Co-ordinator’s report

The 1st XVIII last quarter on Saturday was a great way to send off the year 12 players who were playing their last home game on Pulteney soil. A six goals to nothing final quarter was a good way to finish!

Our other teams all had very competitive games with a special mention to our year 5 team who had a terrific last quarter to defeat a strong Highgate Primary team.

Finally, best of luck to all our teams playing Inter-Col matches this week at Scotch College.

UP THE BLUES

Andy Miller
Football Co-ordinator

PGS 10:5 (65) Marryatville 4:12 (36)

Congratulations to Apostolos Stamatelopoulos and Henry Bleby-Williams who both made their First XVIII debuts in this game.

Sincere thanks to the players who decided to wear black armbands to support Leanne, Ned, Darcy and I, and to pay respects to my father, who passed away on Tuesday night.

Despite the fact that we had previously defeated Marryatville HS by 64 points, this game always had the potential to be a ‘dogfight’ and had ‘danger game’ written all over it:

a) Marryatville had a better team this time around and played good, hard football.

b) Pulteney had 4 of its best 22 missing (Ben Adams, Liam Geddes-Ryan, Henry Saxon and Josh Wills) were all rested/injured...this list includes our Captain, one of our Vice-Captains, and 3 of the competition’s best players) and meant that we had to shuffle our team around.

c) When a game is played in wet conditions, the score tends to be lower and draws two teams closer together.

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Year 3
Jarrod Lienert

Year 2

RESULTS – Round 10

1st XVIII def MHS: 65-36
2nd XVIII: Bye

Year 8/9 def St Pauls: 74-26
Year 6/7 lost PEM: 6-94
Year 5 def Highgate: 53-27
Year 4 lost Unley/Conc: 41-48
Year 2/3 lost Burnside: 28-68

Check out the Football page of the School website
Despite the fact that Marryatville had 7 scoring shots in the first quarter, I was pleased that we were able to maintain composure and still kick 3 goals for the quarter.

**Adam van den Munckhof** started strongly up forward and kicked two early goals, and **Angus Lumsden** who had been moved from defence to attack to begin this game, also kicked a goal.

As rain fell heavily, the second quarter became a ‘slog’ making it very difficult to score; after 12 scoring shots in the first quarter, there were only 3 in the second. Fortunately for Pulteney, Marryatville’s inaccuracy continued, registering only 1 goal from 9 scoring shots in the first half, allowing Pulteney to take a 12 point lead into the long break. **Lachlan Schatto**, who is developing into a lively ‘goal sneak’ was the sole goal kicker in the second quarter.

Marryatville played a very good third quarter, running the ball a bit more and kicking long and direct to their key forwards. Consequently, they kicked 3 goals for the quarter, but were again inaccurate in front of goals (3 goals from 7 scoring shots). To be honest, we were fortunate to only trail by 8 points at ¾ time.

The message at ¾ time was simple: “stay positive...look to run the ball more often...use the attacking side of the ground...and kick long to our key forwards...” I also reassured the players that we only needed to outscore our opponents by 2 goals to win the game.

From Pulteney’s point of view the final quarter was sensational!

**Jarrod Miller** was outstanding, with at least 8 clearances and 2 classy, last-quarter goals.

**Jack White** became a dominant and lively forward, also kicking 2 last quarter goals as a result of his strong, bustling style of play and his ‘never give in’ determination.

**Chester Oliver**, who had been a solid contributor for 3 quarters, lifted his workrate even higher and provided much needed run to help break the game open.

The 8 point deficit was erased inside 5 minutes, as Pulteney went on a 6 goal scoring spree (2 to **Jarrod Miller**, 2 to **Jack White**, and a goal each to **Chester Oliver** and **Zac Sipek**) to run out 29 point winners. This was a pleasing margin given the conditions, the players we had missing, and the fact that we commenced the quarter 8 points behind.

This result reminds us all of the importance of staying positive, calm and focussed when things aren’t going our way and of the importance of persistence, resilience and determination. We must also never underestimate the importance of making the most of our opportunities and the importance of accuracy in front of goal (less scoring shots than Marryatville, yet kicked 6 more goals!)

As mentioned above, our match-winners included **Jarrod Miller**, **Jack White** and **Chester Oliver** but a number of other players made positive contributions:

**James Livesey** is typical of our unsung defensive group who sacrifice their own game and get the job done on most occasions (this group also included players such as **Angus Sexton**, **Zac Sipek**, **Elliott Bennett** and **Angus Lumsden** at various times). It was very pleasing to notice the direction and guidance provided by our defensive leaders throughout this game.

**Apostolos Stamatelopoulos** played at both ends of the ground and added vigour, strength and enthusiasm to the team in his first game at this level.

**Sam Magarey** continues to develop into a very good player and provides class and run from half back as well as being able to nullify opponents each week.

This game (and the eventual result) was important for a number of reasons:

a) We were able to rest some of our hard-working (and sore) players, as part of our preparation for Intercol
b) We were able to give players a taste of playing in other positions, as well as giving a number of Year 10 and 11 players (including Lachlan Schatto, Sam Magarey and Rory Egarr) some midfield experience, which will stand us in good stead for 2017.

c) Besides Apostolos and Henry, we were able to give players such as Edward Knights, Stefan Mundy, Sam White, Elliott Ridgway, Arthur Blunt, Sam Bleby-Williams and Leo Jones another taste of First XVIII Football; again, this will stand us in good stead for 2017.

d) Not counting our 3-0 record in the Anglican Cup, today's win gives us a 5-5 win-loss record for the season, heading into Intercol.

So, after first coming together in November last year, and after countless pre-season and in-season training sessions and meetings, we have one remaining game for Season 2016.

Not only is the game a significant ‘occasion’ one for the Pulteney community, it is a also worth remembering that this will be the final game of ‘School Football’ that our large group of Year 12s will play for Pulteney.

Experience tells me that we must all:

*Relax and enjoy the week

*Try to treat the game as ‘normally’ as possible

*Be careful not to ‘play the game’ before Saturday...relax, prepare as normally as possible, train well and ‘worry’ about Saturday on Saturday

**Best Players:** Jarrod Miller, Jack White, James Livesey, Chester Oliver, Apostolos Stamatelopoulos, Sam Magarey, Angus Sexton, Lachlan Schatto

(Best Players: 12 players received votes from a collation of the votes awarded by Andy, Barrie, Matt and Connor; the top 8 ranked players are listed above)

**Goal-Kickers:** Jarrod Miller, Jack White and Adam van den Munckhof 2 each, Chester Oliver, Angus Lumsden, Lachlan Schatto and Zac Sipek 1 each

Barrie Bryan
Coach

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**NO GAME THIS WEEK**

**Pulteney 11.8 (74) St Pauls 4.2 (26)**

I am very proud of the boys this week and the quick turn around from the week before. Coming up against St Pauls and what happened last time we played them, it was good to see the boys didn't let it get to them and carried themselves well.

For the first time in 8/9 football this year, we loaned players to the other team!! It may have helped with an influx of exciting soccer lads eager to play, but hey! A win is a win!
Best Players: Alex, Liam, Connor, Griff, Ben, Hugh.H
Goal Kickers: Connor 3, Alex 2, Liam 2, Hugh.R, Isaac, Patty, Calvin

We have intercol this weekend against a very strong Scotch outfit. So let's give our best and finish the season off strong.

See you all then!

Nathan Risatano & Justin Bollenhagen
Coaches

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**Pulteney 1:0 (6) Pembroke 14:10 (94)**

Yet again, our Year 6/7 squad of 24 players was decimated by injury, illness and unavailability, leaving us with only 13 players this week; fortunately, Saji Shawgi was able to fill in for us and Darcy Bryan rushed from his Year 4 game to run onto the ground and play the last 10 minutes of the match (thanks to Saji and Darcy for helping us out).

The first quarter of the game was relatively even, thanks largely to the efforts of four players: Rory O'Callaghan tried to give the team some ‘run; Logan Holman and Saji Shawgi were reliable in defence; and Charlie Pearson continues to impress as one of our most improved players.

Pembroke ‘got away’ in the second quarter with our two highlights being a courageous mark taken by Maxim Cavender and a nice goal kicked by Christian Bizot (his second in the last two weeks).

A number of other players such as: Austin Brooks (midfield) and Ned Bryan (Ruck) started to work their way into the game during the second quarter.

From an even team contribution point of view, our third quarter was our best this week. Seb Brett and Austin Brooks started to have a genuine influence on the game, joining Rory O'Callaghan and Saji Shawgi amongst the team’s best players. Other good players in the third quarter included: Charlie Pearson, Maxim Cavender, Clark Escott and Christian Bizot.

I was pleased with the way the boys battled out the final quarter, despite the scoreline becoming increasingly one-sided. Jack O’Connor was one player in particular who played well throughout this quarter.

Special mention to Rory O'Callaghan (a solid four-quarter effort) and Seb Brett (particularly in the second half), who both had a busy week with SAPSASA Football commitments; despite being very tired, both boys turned up and showed leadership and character in the way they led the team.

Another special mention to Ned Bryan, who in the absence of Gabriel Luksich and Alex Candy, was asked to Ruck for the entire four quarters, something he has never done before; thanks very much, Ned.

Thanks very much to Mr Richard O'Callaghan who filled in as our Team Runner this week.

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Next week (Intercol v Scotch, at Scotch, commencing at 8.45am) we hope to be able to select a strong team which would include: Matt Adams, Alex Candy, Patrick Winter, Angus Winter, Jayden Wanzek, Ethan Ho, Slade Hollway and Louis Bell (none of whom played this week).
I hope that everyone makes it to training on Wednesday afternoon and is looking forward to finishing off our season in a positive manner next Saturday!

Goalkickers: **Christian Bizot**

PS: Thanks very much for the card that Rory presented to me after the game and for the support you have all given to Leeanne, Ned, Darcy and I, at this difficult time.

Barrie Bryan
Coach

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**Pulteney 8:5 (53) Highgate 4:3 (27)**

What a great performance from our year 5 team this week - proving yet again how far they have come this season and how much they have improved not only as individuals, but as a team!

Very pleased with the pressure, second efforts and unselfish play shown by all players as we were challenged by a strong opposition early who answered back with each goal we kicked. At half time with scores neck and neck, the focus was on relishing the opportunity that was ahead of us and the positive outlook on being challenged in a game of football.

Smart football, efficient ball use and creating space were key performance indicators for us going into the second half and we were able to shut Highgate down and keep them scoreless in the second half enabling us to play our own brand of football.

Some strong leadership shown by our defenders and midfielders allowed us to get the ball to our forwards effectively and efficiently and give them the best opportunity to convert goals.

At 3 qtr time, I asked our Pulteney players to do something special in the last quarter that they will reflect on in years to come, something that will create a memory for themselves! With some silky passages of play and great goals - this was definitely the case!

It was fantastic to see so many players lift for the team and step up when the game was on the line early, very smooth and dominating performance, full credit goes to our players!

I look forward to help improve their skills even further at this weeks training and games. I'm really proud and impressed with how much talent the team has and how passionate they all are to becoming 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
After an underwhelming performance the previous week against Burnside and a good training session Tuesday night, the boys looked ready to redeem themselves against Unley/Concordia.

The first half saw us play one of our most competitive and hard fought halves of footy all year, the boys tackled well and moved the ball quickly, whilst our backline was unstoppable in keeping the ball out of the opposition's forward half, typified by Elliot Inglis who managed to stop a number of goals through putting his body on the line, as well as Nicholas Restas' brilliant marking.

Our third term was less impressive, we allowed the opposition to kick the ball over the top of us and our tackling pressure dropped off, this meant they caught up to us on the scoreboard and we were even going into the last term.

The last quarter was evenly fought, both sides had scoring shots but it ultimately came down to who won the third term, which resulted in a 7 point deficit at the end of the game for the year 4s. Darcy Bryan had another brilliant game, he is skilled player with a brilliant football mind that can read the play so well at such a young age, something that will continue to benefit him in his footballing years to come. Hayden De Ross had a brilliant game, taking marks and receiving plenty of the ball, the development of his football skills throughout the year has been a privilege to watch.

We look forward to being able to mentor and teach these boys necessary football skills for the remainder of the season.

Tom Lainty & Harry Lumsden
Coaches

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Coming up against a strong Burnside outfit, we needed to start well in the midfield. Unfortunately, Burnside's ability to win the contested football was far greater than ours in the first term.

As the game progressed, we began to keep our feet and win our fair share of the ball. Once we win the ball, the skill level of the side is elite. Teamwork and ball use are certainly areas that we thrive in.

Our inability to man up and defend hurts us when we come up against quality opposition - that was evident on Saturday. We will continue to work on these skills in the remaining games.

Jarrod Lienert
Coach