Co-ordinator’s report

Old Scholar Michael Aish was unable to attend last weekends 1st XVIII match against St Ignatius in which the two schools play for the annual Aish-Warhurst trophy.

He however sent a message to the players which included a sentence that Muhammed Ali once said that the will has to be greater than the skill and that the opposition will look twice if they know that every time they get near the ball their Pulteney opposition is harassing them and putting them under pressure.

The 1st XVIII victory by two points on Saturday and our first victory in ten years was a reflection of Michael’s message and the players are to be congratulated.

Our other teams had mixed success but it was again encouraging to see the positive reports from the Year 2/3, Year 4 and Year 5 coaches whose teams all had good wins. Our Year 6/7 team has generally struggled this year but the improvement is evident in that having been defeated by Immanuel College by 15 goals earlier in the season they managed to get within 6 goals on Saturday.

Well done boys.

Andy Miller
Football Co-ordinator

PGS 11:8 (74) SIC 10:12 (72)

Pulteney Grammar School and St Ignatius first competed against each other for the Aish-Warhurst Trophy in 1996. Pulteney won 6 of the first 7 games played before St Ignatius established its dominance, winning the trophy 10 times (there was a drawn game in 2005 and competition between the two school went into ‘recess’ from 2012-2014).

Prior to this week’s result, Pulteney had not held the trophy since 2002 and last year were defeated 30.17-197 to 1.1-7, by a whopping 190 points!
Consequently, St Ignatius went into this game as red-hot favourites and even the most optimistic and one-eyed Pulteney supporters would have doubted our team’s chances of being anything other than ‘competitive’ this year.

In a message read to the players before the game, Michael Aish wrote of his pride in being a Pulteney Old Scholar and ex-parent, wished the team ‘Good Luck’ and urged this year’s players to run hard, to tackle strongly and to make ‘your opposition earn every ball they get.’

When St Ignatius kicked the first two goals (into the breeze) in the first quarter, they looked like being too slick, too fast and too skilful for Pulteney to match.

About halfway through the quarter however, the Pulteney team seemed to lift and started to fight more desperately for the ball; such desperation was exemplified by Josh Wills chasing down and tackling an opponent who was racing towards goal, despite given him 40 metres head start! (this is a great lesson for us all about the importance of the ‘one percenters’ in contributing to the eventual outcome of a match).

Adam van den Munckhof and Rory Egarr kicked goals in the first quarter to ensure Pulteney held a slender lead at the first change.

Once again, St Ignatius skipped away early in the second quarter, to lead by as much as 20 points at one stage. St Ignatius eventually kicked 4 goals for the quarter.

Pulteney’s renowned resilience and determination again came to the fore as the team added 3 goals for the quarter through Adam van den Munckhof (his second goal), Jack White and Matt Nielsen (who marked strongly and goaled after the siren) to reduce the half-time deficit to 8 points.

A feature of the first half was the tackling pressure of the Pulteney players, the hard work of the midfield group (including Jack White, Ben Adams and Liam Geddes-Ryan) and the ‘liveliness’ of the forward line led by Adam van den Munckhof, Lachlan Schatto and Jarrod Miller.

At half-time we spoke about the importance of maintaining discipline, of restricting the run of the St Ignatius team, of ‘setting up’ more thoughtfully at centre bounces and stoppages, and of the need for some of our players to lift their work rate (Jarrod Miller was once such player singled out: Jarrod had been a ‘useful’ contributor in the first half but was reminded that with greater concentration and discipline, he could elevate himself from ‘useful’ to ‘match-winner’, such is his importance to our team).

At the end of last term, I presented some statistics to our Year 12s highlighting the fact that our third quarters had been our least productive; as a result, we agreed to change a few things that we do during the long break, ensuring that after having a rest, we were physically and mentally ‘switched on’ again before the game recommenced (this included getting back out on to the ground earlier and gradually building the intensity of the warm-up).

This week, the third quarter proved to be our most productive (!) as the team added 4.1 to 2.3 to turn an 8 point half-time deficit into a 2 point lead at three-quarter-time.

Jarrod Miller responded to the half-time ‘chat’ and became a genuine focal point up forward, marking strongly and kicking 2 goals; Jack White and Liam Geddes-Ryan also kicked a goal each in the third quarter.

So, with Pulteney leading by 2 points and with St Ignatius aided by a slight breeze, the stage was set for an epic final quarter to decide the winner of the Aish-Warhurst Trophy for 2016.

Jarrod Miller played as a deep forward in this last quarter and when he kicked his third goal for the match, Pulteney’s lead was extended to 8 points.

St Ignatius refused to give up however, and when they kicked the next 2 goals and hit the front, it looked like the trophy would remain in their keeping.
For the umpteenth time in the game, and with many players now well and truly ‘running on empty’, the Pulteney team yet again dug deep into its reserves of grit, perseverance and determination to repeatedly pump the ball forward. As well as a few rushed behinds and near misses, Jarrod Miller again marked strongly and kicked accurately (his 4th goal in the second half!) to establish a 5 point lead with only a couple of minutes remaining.

St Ignatius continued to attack; their midfielders swept the ball forward and their forwards marked strongly. Fortunately for Pulteney, the last 3 scoring shots of the game were all behinds to St Ignatius, including a shot for goal after the siren which missed narrowly to the right.

Scenes of jubilation greeted the final siren as the realisation that a 14 year ‘drought’ had at last been broken!

Tears of pride and joy flowed from a number of parents, and even the crusty, old coach found himself ‘choked up’ (!).

I feel so very proud of the players and so very happy for them, particularly for the Year 12s who got to experience such excitement and exhilaration and who deserve such rewards for their hard work, their commitment and their leadership.

On accepting the Aish-Warhurst Shield Ben Adams spoke with maturity and humility, acknowledging the vanquished opposition and thanking the umpires.

This was an outstanding TEAM effort and adds to the growing sense of belief and confidence within the team; the victory was also just reward for the players’ work ethic, courage, resilience, determination, perseverance and willingness to give their ‘all’ for their team-mates, their school and the wider Pulteney community.

As such, these players fully deserve our acknowledgement and congratulations!

Michael Aish’s message concluded with:

“Today is a day that you play for a trophy that Tom and I are privileged to have had named after us. Is it worth winning?...Absolutely!!!"

Best Players: Jack White, Ben Adams, Liam Geddes-Ryan, Josh Wills, Jarrod Miller, Matt Nielsen, Lachlan Schatto, Angus Sexton, Sam Magarey, Adam van den Munckhof

(Best Players: 11 players received votes from a collation of the votes awarded by Andy, Barrie and Mike; the top 10 ranked players are listed above).

Goal-Kickers: Jarrod Miller 4, Adam van den Munckhof 2, Rory Egarr, Liam Geddes-Ryan, Ben Adams, Matt Nielsen, Jack White 1 each

The table below highlights the improved performance of the Pulteney First XVIII Team in the Aish-Warhurst Trophy game versus St Ignatius, from 2015 to 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goal Kickers</th>
<th>Pulteney versus St Ignatius without Dudley, Rundle, Saxon</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Goals for ’15</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goals for ’16</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goals against ’15</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Goals against ’16</td>
<td>20</td>
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</table>
Our first game back after the break was a tough one. We came up against a skilled opposition who were intent on inflicting as much scoreboard pain as they could.

At times during the game we had as few as 13 players on the field compared to an opposition which was rotating a bench of five.

Despite this as a team we competed. We did not throw in the towel nor did we hang our heads.

As I mentioned to the players after the game, regardless of the situation or the nature of the loss there are always things we can learn.

A couple of key learnings out of this game was the ability of our opposition to continually shepherd us and prevent us from making tackles or putting significant pressure on the ball carrier. Shepherdding has nothing to do with skill level and is simply a mindset about how you choose to play the game. There is nothing stopping us from replicating that and putting it into our own game.

Secondly our best quarter of the game was the last. The reason for this was just before the three-quarter time there was a minor altercation which fired up a number of the players.

With this the team lifted its level of competitiveness to another level. Now that we know we have that within us we must not wait for an event or situation to bring that out of us. We must demand that level of competitiveness from ourselves at all times.

Paul Bahr
Coach
Well for the third time this season we suited up to play Blackfriars.

A couple of players down, we entered the game with 16 very capable young men who informed us they wanted to play without fill ins and thus played Blackfriars two men down the whole game (18 v 16). The first half was played with real ferocity and determination. There was no question there was a burning desire from the boys and their attack at the contest and the football.

Unfortunately being down a couple of players, that intensity could not be sustained and we were run off our feet in the last half. One thing we will be working on in the coming weeks is our ability to hold onto the ball when being tackled and not coughing up easy possessions for the opposition.

Thank you to all the parents and family/friends that came out to watch. We really enjoy the optimism and positivity of you all.

FYI - We have a game this Wednesday night. Please let either Nathan or myself know if you either cannot make the game or will be in attendance and may be able to help out. Thank you.

Goal Scorers: Griff, Connor, Ben, Liam

Best Players: Griffin, Calvin, Patty, Ben, Noah, Liam

Nathan Risatano & Justin Bollenhagen
Coaches

As a result of injury, illness and unavailability, our team of 24 players was reduced to only 16 for this game and yet the effort from our boys was very pleasing and was quite possibly their best performance for the season!

Despite kicking into the wind in the first quarter, Pulteney trailed by only 1 point at ¼ time. The highlights of the quarter were the goal scored by Rory O’Callaghan and the tackling pressure of the Pulteney players.

Immanuel played a very good second quarter and extended their lead to 21 points by ½ time.

Charlie Pearson kicked his first goal for the season in the third quarter and by ¾ time Pulteney had already equalled the score recorded against Immanuel earlier in the season (2.0-12).

Pulteney had 3 scoring shots in the last quarter with the highlight being Jayden Wanzek’s strong mark which resulted in him kicking his first goal for the season; this meant that Pulteney had scored goals in 3 of the 4 quarters.

Matt Adams worked tirelessly in defence and in the midfield and was a tackling ‘machine’ for the entire 4 quarters.

Rory O’Callaghan again displayed his class and leadership, gathering many possessions.

Alex Candy did a terrific job in the ruck, continually palming the ball to the advantage of his teammates.
Sam Strawbridge attacked the ball with vigour and played his best game for the season.

Austin Brooks gathered numerous possessions in the midfield, and Angus Winter displayed controlled aggression through his tackling and courageous attack on the ball.

Special mention to Charlie Pearson and Jayden Wanzek who each kicked their first goals for the season and to Ned Bryan, who assisted Alex in the Ruck, in the absence of the injured Gabriel Luksich.

When we played against Immanuel earlier this year, Immanuel kicked 17.9-111 and Pulteney lost by 99 points; this week Immanuel was restricted to a score of 9.8-62 and the losing margin was reduced to 42 points. This indicates a huge 57 point (close enough to 10 goals) improvement! (see the table below).

**Best Players:** Matt Adams, Rory O’Callaghan, Alex Candy, Sam Strawbridge, Austin Brooks, Angus Winter

**Goalkickers:** Rory O’Callaghan, Charlie Pearson, Jayden Wanzek

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Two games versus Immanuel</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Score in Game One</td>
<td>2.0.12 to 17.9.111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Score in Game Two</td>
<td>3.2.20 to 9.8.62</td>
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<tr>
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<td>2</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Improvement:</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goals conceded in Game One</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goals conceded in Game Two</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Improvement:</strong></td>
<td>8 less goals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scoring shots in Game One</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scoring shots in Game Two</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Improvement:</strong></td>
<td>3 more scoring shots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scoring shots conceded in Game One</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scoring shots conceded in Game Two</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Improvement:</strong></td>
<td>9 less scoring shots</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total points scored in Game One</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total for points scored in Game Two</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Improvement:</strong></td>
<td>8 more points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total points conceded in Game One</td>
<td>111</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total points conceded in Game Two</td>
<td>62</td>
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<td><strong>Improvement:</strong></td>
<td>49 less points</td>
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<td>Losing margin in Game One</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Losing margin in Game Two</td>
<td>42</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Well done, boys! A much better effort this week.

I look forward to seeing you all out at training on Wednesday as we prepare for our next game against Sacred Heart.

Barrie Bryan
Coach

Pulteney 5:7 (37) Belair Primary 4:9 (33)

A discussion held at a previous training session was based around implementing a 'leadership group' into our team. This leadership group doesn't consist or 3-4 players but the ENTIRE squad.

I asked our players to ensure they were demonstrating various leadership attributes not only at training but during games and Saturday's game against Belair proved this was a positive initiative for the team.

Each player showed outstanding on-field leadership and teamwork whether they were playing up forward, in the midfield or in defence. Our team has a philosophy to play each rotating position they play in with 100% effort which brings out the best in the whole team performance.

A turning point in the game was our strong defensive pressure especially when our players were able to put in the extra effort to save numerous goals in the defensive goal square with some brilliant 'Leo Barry' style marks.

Our set shots for goal have improved greatly including some great long kicks from 20-25 metres out!

I look forward to help improve their skills even further at this week's training and games. I'm really proud and impressed with how much the boys have improved so far - fantastic!

Thanks to all parents for their help and support.

Rocco Canino
Coach

Pulteney 12:12 (84) Magill PS 5:3 (33)

The year 4s started term 3 with an emphatic 51-point win over Magill. Right from the outset we were on top and in command of the game and we barely let up throughout.

Playing only 8 players a side, there was much space available for the players willing to work the hardest and we were both happy with the work rate of all the players. Commendably, the ability for our players to work both ways was on display all day.
It really was a case of all played well, but the biggest standout from our perspective was Lucas. He attacked the ball all day and seemed to always make the correct decision under pressure, as well as kicking three goals. Darcy was his usual classy self and Sam and Luke played well together up forward. It is very good to watch when these two work as a team to share the goals around.

We are looking forward to another win in our Friday night game against CBC this week.

Goalkickers: Luke 4, Lucas 3, Darcy 2, Sam 2, Jake

Tom Laity & Harry Lumsden
Coaches

Pulteney 5:3 (33) Highgate 5:2 (32)

Kicking into a breeze in the first quarter, the side had to get off to a strong start in the midfield. Unfortunately however, Highgate began the game with greater intensity and got the jump on us.

A sound fight back with the wind in the second term gave us a slight advantage going into half time. Our ball movement was long and direct which gave our forwards many scoring opportunities. The third quarter was certainly the most impressive of the game and possibly the year. Identifying that we were kicking into the wind, the team chipped the ball short and found free players on frequent occasions. The use of handball and run also allowed us to control the game for the entire quarter. Our ability to not only identify the situation but also execute the game plan was very pleasing.

Despite a gallant fight back from Highgate in the final term, the side held on to win by a point. We look forward to building consistency over the 4 quarters in future weeks. Still very pleased with the first game back after holidays. A great effort!

Jarrod Lienert
Coach

Year 2: - Pulteney - Lightning Carnival

Pulteney’s year 2 footballers played in a Lightning Carnival winning 3 games and losing three!

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.
2016 AISH – WARHURST FIXTURE: Pulteney v St Ignatius