

# BOMBHELL



ROUND 4

1<sup>ST</sup> MAY

## PLAYER PROFILES

### KAI PEARCE



**What team are you in and when did you start playing AFL?**

U10 Red Bombers, Auskick in 2013

**Who is your favourite team and player?**

Sydney Swans, Luke Parker.

**Favourite thing to do other than AFL?**

School PSSA, handball, hang out with friends, skate park

**Favourite food?**

Olives, apples, tacos

**Best footy advice you've been given?**

How to kick on the run and to kick the ball at 7 o'clock.

**Best joke?**

Q: Why was the number 10 scared?

A: Because 7, 8, 9! (7 ATE 9!!)

### HUNTER PICKETT



**What team are you in and when did you start playing AFL?**

U10 Black. I started playing in the U8's.

**Who is your favourite team and player?**

Essendon Bombers, Jobe Watson.

**Favourite thing to do other than AFL?**

Triathlons.

**Favourite food?**

Apples.

**Best footy advice you've been given?**

Never, ever, ever give up.

**Best joke?**

Q: What jam can't you eat?

A: A traffic jam!

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Miranda Australian Football Club

miranda\_bombers

If you have any photos you would like to submit for the Bombers social media or Bombshell, please email them to [bombshell@mirandabombers.org](mailto:bombshell@mirandabombers.org)

# ROUND 5 - SUNDAY 8<sup>th</sup> MAY

TEAM	TIME	OPPONENT	LOCATION
Auskick	8.00 am	Heathcote Hawks	Lincoln Oval
U8 Auskick	8.00 am	Heathcote Hawks	Lincoln Oval
U9 Black	8.00 am	Ramsgate Rams Gold	Lincoln Oval
U9 Red	9.15 am	Heathcote Hawks	Lincoln Oval
U10 Black	10.25 am	Cronulla Sharks White	Lincoln Oval
U10 Red	9.15 am	Cronulla Sharks Navy	Lincoln Oval
U11	10.25 am	Cronulla Sharks Titan	Lincoln Oval
U13	12.00 pm	Manly	Lincoln Oval
U15	1.30 pm	Western Suburbs	Lincoln Oval
U17	3.00 pm	Western Suburbs	Lincoln Oval

**PLEASE NOTE:** The draw is subject to change. Your team manager will confirm your game details each week.



## ROUND 5 MOTHERS DAY



This Sunday is Mothers' Day, and the Miranda Bombers want to take the opportunity to support the worthy cause of breast cancer awareness.

Auskick, U9's, U10's and U11's will be playing in support of the Breast Cancer Network Australia.

U13's, U15's and U17's will be sporting hot pink socks in support of the McGrath Foundation.

Please come along wearing pink in support of the day.  
And Mums, there will be a special mothers day treat for you on the day!

Breast cancer is the most common cancer affecting Australian women. In 2016, it is estimated that 15,934 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer – an average of 43 women every day.

The McGrath Foundation and the Breast Cancer Network Australia work to ensure that those affected by breast cancer receive the best support, information & treatment.



# AUSKICK

## AUSKICK vs. Cronulla Sharks, Gwawley Oval

The inclement weather did not dampen the passion of the Auskickers in their game against the Cronulla Sharks. The match started with an enthusiastic run out from the club house by all the players through a guard of honour, a great initiative by the Sharks. During the games it is very pleasing to see the skill development of the players, from knowing where to run to receive a pass to accurate kicking and strong marking. A great morning of football, we are looking forward to our first home game this weekend.

The rain held off to allow the Miranda bombers u7 take on the Cronulla Sharks in an away game at Taren point on Sunday.. The kids looked sharp in the warm up and were keen to get the games under way. We continue to show improvements in our hand passes and managed to get some good contact on the ball when kicking in. Due to our big numbers we were again spread over two fields which allows for a flowing and entertaining game. It's great to see all of the kids keen to be involved and show great sportsmanship on the field. Well done 7's.

### Weekly Award Winners:

U5/6 – Mason Rivers

U7 – Lachlan Menywether, Jaydne Dundas

U8 – Myles Panozzo, James Munro

# U9 BLACK

## U9 BLACK vs. Cronulla Navy, Gwawley Oval

U9 Miranda Black travelled to Cronulla last weekend to take on Cronulla Navy. Cronulla, like Miranda, have some kids in their 4th year of football and had posted some strong performances to date. Our boys were keen to take on and experienced opposition to put our new found tackling skills and running leads to the test. Whilst the game remained tight for 80% of the game, the boys showed class and skill to get on top in the mid field in the last quarter. Some great deliveries into our forwards gave us plenty of opportunity to kick at the sticks. Strong performance and running marks in our defensive third was a highlight of the game with the boys remaining composed under pressure. It's great to see the kids loving their footy and new friendships developing with the boys that are new to the club.

Go Bombers!

Coach Bec

# U9 RED

## U9 RED vs. Cronulla Sharks Titans, Gwawley Oval

The boys from Miranda Red U9 travelled to Gwawley oval to play against the Cronulla Titans. The level of effort was really good against a much more experienced team and in all likelihood, probably the hardest team we will play this year. I was particularly happy with some signs from our first year players that they are really starting to catch on to the game.

Please see comments below.

Oli O' Mahony – great game and we saw his first bounce, I'm sure there will be many more to come.

Alex Watson – we started to see him using that big frame to the teams advantage by bullocking through the pack. great effort.

Sammy Urquhart – we saw him win the ball and kick to the advantage of his team mates

Ash Dicker – another great game from Ash in the clinches, good ball winning ability shown again.

Max Fallon – a courageous fellow who is not afraid to dive into the packs and win the ball

Linc Roberts – is a natural Aussie rules player/he already understands the importance of finding space- and pressuring the other team to turn over the ball

Dylan Harvey – I was really happy with Dylan at training on Friday, he did his best couple of kicks I have seen this year, he is becoming more comfortable as the youngest member of the team and with practise, will develop into a great rover.

Darcy P – an exciting player to watch, his best game of the year so far, and he is even good enough to head the other way, realise he's going the wrong way, and not get caught

Joe Murray – good solid game again from Joe for his team, lots of effort in the contest and some nice drop punts

Cam Memagh – a great display from Cam, really good effort particularly in the first quarter when his team needed him/ an effort that fitted in with the GWS Giants at Spotless the day before

Will McClean – will carried on from his great training session on Friday to get involved and play a great game for the team. Well done Will.

Luke Cain – is a livewire and has plenty of ability and its an absolute joy to have him on the team. Some great discussions with the Coach.

Cave McKnight – always a danger man when he is near the ball, very talented and impossible to get a hand on him.

Charlie Marks – Bradford – its good to see Charlie develop each week, lovely boy who enjoys himself each training and game and gets better each week

Flynn Durante – special mention for Flynn who had root canal therapy during the week but mum and dad had to restrain him from playing which was no easy feat.

Our first home game at Lincoln Oval next Sunday against Heathcote Hawks at 9.15am on a big field so lots of running next week. I look forward to seeing everyone at the ground at 8.45am or earlier.

## U10 BLACK

### U10 Black vs. Cronulla Blue, Gwawley Oval

Bombers Black were away to Cronulla Blue with only 9 players available, but Bombers Red U10s had a bye so we invited a few of their players down to join us. We took a strong squad into a 13 a side match. Cronulla Blue look like one of the stronger teams in our comp, but we were able to get on top of them early when we had our larger group of players in the forward line although we missed alot of shots on goal. Cronulla fought back in the second quarter outscoring us and making it a close game at half time. We regained the ascendancy in the third quarter marginally outscoring Cronulla before finishing very strongly in the last quarter with a flurry of goals.

Jayden, Kai, Ethan and Scott from Bombers Red were all solid contributors on the day. Jayden finished the match with 5 goals capitalising well on some very good work from players up the field. Hunter got the coaches award for some great contested work and some really brave marks. Aaron, Jack and Ryan played well when the ball was in their area. Alex, Jasper, Billie and Callum all did well. Callum battled on after a knock in his first game back from

injury and Billie increased his involvement winning an important possession in the middle and delivered a well executed handpass to a support player which led to a forward entry.

At training we worked on getting back off the mark with more urgency, giving ourselves enough room to properly execute our kicks and looking to move the ball quicker. The boys definitely improved in that area, generally made good decisions and moved the ball mostly in line with our game plan. There were a few big boys in the opposition and they were given plenty of latitude on the 10m rule when running the ball, but our boys tackled well and that caught a few of them by surprise. We still need to improve the consistency with which we man up and guard dangerous space, particularly when the opposition are kicking out from points. At times we got caught watching the player kicking the ball out instead of the players he was going to kick to and allowed a few easy long kick ins to unmarked players. A really good effort from the boys in a game during which they were challenged but proved too strong.

## U10 RED

U10 RED – BYE

## U11

U11 vs. Penshurst Panthers, Olds Park  
Penshurst 9.11.65 defeated Miranda 2.0.12

### Goals

Ethan, Lachie (1 each)

After a strong win last weekend and a very good second half performance in round 1 against Penshurst, we went into this week's game with a lot of confidence. Our captains for the day were Kye and Evan. Unfortunately we ran in to a very hot Penshurst team that dominated the game for the first quarter and a half. Our backline was under pressure immediately and most of the first quarter was spent in Penshurst's forward half as they worked strongly and supported each other. Our backline fought hard with Blake solid at fullback taking a number of strong defensive marks. Ben was putting in his normal effort, running hard and tackling strongly and adding another facet to his game, contested overhead marking. Ethan was providing his normal strong contest, including a fantastic smother, at the unfamiliar position of centre half back, while Noah H and Sam were competing hard. Our forward line didn't see much of the ball but Noah G, Theo and Aidan were doing their best in the centre.

In the second quarter a few positional changes gave us a better structure and although we were more competitive, Penshurst were still dominating the game. Ethan moved into the centre and combined with Theo to even out the clearances. Paul and Riley started to see some more ball out wide. Noah G, moved to the backline and provided a strong contest across half back, combining well with Noah H, Liam and Sam. Ben continued his run out of defence and Blake remained a rock in the last line. Up forward, Tom, Lachie and Kye were providing lively targets. Highlight of the quarter was a great goal set up by strong contested work by James who handballed to Lachie running in support who got the ball to Ethan who finished well.

At half time, being 7 goals down it was all about fighting the game out and winning the half. The boys were challenged to lift their game and work harder. The response was fantastic and Penshurst all of a sudden found out that they couldn't have things all their own way. A few more positional changes saw Tom and Kye move into the centre, James into the backline and Noah H forward. In an even quarter Lachie was the standout, rewarded with a fine goal he was everywhere across half forward. Evan was providing leadership on the field through great forward pressure and Paul, having moved forward was presenting strongly. Noah G and Liam were reading the ball well across half back and our disposal skills lifted across the field. James and Sam were tackling hard and winning contested ball in the backline and Blake continued to repel attacks. Aidan was fantastic on the wing running hard to make leads. Kye attacked the ball ferociously and played a great captain's game leading by example.

The boys continued the strong competitive effort in the last quarter and although Penshurst narrowly won the quarter, we were all proud of the boy's efforts. Ethan was dominant in the last quarter with a number of great marks, Liam came into the game more and Lachie, Riley and Tom were providing great run across half forward, we just could quite finish off our opportunities.

Our award winners for the day were Blake and Kye. Blake saved at least 5 goals with intercept marking and strong contested play on the ground. Kye, after being starved of opportunity in the first half playing forward, provided fantastic fight and leadership in the second half, working extremely strongly to support his teammates.

Overall it was pleasing that the boys showed fight in the second half but we need to turn up and play from the first bounce so I am sure we will learn from that.

Hopefully in the next few weeks we will have Oscar and Ben H back from injury and Jonah back in the team as well.

Thanks again to Andrew for running, Daniel for goal umpiring, Virginie for being our medical officer and Ryan for filling in as team manager.

## U13

**U13 vs Maroubra Saints, Pioneers Park  
Miranda 7.3.45 defeated ST Ives 4.3.27**

### Goals

**DeRieve, Parker (2), Cole, Duffield, Ivanovski (1 each)**

A huge turnout for our trip to Malabar to take on the Maroubra Saints in one of our shortest trips so far... The ground condition was amazing given the rainy and start to the day and with 22 keen and eager young footballers there was a positive vibe in the camp. When Maroubra started the day with only 12 players things started to get interesting but by the first bounce they had 17 so a reasonable bench to kick things off. By the end though Maroubra only had 14 fit players meaning that we had an 8 man bench...not the greatest outcome but a huge thankyou again to all of the boys for their patience as we tried to keep the rotations going.

Despite the football surface being lush, green and flat, an electric scoreboard that worked for part of the game (until things appeared to get close) and the absolutely straight boundary lines we certainly missed the smell of the old BBQ on the hill serving up bacon and egg rolls and looking forward to our first home game.

The messages from Friday nights' training session resonated loud and clear with the boys. Well at least they did when they walked onto the ground, and that was:

- We need to win the hard ball, so get down and grab it
- Be prepared to run and when you have no breathe left, head straight to the boundary where we have plenty of eager reserves
- When you kick or handball it, don't stand still afterwards – its called a 2<sup>nd</sup> effort.
- Tackle hard
- And finally...“if you play on Sunday like you trained tonight, we're in strife”.

There is no doubt that the team is really starting to gel and there has been some amazing improvement already. What is really pleasing is how solid our defence has already become, not only from the back 6 but also the defensive pressure that is applied across the ground.

There were a few very good individual performances again that stood out and were great to see.

- #13 Jack Bramley – was brilliant off half back, taking marks, charging through the pack to clear the defence and making tackles – by far the best game I have seen him play and winner of our player of the match award

- #22 Corey Ivanovski – looked sharp up forward kicking a goal but providing great leads and the ability to break away from his opponents
- #18 Ben Kavanagh – was solid in defence
- #24 Liam McKelleher – showed some spark up forward, taking a couple of good marks and applying some great pressure
- #9 Luke Jarvis – was great to see him back adding some real drive and skill out of the backline

The first half was really tight and with a slender lead at quarter time 1.0.6 to 0.1.1, both sides were inseparable at half time both scoring 2.1.13. Needless to say there was no need to panic as we were kicking with the wind in the third quarter and the lack of numbers on the Maroubra side was starting to show. An early goal against us quickly changed that thinking but we ended up coming in at the last break with a 3 goal lead, 6.2.38 to 3.2.20. Even though we started the last quarter with 8 on the bench it was a real struggle, and full credit to Maroubra for hanging in there, with both sides scoring 1.1 to eventually finish victors 7.3.45 to 4.3.27.

Our defensive group was again solid and certainly strengthened with Luke's return. The key group of Luke, Peter, Jack, Ben, Hutch, Cain and Brady were attacking the ball with confidence, tackling very strongly and playing with enormous confidence to rebound back into the midfield numerous times.

The midfield group again worked tirelessly with Harry Parker again putting in a dominant display, Jasper worked tirelessly in the ruck until coming off sick whilst Seb and Harry S created a good link between forward and back on numerous occasions. Our swingmen, Elijah, Ryan and Charlie created options both defensively and offensively. Some nice goals were also kicked by Harry and Elijah (2 each).

The forward group showed us that they aren't one trick ponies with some exceptional defence, some real spark and great ball handling skills. Xav, Harry G, Rory, Corey, Liam, Rhys, Jacob and Daniel provided some excellent contests showing great skills in ball handling and evasion to create attacking options. Rhys, demonstrating some classy evasive skills and both Rory and Corey all managed to convert their efforts into goals.

Next week the boys play against the Manly Bombers so remember to barrack for Miranda, not the Bombers on this occasion!

## U15

**U15 vs. Pennant Hills, Ern Holmes Oval  
Westbrook Hornsby 10.5.65 defeated Miranda 5.1.31**

### **Goals**

**Luke Kendrick (2), Nick Hooker, Tim Manchester, Angus Whitaker (1 each)**

Round 4 saw the Under 15 Bombers up against the league leaders Pennant Hills. They are a quality football team and the Bombers knew they were in for a challenge away at Pennant Hills home ground as they had belted a team the previous week by over 130 points. As a backdrop, we played Pennant Hills only once last season in the Under 14's competition and they beat the Bombers by 106 points and we did not even get a score on the board!

So while the final score may not show it, I am extremely proud to report the mighty Under 15 Bombers stretched Pennant Hills deep into the final quarter. At quarter time the Bombers only trailed by 3 points, at half time and three quarter time, the deficit was only 10 points and the effort that the boys put in today was absolutely awesome and they really shocked Pennant Hills and their coach who I believe thought they were in for an easy day! In true Bomber spirit, the whole squad really took it up to them and gave them one hell of a shock! With a couple of bounces of the ball going our way, the result could have been different but this game really announced the this team of young men representing the Bombers really arrived in the Division 2 competition and proved that they can really give the competition a shake if they continue that level of effort and continue to develop their skills.

Every member of the team really put in and it was a great team effort overall and it should be a game that the whole team looks back on with pride as we really competed well. A reflection of this is that after the game, the President of the Pennant Hills club came up to me to say how impressed he was with how the Bombers played the game. He was really impressed with how much effort and endeavour the boys showed.

The best on ground this week for the Bombers was a first year player, Angus Whitaker. He had a fantastic game and his effort throughout the game was tremendous. Angus goes hard at the ball and he gathered a lot of possessions and he kicked a great goal. I moved Angus through the midfield, forwards and back line throughout the game and he played well in every position which is a real credit to him being a first year player.

Some other special mentions go to:-

Guy Lowy - had an enormous game from ruck and centre half forward. Guy attacked the ball with vigour and got a lot of the ball as a result. He uses his body well and his work rate and effort was at a very high level. One really pleasing moment for me as coach was to see Guy chase a much faster and smaller opponent in our forward line and dived at full stretch to try and stop the ball getting out of our forward line. That is the desperation and commitment that the team needs, well done Guy.

Luke Kendrick - again played another very strong game. At fullback to start the game, Luke was very solid and stopped at least 3 goals as the last line of defence. When he went into the ruck he was fantastic. Winning a multitude of the ball and his run was great all around the ground. His reward for his good overhead marking was two goals. His season so far has been extremely impressive.

Alex Box - started the game at centre half forward for the first two quarters and did well after returning from a broken finger suffered in our round 1 game. I challenged Alex to go into the midfield for the first time and he took on board that challenge and did a great job. This was impressive as Alex has only played in the forward line before and this is only his second AFL season. Great work Alex, please keep it up.

Jake Bennie - was a rock in the back line. Was able to provide offence and attack from half back flank position early and full back as well throughout the game. He attacked the ball and was able to deflect a lot of Pennant Hills attack.

Jordan Walsh - really stepped up in the back line and used his body really well to out manoeuvre some much bigger opponents. He is the quiet achiever of the team and does a good job week in and week out.

Dutchy - another member of the team who has continued his great early season form. Gets plenty of the ball but what impresses me most about Dutchy this season is his run and whether in attack or defence it has been very impressive. More than once Dutchy used his pace and a guy run to lay a good strong tackle on an opposition player. Good work Dutchy.

Tim Manchester - continued his good form from the previous week. Tim's ability to complete second and third efforts is a real highlight of his game. Whether in the ruck or down forward during the game, Tim's effort and play was very good. He chased hard and laid some great tackles.

Harro - played full forward and half forward flank and was up against much taller opposition but his body work was first class and he was able to gather a lot of kicks and hand passes and was also able to have two goal assists. Great effort Harro.

Aidan Selcraig - was focussed in the back line and his speed and drive to get to the ball first made him very valuable to the team.

Tom Bramley - played his best game so far this season. Was involved and at the ball and looked lively all game which was great. Keep that going Tom each week.

I could mention just about everyone in the team but I will leave it at that.



Many thanks go to Ray Hohle for goal umpiring, Sin Bobosevic for boundary umpiring (he did a great job after being thrown into the role in his first year of AFL footy, good work Sin), Will Harrison for running water and Brendan Scarra for running duties. Steve Hooker also did a great job assisting with the coaching and team positional moves. Colleen Hooker did a tremendous job as Team Manager and got the team and the coach through the day! My thanks go to all the parents and supporters of the team for being great supporters and for facilitating the travel, it is very much appreciated. Please keep up the good support of the team.

Go the Bombers! Chris Harrison

## U17

**U17 vs. Maroubra Sains, Pioneers Park  
Miranda 10.10.70 defeated Maroubra 4.9.33**

### **Goals**

**Matt (3), Dom & Tyler (2 each), Ben, Harry & Liam (1 each)**

Outstanding efforts by all our Bombers today!

An early start had parents driving or in many cases teaching learner drivers in dark rainy early Sunday morning conditions. Our trainers and coaches were bleary eyed ( except for Chook, Madeleine, Paul, Rob and Michael ) well that just leaves myself and Uncle Frank but with the early hour Frank ran that water like a pro even getting a high five for his creative water running. Matt had the camera set up and lots of parents kept warm and out of the rain in cars looking on as one can at Maroubra. All was ready for our clash against the Saints.

For our team it was going to take a monumental effort to even be competitive as we only had 16 players available with two carrying the effects of bad colds and our opposition seemed to have an endless number of fit players. Just before the bounce we found they had 23 ready to go meaning they had a seven man bench. High rotations would mean our guys would be in for a full on hour and half of game with no respite from our bench as it was empty. Not only numbers were against us but also the facts that the last game was washed out meaning with the holiday break our boys hadn't played in nearly a month bringing in the prospect of being down on match fitness and we were on a ground half the normal size and wet weather footy means we have to change our game plan. Don't want to sound like a winger but to add to all this it is always tough playing away games at any level of footy, this was our third in a row, we had won the first two but three in a row was going to take an extraordinary effort by the whole team.

With that all said, our boys went out and played some of the hardest most contested, smart and easy to watch footy I think I have ever seen them play. Everyone performed outside their previous best in my opinion and even though there were times toward the end of quarters our boys tired Maroubra never were able take the ascendancy as players stepped up to perform roles. In most cases roles unfamiliar to them but it seemed not to matter as they took on responsibilities for the better of the team. As a coach I was amazed at their proficiency to play tough team footy, as a parent and adult watching on I was proud of how much character they all showed on the ground to rise above the problems facing them and just get on with the tasks at hand.

Times when we needed players to step up and change the flow or put their mark on the game were huge. My favourites were.

Rileys first half, he was everywhere and so clever with the ball. Definitely a best on ground game. To play out the game with a corky and remain a dangerous centre showed leadership and commitment.

Ben had 5 vital touches in the first 2 minutes and ran wing like a pro all day. His goal a treat for the bench.

Harrys contesting deep back and leadership along with Jack to make sure the backs knew what their responsibilities were. Loved seeing Harry mop up deep back and deliver true to the centres.

Zaydens attack on a contest to strip the ball from an opponent. He left his man and backed himself, got the turnover halting a certain forward advance which we were undermanned to cover.

Ryans rucking and contesting marks in the third quarter shut down many of his opponents advances and helped to take the wind from maroubra's sails.

Joel went in to ruck over in the last quarter and played the perfect free runner behind the contest with multiple vital possessions hitting targets with precision.

Matt, down on fitness with a cold took some extraordinary snaps for goal kicking truly three times to put the nails in the coffin.

Dom also ill presented and performed deep forward at one time nearly grabbing the mark of the year award.

Tyler's speed and accuracy in the forward line made him a hard match up even with a corky.

Liam's toughness at contests set the mode of hardness at contests especially his hit on a player going for goal in the third third. Might have been called late but it sure put doubts in his opposition's minds.

Julian was moved deep back in the third quarter to put a stop to what looked like a lift from the Saints forwards and contested smart and tough but also deep forward he presented multiple times leading and bringing the ball to ground at contests for the crumbers.

Hunter's contests as CHB, the best really turning the game as he hit a contest at full speed on the half back flank putting doubts in the Saints forwards' minds.

Henry deep forward took two contested marks both resulting in goals and a handball to Tyler also resulted in a major.

Lachlan's first half was amazing with multiple touches and kicks off half back. The best a 30m pass straight to Matt.

Jack's toughness and leadership in the back line through the whole game led to the Saints not being able to create opportunities.

Nick owned his wing and added to our forward pushes many times with outstanding body work and toughness at contests every time he was near the ball.

A bit of extra news for our team with Liam and Joel making their seniors debuts for St George on Saturday. From all accounts they represented and played very well.

Thanks to all who made the game possible and Chook, Michael and Paul for taking training on Thursday night.

Go Bombers  
Cam

# SOUTHERN POWER YOUTH GIRLS U18's



(Back row) Emily S, Caitlin, Molly, Sasha, Huggies (Coach), Mia, Emily E, Maya  
(Front row) Olivia, Sarah, Ellen, Sam

**Southern Power Youth Girls U18 (5.6.36) lost to Northern Phoenix (8.2.50)**

Sponsored by:-



The Power girls travelled to North Narrabeen Reserve for the first official game of the 2016 season. With a few of players missing (Catelyn, Annie, Kyla) from the team, the Southern Power team was bolstered with the inclusion of 4 players from the Drummoyne Power team. A big thank you to Drummoyne Power's Vicky, Kanaya, Charlie and Charlotte for their support in playing for Southern Power. Everyone agreed that their Drummoyne Power spirit of play fitted in well within our Power team. The centre bounce marked a hectic and physical start to the match which removed the cob webs gathered from the off season. Stepping up to the U18 age group for these girls (that are a mix of 13, 14 and 15 year olds) was no trouble. The Power girls held their place on the field against a slightly older Northern Phoenix opposition. The two new recruits, Maya and Molly, took some great marks and contested the ball with great enthusiasm contributing to a number of plays that resulted at kicks at goal. You would not know that they have never played before. Sarah was all over the opposition and used her size to punish them whenever she got the ball and linked up well with the team to help Caitlin with the Power's first goal of the match. Caitlin also had a couple of running opportunities to kick goals but due to the Phoenix defence ended up with behinds. EmilyS in defence was courageous and strong holding her ground in the goal square taking 2 punishing balls kicked at her, using her head to stop certain goals. In attack both Olivia and Sam created opportunities for the whole team out of the middle and worked the ball towards the goals and feed great balls to Ellen who ended up kicked 2 goals for the day. EmilyE was strong across the ground, rucking well, shepherding and linked up with other players taking marks and hand balling well and kick 2 goals. Mia and Sasha also followed up on both coaches Pete and Huggies directions and shepherded well, contested hard and supported the team with many shots at goal we had today.

In conclusion, it was a very encouraging start to the season, all girls contributed well and with more shots at goal than the opposition good things are to come and it looks to be a competitive season.

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