

Football Report – Term 3, Week 7

Intermediate

2022 Herald Sun Shield Intermediate Grand Final



St Patrick's College 7 – 9 – 51 Defeated Parade College 5 – 17 - 47

Goal Kickers: Strahan Robinson 2, Ned Bennett 1, Ollie Hannaford 1, Ollie Morris 1, Jack Ough 1

Best Players: Ned Renfree, Ollie Hannaford, Ollie Morris, Jack Ough, Will Stevens, Jack Jarvis

St Patrick's College Intermediate football team are the 2022 Herald Sun Shield Intermediate Champions, coming from behind, to pull off a narrow four-point victory over a quality Parade College team.

After a slow start in the first half the St Patrick's outfit were left with a three-goal deficit moving into the half time break.

The Third quarter saw the Paddy boys score against the strong wind which was favouring the Whitehorse Road end. This was vital as we were able to apply enough pressure on the Parade forwards, causing them to miss several scoring opportunities.

With St Patrick's College, having both the wind and the momentum, we started the final quarter 14 points in arrears. In a very tight contest, that fluctuated heavily, between both sides, St Pat's were on the right end of a 50m penalty at the 10 minutes mark of the quarter, which resulted in a much-needed goal. Eli Holloway came off the bench to mark strongly from 40 metres out and was duly rewarded with what turned out to be a match winning goal. Although both sides continued to exchange goals, we were able to hang on, in a nail-biting finish, to take out the title by four points.

Ned Renfree was most deservedly, named best afield in a very consistent performance. His game in the midfield was dominant, with his strong marking and remarkable attack on the ball, a highlight of the game. Jack Ough and Ollie Hannaford were also keys to the SPC victory, with Ollie finding space as a midfielder and later in a sweeping role in defence, whilst Jack was clean with his hands and constructive with his feet playing primarily as an inside mid. Will Stevens rucked well for the entire match and when rested, he was capably supported by team captain Jack O'Brien, who had an influence on the game.

Ollie Morris was tremendous across the half-back line, where he and Jack Jarvis repelled many Parade scoring opportunities. Brodie Wells at fullback played on Parade's key tall forward where his "old-fashioned" and dour defensive style became a key factor in SPC gaining control defensively, whilst his "mate in arms" Sam Duggan was also sound in defence.

Harry Charleson was great addition to the team and his work in the forward fifty complimented our power forward Strahan Robinson who finished the day with two very handy goals. Archie Caldwell's run was important for the team as he moved seamlessly between the two 50metre arcs as a centre-half forward and whilst later, when moved onto the wing, his aerial and running strength became a significant factor.

Congratulations is extended to the team on their magnificent performance, being the first SPC side to win the coveted Intermediate Herald Shield competition. Thanks is extended to Tom Nash, Spencer Jenks, Andrew Chamings and Zac Dransman for their assistance on game day.

John Richards (SPC Intermediate Coach)

Senior

Congratulations to **Sam Lalor** who was named in the All-Australian U/16 Team following an outstanding carnival in the U/16 National Championships earlier this year.

Prior to the carnival, Sam was named Co-Captain of the Vic Country side, underlining not only his strong leadership qualities however his huge potential in the game.



2022 Herald Sun Shield Senior Grand Final



Whitefriars 4 – 4 – 28 Defeated St Patrick's College 2 – 9 - 21

Goal Kickers: Max Filmer, Jesse Cairns.

Best Players: James van Es, Jack Jeffrey, James Clark, Josh Sparkman, Josh Huxtable.

The SPC 1st XVIII earned the right to take on ACC school, Whitefriars, an all-boys college in Donvale. After defeating Emmanuel College Warrnambool, in what was a hard-fought victory, we went into the match with confidence but with the knowledge that Whitefriars would pose a great challenge. We were bolstered by the return of key onballer Jesse Cairns from injury, who provided us with another midfield rotation and leadership.

We arrived at Box Hill to see the Intermediates defeat Parade College and conditions that could only be described as a strong, blustery wind to the Whitehorse Rd end. After losing the toss, we kicked into the strong breeze first up. Whitefriars managed to slam on 3 quick goals in the first 10 minutes. We defended grimly for the remaining 10 minutes of the quarter as we barely registered an inside 50. Whitefriars led 3. 2. 20 to nothing at the first break. Lachie Charleson had tweaked a hamstring but vowed to play on, knowing he would miss the next few weeks of football, a testament to his commitment to the cause.

At the 45 second mark of the 2nd quarter Max Filmer kicked a great crumbing goal to immediately spark the contest. For the next 10 minutes we dominated possession and peppered the goals. James Van Es was having a presence in the ruck, key midfielders Sam Lalor and Josh Huxtable kept driving the ball forward, utility Josh Sparkman was at his creative best and forward Jack Jeffrey was creating contests and run, forward of the ball. Unfortunately, we could only manage 5 behinds throughout this 10 minute of dominance, with a number of shots just fading late across goal. Whitefriars managed to kick a crucial goal into the breeze late, as we went into the break 15 points down, with the task well and truly in front of us.

The plan for the third quarter was to go into full defensive mode, as we couldn't afford too big of a lead to chase in the last and knowing we would have the wind to come home with. To the boy's credit, they implemented the plan well by keeping Whitefriars to a solitary point. Unfortunately, we could only manage 1 point ourselves as we squandered a few golden opportunities to kick goals. In finals there are key moments, and we just couldn't win some crucial contests and our execution with the last kick inside 50 did let us down. Key backman, James Clark and Deng Lual stood firm, whilst Alex Molan on a wing provided some drive forward of centre. The margin remained at 15 points heading into the last!

The last quarter followed a similar path to the 2nd. We dominated the inside 50's but could only manage one goal with Jesse Cairns kicking a running goal at the 12-minute mark of the quarter to reduce the deficit to 8 points. With all the momentum, the clock ticked away as Whitefriars soaked up time, and despite our best efforts, we fell agonisingly 7 points short.

The boys should be congratulated on their efforts, not just on the day, but throughout the whole season. Over 60 players represented the 1st XVIII this season across 11 matches, which is a record. In 2023 we are excited to formally join the Associated Catholic College's (ACC) in Melbourne, which means we will be playing against quality sides like St. Bernard's, St. Joseph's, St. Bede's, Parade and Whitefriars on a weekly basis. This standard of competition can only be good for the development of the players in our care. We will remain in the BAS competition, which will see our 2nd XVIII compete against fellow BAS 1st's teams.

A big thank you to fellow coaches Jarret Giampaolo and Steve Biggin, Co-ordinator of Football Howard Clark, runner and trainer Andrew Chamings, Head of Sport Tina Benoit, Hape staff Simon Dwyer and Harvey Woodburn and to all the boys who did the boundary, took stats, operated the scoreboard, or supported over the course of the season. Hopefully the boys learnt a few things about the game, and we wish the year 12's all the best with their studies for the remainder of 2022.

Gavin Webb
SPC 1st XVIII Coach