



# CENTRE BOUNCE



Round 14

2023

BELCONNEN JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

**Welcome to the fourteenth edition of the**  
**Centre Bounce**

How sad that 14 weeks have passed so quickly! I think I'm getting withdrawal already!

Can I just say what a wonderful club we have with such enthusiastic players! They all uphold the family and community spirit that we have with a "never give up" attitude even though the scoreboard doesn't go our way! Our players are learning important skills not just on the footy field but skills for life such as resilience and team work. The difference in the footy skills has certainly improved out of sight over the season with thanks to our coaches, managers, parents, committee and other family members that support our great club. I think we need to start training earlier next year!

The coaches and managers have a great rapport with their team members and parents alike and the club is very lucky to have you all. Our parents are the best of any club getting in there to help where they can and we certainly do appreciate everything that you do to support the club.

For those of you not playing next week you can catch the Finals with 2 of our boy's teams playing on Saturday and the girls teams playing on Sunday. Go cheer them on! The qualifying finals are being played at:

12:15pm U15 Boys Saturday 12th August the Nest

2:15pm U17 Boys Saturday 12th August the Nest

11:15am U12 Girls Sunday 13th August Aranda

10:00am U14 Girls Sunday 13th August Aranda

11:30am U16 Girls Sunday 13th August Kingston

I'll put out a finals newsletter over the next couple of weeks but the next thing on the calendar is our Presentation Day which will be held at The Clubhouse Kaleen Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 10.00am. Stay tuned for a reminder.

### **AFL Fun Fact:**

The highest score recorded in a grand final is 177 by Carlton in its win over Richmond in 1972. The Tigers' losing total that day, 150, would have been enough to win any other grand final from 1897 to 1979. Richmond's 1.7 (13) against Collingwood in 1927 is the lowest grand final score, just behind the Magpies' 2.2 (14) kicked against Melbourne in 1960.

### **GIRLS AUSKICK**

Great to see the mums out helping the girls learn the skills and we had over 40 girls attend this session!



Amanda Ongania – Vice President  
[vicepresident@belconnencatsafl.com.au](mailto:vicepresident@belconnencatsafl.com.au)

## AROUND THE GROUNDS

Teams:

### **Pros and U9's:**

A couple of shots from Tuesday's final pros training before the last game this weekend.

We had a parent's vs kids game at the end which everyone loved!





The pros had their graduation and last game of the season this week which saw another crossover round and the teams playing off against sides from the south.

The kids had a blast and showed off the skills they had learnt through the season. Thanks so much to our coaches for making it such a fun season.



Under 9's were having a cracker!





Check out the awesome cookies that Jess Doolan made! Fantastic!

### **U11's - Cats 0.0.0 v Eastlake 10.0.60**

At the start of this year the Belconnen Cats Under 11 team were quite low on numbers but with a few players committing to playing up from the Under 10s every week we found ourselves working with a squad of about 22!

With a young squad and a group that hadn't all played with each other before, it took a while to see the team really gel together. Some early heavy losses

meant the team could have been forgiven for dropping their heads. But to everyone's credit we kept showing up at training we kept putting in the hard work and by the end of the season the results started to come!

While there was so many wonderful individual performances through the year the most wonderful aspects on show each and every week was the incredible teamwork and the smiles and laughs we all enjoyed.

Huge improvement from every single player this year was incredible to watch. Players stepping up when necessary and everyone making a very real difference to the team.

Congratulations to the entire team on a sensational season.

### **U12's – Cats had a Bye**

What a shame to end the season on a bye, but I guess someone has to do it!

### **U13's – Cats 0.4.4 v Ainslie 7.7.49**

**Best players: Emmett, Oscar, Mitch, Ryder, Jack, Ben**

### **U14's – Cats 0.0.0 v Tuggeranong 10.0.60**

**Best: Lewis, Tyler, Oscar, Lachlan, Bailey, Mitch**

## **U14's Girls – Belconnen Magpies 3.5.23 v Ainslie 3.5.23**

**Goals: Elena, Brady, Ashley**

**Best: Bernice, Ashley, Elena, Mikayla, Marisa, Torkieah**

Our final home-and-away game saw us play out (for the second time this season!) another thrilling draw against Ainslie.

The chance for our girls to play at The Nest this week had everyone energised, so we were keen to get off to a fast start. But while our effort couldn't be questioned, Ainslie had the best of the opening term.

In the second quarter, we held firm down back to keep Ainslie scoreless. However, we couldn't take full advantage of our time up forward and went to the main break a goal down.

Belief within the group remained high and we started the second half with real intensity, but still weren't able to get full reward for our hard work. Ainslie extended their lead, but a handy goal just before three-quarter time trimmed the margin to 11 points and kept us within striking distance.

The final quarter was nail-biting stuff. Our midfield now had the upper hand and we were getting the ball in quickly to our forwards. Back-to-back goals saw us take the lead with around 7 minutes remaining!

In the dying stages Ainslie surged forward, and despite several brilliant and desperate defensive efforts, they managed to tie the scores. And that's how it finished....with nothing between the two sides - again!

We can be very proud of a super fight back, and for finishing the season as minor premiers - well done girls! But our focus now turns to a qualifying final this weekend against Queanbeyan. Bring it on.

**U15's Belconnen Magpies – Belco Magies 2.8.20 v Ainslie 9.6.60**

**Best Players: Brodi, Sam, Alex, Dylan, Tyler, Harry W**

Our resident photographer Stacey takes such great photos each week I had a hard time selecting, so here's more than I usually put in! As you can see it wasn't from want of trying but Ainslie had our measure :(





## **U16's Girls – Belconnen Magpies 8.3.51 v Queanbeyan 4.6.30**

**Best Players: Jesse, Scarlett, Piper Tulli, Emilia**

## **U17's - Cats 7.8.50 v Ainslie 4.8.32**

**Best Players: Luke, Brodie, Harry, Rohan, Jack**

The final round of the regular season saw the U17's return to Reid oval for the second time in 3 weeks to take on Ainslie and the opportunity to redeem ourselves after a heavy loss in our previous encounter.

First qtr effort was superb from our boys with some real desperation in defence as Ainslie headed down the hill and with the breeze. Our efforts to punch/spoil which we have been working hard on at training denied Ainslie the chance to take easy uncontested marks in their forward fifty and we headed into the first break level on the scoreboard.

Our second qtr was strong as we continued to show desperation in defence and some strong ball movement saw us capitalise on our scoring opportunities and head into the long break with a 3-goal advantage.

Ainslie responded well after halftime keeping us to one behind whilst scoring 3 of their own goals and went into the last qtr with a one-point advantage.

The last qtr was an even contest early and our boys hung in whilst Ainslie really applied some pressure in their forward 50 however, we were able to gain the ascendancy and score 3 goals of our own whilst keeping Ainslie to the one

behind running out winners 50-32.

Congratulations to Cohan Riley who celebrated his 150th joining the Cats this year from Tuggeranong Football Club, we have a strong history of celebrating milestone games with a win, and it was great to get one again in Cohan's 150th.

Great team effort all around and was really pleasing to finish the regular season with a win, we now look forward to the 1st qualifying final vs the Magpies with a spot in the grand final up for grabs.

## HISTORY OF THE CLUB

Ahha! There's a dispute about the article from last week! Apparently Les has it wrong as to who was playing on the Ainslie player. Boo was playing on him, not Pauly!

How's this from the Vice President (Football) as his wrap up in the Annual Report from 1974! Certainly didn't mince words!



The Future:

Much will depend upon the CANNT's attitude to the unbalanced nature of the competition. Despite intensive work in junior football and the judicious use of limited funds at our disposal the prospects of even appearing in a Grand Final in Canberra seem remote. Clearly the stage has been reached where the rich are getting richer and the poor even poorer, with demonstrable consequences for Australian Rules football in this city. The district clubs, Belconnen, Queanbeyan and West Canberra have, to put it bluntly, no hope whatever of a premiership in the foreseeable future, if they remain in the competition as at present constituted. Australian Rules in Canberra, in competition as it is with three other codes, will continue to suffer the consequences of poor administration, selfishness and lack of foresight unless drastic action is rapidly taken, even at the expense of lowering the standard of the competition, although how the worst Australian Rules competition qua competition anywhere in Australia could get worse is open to question. Belconnen will continue to encourage Rules in its area, and develop it as best a club can that is unable to offer its players any more than a pittance, or any more than the prospect of finishing fourth (or by a fluke perhaps third) for as long as those players play football. I pay sincere tribute to those who stick with Belconnen, both to play and administrate. It is a labour of love by the overworked both on and off the field.

W. F. Mundle  
Vice-President (Football)

---

Make sure you follow [BelcoCatsafi](#) 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.

# NCM

NATIONAL CAPITAL MOTORS



*The* **COOK  
GROCER**

Please support the businesses who support our club

