



## Match Day Manager's Report – 18 August 2018



Its home!!!!

After 11 years in the GPS wilderness, the 1<sup>st</sup> XV GPS Premiership Shield has returned to Hunters Hill.

Father Gavin again delivered on the weather with another sunny winter's day in Sydney for the last game of the season – just needed to turn the fan down a bit as swirling winds made an appearance later in the day.

The boys faced their toughest opposition of the season but were able to rise to the occasion in so many matches. They definitely ran through the finish line, rather than just reach the line.

I was based on Riverview fields 4, 5 and 6 for most of the day and witnessed the boys clearly enjoying their last game of the season with their mates. We had the biggest crowds of the year with the support from the Joeys community outstanding.

Attached are the results of an enthralling day of schoolboy sport.

## Some Observations and Thoughts from the Day

### Rugby

- All games (external)

Games :	38
Wins:	18
Draws:	4
Losses:	16

Total points scored:	937 (average of 24.7 per game)
Total points against:	696 (average of 18.3 per game)

This is the first time that Joeys have scored less than 1,000 points in a full program of matches. The toughness of the opposition was reflected in 13 games (34%) having a winning margin of less than 10 points – including 4 draws. Despite scoring less points, the defensive effort was maintained with average points against similar to previous rounds.

- Vs Riverview

Games :	32
Wins:	14
Draws:	4
Losses:	14

Points scored:	751
Points against:	589

- Joeys dominated Riverview No 1 ground with only 1 narrow loss by 3 points in 8 games played. The ground submitted late in the 2<sup>nd</sup> XV match when the goal post at the southern end had endured enough and threw itself on the ground – at that time Joeys had run in 215 points to Riverview's 71 points.
- The Opens and 16s age groups performed strongly – only losing 1 match in each age group.
- 1<sup>st</sup> XV delivered a 28-25 victory in a match that will be talked about for years as they scored at the death to secure the GPS Premiership.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> XV were gallant as they came from well behind to secure a 19-19 draw when the goal post came down. They were undefeated during the GPS competition and were very worthy winners of the GPS 2<sup>nd</sup> XV Premiership (last won by Joeys in 2015). Scots finished 2 points back in 2<sup>nd</sup> position.
- Heartbreak for 3<sup>rd</sup> XV who lost 7-10 to the competition leaders to finish second in the GPS competition.
- The 16A's (10-8) and 13A's (60-0) scored good wins to finish the GPS competition undefeated.
- Biggest win of the day was the 13A's who had a 60-0 victory over Riverview.

- Easy pick again for the team of the day this week: 1<sup>st</sup> XV. A loss appeared imminent after Riverview scored late in the game to take the lead. Again, the boys, backed by amazing support, refused to lie down and scored an incredible try off the kick off to seize victory in the 5.40pm darkness – thank goodness the boys eat their carrots!! These boys are the cardiac kids; winning by 1 point against Newington; scoring a try on fulltime to defeat Scots; and the last minute try against Riverview on Saturday. A big lesson here on perseverance, fitness, and backing yourself and your mates to achieve the outcome. Photo by John Flitcroft.



A very honourable mention to 2<sup>nd</sup> XV who went through the season undefeated and secured the 2<sup>nd</sup> XV GPS Premiership. Photo by John Flitcroft.



- Team of the season goes to the 13A's. They went through the season undefeated. They were the highest scoring team in the College with 702 points in 12 matches. Their defence was solid, only leaking 67 points. They had the highest point scorer in the College (Oscar Jorgensen 167 points); highest try scorer in the College (Oscar Jorgensen 33 tries) and highest goal scorer in the College (Hwi Sharples 80 conversions). Well done boys. Photo after their last game together.



### Football

- Joey's played Riverview in most games at Riverview on Saturday and had mixed results.
- Games : 15  
Wins: 2  
Draws: 1  
Losses: 12
- Riverview proved too strong for our 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> XI teams.
- The quiet achievers of football, the 15B's had a very good 2-1 win against Riverview to record their 6<sup>th</sup> consecutive win.
- My adopted team, the mighty 13C's did it. A hard fought 1-0 win against Riverview extended their undefeated run to 8 games. They were undefeated during the GPS competition rounds. Photo below of a very happy team (and coach).



### What I Saw or Heard .....

I spent most the day overseeing games on the Riverview back fields before moving over to Riverview No 1 at 2.15pm. Plenty of things came to my attention during the day.

### Event Management Masterstroke??



Matches against Riverview are always big events. On Saturday, there were more twists and turns than an Agatha Christie novel. The build up to the main game is always important. Some promoters go with sky divers, others go with fireworks. Riverview decided to go with knocking down and rebuilding goal posts. They also arranged for a 1,000 boy massed choir to be bussed in from somewhere in Hunters Hill to serenade the crowd and maintenance workers with classics like Sweet Caroline and Country Roads. Joeys to the rescue again!! Masterstroke – and they can expect to be poached by the NRL.

## Return of the Twins

I previously told you of the twins I found during the home game against King's. Well, I found another set of twins on Saturday at the 13F game on field 6. My keen accounting eye cannot detect any differences between the boys so they must be identical twins.



Despite their injuries, these boys were incredible in their “running” of water and sideline support of their team. Well done boys.

### Tradition and Water Conservation

There is a tradition of dunking the coach with water after a successful season. I viewed a number of dunkings on Saturday with the boys very cognisant of coaches who would appreciate the gesture.

Special mention to the 15G's who were acutely aware of the drought and the need to conserve water. They deliberately drank little water during the match to ensure there was maximum water in their water bottles after the match to spray on their coach.

Unfortunately for Mr Lane, the boys in the 16C's weren't as environmentally friendly. They decided to go with a big tub of water. The photo below shows the outcome.



### Cardiac Kids – Take 2 and 3

The boys in year 7 look up to the senior boys in the College. They see them as role models. Now they are imitating 1<sup>st</sup> XV on the rugby field. Let's give the opposition a start and then chase them down!!

The 13F's were down 5-27 at half time against Riverview. They had clawed their way back to 20-27. In the final minute, they crossed for a try. Under immense pressure, Josh Mitchell calmly piloted the ball between the sticks for Joeys only goal of the game to achieve a remarkable 27-27 draw. The draw secured them a pennant for the season. The mighty 13F's after the game.



The 13D's were down 10-17 at half time against Riverview. The boys returned in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half to play some of their best rugby of the season as they piled on 24 unanswered points to win 34-17. A very happy team after the game.





### *Postscript*

The form of the 13D's had come to my attention in recent weeks. Before Saturday, their last 5 match results were: L0-35, W58-5, L0-29, W41-0, L0-60. What a roller coaster ride for the boys.

### Meltdown – Take 2

JoeysRugby twitter went off during and after I posted the 1<sup>st</sup> XV win on Saturday.

The posting of the final score on JoeysRugby twitter was viewed 10,189 times. The post was “liked” 162 times; retweeted 31 times. This more than doubled the interest shown after the Scots win.

The posting confirming Joeys as joint 1<sup>st</sup> XV premiers with Kings was viewed 6,271 times. The post was “liked” 137 times; retweeted 30 times.

The followers were really engaged with what was happening. Below are examples of some of the comments posted:

#### *Before Game*

- Wind causing havoc in 1sts game between Riverview and Joeys! The posts at one end collapsed! Poops. What now!

#### *During Game*

- Go Joeys
- Come on boys! Walk on!
- Update please!!!!!!
- What's happening?????

#### *After Game*

- You little beauty.
- So so happy!!!
- Unbelievable. JoeysRugby just won the most amazing game I've seen in years. Speechless.
- Well done JoeysRugby ..... showing your fighting spirit again! Guttled I missed the game.
- That's the most exciting hour I've spent on Twitter! Great work Joe boys, just about gave us a heart attack but you did it!
- Amazing game, watched it online, happy for all involved, collective effort to achieve what you did, celebrate long and hard!!!!
- Unbelievable.
- Outrageous. Order restored!
- Last try was outrageous – Walk On!
- Yes.
- Surely!! I still can't believe that last try.
- Thank you.
- Rugby lovers. The last few minutes were historic, heroic, and epic. Wasted time going to the Bledisloe after.

## Photos of the Day

I couldn't separate two photos from John Flitcroft when I was selecting photo of the day.

The student body when Joeys scored the winning try. The support of the boys was magnificent all year and they kept going right to the very end.



First XV after their victory which secured the 55<sup>th</sup> First XV GPS premiership for the College.



## Season Wrap - Rugby

Below are the rugby statistics I prepared for Mr Newman to present at the Winter Sports Rally.

➤ Total Teams:	42
➤ Total Games:	464
➤ Number of Colleges Played:	26
➤ Points For (all games):	13,747
➤ Points Against (all games):	8,339
➤ GPS Competition Rounds Win Ratio:	65.6%
➤ Most Successful Age Group (win%):	16s – 81.0% Opens – 79.8%
➤ Best Attacking Team:	13A – 702 points 16D – 605 points
➤ Best Defensive Team:	16B – 36 points 4 <sup>th</sup> XV – 56 points
➤ Biggest Win:	16D vs Shore – won 132-0 2 <sup>nd</sup> XV vs Trinity – won 109-0
➤ Undefeated Teams (all games):	2 <sup>nd</sup> XV, 4 <sup>th</sup> XV, 7 <sup>th</sup> XV, 8 <sup>th</sup> XV, 9 <sup>th</sup> XV 16A, 16B, 16E 15B 13A
➤ Most Tries in a Game	Dylan Stevenson (9 <sup>th</sup> XV) 6 tries Oliver Gardiner (13F) 6 tries
➤ Most Tries during Season	Oscar Jorgensen (13A) 33 tries
➤ Most Goals during Season	Hwi Sharples (13A) 80 goals
➤ Highest Individual Point Scorer during Season	Oscar Jorgensen (13A) 167 points Hwi Sharples (13A) 165 points
➤ Number of Followers of Joeys Rugby Twitter:	1,705
➤ Most Popular Tweet:	1 <sup>st</sup> XV defeat of Riverview Seen by 10,189 people

- Pennant Winning Teams (19):
  - Opens: 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> XV
  - 16s: A, B, C, D, E, G
  - 15s: B, D
  - 13s: A, F

## Season Wrap - Football

Below are the football statistics I prepared for Mr Newman to present at the Winter Sports Rally.

- Total Teams: 15
- Total Games: 171
- Goals For (all games): 235
- Goals Against (all games): 502
- GPS Competition Rounds Win Ratio: 34.8%
- Most Successful Age Group (win%):
  - 15s – 64.3%
  - 13s – 50.0%
- Best Attacking Team:
  - 13A – 39 goals
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> XV – 21 goals
- Best Defensive Team: 13C – 3 goals (GPS Comp)
- Biggest Win:
  - 14C vs Kings – won 13-0
  - 16A vs Shore – won 7-0
  - 15A vs Riverview – won 7-0
- Most Goals in a Game: Luke Fossati (14C) 5 goals
- Most Goals during Season:
  - Oliver Burnett (Year 7 – 13A) 13 goals
  - Hugh Ridley (Year 9) 12 goals
  - (16A: 4; 15A: 5; 15B: 3)
  - Paddy Canham (Year 12) 11 goals
  - (4<sup>th</sup>: 3; 5<sup>th</sup>: 8)
- Pennant Winning Teams (2):
  - 15B, 13C

## **It's Over .....**

Well, that's it for the season. I hope you have enjoyed my weekly summaries and ponderings.

All the best for the remainder of the year. Hopefully I'll see you around the cricket fields where things move at a much gentler pace.

Many thanks.

David Wiseman  
Match Day Manager