



Annual Report 2017

Blackburn Football Club -Juniors

Morton Park, Central Road, Blackburn 3130
www.blackburnfc.com.au
Secretary: PO Box 5054 Laburnum Vic 3130
Email: blackburnjnr@efl.org.au

For players, parents and supporters of the Blackburn Football Club -Juniors

**On behalf of the committee of the Blackburn Football Club Juniors
I am very pleased to present the following annual report for season
2017**

2017 Highlights

Our 2017 season had numerous highlights, these include;

- Blackburn fielded 23 junior teams
- 18 boys teams in the EFL
- 5 girl teams in the ERGLFL
- 12 competitive teams in the EFL
- 9 teams played finals
- 3 teams played in grand finals
- 2 teams won the premiership
- Over 230 volunteers assisted each match day

These achievements and statistics stem from over ten years of voluntary effort by many people who have selflessly given of their time to better the sporting lives of their children.

Blackburn is not simply about providing an opportunity for boys and girls to play football but sees itself as having an important role in supporting the broader community. We continued to support important community causes such as Relay for Life and ANZAC Day. We also started Pink Day when all teams Under 13 and above wore Pink Socks for a game and teams Under 8 to Under 12 wore Pink armbands. This was all in aid of Breast cancer research

For the fourth time this year and in conjunction with the Blackburn District Primary Schools Association we hosted the grade 5/6 girls AFL round robin competition. For the Second Time this year we hosted the Nunawading District Primary Schools Association grade 5/6 girls. This format we would like to continue to promote as a Club

There were many other highlights with the hugely successful "Bogan Bingo" social function. 130 Parents in attendance extracted their inner Bogan, it wasn't far within, and enjoyed a hugely successful night at St Thomas' Hall.

Player Awards

On Sunday September 3, we held our annual Trophy Presentation Day.

Under dark and gloomy skies all of the Under 8s and 9s teams were presented with participation trophies which generated some huge smiles.

We also acknowledged the achievements of over 80 players through the presentation of awards for the Most Improved Player, Coach's Award, Best Finals Player, Most Consistent, Runner Up B&F and the Best & Fairest.

Players Reaching Greater Heights

Youey Dib was selected in the All Nations Under 15 team. A proud achievement by one of our young stars from our Under 14 Blacks team. Xavier O'Neill, Lachy Bugeja and Sam Harte played the majority of the year with the Oakleigh Chargers with a number of other boys playing games with Oakleigh Chargers and Eastern Ranges. The players were all bottom age and performed extraordinarily well. At the time of typing this annual report there is a very good chance that Ryley Stoddart and Jack Roughsedge will be selected in the upcoming AFL National Draft. Here's hoping these super young players can live out their dream

Renee Tierney, Taylah Morton and Mia Kendell all represented Victoria at the National Championships and came out victors. Renee and Taylah were selected as All Australians. We had a number of other girls and boys play rep footy for the EFL which is huge kudos to them and to the club's development focus.



Annual Report 2017

Blackburn Football Club -Juniors

Morton Park, Central Road, Blackburn 3130
www.blackburnfc.com.au
 Secretary: PO Box 5054 Laburnum Vic 3130
[Email: blackburnjnr@efl.org.au](mailto:blackburnjnr@efl.org.au)

For players, parents and supporters of the Blackburn Football Club -Juniors

Congratulations to all our award recipients:

Blackburn Junior Football Club Award Recipients 2017

	B & F	Runner up B & F	Most Consistent	Coach Award	Most Improved	Best Finals Player
U10 Blacks	Riley Berzins	Ethan Gaunt	Jack Larsen	Zen Heaslip	Tom Marsh	
U10 Reds	Jack Hoodless	Lachlan Bell	Marcus Healey	Max Whitmee	Ryan Short	
U10 Girls	Allie Davidson	Jemima Fulton	Grace Parker	Tess Hibbins	Emily Vomero	
U11 Blacks	Ripley Pritchard	Archer Ryan	Zac Devers	Luke Hammond	Angus Wilmott	
U11 Reds	Daniel Kilkenny	Joshua Malandra	Elliot Foster	Zach Wellman	Sam Wain	
U12 Blacks	Billy Hicks / Matthew McWilliams	Tristan Devers	Landen Couper	Dante Cotroneo	Luke Bell	Tristan Devers
U12 Reds	Blake Crichton	Benjamin Rusmir	Kane Johnson	Xavier Daniels	Oliver Davidson	
U12 Girls	Hayley McLaughlin	Jemma Kennedy	Bonnie Chadwick	Rebecca Ryan	Lucy Ryan Wilson	
U13 Blacks	Jordan Alcock	Joel Carter	Aidan Petrowski	Terry Pantou	Xavier Zugna	
U14 Blacks	Youi Dib	Will Oglethorpe / Cayden Seymour	Kieran Rice	Ash Devers	Lachlan Worsam	
U14 Reds	Ben Macaulay	Sam Mathers	Adam Hugo	Max Howard	Henry Shand	
U14 Girls	Erin Woodford	Brooke Vickers	Charlotte van der Vlies	Mia Busch	Lily Hart	Lily Hart
U15 Blacks	Angus Reddy	Josh Pollock	James Reddy	Tom O'Shannassy	Eli Millard	
U15 Reds	Nathan Crampton	Max Fijan	Ben Fijan	Ben Allison	Matthew Farley	
U16 Girls	Emma Chamberlain	Renee Tierney	Caitlin Bell	Tricia Cowan	Amy Jo Olley	Emma Chamberlain
U17 Blacks	Lachlan Keighran	Matthew Laffin	Jack Wilson	Travis Baker	Kieran Hubber	
U17 Reds	Lochlan Richardson	Christian Scarcella	Jarrood Moore	Zac Hayes	Harry Ablett	
U17 Whites	Lachlan Askew	Emile Sebaundi	Kyle Dodson	Jackson Tinker	Liam Costello	
U18 Girls	Gemma Lagioia	Emily Harley	Bridie Winbanks	Chloe Vermeer	Natalie Demicoli	Gemma Lagioia



Annual Report 2017

Blackburn Football Club -Juniors

Morton Park, Central Road, Blackburn 3130
www.blackburnfc.com.au
Secretary: PO Box 5054 Laburnum Vic 3130
[Email: blackburnjnr@efl.org.au](mailto:Email:blackburnjnr@efl.org.au)

For players, parents and supporters of the Blackburn Football Club -Juniors

Thanks to our Committees

- Our Most important area to keep the Club ticking over
- **Mick Johnson** – Sat on the Senior Club committee meetings as the Junior Liaison and continues to offer balanced and well thought out opinions on our Executive Committee
- **Dave Ramsdale** – Ran our footy coach development and part of our Executive Committee
- **Tim Jacobs** – Dealt with Player Welfare and other club grievances with his usual attention to service. Tim also drives our charity walk relay for life raising much needed funds for Cancer Research.
- **Deb Sandells** – Another wonderful year in which she won a Lifetime Achievement Award for her service to Blackburn
- **Pru Franklin and Andrew Vickers** – Managed the Team Managers and the grounds in another busy year with our 23 teams. These are big jobs handled brilliantly
- **Carolyn Finis**- For her work as the Community Officer around disadvantaged in our community and Under 17's Whites TM
- **Elaine Reddy, Kylie Morton** who brought all TM Kits and Jumpers together for the season. Elaine was also Under 15 Blacks TM
- **Mick Meehan** – Ran the pre-season and regular season grounds schedule including all the council and club liaison.
- **Dave Couper** looked after all the footy equipment in season and closed down Morton Park each week, usually with his sidekick Landon. He also looked after all the footy gear for the coaches
- **Katie Szymakowski** – Ran the secretary's job superbly with her efficient and no fuss approach
- **Jon Whitmee** who led the Sponsorship which continues to be a key driver in running our Junior Club
- **Justin O'Connor**- Ran the footy registrations again with his no-nonsense and dedicated approach especially in March/April when this is full on
- **Andy Phillips** –Managed the trainers superbly well
- **Robyn Kent** – Ran the Family Nights for season 2017 and did a fantastic job with rostering and managing these nights
- **Mick Whelan** – Auskick Co-Ordinator who oversaw the continued success of our 3 feeder centres and also took on the role of Grant Applicant, another key part of our fundraising

- **Steve Nankervis** - We are losing Steve to the Senior Club next year and he'll be sorely missed with his massive effort looking after the Bar and driving the microphone at these events. Steve also won a Deakin Award this year for his outstanding service to the club.
- **Paul Harte** – Won a Deakin award for his service to the footy club and coached our Under 17 Blacks. We wish Paul well as he moves from the Juniors to the Senior Club
- **Craig Smith** – who again helped drive our girls program and is at the forefront of setting up the Blackburn womens team for 2018

Outstanding Service Awards

- This person has been Team Manager for 7 Years and really been fantastic at supporting coaches and Parents in his role. Absolutely no fuss and a superb sense of humour. He's putting his hand up to run the whole Chocolate Drive next year. A well deserved service award to **Paul Aspin**
- This next person has been brilliant around the medical requirements of her sons' teams. She stepped up to Head Trainer in late 2015 and from that point on has done an enormous job advising the committee on the medical setup of the teams and she helped rewrite our concussion policy in a super professional approach around this most difficult issue. Our second service award this year is - **Andy Phillips**

Club Person of the Year

This lady has overseen the growth in our Merchandise to the point where it is now fully online for the 2018 season and is widely seen as Red for Blackburn in all sorts of apparel that we offer our members.

She has had the care at the club to introduce a benevolent gift of flowers to every member either going through a difficult personal time or a family bereavement.

She has been part of the decision making executive committee of the Juniors for many years seeing the growth of our teams and putting her voice in when required to make tough decisions and being fair for everyone concerned and helping to drive the quality people culture we aim for at Blackburn.

She has helped drive our family nights which are very popular and add much to the culture and finances of our club. She runs all the money for the night and is



Annual Report 2017

Blackburn Football Club -Juniors

Morton Park, Central Road, Blackburn 3130
www.blackburnfc.com.au
Secretary: PO Box 5054 Laburnum Vic 3130
Email: blackburnjnr@efl.org.au

For players, parents and supporters of the Blackburn Football Club -Juniors

always the last one to leave and makes sure the rooms are left in good order.

When she assumed the role as Treasurer there was little money in our bank account and she has overseen the rise of our club to the point where the Juniors are in a position to significantly contribute to a new facility at Morton Park. Her efforts in being a massive part of fundraising, all the while making sure all the money gets into our bank account then manage the outflows and follow up every supplier, Parent and sponsor has simply been awesome

She has driven our finance online and paperless from the double signing of each online payment to having our bookkeeping in cloud based software with every bill saved in an online and backed up folder has made huge efficiencies in the running of our club where there are 550 players.

She has been the drive behind our Pink day where every team of Under 13 and above where's Pink Socks and every team Under 12 and below wears Pink armbands for one game. She's part of the team of 2 that washed, dried and packed away all those socks for next season. This brilliant day on our Club Calendar raises money for much needed research into Breast Cancer and is particularly personal to Blackburn where a few Mums have been stricken down by this insidious disease

She has driven our Mothers Day rose gift where every Mum in the club receives a rose and chocolate. The Mothers of the Club absolutely love it.

Her Voluntary work around Blackburn reads, 2010 u9 team manager, 2011 u12 team manager, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 Treasurer 2016 & 2017 Vice President. When she started volunteering in 2010 Blackburn had 10 Junior Teams, it now has 23 and the growth, people care and quality management of that is a large reflection of her determination, character and incredible work ethic. Finally she was one of two ladies the other night across the whole of the EFL and Yarra Ranges to win a Lifetime Achievement Award.

She is without doubt the Superstar of Blackburn Footy Club, 2017 Club Champion is Deb Sandells.

Coaching achievements

We have many talented and dedicated coaches at Blackburn however we nominate coaches each year that we feel are deserving of a nomination. This year we put the nominations over to the Team Managers and Parents of our teams to come up with the nominations and this was a better approach as those people see the coach all the time.

We do want to continue the habit of not nominating coaches twice throughout their tenure at Blackburn Juniors.

Peter Parker was nominated by his team for the Eastern Region's "coach of the year award". While Pete was unsuccessful in winning this award, his achievement in managing a group of young girls with developing skills in our Under 10's into a team that really enjoyed their year and worked together so well was testament to his nomination.

Shane Tierney was nominated by his team for the Central Region's "coach of the year award" and again, although Shane was unsuccessful in the nomination his record over 2 seasons with the Under 16 Girls has been brilliant. They played in the Grand Final in 2016 and won the Premiership this year under Shane's tutelage.

Mick Edmonds (Under 10 Boys) and Paul Harman (Under 9 Boys) both guided their boys to wins in the early season Lightning Premierships. Well done lads and to Mick whose team won last year as Under 9's.

Club Achievements

Steve Nankervis was nominated and won a Deakin Award for his service to the Juniors over many years. Steve not only ran the bar for years he also coached his son's Under 17 team in 2016. Steve's hilarious sense of humour, booming voice and massive service level will be sorely missed around the Juniors. We hope to see him around the Senior Club for many years to come.

Paul Harte was also nominated and won a Deakin award for his service to Coaching at the Juniors. During his time in coaching Paul took Junior coaching to another level of organisation and professionalism and often pushed the committee on key areas of high standards. All the while "Hartey" understood the incredible Blackburn spirit having come all the way from Auskick with his two boys and wife Sharon who has also contributed. Many other coaches have benefited from Hartey's high quality approach to coaching. Again, we hope to see him around our Senior club for many years to come.

Volunteers

It takes a lot of work to run a club of our size and I would like to thank everyone who has assisted this year.

Each week we have close to 200 volunteers.

While there are far too many people to mention here, I would like to thank:

- Our team managers for their team orientated work and the work they do in supporting the club as a whole.
- Our coaches and assistant coaches who dedicate so much time to their players and in particular to our retiring coaches for their efforts over the recent past: Paul Harte, Trevor Howard, Dave Western, Marty Macaulay, Scott Hardie, Mick Montgomerie, Scott Carter, Mick Whelan, Raph Udarbe, Shane Tierney, Kelly Adamson and Peter Parker, who have all completed coaching assignments with their respective teams. We hope to see you all at the club in season 2018, hopefully undertaking other coaching/club assignments.
- To our runners and trainers whose roles are critical but often go unnoticed.
- To all our parents who assist each week in doing the boundary, goal umpiring, umpire escort and other assorted tasks. Without this assistance each team could not take to the field.

Under 16 Girls Premiers



Under 18 Girls Premiers



New Eley Park Shelters Grand Opening



Paul Harte - Deakin Award for Coaching Excellence



Under 9 Boys Lightning Premiers



Steve Nankervis – Deakin Award for Service Excellence



Under 10 Boys Lightning Premiers





Annual Report 2017

Blackburn Football Club -Juniors

Morton Park, Central Road, Blackburn 3130
www.blackburnfc.com.au
Secretary: PO Box 5054 Laburnum Vic 3130
[Email: blackburnjnr@efl.org.au](mailto:Email:blackburnjnr@efl.org.au)

For players, parents and supporters of the Blackburn Football Club -Juniors

Finances

The Junior Club operates as a separate financial entity to the seniors and does not pay any dividends to the seniors although we do share in the facility costs (e.g. ground hire, lighting etc.)

Several years ago, the Junior Club reviewed its financial position and recognised that one of the greatest risks to the future of the Club was the continued sponsorship and fundraising. As a consequence we reviewed our fee structure to ensure that our fees reflected the actual cost of playing (i.e. cost of jumpers, EFL fees, Council fees and chargers etc.): fundraising would then be used for additional activities (e.g. fund presentation day, trophies, special events, new equipment, break up nights, etc.

The Junior Club finished the year in a sound financial position, thanks to some very astute financial management over recent years, particularly by our Treasurer Deb Sandells.

In addition a small amount was contributed from Junior Funds for the new facilities at Eley Park which was achieved through a lot of hard work over 3 years. Eley Park is now a fantastic facility for our club as the numbers of teams and female footy continues to expand..

The Juniors have also set aside some funds for a potential new pavilion at Morton Park. The new facility at Morton Park is still only a possibility but the working group on this project is liaising regularly with council and so signs are positive as we write this annual report.

Senior Club

The senior and junior football clubs enjoy a very healthy partnership. We are aiming to build on this partnership even further in season 2018 with Brendan Allen who has just been anointed as the new Senior Coach of the club. Our most recent Senior Coach Kon Karavias has moved into a strategic role at the club which we are all happy about as the demands of Senior Coach were too much for his burgeoning career at the AFL and his young family.

In March this year the "all of club" jumper presentation started our season and was held on a weeknight. Christian Petracca and Katherine Smith were the Melbourne Footy Club stars of the night and this format proved a winner with a better atmosphere and feel than previously done late on a Saturday afternoon. I would like to congratulate Matt Breen and his committee on their efforts during season 2017. Matt's people skills are second to none and his quiet but determined manner serves the club so well.

Both the seniors and juniors have worked well together throughout the season, which is something as a club we can very proud of. We want to take it to another level in 2018 with further integration via Senior Players being a bigger part of each Junior team and the Juniors supporting the Senior team at their matches on Saturdays and as part of the One Club lunch that kicked off this year with over 100 people in attendance.

Auskick

We have maintained (through Michael Whelan) a very close association with our three local centres, namely Blackburn, Blackburn Lake and Laburnum, from which around 90% of our players come from. During the season I took the opportunity to visit all three centres, and as always the centres were very well run and administered. Despite this the numbers have dropped in Auskick due to other sport competition and so the need for our Club and Auskick Co-Ordinators to be actively involved with the setup in February and March is vital. In May this year and in conjunction with the senior club we conducted a "super clinic" at Morton Park for all three centres. This clinic was a huge success with not only members from both Seniors and Juniors but also some local dignitaries were there to further push the Auskick Super day. Throughout the season, Michael Whelan arranged with AUSKICK centres on a number of occasions to play "Grid Games" at half time when Blackburn was playing home games. These were hugely successful.





Annual Report 2017

Blackburn Football Club -Juniors

Morton Park, Central Road, Blackburn 3130
www.blackburnfc.com.au
Secretary: PO Box 5054 Laburnum Vic 3130
[Email: blackburnjnr@efl.org.au](mailto:blackburnjnr@efl.org.au)

For players, parents and supporters of the Blackburn Football Club -Juniors

2018 Committee

The Junior Club conducted its Annual General Meeting on October 11th 2017. I am pleased to advise the 2018 Committee will be:

Executive Committee

- President – Peter Parker
- Vice-President and Manager TMs – Spencer Wilson
- Football Director – Scott Chamberlain
- Treasurer – Pat Mannix
- Welfare Manager – Tim Jacobs
- Grounds Manager – Dave Couper

Non Executive Roles - General Committee

- Secretary –Katie Szymakowski
- Property Manager – Elaine Reddy
- Apparel Manager – Deb Sandells
- Auskick Co-Ordinator – Michael Whelan
- Trainers Manager – John Mercieca
- Bar Manager – Andrew Vickers
- Community Programs – Carolyn Finis
- Sponsorship –Darren Holland
- Training Grounds Co-Ordinator –Michael Meehan
- Womens Team – Dave Ramsdale
- Fundraising – Pru Franklin
- New Pavilion Morton Park – Ryan Pritchard
- Registrar – Suzanne Devers
- Family Nights – Robyn Kent
- Social Media Support - Jon Whitmee
- Girls Teams Support - Kylie Morton

More assistance needed

With the growth of the Club, it is fair to say there is a lot more to do to keep the Club successful. We are keen to hear from anyone who could spare some time to help especially for our inaugural womens team that will play under the Juniors banner in 2018.

If you are able to help out, in any capacity could you please send a note to the club secretary at blackburnjnr@efl.org.au. Or speak to a member of the committee.

Leaving players and families

To all our players who are leaving our junior program this year, the club would like to wish you well in your future endeavours, and that as you go forward that you remember your time at Blackburn. We do however hope to see a number of you join the Blackburn Football Club Under 19's program next year and that you and your families will continue to have an association with Blackburn in our Senior Club.

Strategy for success

We are immensely proud of the Club's success. This hasn't occurred by accident but rather through a strong community focus, an emphasis on player participation and development, the development of strong linkages with our local Auskick centres and schools and many dedicated people who support the club in many ways.

To administer our club, the club has over many years worked on and developed a very comprehensive set of policies and processes. These are always updated and kept as permanent documents on the club website.



Annual Report 2017

Blackburn Football Club -Juniors

Morton Park, Central Road, Blackburn 3130
www.blackburnfc.com.au
Secretary: PO Box 5054 Laburnum Vic 3130
[Email: blackburnjnr@efl.org.au](mailto:Email:blackburnjnr@efl.org.au)

For players, parents and supporters of the Blackburn Football Club -Juniors

Counting Down to 2018

We anticipate having approximately 24 teams with multiple teams in all boys age groups, increasing our numbers to around 560.

We plan to field teams in both the EFL (Boys) and ERGFL (Girls). We also intend to introduce a Womens Team in 2018.

We can announce that the coaches appointed so far for season 2018 are:

Team	Coach
Boys	
U8	TBA
U8	TBA
U9	Darren Holland
U9	Matt Sandells and Craig Austin
U10	Paul Harman
U10	Brad Gaunt
U11	Terence Peters
U11	Mick Edmonds
U12	Ryan Pritchard
U12	Luke Paramanathan
U13	Dave Gluyas
U13	Paul Harman
U14	Luc Matthews
U15	Brad Ostermeyer
U15	Jordan Harte
U17	Darren Wharton
U17	Mick Meehan
U17	Jarrod Wilson
Girls	
U10	Carlene Tolley & Frank Macaluso
U12	TBA
U14	TBA
U16	Tim Jacobs
U18	Ian Goulet
Women	Leeann Gill

We are also pleased that our Coach Development will again be providing specialist football development for coaches and players of the Junior Club. This coaching development has been very successful in the last 3 years.

I would finally like to thank my wife Janette, whose continual support and time sacrifice has allowed me to dedicate as much time as possible to the footy club and our outstanding committee people.

We have a talented and community focused new President in Peter Parker who has under him a quality committee who will continue to deliver the Blackburn Footy Club Juniors a well run and supporting environment for all our families.

Kind regards

Pat Mannix

Immediate Past President

Blackburn Football Club Juniors

“GO BURNERS”

We look forward to seeing you all back at the club in season 2018