Co-ordinator’s report

As we move towards the end of the winter season we can start to reflect on some of our key objectives and whether we have delivered on them:

- Deliver a meaningful experience of football for all players.
- Develop a progressive whole school football program.
- Identify and develop talent.
- Increase pride, competitiveness and resilience.

Pulteney football is in a developmental stage and we know that to achieve our goals is going to require more than one season of effort. But I believe that we have made progress on our objectives and for that I thank the coaches and players for their efforts so far.

Let's hope that we can finish of the season on a high note particularly in the InterCol against Scotch on the last weekend.

Andy Miller
Football Co-ordinator

PGS 8:6 (54) Mercedes 22:14 (146)

*Congratulations (and thanks) to Sam White who, after playing a full game for the Seconds, agreed to sit on the bench for the First XVIII Team. In his First XVIII debut Sam spent time both in attack and in defence and acquitted himself very well.

In our previous encounter with Mercedes, they got away from us early and led by 20 points at ¼ time. Consequently, starting well and being ‘in the game’ at ¼ time was a real focus.

Pulteney started very well, applied pressure on the opposition and ran the ball well. Ben Adams showed tremendous commitment with a full-bodied smother which resulted in a goal for the team. Josh Wills was dominant in the first quarter and kicked 2 goals. Matt Nielsen also kicked a goal in the first quarter and the team led by 6 points at the first break.

Mercedes worked their way into the game in the second quarter and took the lead but I was still pleased with the effort of the Pulteney players; we should have been as close as 4 points at ½ time, but for a last minute skill error going
forward and a lapse in concentration in defence. **Jarrod Miller** worked himself into the game throughout this quarter and kicked 2 goals, whilst **Chester Oliver** also kicked a nice long goal.

Our third quarter was possibly our most disappointing for the season!

Mercedes are a strong team and played very good football; we can’t hide the fact however that we became a ‘bit of a rabble’ in the third quarter as players forgot their defensive responsibility, dropped their work rate and dropped their voice, sense of teamwork and enthusiasm. Pulteney players did too much walking and pointing during this disappointing third quarter and not enough running and hard working.

Mercedes took full advantage of their third quarter dominance and put the game beyond Pulteney’s reach at ¾ time.

A few home truths were delivered to the players during the ¾ time break!

These were largely to do with defensive accountability which can also be described as a lack of respect; a lack of respect for those few team-mates who continued to work their backsides off and watched helplessly as their fellow team-mates refused to run, chase, apply pressure, maintain defensive structures and discipline.

Such selfishness and lack of accountability also demonstrates a lack of respect for coaches, for the school community and for those people who give up their time and put a lot of effort into providing support for us all. I trust that the players take all of this on board and play with renewed pride, energy, effort and enthusiasm in the remaining eight quarters of the season.

To the credit of the Pulteney players, they responded to the ¾ time ‘spray’ and despite being outclassed and with many players ‘running on empty’ by now, finished the game off as strongly as possible. Our 2 last-quarter goals were kicked by **Matt Nielsen** and **Jack White**.

On reflection, Pulteney played an excellent first quarter and were ‘solid’ in the second and fourth quarters, so despite the fact that we were soundly beaten by a stronger opponent, it certainly wasn’t all ‘gloom and doom’.

**Jarrod Miller** continued his excellent run of good form and played well both as a forward and as a midfielder; **Jack White**, **Ben Adams** and **Liam Geddes-Ryan** are as good and as hard-working as any midfielders in the competition, and **Josh Wills** continues to provide headaches for our opponents with his athleticism and goal-scoring ability.

Many others including **Sam Magarey**, **Matt Nielsen**, **Angus Sexton**, **Nick Laity**, **Lachlan Schatto**, **Rory Egarr** and **Chester Oliver** played well ‘in patches’ but need to aim for four-quarter consistency to be of genuine benefit to the team.

I also want to thank and acknowledge the players (and our various assistants) for their support of me and my family. Although ‘playing for your Coach’ doesn’t always result in a win, knowing that you all have us in your thoughts makes us all feel very grateful.

Our focus now moves to ‘freshening up’ this week in preparation for an improved four-quarter effort against Marryatville HS as we head towards Intercol on August 27th.

**Best Players:** **Jarrod Miller**, **Jack White**, **Ben Adams**, **Liam Geddes-Ryan**, **Josh Wills**

**Goalkickers:** **Jarrod Miller**, **Josh Wills**, **Matt Nielsen 2**, **Chester Oliver**, **Jack White 1**

Barrie Bryan
Coach
**Pulteney 0:0 (0) Mercedes 23:19 (157)**

Saturday was a most disappointing day having only 11 players available to play. Thankfully our opposition was gracious enough to lend some of their players on a rotating basis so both teams could play.

The endeavour and commitment shown by the Pulteney boys who put their hand up to play was most admirable and all should be commended for their commitment to the school.

We have a bye this week and I encourage all players to focus on our final game of the year for which we can demonstrate how much we have improved from our first game.

Paul Bahr
Coach

**Pulteney 2:3 (15) Cabra 8:10 (58)**

The year 8/9 boys were up against tough competition playing against Cabra College who boast a very strong squad filled with a lot of club players.

It was a tough week on the track with some poor weather and even poorer attitudes. What we are trying to instil into this group of players is that on their best day they can match it with the best of them but their inconsistency is a problem. Having a good attitude and training with high intensity ensures you optimise the hours you are training and allows players to improve on their strengths and weaknesses. Spending 3 hours a week on football isn't enough if you truly want to be good at the game, so doing anything outside of this is essential on taking your game to the next level.

Thank you to the parents for the continuous support. It's always great having a chat with all of you and seeing you cheer on your boys.

Goal Scorers: Marro 1, Patty 1

Best Players: Patty, Isaac, Noah, Henry, Griff

There are only two more games left for the season. Let's give it our best and finish the year off strong!!

Nathan Risatano & Justin Bollenhagen
Coaches
What a great team effort with all players contributing to a good, well deserved victory. Important roles were Matt Adams at CHB in the first half rebounding many times, as did Stefan off a HBF reading the ball beautifully. Things were set up by Alex Candy who dominated the ruck all day allowing Rory, Seb and Austin first touch at the stoppages. Pat Winter provided much run and linking up forward movement. Maxi Cavender was terrific on his wing and Jayden was a real livewire up forward. Rory showed class all day whether in the centre or CHF, took on the opposition and gained much ground.

It was good to see Sam and Christian get on the scoreboard and Zach Pouras and Lloyd Cammell getting their hands on the ball. Angus Winter battled hard all day, Charlie really improved as the game went on while Logan Holman and Jack O’Connor were great in defence.

To improve on – When a turnover occurs players must react quickly and man up to prevent opposition running away with the ball. Well done in this area Maxi!

What impressed me most?

1. Before the game the leaders ran the warm up, had everyone talking and ready to play. Well done to the leaders! This transferred into the game.
2. The way everyone pushed hard to win the ball.
3. As the game wore on our use of handball set up many forward thrusts, it made it easier to move the ball as the talk was outstanding.
4. You did that for your coach – You put a smile on Barrie’s face!

Good luck for the remaining 2 games.

Goals – Rory O’Callaghan 3, Jayden Wanzek 2, Pat Winter 2, Matt Adams 1, Maxi Cavender 1, Sam Strawbridge 1, Christian Bizot 1.

Best – Rory O’Callaghan, Matt Adams, Pat Winter, Maxi Cavender, Stefan Gould, Alex Candy, Seb Brett, Austin Brooks

Bill Davis
(Fill-in) Coach

The last time we played Mitcham was in round 1, the score of that game was; Mitcham 12.16 (88) to Pulteney's 0.4. (4). To be able to see practical evidence of how much each player in our team has improved in all areas against a team we played earlier in the year was fantastic. Even though Mitcham were a much taller and experienced opposition, we kept up with them throughout the entire game. Despite Mitcham kicking 4 straight goals in the third term where our team could have thrown in the towel and dropped their heads, our players won the last quarter kicking 3 great goals clearly displaying a 'never give up' attitude. Full credit to all of our boys for the effort, determination and pressure they gave in this very tough battle.
Our teams efforts throughout this game further proved how much their talent is evolving as footballers – they are much bigger winners than what was shown on the scoreboard.

I am also very proud with the amount of unselfish football and sportsmanship the boys show week in week out, playing for each member of our team with the best team outcome in mind at all times. Even in some cases after leaving the ground injured and coming back on giving all they have for the team!

The Pulteney Year 5's are playing an exciting brand of football - and it's only getting better!

I look forward to help improve their skills even further at this weeks training and games. I am really proud and impressed with how much talent the team has and how passionate they all are to become the best footballers they can be.

Thanks to all parents for their help and support especially with bringing oranges out at half time and assisting with goal umpiring.

Rocco Canino
Coach

Pulteney 2:2 (14) Burnside PS 13:9 (87)

On Saturday morning we ventured to the foggy foothills to take on Burnside. The severe slope of the ground and the dewy conditions were no doubt a shock to the playing group but after last week's convincing 4th quarter we trusted that we would be able to play to our full potential. Unfortunately this wasn't to be.

Burnside were a classy group of young footballers and, heading downhill, they kicked away from us early on. They were also a strong tackling side which made using leg speed to get around our opponents a tough task. There were lessons to be learned from playing a team like Burnside. They played unselfishly, always opting to pass the ball when they had the first opportunity. "First give" has been a theme for us all year and I hope the group noticed just how much this attribute adds to the ability of a football team.

The second and third quarters followed a similar story to the first, as Burnside piled on the goals. That being said, we rallied late and our fourth quarter was again our strongest, where we held them goalless on the back of being loaned one of their best players. It shows just how much difference one player can make and, having played the game without two of our most influential players in Patrick and Darcy, we hope that a single game like this doesn't knock the boys' confidence.

Looking forward to getting back on the winners list this week against Concordia/Unley.

Tom Laity & Harry Lumsden
Coaches
Pulteney 6:10 (46) CBC 7:4 (46)

Friday night saw the Pulteney yr3’s play their 1st game under lights against CBC. After a shaky 1st quarter by Pulteney we saw the team build confidence and follow the instructions of the coach. By the 3rd quarter the game was certainly evenly matched with CBC’s straight attacking football being matched by a very determined Pulteney.

The 4th quarter saw us hit the lead however a mark was taken on the siren by CBC from about 25 metres out with a fantastic goal scored by them to end the match on a Draw.

Scott Schulze
Coach

OUR SONG
(to be sung with gusto)

We are the Navy Blues
We are the Old Dark Navy Blues
We’re the team that never lets you down
We’re the only team old Pulteney knows
With all the champions
We’ll keep our heads up
We’ll never give up
And they will know that they’ve been playing
Against the famous Old Dark Blues

(Sung to the tune of the Leslie Stuart song ‘Lily of Laguna’ – Carlton Football Club)

ALWAYS CHECK ‘SPORT THIS WEEK’
for the final word on game times and venues.