Co-ordinator’s report

Every week in newspapers, on television and other football related sites they rank AFL clubs in terms of factors such as contested possessions, turnovers, inside 50, kicking efficiency, disposals and many more.

At school level this is clearly more difficult because of a lack of personnel to assist but a number of our coaches in their own way, particularly at training use some of these categories to motivate students in different competitive drills and we would hope to develop further these different aspects of our students game.

The 1st XVIII certainly showed plenty of these attributes on Saturday turning around a 37 goal defeat last year in to a hard fought 6 goal loss despite losing four regular players to injury and illness. The 2nd XVIII also without at least six regulars battled manfully against stronger opposition.

In other highlights the Year 8/9 team reversed an earlier defeat in the season to Blackfriars while both the Year 4 and the Year 2/3 teams also had excellent wins.

Andy Miller
Football Co-ordinator

RESULTS – Round 5
1st XVIII lost MERC: 58-104
2nd XVIII lost MERC:
Year 8/9 def BPS:
Year 6/7 lost IC: 12-111
Year 5 lost CBC: 24-66
Year 4 def Mitcham: 63-40
Year 3 – Lightning Carnival
Year 2 def Magill:

Congratulations to Connor Dudley who played his first First XVIII game for 2016 and to Leo Jones and Elliot Ridgway who made their First XVIII debuts in this game!

After scoring a goal apiece up until the 10 minute mark (our goal came from Jarrod Miller), Mercedes established the ascendancy in the second half of the first quarter adding 3.2 to 0.0 to take a handy 20 point lead into the first break (4.3 to 1.1).

Scoring the first goal of the second quarter, Mercedes stretched their lead to 26 points and appeared headed for another landslide victory.

Full credit to the Pulteney team who worked hard to dominate the next 10 minutes on the scoreboard, adding 3.0 in a 10 minute period (with goals to
Chester Oliver, Connor Dudley and Jarrod Miller) in which Mercedes were held scoreless, thus reducing the margin to only 8 points at the 15 minute mark of the second quarter.

As you would expect from such a good team, Mercedes then hit back, slamming on 3 late goals; Pulteney scored another late goal (courtesy of Tom Baldock), thus reducing the ½ time deficit to 19 points.

This was a sensational second quarter and was one in which Pulteney actually outscored Mercedes 4.1 to 4.0.

Mercedes were at their most dominant in the third quarter with 11 scoring shots (4.7) to 2 (0.2), taking control of the game and establishing a match-winning 48 point lead at ¾ time.

The ¾ time 'chat' focussed on a number of things:

1. I appealed to our hard-working midfielders and leaders to dig deep, to step up and to finish the game as strongly as possible
2. I told the players that the game could now go one of two ways (given that Mercedes were well on top by now and given that our midfielders were ‘fading’, it was a distinct possibility that Mercedes could finish with 20 goals and win by 15 goals)...again, it was a huge task faced by the Pulteney players just to remain competitive in the last quarter
3. I challenged the team to achieve three targets:
   i) to better last year’s goal tally of 6 (we had 5 at ¾ time);
   ii) to better last year’s number of scoring shots, which was 11 (we had 9 at ¾ time);
   iii) to better last year’s total score of 41 (we had 34 at ¾ time).

The Pulteney Community should be tremendously proud of the way the team responded in the last quarter, achieving all three of the targets set at ¾ time and again, outscoring Mercedes in the final quarter (3.6 to 3.4).

Mercedes were held goal-less for the first 15 minutes (0.3) whilst Pulteney added 2.5 (with goals to Connor Dudley and Zac Sipek), before Mercedes kicked 3 late goals to Pulteney’s 1 (to Nick Laity).

Liam Geddes-Ryan was the best player on the field in the first half, accumulating numerous possessions, marking strongly and tackling ferociously; despite fading a bit in the third quarter, Liam finished the game strongly to cap off a very pleasing effort.

Ben Adams, Jack White and Josh Wills worked tirelessly all day and demonstrated tremendous leadership and courage (as they do every week) and are an absolute pleasure to coach.

After being relatively ‘quiet’ in the past two games Sam Magarey was back to his best today, working hard, tackling fearlessly and winning plenty of possessions.

Special mention to Zac Sipek and Angus Lumsden who were pitted against two ‘gun-forwards’ (missed the added support of injured defenders Angus Sexton and Tom Rundle), sacrificed their own game for the good of the team, and stuck to the task all day without a word of complaint; Zac and Angus exemplified what I mean by ‘Team First’ Football.

Similarly, Matt Nielsen does his job every week and despite receiving excellent support from Tom Baldock, does the vast majority of the rucking single-handedly, allowing us to play Tom forward where he always kicks goals for us.

Well done to Nick Laity, who played with the intensity and energy that the team needs from him, and to Jarrod Miller who adds class and goal-scoring ability to our forward line.

Finally, a word of acknowledgement to Connor Dudley...he has acted as the Team Runner for the first 4 games of the season, has attended most training sessions and has provided his team-mates (and the Coach!) with outstanding support, encouragement and mature insights. This week he decided to risk his shoulder and to play; despite again injuring his shoulder early in the match, Connor showed tremendous physical and mental courage to remain on the ground, to play well and to kick two valuable goals.

Despite losing the match, this was an outstanding effort from the Pulteney First XVIII Team and ranks right up there with the effort against St Paul’s as our best performances of the season so far.
You’ve only got to look at the table below to see what a monumental task the players had in front of them, how significant their improvement has been, and how well they performed in this game.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Improvement</th>
<th>2015 v Mercedes</th>
<th>2016 v Mercedes</th>
<th>29 goals 9 behinds</th>
<th>15.14-.104 to 8.10-58</th>
<th>27.4 less for them: 2.5 more for us</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Final Score</td>
<td>43.12-270</td>
<td>15.14-.104</td>
<td>30 goals</td>
<td>6.5-41</td>
<td>104 to 8.10-58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>208 to 6.5</td>
<td>208 to 41</td>
<td>(28 less for them: 2 more for us)</td>
<td>29 goals</td>
<td>183 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goals scored</td>
<td>43 to 6</td>
<td>15 to 8</td>
<td>30 goals</td>
<td>55 to 11</td>
<td>29 to 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15 to 8</td>
<td>28 less for them: 2 more for us</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>26 less for them: 7 more for us</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scoring Shots</td>
<td>55 to 11</td>
<td>29 to 18</td>
<td>33</td>
<td></td>
<td>183 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Losing Margin</td>
<td>229 points</td>
<td>46 points</td>
<td>183 points</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In round figures, this represents a 30 goal improvement on last year’s result!!! (against a team that got 18 points closer to St Paul's than we did and 69 points closer to Trinity than we did).

As Coach, I am tremendously proud of the Pulteney players, full of admiration for their courage, and have genuine optimism that with continued hard work, the 2016 season still promises to provide rich rewards and lifelong memories for the team!

***To the players:

i) Remember how well you trained last Thursday and look at how well the team played on Saturday.

We must now ensure that we demonstrate the same work ethic and intensity at every training session

**Best Players:** Liam Geddes-Ryan, Ben Adams, Jack White, Josh Wills, Sam Magarey, Zac Sipek, Matt Nielsen, Connor Dudley, Nick Laity, Jarrod Miller

**Goal-Kickers:** Connor Dudley, Jarrod Miller 2, Tom Baldock, Nick Laity, Chester Oliver, Zac Sipek 1

Barrie Bryan
Coach

There is no other way to say it. The way we started our game on the weekend was very poor. We lacked intensity, pressure and the desire to compete. It was most unlike the Pulteney brand of football that we had been displaying this year.

As we discussed after the game each player needs to be responsible, ensuring they are mentally prepared for the start of the game.

Thankfully this turned out to be an aberration. We started the second quarter much better and by halfway through we were playing the competitive style of football which has become our signature.

Our midfield raised their intensity and attack on the ball and this enthusiasm for the contest and desire to compete spread throughout the whole team.

It was no coincidence that once our attitude changed as a group we started to hit the scoreboard.

Make No mistake as far as 2nd XVIII football goes our opposition was about as good as they get.
I would like to make special mention of Sam Hore for his Herculean effort rucking for the whole game. Despite being exhausted and the game lost, Sam continued to compete until the very end. There was no better example of this when in the last quarter he dug deep chased and pressured a much smaller and agile opponent for 20 metres forcing him to kick the ball out on the full. He doesn't get a stat, but that is what everyone looks for in a teammate.

I would also like to acknowledge Elliott Ridgway’s effort for staying in the contest and competing and winning a three on one. By getting the ball forward against much larger opponents, this competitiveness directly resulted in us scoring a goal.

Final Note:
- As a group I believe in you. We are becoming a better team and this week we improved again.
- As a team we focus on the things we can control
- Our success is measured by our Desire To Compete and stay in the contest not the scoreboard

Paul Bahr
Coach

PGS  v  BPS

No report received

Nathan Risatano & Justin Bollenhagen
Coaches

PGS 2:0  (12)  IC  17:9  (111)

Despite the score line once again there was much to be pleased with and proud of this week.
This included:
1. Discipline and Sportsmanship...all Pulteney players!
2. Leadership and Persistence eg Rory, Matt, Gabs
3. Willingness to take the game on eg Rory and Seb’s ‘run and carry’
4. Continued improvement of our players eg Slade, Jack, Ned

Areas requiring improvement:
1. Tackling...despite the work we had done on tackling at training, we tackled with our hands far too often, rather than with our stronger upper arms and chest
2. Marking...we simply dropped too many marks which allowed Immanuel players a second opportunity to gain possession

Special thanks to Mr O’Callaghan for stepping in at extremely short notice to umpire the game.

Just a reminder for the boys (and their parents): given that Pulteney players are representing their school on Saturdays, players are expected to arrive wearing Pulteney uniform (ie Pulteney
playing uniform as well as Pulteney tracksuit, rugby tops etc if required)...club, AFL gear and other assorted tops can be worn at other times over the weekend!

I am looking forward to seeing you all at school during the week and at training on Wednesday as we prepare for our final game of the term (versus Sacred Heart at Pulteney).

Best Players: Rory O’Callaghan, Matt Adams, Gabriel Luksich, Austin Brooks, Angus Winter, Jack O’Connor, Logan Holman

Goal kickers: Gabriel Luksich, Angus Winter 1 each

Barrie Bryan
Coach

PGS 2:12 (24) CBC 10:6 (66)

Our Pulteney Year 5's were defeated by CBC this week 10.6.66 to 2.12.24.

All players tried their best throughout the four quarters but CBC were a better side on the day. I am very pleased with all of the boys' attitude towards the contest with the second efforts and pressure we provided and the ability to not give up and try to fight our way back into the contest.

It was exciting to see some great bursts through play and strong contested marks which is key evidence to the great skill level of our players. A significant stat for our team is our ability to gain a high number of inside 50's which just needs the composure to kick the ball between the two middle posts.

After working hard at training, it is clear we have improved in our ability to move the ball up the ground with many 'Coast to Coast' tactics being implemented. We will continue to keep improving at training across all areas including our goal kicking efficiency under pressure.

I would also like to thank the ongoing support from families at games who cheer our team on, and assist in helping with goal umpiring, setting up of equipment and providing oranges/snacks for the players. This is very much appreciated.

Looking forward to training on Tuesday and another game next week.

Rocco Canino
Coach
PGS 9:9 (63) v Mitcham 6:4 (40)

This weekend saw the boys take on a tough Mitcham Primary School side. The first 3 quarters was characterised by tight, contested, even footy that resulted in only a 6 point lead heading into the final terms.

We asked the boys to all play their roles in the last quarter and they did just that with one of the most convincing quarters of football we have played all year. Starting from the midfield it all began with Darcy Bryant, who kicked 3 consecutive goals in the last quarter and looked unstoppable all game. Nicholas Restas provided opportunities up forward all day and was rewarded with 2 excellent goals. Whilst down back Sam Creaser played his best game all year so far, breaking tackles and running the ball out of defence.

There was an even spread of best players with everyone having an impact and contributing. Shared impact going forward will be an important thing for us to try and emulate, as it allows us to play as a team and utilise everyone’s strengths.

Tom Laity & Harry Lumsden
Coaches

Lightning Carnival

The Pulteney Year 3s performed strongly in the Lightning Carnival on Saturday. We played 5x8 minute games throughout the morning and maintained a consistent output during the matches. This resulted in us winning 3 out of the 5 contests.

Once again, skill level and long kicking was a feature of our play like it has been all season. The sides ability to man up has improved over the past fortnight and development in this area was again evident throughout today’s games. We will continue to work on our concentration as we move forward, but overall it was another pleasing day.

The most enjoyable aspect of today’s game was the way that I could see the kids genuinely have fun. Although the last game was a tight tussle, the players had smiles on their faces as they enjoyed playing a highly skilled game of footy.

Great work boys and girls, remember to learn the song before next week! We are the Navy Blues!

Jarrod Lienert
Coach

Year 2: - PGS v Magill

No report

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.