.3.39 v Magpies 11.10.76

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Best Players: James B, Rohan, Jack, Brodie, Luke

With a lot of sickness through the team and their best player out, it was always going to be a tough game.

highlighting the Canberra football community is a tight one. Thanks lads!



12.43	belconnen waspies 015 boys	Iviarist college 013 boys	201 mile 101
11:30	TVAFNC U16 Girls	Belconnen Magpies U16 Girls	Stirling 101
14:45	Belconnen Cats U17 Boys	Ainslie Tricolours U17	Stirling 101

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# **HISTORY OF THE CLUB**

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So, the first President was a Hawthorn supporter which influenced where our song comes from. The Blues are what we were called at the time. When the senior clubs merged, the Blues changed to Magpies, and we kept it for the

### CLUB SONG

We're the mighty fighting Blues,

We love our club, and we play to win

Riding the bumps with a grin at BELCONNEN.

Under pressure we'll be striving

For teamwork is the thing that counts,

One for all and all for one

Is the way we play BELCONNEN

We are the mighting fighting Blues.

Make sure you follow **BelcoCatsafl** on Instagram and Facebook. We regularly post updates and news on both of these platforms, so it's a great way to keep up to date with all things Cats related.















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