

SPC Sport Report – Term 1, Week 5

BAS Swimming

Yesterday we competed at the BAS Swimming Championships at Eureka Pool. We are eagerly waiting for the confirmation of results, but our students gave their all on the day. We had a lot of last-minute changes due to covid so well done to all the boys that stepped in at last minute to fill races.

Thank you to our Coordinator of Swimming, Louise Macquire for organising the team and thanks to Louise and Mark Stahl for coaching the team.

We look forward to our next event, the ACC Swimming Carnival, where we will compete against the ACC Schools at MSAC in our first swimming carnival since joining the association.

Football Respect Cup

1st XVIII v St. Joseph's College, Geelong

SPC 2. 12. 24 def St. Joseph's 3. 4. 22

Goal Kickers: Jack James, Brady Wright.

Best Players: Ethan McKercher, Lachie Charleson, Deng Lual, Brady Wright, James Clark.

On Wednesday, March 9, the annual Respect Cup, to commemorate International Women's Day, was played at the City Oval, Ballarat. The much anticipated fixture sees St. Patrick's Ballarat v St. Joseph's Geelong in the boys clash and Loreto Ballarat v Sacred Heart Geelong in the girls. This is the 2nd year that the Respect Cup has been played, with last years fixture at the home of the Geelong Cats, GMHBA Stadium.

Such is the nature of school football, there are always plenty of debutants at the start of each year. This year's season opener was no exception with Luke Smith, Josh Huxtable, Khy Jess, Fred Valpied, Brady Wright, Ed Turner, Marty Boyer and Ethan McKercher all debuting. In a fierce opening SPC kicked to the scoring end but were unable to fully capitalise by kicking a wasteful 1.7. 13 to 0. 0. Our midfielders, led by Lachie Charleson, Jesse Cairns and Ethan McKercher were strong around the contest and Joe Fraser was providing a great contest in the ruck. Our forwards were all looking dangerous, but we lacked some polish as the wind played havoc.

The second and third quarters were quite dour, with both defences getting on top, which made scoring hard to come by. Deng Lual, James Clark and Khy Jess controlled the back six and repelled many forward attacks by St. Joseph's. When we switched and kicked to space, we looked the better side, but we weren't consistently able to do this, mainly due to the wind and the pressure our opposition was placing upon us. Brady Wright was providing a great target up forward and was able to hit the scoreboard after marking and kicking truly from 35m.

Taking a slender lead into the last quarter the boys were asked to stay disciplined, to maintain their composure and take the game on when the opportunity presented itself. As players from both sides battled fatigue and cramp, scoring was at an absolute premium. To the boy's credit they withstood some late forward thrusts by St. Joseph's and were able to hang on, in desperate fashion by playing some tempo footy, hugging the boundary and forcing some late stoppages. The final result saw us home by 2 points.

The girls clash saw an exciting draw, 5. 4. 34 apiece, which was a fitting result. The day culminated with a presentation back at the Old Collegian's Pavilion, where the Head of AFL Victoria, Ben Kavanagh, an old collegian of both SPC and St. Joseph's spoke about his role and the growth of women's football in recent years. Best on Ground medals were presented, with Ethan McKercher being voted as the recipient. We now all look forward to the return clash in 2023.

Football versus Caulfield Grammar

1st XVIII v Caulfield Grammar (APS)

Waverly Park, Wednesday, March 16

SPC 10. 10. 70 def Caulfield 6. 4. 40

Goal Kickers: Max Filmer 3, Rory Gunsser 2, Ed Turner, Josh Huxtable, Harry Lawson, Liam Farnsworth, Jack Jeffrey 1.

Best Players: Rory Gunsser, Max Filmer, Max Faulkner, Ed Turner, Joe Fraser.

Our second fixture for the 2022 season saw us make the long trek to Waverly (home of the Hawthorn FC) to take on Caulfield Grammar, who are part of the APS competition and play their sport on a Saturday. With 15 changes being made from our gritty win against St. Joseph's, the team certainly took on a totally different look. Boys to debut were Jack O'Brien, Riley Rees, Harry Lawson, Hamish Thompson, Kane Irvin, Ollie Hannaford, Sam Lalor, Zachary Russell, Rory Gunsser, Mason Gullick, Ziggy Lee, Leo Turnbull-Gent, Callum Smith, Liam Farnsworth and Tom Liston. This was a reward for training attendance thus far and form in last years BAS 2nd XVIII competition.

The boys and coaching staff were excited to be playing on an ex-AFL venue. The vast expanses and great surface meant some of the pre-game instruction was to take some risks by foot, by coming in-board and switching the play and having plenty of hand ball receives, particularly in the back half. The match started at a frantic pace with both defences holding up well. We wasted some early opportunities to take a 10-point lead into the first break. Joe Fraser and Hamish Thompson provided a great contest in the ruck, Max Faulkner was patrolling half back well and Rory Gunsser was using his left foot to great effect around the stoppages.

We were able to hit the scoreboard in both the second and third quarters, kicking 4 goals in each quarter, whilst keeping our opposition to 2 goals. The pressure being applied all over the ground was superb, this was led by Max Filmer, who was also good aerially in the forward half. Ed Turner really showed what he is capable of with some great bursts of pace and ball use entering 50 and Jack Jeffrey was a good target as a lead up forward.

Taking a 7-goal lead into the last quarter the coaching staff decided to throw the magnets around, which gave many players opportunities in other parts of the ground. The boy's attitude was first class, as we continued to rotate heavily. Caulfield did fight back, as the sting went out of the match by kicking 4 goals to our 1. The effort and aggression at the ball and man was matched by our ability to run and spread from the contest. All debutants should be proud of their first up efforts and the whole group should be pleased with the result and the manner we played.

Rory Gunsser was awarded the BOG medal, his penetrating left foot was a feature all day.

Gavin Webb

1st XVIII Coach

Cricket

1st XI

Rd 2 of BAS 1st XI 2 day Comp

With the long weekend failing on the 2nd day of the scheduled match, we agreed to start the match at 2pm and play the full game in 1 day. With 90 overs required to be bowled and showers forecast in looked very unlikely a result would be achieved. After winning the toss Jack Jeffrey decided to send Grammar in to bat and was hoping to knock them over quickly. Kobe Heafield, Will Lalor, Alex Kerr and Lochie Brodie all able to bowl, we were quite confident of early wickets. Kobe and Leo Turnbull-Gent opened the bowling and had Grammar well restricted at 0/24 after 11 overs. The first wicket fell in the 17th over thanks to Will Lalor, but the runs started to flow more freely as Grammar made 68 from the 12th over to 22nd. At 1/100 we needed wickets, it was Isaac Hucker first and then when their top scorer who had not looked being dismissed was run out, we started to take control, as Heath Doherty took his first. At 4/108 after 26 overs. Jack then reverted to trying every player except Bailey Ryan who was keeping to take the next wicket, but a number of short balls were dispatched to the short boundaries square of the wicket. As the partnership grew it was Noah Ryan who claimed the 5th wicket. From here Kobe and Leo returned to clean up the tail as we claimed the last 6 wickets for 11 runs to dismiss Grammar for 172. Leo and Kobe the pick of the bowlers as they claimed 5 for 33 between themselves.

ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE 1ST XI						
BOWLER	OVERS	MAIDENS	RUNS	WICKETS	ECON	EXTRAS
Leo Turnbull-Gent	8.2	1	14	2	1.71	
Kobe Heafield	8	1	19	3	2.38	
Will Lalor	5	1	15	1	3.00	
Alex Kerr (RF)	6	1	19	0	3.17	
Isaac Hucker	6	0	27	1	4.50	1nb
Jack Jeffrey	1	0	12	0	12.00	
Lachlan Brodie	1	0	16	0	16.00	1nb 2wd
Heath Doherty	3	0	18	1	6.00	1nb
Sam Lalor	3	1	19	0	6.33	
Noah Ryan	2	0	11	1	5.50	1wd

With the forecast rain approaching, but not appearing to be very significant Sam Lalor and Jack went out to start the run chase. It became very clear that Sam wasn't going to let this game go to late. Together they put on a batting masterclass of power hitting as we raced to 120 in the 12th over. Sam who had just hit his 4th and 5th sixes along with 2 boundaries for the over tried for another six, but was caught on the fence. 79 from only 41 balls including 5 sixes and 10 fours had us well on track to finish this match before the rain stopped play. As the rain started to get heavier, Jack who had been going along steadily upped the ante and looked to finish it off. Unfortunately Isaac Hucker was out for only 7, but this brought Will Lalor to the crease to finish the innings off. Jack finished the match off in only the 19th over as he remained unbeaten on 66 with Will 14 not out. A very convincing win as we remain undefeated and progress to the BAS final.

ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE 1ST XI innings

ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE 1ST XI (18.3 overs)						
BATSMAN	STATUS	RUNS	BALLS	4s	6s	S/R
Sam Lalor (LHB)	c Watson b Manhcke	79	41	10	5	192.68
Jack Jeffrey	not out	66	52	10	1	126.92
Isaac Hucker	c Buck b Manhcke	7	9	1		77.78
Will Lalor	not out	14	12	3		116.67
Lachlan Brodie						
Noah Ryan						
Kobe Heafield						
Alex Kerr						
Bailey Ryan (LHB)						
Heath Doherty						
Leo Turnbull-Gent						
Jack Kovacevic						
TOTAL	Extras: 10 (1b 0lb 2nb 7wd 0p)	176				

2nd XI

St Patrick's College 2nd XI Green v Ballarat Grammar

The world has changed on its head in the last weeks. The invasion of Ukraine by Russian troops may not be in the fore front of a young man's mind, but one could understand if they were a bit concerned as to what it means and how it could affect them. Thankfully, cricket will always remain a great force for good in the world.

After defeating Grammar soundly in the first match of the season, St Pat's Green were eager to make it two nil. Despite a slightly depleted side, our Skipper rallied the boys to put up a strong appearance.

Lawson aka 'Mr Cricket' and Ned Gorman strode to the crease with intent. The Grammar opening bowler was equally determined and wrapped Lawson on the pads as he went to turn a ball to leg. The umpire adjudged that the ball struck him cleanly on the pads and that the ball would have then taken the stumps. Lawson out without scoring and our best bat in hutch. The next over James was out bowled going for a slog after confusion over the 'free hit' rules, which were never clearly explained.

The two boys from Wangaratta then took it upon themselves to build an innings. Ned was impressive working the ball. Ned was eventually out caught on the boundary. He had hit the ball with immense power, but found the man at 'cow shot corner', who took the catch on the boundary, but then stepped back down the slope, from the force of the strike. It was difficult for the umpires to tell precisely if he had stepped over the line, but when asked, the fielder 'claimed' he didn't, so, in good cricket fashion, he was taken on his word – out for 8.

Harry batted on, only to watch Martin (2) and Cheeseman (2) fall cheaply. Robinson cementing his pace in the side, was exciting playing some first class pull shots to the boundary with exquisite timing, including a massive six over the bowler's head, before being caught for 18. Harry eventually connected wood to leather for a couple of big fours before also being caught for 15.

Smith came to the crease and worked hard to build a defensible total and was not out for 9. Young Luke Weidemann was classy pushing the ball about including a clever 4 behind square, before he was dismissed for 5. Delaney finally got a bat and was looking good for his two singles, but ran out of overs. St Pat's Green 8/72 off 20 overs, which was always going to be a tough total to defend.

Hildebrand and Downs made a great start for Grammar despite excellent bowling from Lawson and Ned Gorman. Gorman got the breakthrough by bowling Hildebrand with the score at 26. The 'Out of Nowhere Man' Robinson captured the second wicket of Downs for 14. Downs was caught at gully by a miraculous catch by Hugo Delaney. Somehow, he managed to not only dive a good three meters or more, he then managed to keep hold of the ball as his elbows crashed into the turf of Hill Oval. The score was still on 44 when another wicket fell with Lawson returning to bowl his magic. Despite excellent field placings and bowling changes by our captain, and desperate work in the field, Grammar was able to eek away at our score. James and Gorman snavelled a wicket each, but when Bone came in and smacked a few fours, the game was over. Grammar 5/74 off 13 overs.

Year 7/8 Dual Pitch Cricket

BAS Junior Cricket – Round 4 (8/3/22)

SPC Gold v Damascus @ Vic Park 9/10

SPC Gold 4/146 def Damascus college 6/67

Captain; Andrew Gittins

After a bye and a wash out, this was our second outing for the year. We travelled to Vic Park and played on grounds 9 and 10 with twelve players on a very cool afternoon. Our opposition had eleven players with many tenderfoots.

Mr Dix and I were very satisfied with our boys attitude and application playing the game in the spirit of cricket and represent SPC well. The lads did not disappoint us at all, well done boys. In outclassing our opponents, we always respected our opponents.

Some notable points: Eleven boys bowled at least one over, two boys retired while batting – Alex Dalton 35 Lachie van der Horst 6 and Sam Keating 14. Tom Howard 11 not out and Harry Bennett 0 not out and Andrew Gittins 16. Our fielding was good Alex Dalton and Liam Jones shared the gloves. All boys batted or bowled with participation and enjoyment being our priority and next week we will endeavour to ensure the boys who haven't batted will bat next week.

Our bowling was also of a good standard. We had ten boys bowl with some tidy performances.

Well done boys.

Mike Kent & Brendan Dix (SPC Gold Coaches)

BAS Junior Cricket – Round 4

SPC Blue 2/135 def BCC Black 6/120

With both teams undermanned, gaps were aplenty on both fields in the round four junior cricket clash between SPC Blue and BCC Black at Vic Park. BCC got off to a solid start, with both openers exploiting ripe scoring opportunities and keeping the SPC fieldsmen chasing the leather as they racked up 45 runs before losing their first wicket in the fifth over. Lucas Byrne made the breakthrough when he clean bowled one of the openers on the last delivery of his over. Some impressive batting saw the BCC total move along at a quick pace. Finn Edwards, Luis Maldonado and Harry Geyle all captured a wicket each, while Lochie Patterson's intimidating pace and bounce saw him claim an impressive double wicket maiden in his only over. BCC Black had scored 6/120 from their allotted overs.

SPC Blue's batsmen put on a fine display of controlled, yet powerful hitting during their innings, with 4 batsmen successfully facing their full complement of 20 deliveries. Our two openers, Harry Geyle and Finley Maldonado, laid a solid foundation for the rest of the innings with both of them proving too good to dismiss. Harry scored 30, while Finley added 17 to the score. Lochie Patterson continued his run of good form, scoring 21 (ret), while Liam Riding made a valuable contribution of 21 runs. The stand out performance was Lucas Byrne's 45 off 14 deliveries. At the end of the day, SPC Blue had scored 6/135, handing them a well earned victory by 15 runs. Special mention should be made of Laine Scott who did a great job behind the stumps for the whole match. Even more impressive was the great sportsmanship he showed by encouraging and coaching a BCC Black batsman who was new to the game.

Gerry Willis (SPC Blue Coach)

BAS Junior Cricket – Round 5 (15/3/22)
BCC Red vs SPC Blue @ Vic Park 7/8
BCC Red 6/164 def SPC Blue 6/128

In an even eleven a side contest, with both sides receiving late call ups to bolster the numbers, BCC Red were too strong for the boys of SPC Blue.

Early wickets in SPC Blue's innings made progress difficult up front, however solid contributions from the two Riley's provided a competitive total. Riley Shearson top scored with classy 23 retired and Riley Huebner a determined 19 retired, in a competitive total of 6 for 128.

In contrast early wickets in the BCC Red innings were hard to come by, but to their credit, the boys of Blue never gave in and were dynamic in the field, managing to achieve three run outs. The best of the bowlers was Lucas Byrne with 2/8, only narrowly missing out on a coveted hat-trick. Unfortunately for SPC Blue, BCC Red finished their innings at 6 for 164, getting the better of our lads in a free scoring contest.

All players are again to be commended on the fine spirit in which they played the game, encouraging each other and acknowledging the success of their opponents.

SPC Sport Uniform

All sport uniforms can be purchased at the College Shop. Students need to ensure they are in the correct uniform to participate. The general sport uniform is the navy blue polo top, navy shorts and white socks. Certain sports will require very specific clothing e.g. 1st XI Cricketers require SPC Whites, SPC cricket shirt and SPC cricket cap. Students should check with their coach as to what is required. Also remember to wear sunscreen at all times.

I wish all students and coaches the best in 2022. Always play the game in the right spirit, wear the correct uniform and respect the facilities, home and away. St Patrick's College is steeped in sporting tradition, and you are encouraged to add more chapters to our past endeavours.

Please do not hesitate to contact me (tbenoit@stpats.vic.edu.au) or our Sports Administrator Mr Simon Dwyer (sdwyer@stpats.vic.edu.au) at the College with any questions.