



# 2016 Yearbook









## President's Report

Dear players and families,

I would like to thank all members for welcoming me during my second year as President, which is also my final year at the club. I have enjoyed it immensely, and it has given me the chance to meet many new families as well as get to know existing families better. I am extremely grateful to all of our coaching, committee and support staff we have at Ashy and cannot thank them enough for their tireless contribution. The way they juggle home life, work and still find extra hours for our club is amazing.

Congratulations to our all of the teams that reached the finals this – Youth Girls, U15 Girls Red, U15 Girls Green, U13 Black and U12 Black. We brought home four premiership flags – what a season!

Well done also to all of the Ashy players that received awards and nominations for the Yarra Presentations and to those selected to represent Yarra in the Metro Championships - it is a fabulous honour and you should all be as proud as we are.

We must also applaud our 3 x U10 teams who took out the Lightning Premiership in Gold, Green and Red divisions!

This year Ashy fielded 32 teams, including 3 girls teams. Last year we had only 1 girls' team and next year, to show our support for womens' footy, we're hoping to increase our girls teams to 4 or 5. There's no doubt that women's footy is moving in the right direction.

Other highlights of this season included our U8 & U9 Derby Under Lights, and a fantastic evening of young and old when the Colts & Youth girls came down to do a training session with the Auskickers. New friendships were made as Ashy welcomed 2 interstate teams, W.A's Mt Hawthorn Cardinals and The Sterling Saints JFC's. Harrison Shugg, U15 Boys, was chosen to play in the U15 VIC team, and our Colts Nathan Boucher & Will Griffin were picked to play in the TAC Cup.

We also enjoyed visits from Richmond's Dustin Martin & Andrew Moore, our new member Luke Hodge dropped in a few times, and our very own ex-Redbacker's Collingwood's Jordan De Goey and GWS's Toby Greene also gave up their time to visit Ashy, all of which the children (and parents) were ecstatic about!

We have several Colt's families leaving us after many years with the club. I can't write 'they' will be missed (as sadly I happen to be one of them) however we will all miss our wintry Sundays at the club, forging great friendships and watching our children grow together. Whilst our boys are hanging up their boots for now, we will always consider ourselves part of the Ashy family. I can only hope everyone has enjoyed their journey as much as I have enjoyed mine.

Best of luck for 2017 and beyond - Go Ashy!!!

Christine Arazi  
President



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to our generous sponsors

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## Club Sponsors





# Colts Red

Coach - Brett Gatehouse

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2016 was an exciting year for the Colts Red boys, with most going into their last year of football playing in the red and green. The boys were a pleasure to coach and really made an effort to enjoy their footy, regardless of the result on the field.

Unfortunately for us we had too many injuries and unavailability to compete at the highest standard of Division 1 in the YJFL however when we put a full team on the park and had a real crack, we played some really quality football and it was a great spectacle to watch.

Both Brett and I are really proud of the effort and resilience of the boys to fight the year out to the end. We saved our best game until last and put on a show for our final game against Camberwell Sharks. It was an exciting finish to a great season and a game the boys will remember for the rest of their lives.

*Ben Andrews, Assistant Coach*

**ASHY REDBACKS**  
ASHBURTON UNITED JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB 2016

Platinum Club Sponsor  
NoelJones  
Glen Iris

**COLTS RED**

**BACK ROW L-R:**  
Janet O'Meara (Trainer)  
Bill Heath (Manager)  
Ben Andrews (Asst Coach)  
Brett Gatehouse (Coach)

**THIRD ROW L-R:**  
Max Dahlstrom  
Alistair Rogers  
Thomas Golz  
Joel Wilson  
Angus Roller  
Flynn Siassios (Captain)  
Adam Celik  
Hamish Heath  
Jordan Arazi  
Tom Moncrieff

**SECOND ROW L-R:**  
Connor Bavage  
(Vice Captain)  
Dylan Wolters  
Cameron Monaco  
Patrick Bohan  
William Griffin  
(Vice Captain)  
Nicholas Buckley  
Liam O'Meara  
Harry Ridder

**FRONT ROW L-R:**  
Matthew West  
Cooper Wyatt  
James Ellis  
Jacob Mackenzie  
Billy Cooke  
Nathan Boucher  
Lawrence Melsom



# Colts Green

Coach - Simon Brownhill



Overall this season was a great introduction to the boys playing for the first time in Colts. Lining up in Division Four gave the team some good insights into what is expected of them when playing with older aged boys. To their credit the Greens players held their own against some very good opposition, many of whom were their Clubs only Colts team. The season started strong with a few good wins, especially one against this year's premiership team. Unfortunately, as the season progressed, external commitments made via their respective schools, took a toll on player numbers. A combination of inconsistent player numbers and team stability resulted in many games the Greens would have normally won, just come up short on the day. We were fortunate in one game to have the support of some Under 15 players to help with numbers which was a great experience for them as it gave them some insight as to what to expect next season.

Towards the end of the season with two games to go, the Greens were a mathematical chance of playing in the finals. However, as with many of our games during the home and away season, luck did not go our way. The push with getting a third Colts team to play enabled boys the opportunity to come and have a run which will bode well for player numbers for next season. Only three of our 24 players from this season won't be returning next season due to ineligibility, which means strong player numbers if all are to return next season.

I would like to thank all the boys who played in the Colts Greens this year. It was a year where I believe everyone enjoyed themselves, challenged themselves and had fun playing with their mates. I would also like to thank the parents and supporters who gave their time to help with the myriad of jobs each week.

Lastly I would like to thank the coaching panel and team support staff – Kev, Vince, Matt and Lori for all their help during the season. Next season will be the last for many of the boys and it would be great to have everyone return for their last hoorah at junior footy .

*Simon Brownhill, Coach*





# Colts Black

Coach - Matt Blizzard



It was late into the initial 2016 grading season and Ashy were only fielding 2 Colt sides (Reds & Greens) and with combined colts player numbers being approximately 58, it meant we didn't have enough players to field 3 teams. As a result the greens team would have to rotate between 8 to 12 players each week. Whichever way you looked at it, there was going to be a lot a player down time - impacting a significant number of colts this year.

Having previously known a significant number of the younger colts, (from being their previous U14's & U15's coach) A number of boys contacted me to explore the opportunity of starting a 3rd Colts team - so more kids could play more footy than the current situation allowed them to. I stated the obvious that we didn't have enough players - to which they replied - we'll get the players if you will coach us. And the rest is history. The boys then went to work recruiting and by the end of week 10 additional players joined and the 3rd Colts team quickly became a reality.

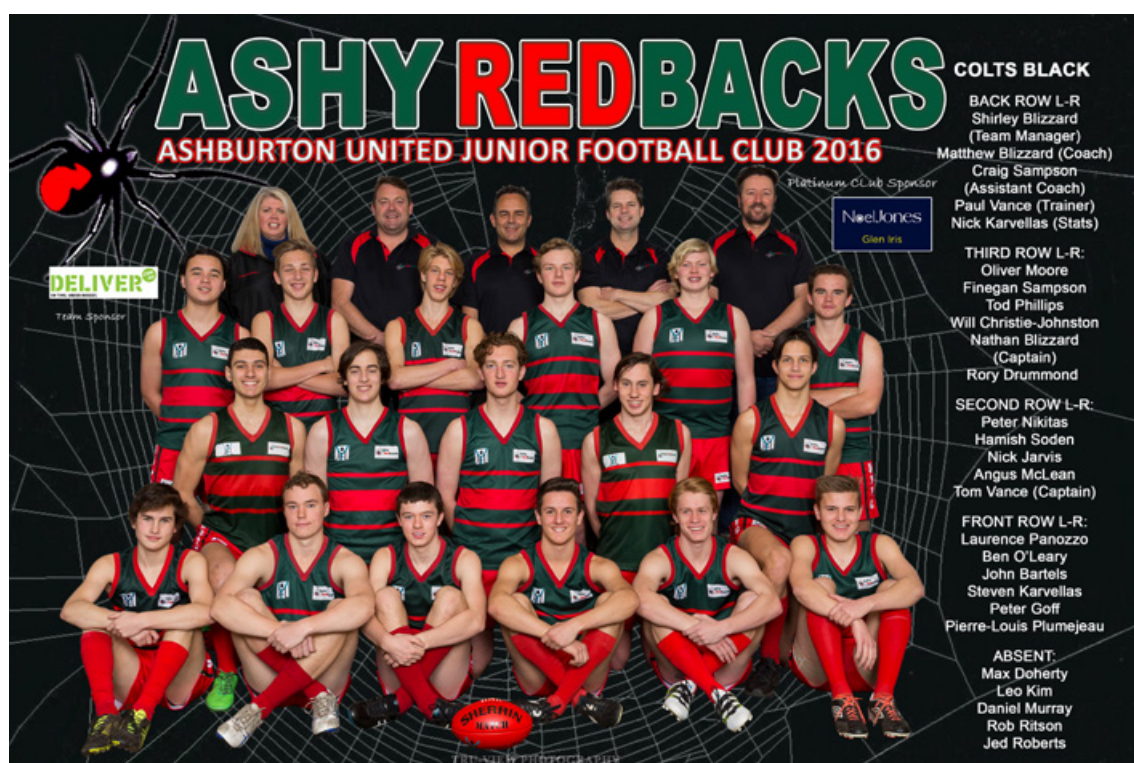
Whilst we entered the competition at the lowest point that the web site summary could go, and as we were a new team that had never played or trained together as a group, none of that mattered as we were all playing footy. 96% of players turned up each week consistently.

Starting from the lowest point possible (in game 6) this team of outstanding young men finished 5th - only 1 win short of playing finals.

Who knows what could have been if this team had the same training time available and game time invested as did all of their opponents.

A great example of leadership, team commitment and mate ship - Ashy Colts Black were the players team.

*Matt Blizzard, Coach*





# Youth Girls

Coach - Andrew Scott



'If you build it, they will come' (Field of Dreams – 1989) was the mantra for Ashy as the club entered its inaugural Youth Girls in 2016.

With 80% of the team being first year Ashy players we under-promised and over-delivered. Undefeated after four wins in 2nd Division we were then promoted to the very competitive 1st Division.

Despite lacking experience in comparison to our opposition, the team chemistry and desire to improve were key ingredients to our success. A grand final appearance in the top division of girls footy in the YJFL was an amazing accomplishment for a new team and a testament to all involved.

*Andrew Scott, Coach*



# Under 15 Red

Coach - Ryan McDonough



With optimism high to start the season and a new coach stepping into the fold, the kids were outstanding to start off the season by winning the first two games of the year. Unfortunately, once APS sport started, the injuries hit and the list of 29 routinely was around 18-20 for the majority of the year.

This led to a few heartbreaking losses but the boys' spirits never dwindled at all throughout the year. They were able to get a full squad by the end of the year with the team celebrating five x 100 gamers, which as a coach was just amazing to see.

While the success on the field wasn't what we wanted at the beginning, the kids continued to develop and make each other better. I had a fantastic time coaching a great bunch of kids and hopefully more success will follow in the future.

*Ryan McDonough, Coach*

**ASHY REDBACKS**  
ASHBURTON UNITED JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB 2016

**UNDER 15 RED**

**BACK ROW L-R:**  
Peter Sheehan (Runner)  
Ryan McDonough (Coach)  
Marty Lagasties (Asst Coach)  
Andrea Pryor (Manager)

**FOURTH ROW L-R:**  
Nick Caruso  
Mitch Bowman  
Josh Hynes  
Zach Huggins  
Seb Tusan  
Jules Pompei  
Tom Coyle  
Declan Foley  
Kal Vestergaard

**THIRD ROW L-R:**  
Flynn Tremoulet  
Harry Livens  
Gus Molden  
Leo Di Petta  
Eamon Noonan  
Tom Briggs

**SECOND ROW L-R:**  
Liam Gusti  
Max Hagenaue  
Josh Schinck  
Lawrence O'Brien  
Alex Hamlyn

**FRONT ROW L-R:**  
James Ritchie  
Tom Sheehan  
Lachie Pont  
Nathan Barr  
Connor McNamara  
Joel Lagasties

**ABSENT:**  
Jonathan Florentzou  
Connor McKee  
Harrison Shugg

Platinum Club Sponsor: NeelJones Green Iris  
Team Sponsor: PHYSIOWORKS Health Group



# Under 15 Girls Red

Coach - Dave Cooper



After a very solid pre season and some fresh new faces Maddie, Bella, Steph, Charlotte and Sarah Mac the girls began the year with a solid win against Blackburn. Rounds 2 and 3 brought more victories and promotion to 1st Division was discussed. Round 4 and a loss to Banyule didn't stop the YJFL promoting us to 1st Division.

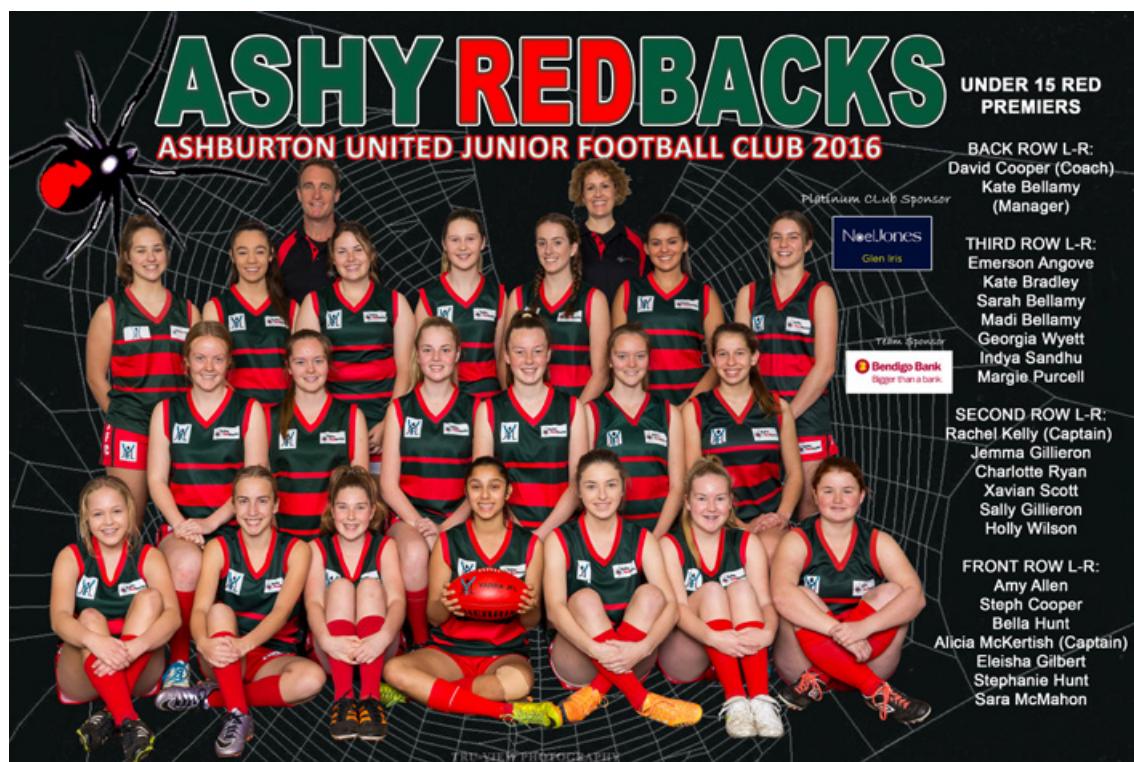
Round 5 arrived and a massive reality check for not just the girls but also to the coaching staff. St Mary's Ones team 14.32 = 116 to 0.0 = 0. Fortunately, the YJFL realised that we were not ready for the jump to 1st Division so we went back to basics and to the girls credit they began to play the game plan that I had been coaching them since preseason.

These girls are running athletic machines and as each round went by, the girls went from strength to strength. The main strengths these girls had were their tackling and hand ball. As each week went by the link up of hand passing would satisfy any coach at any level. Tony Ellen (Assistant Coach) and I knew we were on a good thing. We won the next 10 games in a row and finished off two games and percentage clear on top.

Semi Final v Beverley Hills and once again these girls began the game with hard aggressive football and with their athletic skills and sticking to the game plan, they put this game to bed by half time. 10 goals up and finishing of 13.26.104 to 1.3.9 they truly deserved a weeks break!

Grand Final day came around and both coach and girls were nervous which I explained was a good thing as it meant that these girls care for one another and that's what good teams do. Some special individual efforts on the day by Georgia, Sarah and Margie but what was pleasing for this team was we were a team not individuals and that is what they were all year. Congratulations to my UNDER 15 Red young ladies - 1st ever female premiership TEAM at Ashy! You all truly deserve your success.

Dave Cooper, Coach



# Under 15 Girls Green

Coach - Kim Ledger



What a season for the Greens, an enthusiastic group of 10-15 year olds who just wanted to give footy a try. Struggling for numbers in the first few rounds and having to borrow from Under 15 Red, we worked on our game sense and skills. With the addition of more girls, we started working on our game plans and structures. Never underestimate these girls and their ability to take on concepts of footy. Draw them a picture of a defensive net structure and they can implement it after a quarter. Walk them through a stoppage set up and they nail it. As well as athletic, these girls are smart.

By the mid season break we were playing confidently and sitting on top of the ladder until we met Brunswick. A loss brought us back to reality - a lesson that proved invaluable. The final few games were about perfecting our style of footy. Positioned in 2nd place on the ladder, a grand final berth was our goal. After losing to Whitehorse Colts in the semi, and suffering injuries from a very physical game, some stress showed into our preliminary against St Marys. Inaccurate kicking by us kept them in the game. With a lot of heart and fierce effort on the ball, the girls pushed hard and we secured a spot in the grand final by 7 points.

A 50/50 chance to win, 21 nervous girls ran through the banner. We scored first and kept the scoreboard pressure on. While the games momentum was changing in an instant, the last quarter defence was immaculate. At the final siren, Ashy history was made as one of the first girls' teams to win a flag!

Thank you Chris, Ian and the Club for getting me through my first season as Coach, and to the unwavering support of all the parents who eased the workload for super Team Managers Kaylene & Ngaire. An extra special shout out to the 'game team' of Donna, Peter, Kate and our boardmen, Maxine & Ian.

The strength of girls footy at Ashy sadly means that this mixed bag of girls will most likely never play altogether again. Nonetheless they have an amazing shared bond that no one can take away.

*Kim Ledger, Coach*





# Under 14 Red

Coach - Steve Worner



The 2016 season can only be described only as relentless. Amazingly with only six teams in the top Gold division, Ashy played the top two teams just under 50 % off the time. The boys started their season off by winning well at St Mary's and then a few weeks later against Fitzroy. Whilst we had five new players from last season the recruitment to other teams was even more so as our best football at times was not where it needed to be.

The brand of football I wanted the boys to play was a possession and move on quickly style to avoid the opposition's bigger players who were able to mark untroubled. This was done in part but as I coached the boys all year that skill needed to be worked on as well as hitting targets with hand and foot. To the boys credit all year they were able to eek out good to excellent quarters but they found it challenging to sustain them for four quarters.

The boys can be proud that they played what is arguable the top junior football competition in Australia at an Under14 level and they more than held their own with smaller bodies each week. The boys had their best win of the season against Beverly Hills where they posted the last six goals to run out winners by under 10 pts.

Big thanks to Macca and Flem for assisting me, as well as Brenton and Ibo for carrying all those messages and to Natalie, for being a seamless Team Manager. Finally to all the boys, who under tough circumstances, kept the laughter, banter and camaraderie up at training and on game day, you all helped me to really enjoy my coaching experience.

*Steve Worner, Coach*



## Under 14 Green

Coach - Paul Allen



Under 14 Green began the season significantly stronger than in 2015 with eight new players into the side, and so it proved early, with four crushing wins in grading games with all players contributing and combining well as a team. Promotion to Green division was sought and delivered by the league.

Announcing three captains (Jack, Harry and Josh) and two vice captains (Jack and Sam), the aim was for the boys, through their leaders, to have a say in how the team worked.

The hard work began in Round 5 as the team came up against the then top four sides in the division in four successive weeks. The team was very competitive, and although didn't win these games, made steady improvement which would set them up for later in the season.

A hard fought loss in school holidays with 15 players and leading the game in the last quarter was the catalyst for the team to win three of their next four matches, including old foes Bulleen Templestowe and Kew Comets, then a famous victory against eventual grand finalist and unbeaten Heidelberg to qualify for the finals. This victory was achieved with 17 fit players on a massive ground, playing the game contest by contest and holding onto a very slender lead in the final frantic minutes with plenty of cool heads prevailing. The goal of playing finals was realised and although ultimately falling short of a win, the boys were very brave and gained many admirers in what was a very successful season.

*Paul Allen, Coach - Glenn Davis, Assistant Coach & Emma Weekly, Team Manager*





## Under 14 Black

Coach - Leigh Muller



In U14 Black we tried to emphasise the team aspect of football, the running to support, the positioning on the ground, the idea that each player is needed and has a task to fulfil for our team to be successful. We aimed for all players to learn the roles of forward, defender, midfielder and on-baller. Each player spent game time in different positions, evaluating their own strengths, weaknesses and position preference.

At the end of the regular season, we sat third on the ladder and had a very adaptable side. The boys could go forward, or back, or on-ball and still adhere to our game plan.

Whilst always instilling the team ethos, there were many individual players rewarded for their efforts during the season. Well done to Ted McCarthy, Matt Wollheim, Will Gorman and Quinn Schwarz who all received 'Player of the Month' awards. We also had a player win the Yarra League Best & Fairest - well done Quinn Schwarz!

The Blacks played finals for the second year in a row and were again defeated by one of the Grand Finalists. Overall, a great season by all.

*Leigh Muller, Coach*

**ASHY REDBACKS**  
ASHBURTON UNITED JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB 2016

UNDER 14 BLACK SEMI FINALISTS

BACK ROW L-R:  
Ross Parisi (Asst Coach)  
Leigh Muller (Coach)  
Dave Reed (Trainer)  
Melanie Eardley (Manager)

THIRD ROW L-R:  
Luke Muller  
Jim McCarthy  
Oscar King  
Cailen Robinson  
Matthew Wollheim  
Joe Hunt  
Jack Parisi

SECOND ROW L-R:  
Darcy Frazer  
Cooper Mayes  
Kieran Yeates  
Keegan Eardley  
Ted McCarthy

FRONT ROW L-R:  
Tom Richards  
Will Gorman  
Jacob Nikitas  
Hayden Reed  
Billy Pinchbeck  
Quinn Schwarz

ABSENT:  
Charlie Briglia  
Rourke Sheridan

Team Sponsor: K&B ADAMS PTY LTD  
Platinum Club Sponsor: N&E Jones  
Glen Iris

TRU-MEN PHOTOGRAPHY

# Under 13 Red

Coach - Gav Hynes

The 2016 season for the U13 Reds was one for the ages. It was one filled with challenges both mental and physical for all boys. We were faced with combining four x U12 teams into one team that were placed into Gold Division to start our journey.

The first four games of the season, we were up against teams that had been in Gold Division for 3-4 years and some clubs had two teams in Gold Division. To say we were up against the odds is an understatement! The boys approached each game despite some 10-12 goals losses and their positivity was to be commended. We struggled against the likes of Fitzroy, Hawthorn Citz & Glen Iris but came awfully close to St Marys. The next three games were against teams that came up into Gold and our first win came against the Camberwell Sharks, where the boys belted out the club song with gusto! We then had consecutive wins against Park Orchards and Banyule and we were now placed at four losses and three wins, ready to take the second half of the season on!

We set ourselves a challenge of knocking off one of the top four teams and went very close against the Gladiators only to fall short by two goals, which was a great effort considering our earlier encounter. Unfortunately we were unable to win enough games to make the finals but the exposure to Gold Division for all the boys was a great experience and will hold them in good stead for the coming years. I know that it was a tough year for our boys, but I'm very proud of their efforts throughout the season and hope they all learned something from the challenges we faced and will use that as motivation for their footy in the future.

Looking forward to seeing you all again for next season, hopefully bigger and stronger.

*Gav Hynes, Coach*





## Under 13 Black

Coach - Tony Smith

**SHERLOCK**  
**LASTS LONGER**

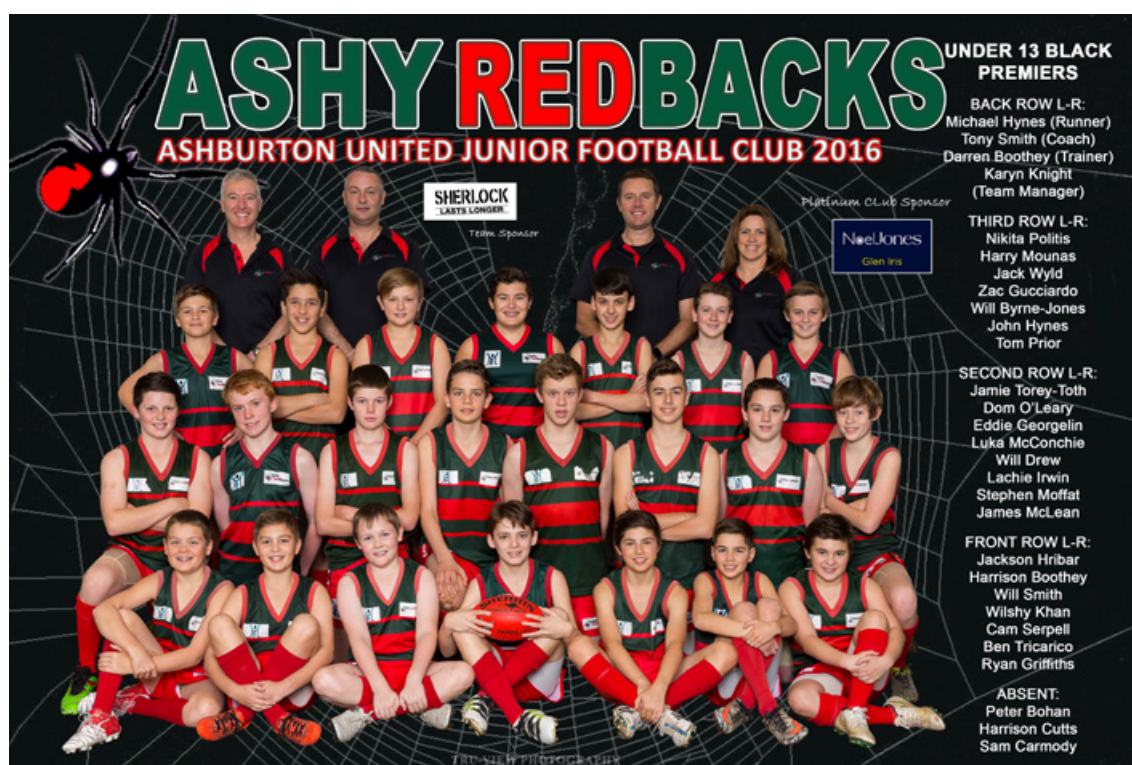
I don't know how else to put it as I keep repeating myself. 114 point first game loss, bottom of the ladder in Round 6, won all but two of the last 12 games to finish second, behind in the grand final by 8 points with 7 minutes to play kicking against the wind, to end up 12 point winners and premiers. That's the result of the following...

We came together as a mix of four teams, different development stages and an unknown of what the year would bring. We put together a program that laid out the structures they would play under, team rules and an eight-week program to improve their football. Every player embraced the plan and executed beautifully. They all focused achieving this as a collective and we pushed the need to play for their team mates and the club and explained that everyone would be learning a multiple of positions and explained the need for communication on the ground.

The first six games were all about giving players the ability to participate in the game at levels they had previously not been afforded, improve their kicking and marking and how to handle themselves for the physicality of football while instilling in them a willingness to make mistakes. The next four games were about improving the communication out on the field and putting in place the new assets that we acquired and the last run home was all about intensity at the contest. Not only did they complete everything ahead of schedule but they developed further on their own as we gave all the responsibility on game day back to the players.

It was a pure delight to watch and work with this group of players as they all finished the year much better players than they started. These boys should all be so proud of their year and they are fantastic role models for the Ashburton Football Club. Great job.

*Tony Smith, Coach*



# Under 13 Green

Coach - Ged Walsh

The year has come and gone ever so quickly, and unfortunately the finals were just out of reach for our brave team of warriors.

What we lacked in height was negated by our ferocious attack on the ball. The early loses in the higher grade was the difference in just falling short. However it's not all about finals - rather the improvement of the team and each and every player during the season. And that's what happened with our 23 warriors, with some crushing wins and come from behind battles that bought the crowd to its feet.

The best part was the way the team gelled and showed great mateship, win, loose, or draw. Well done to the legends of the U13 Green!

*Ged Walsh, Coach*





# Under 12 Green

Coach - Bill Mithen



With such names as the Big Show, the Lifetime Warranty, the Velvet Axe, 'Danger' Will Robertson, the Volvo, Gunslinger, Butcher, Shadow, Tarmac and the Forward Formerly Known as the Human Ponytail, the Ashy under 12s Green boasted a classic line-up of raw talent.

Early promotion to Brown Division presented challenges but the boys acquitted themselves well, particularly with a memorable win against top team Kew Comets.

Highlights included the immense improvement in each player, the development of team play and spirit. The boys worked hard at every level and responded to the calm direction and guidance of senior coach Bill 'the Bible' Mithen and his coaching panel.

Well done to all.

*Mark Branagan, Parent*



## Under 12 Red

Coach - Phil Hine

Morgans IN ALLIANCE WITH  
CIMB

The 2016 season for Under 12 Red began with the side winning the first four games of the season, resulting in the lads being promoted into Gold Division. Rather than being intimidated, the players embraced the opportunity of playing against some of the young elite players in Melbourne in their graded teams.

The team played with great spirit throughout the season, playing their best every game and they outscored just about every side in their final quarters of each match.

Our boys kept their professional, dedicated attitude all season with near 100% attendance at each training. They stormed home, winning their final three games resulting in 7 wins and 8 defeats. I encouraged the boys all season to never worry too much about scoreboards and ladders. They were told they just needed to concentrate on their roles in the team and the results will take care of themselves, as they did.

Each boys' development this year was huge, largely due to the amazing assistant coaching they received from Liz, the help of our loyal runner Ritchie, reliable team manager Vanessa and dedicated trainer Tanya. Thanks also to all the mums and dads that assisted in the season, making it a fun and a truly memorable one for the Ashy Under 12 Red.

*Phil Hine, Coach*

**ASHY REDBACKS**  
ASHBURTON UNITED JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB 2016

**UNDER 12 RED**

**BACK ROW L-R:**  
Ritchie Blaikie (Runner)  
Liz Carr  
(Assistant Coach)  
Vanessa Bowen  
(Team Manager)  
Phil Hine (Coach)

**THIRD ROW L-R:**  
Oliver Malki  
Patrick Baker  
Joshua Bell  
David Hickey  
Tom Blaikie  
Will Hine  
Harry Bowen

**SECOND ROW L-R:**  
Jamal Mashni  
Edwin O'Donnell  
Luke Petracca  
Mitchell Wolters  
Finn Haylock  
Edward Dunlop

**FRONT ROW L-R:**  
Lachlan Groves  
William Richards  
Dane Jacotine  
Mitchell Horn  
Patrick Jones  
Henry Jones  
Connor Ferguson

**ABSENT:**  
Max Hertzell

Team Sponsor: Morgans CIMB

Platinum Club Sponsor: Noel Jones Glen Iris

FRANK PHOTOGRAPHY



# Under 12 Black

Coach - Greg Dixon

The team reformed with the majority of last year's Premiership side, which left us short a couple of players, two new rookies arrived Alex and Josh to make up the side. It wasn't long before we realised how fortunate we were! Alex a talent all-rounder becoming the Blue division leading goal kicker with 39 for the year and Josh a very determined goal sneak.

The first couple of grading games caught the boys unprepared and we got a hiding, as the season progressed the boy's confidence and skills showed through. Our aim for the season was to rotate the boys through as many positions and give them the chance to learn each of them while giving them equal time in the forward and backline.

When the injuries started (all non- football related) the coaches renamed the side the Black Cats for all the bad luck we experienced! With six home and away games to go and sitting in sixth place on the ladder we had to win all of them to make finals (we won 5) and by large margins to get our percentage up.

We got on a winning streak and went from six to five to four to finish third for the season to make finals. We also became the highest scoring team in the division and it was very pleasing to have 20 boys kicking goals for the year.

Excitingly, we played finals and finished the season as Premiers, Blue Section.

*Greg Dixon, Coach*



# Under 11 Green

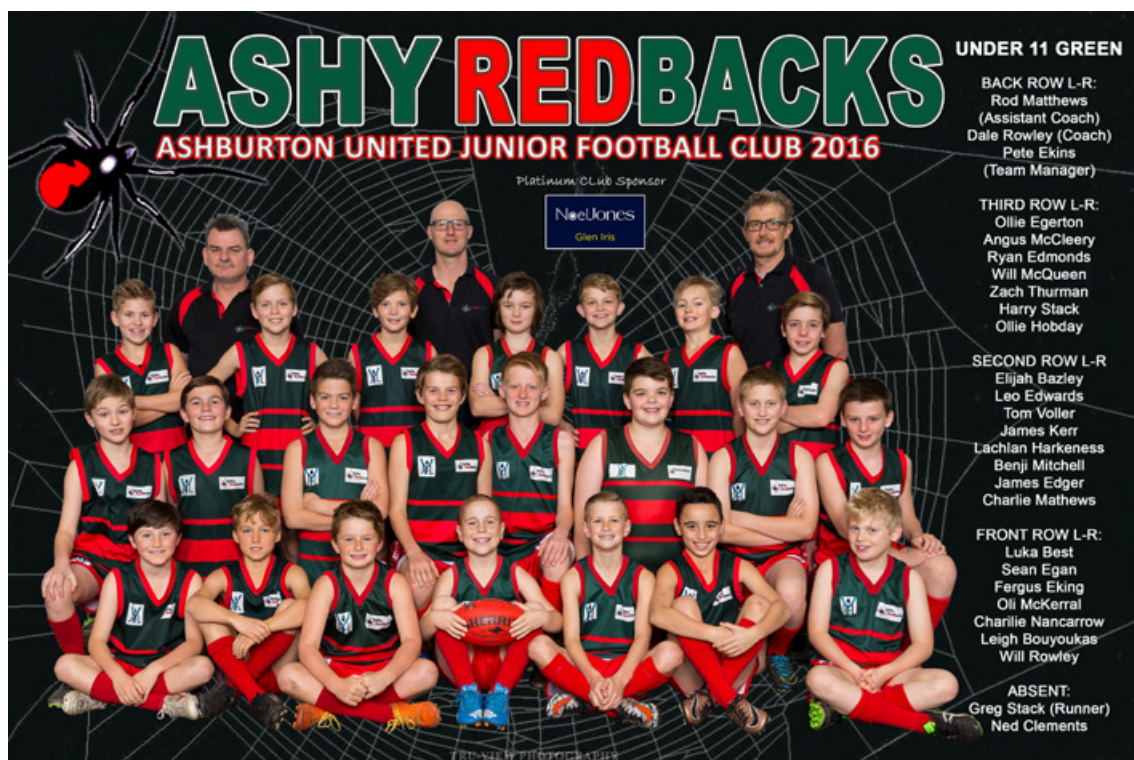
Coach - Dale Rowley

After a slow start to the season where U11 Green was able to match it with the top teams for most of the game, we started to build momentum.

As we improved our skills and focussed on our team tactics the results started to come. First a couple of close, hard fought wins over Parkside and Hawthorn Citz, then an inspiring victory over second placed Whitehorse. This was followed by a crushing defeat of Preston to finish off the season in style and shoot us up the ladder.

Were we the best team outside the top four? Definitely!

*Dale Rowley, Coach*





# Under 11 Red

Coach - Greg Lasscock

Under 11 Red had a wonderful season winning 10 of their last 11 games to make the preliminary final in Brown Division, only to agonisingly go down by a single point against top team Ivanhoe.

Pleasingly the boys showed tremendous improvement throughout the season, and showed excellent capacity to adopt specific game plans and improve their skills. The boys consistently showed great levels of determination and resilience in their games and were always able to find a way to win even when the chips were down.

Season highlights included a gritty semi final win over Camberwell Sharks and a resounding home and away win over top of the table Ivanhoe.

Many thanks to all the parents and families who were always willing to help wherever required. Our crowd numbers were terrific and the boys really responded to their support. We look forward to next season and continuing the improvement in all players and hopefully going one step further into the season next year.

*Greg Lasscock, Coach David Francis, Assistant Coach Chris Adams, Team Manager*



# Under 11 Black

Coach - Matt Burns



I absolutely loved every second of coaching Under 11 Black this year as this group of boys and parents were been second to none.

I was amazed at the numbers at all of our training nights (especially some of those freezing wet nights) where we discovered some real talent amongst the team. Anyone can coach great players but only great coaches can get the best out of all players at different ends of the spectrum.

I hope that the boys take a lot away from this year of football as I know I have. They have consistently shown their class as players and young men. I thank Shaun, Hamish, Shawry, Harry, Adam, Simon, Nick and Joyce, and all the amazing parents.

Remember our 2016 motto and take it with you for ever : Good Teams Find A Way, Good players Find A Team Mate.

*Matt Burns, Coach*

**ASHY REDBACKS**  
ASHBURTON UNITED JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB 2016

Platinum Club Sponsor  
**Neel Jones**  
Glen Iris

**UNDER 11 BLACK**

**BACK ROW L-R:**  
Hamish Macneil (Team Manager)  
Matthew Burns (Coach)  
Shaun Purple (Assistant Coach)  
Joyce Cox (Trainer)

**THIRD ROW L-R:**  
Alex Axaris  
Tom Bellamy  
Ned Chesler  
Liam Garrett  
James Gorman  
Oscar White  
Ronan Shaw

**SECOND ROW L-R:**  
Liam Stacey  
Josh Webb  
Preston Burns  
Will Purple  
Sam Bowden

**FRONT ROW L-R:**  
Lachlan Macneil  
Finn Grogan  
Harry Lanigan  
Owen Cox  
Angus Kenny  
Byron Kerr

**ABSENT:**  
Corbin Howes  
Harry Cumming-Simm

TRISH PHOTOGRAPHY



## Under 10 Green

Coach - Lisa Drought



The 2016 U10 Green team had 24 terrific boys from seven schools, with 19 out of 20 returning from U9s and five players new to footy.

The team's hallmark was again great defence and tackling pressure, and we found some strong midfielders and goalkickers.

The boys learnt a lot with Lisa, Paul and Brett, improving their skills, adopting a new game plan and applying some simple set plays as they rotated through all areas of the ground. The team also had lots of fun, especially when they put it all together for great wins.

Many boys celebrated 25 game milestones, and the team bonded at training where we played some competitive footy volleyball and enjoyed post-training pizzas.

Thanks and well done to the boys, team manager, coaches and parents.

*Fiona Reid – Team Manager*



# Under 10 Red

Coach - Adam Yze

The 2016 season for our boys was so much fun and I'd hope that each player felt like they improved each week, whilst enjoying themselves. The three themes we used throughout the year were embraced by the boys and didn't change each week.

1. Teamwork – I wanted to make sure the boys realised the strength of team work and in doing so, make sure that everyone felt like they had an important role to play each week.
2. Tackling – I wanted to have a focus on the boys learning how to tackle, as well as getting used to being tackled.
3. Fun – This was the main thing I wanted to get out of this season. Our focus of enjoying working well as a team and not worrying about the result worked well, and was something the boys did every week!

All in all, I witnessed every one of the boys improve in different areas of their game, and the fun we had whilst doing so shone through!

*Adam Yze, Coach*





# Under 10 White

Coach - Simon Martin



An unbelievable season from an unbelievable bunch of boys. We were back on the big oval and noticed quickly how they had developed physically and mentally over the summer.

Initially graded in Green Division, we were moved up to Blue Division and adapted quickly with a mix of stunning and tough wins.

All up we only dropped three games, but our team play, structure and spread really defined our season. When we got going we were unstoppable, we just needed to work on locking the other team down.

Come the finals, they stepped up taking out Lightning Premiership flag with an amazing morning of footy. Love your work boys.

*Simon Martin, Coach*

**ASHY REDBACKS**  
ASHBURTON UNITED JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB 2016

**UNDER 10 WHITE PREMIERS**

**BACK ROW L-R:**  
Bryan Mahony (Team Manager)  
John Lucas (Boundary Umpire)  
Simon Martin (Coach)  
Andrew Rowe (Asst Coach)  
Michael Foldi (Runner)

**THIRD ROW L-R:**  
Benji Mathieson  
Lucas Foldi  
Ben Alsop  
Luke Arthur  
Rylan Carlisle  
Dylan Mahony

**SECOND ROW L-R:**  
Spencer Mathieson  
Aidan Pidgeon  
Will Maxa  
Will Smyth-Roberts  
Alexander Granzow  
Hugh Rayner  
Joshua Drew

**FRONT ROW L-R:**  
Abay Bolisetty  
Kai Lucas  
Ben Porteous  
Danny Martin  
Fidel Kallis  
Nicolas Rowe

**ABSENT:**  
Cameron Tassone  
Harry Ritchie  
Charlie Pearson  
Angus Cutfield

Platinum Club Sponsor: NeeJones  
Green Hire

TRIMBLE PHOTOGRAPHY

## Under 10 Black

Coach - Marcus Marshall

Following the loss of nine players of our 19 players from our 2015 team, we needed to re-build the team and I thank the boys (and parents) who joined our team. The team comprised 20 boys from seven schools, with seven boys playing football for the first time. After the first training session, the boys had found new friends with a common goal to develop skills, have fun, enjoy football and have a real crack.

As well as developing foot, hand and marking skills our main focus for the year was to encourage boys to 'GET THE BALL', which varied for individuals from being in and under a pack, applying pressure to the opposition, support around the contest, play to position and be an option for a switch of play, or to run to space to be an option.

It was extremely pleasing to see the progress of each boy throughout the year and this was never more evident during the Lightning Premiership where all the boys contributed to the premiership from their ferocious attack at the ball, the use of handball from the bottom of packs, the run from behind the ball, the desire to switch the play, to run to space and attack the ball in a marking contest.

Overall a very pleasing and rewarding year for the team, with the boys finding new mates, developing football skills and having fun.

*Marcus Marshall, Coach*





# Under 9 Green

Coach - Stephen Worthley

The Under 9 Green team this year consisted of 12 boys from Camberwell South primary (10 of whom had played the previous year) and six boys from St. Michaels, none of whom had played before apart from Auskick. From the outset it was hard to tell who had and hadn't played before - all the boys were passionate about their footy. And now that tackling was allowed, they were keen to try out their skills!

Coach Steve took to coaching with flare, and soon had the boys learning new skills and improving every week. It was often difficult to choose who was the most worthy of the weekly awards.

A stroke of bad luck saw the son of the Coach as well as the Team Manager out with injuries from the middle of the season until the end. What a shame! However, they continued to support their team and the boys made us all proud. By the end of season 2016 the boys were already talking about 2017 and are looking forward to scoring.

Thanks to Coach Steve Worthley, Assistant Coach Richard Simpson, Trainers Cosimo Costa & Naomi and John O'Haire and all the parents for their support.

Looking forward to Season 2017.

*Carolyn Heyden-Dixon (Team Manager)*



## Under 9 Red

Coach - Matt Pietsch



What a year by Under 9 Red. Some off-season recruiting saw four new players come into the squad Evan McVey, Charlie Ryan, Henry Sewell and Jonty Emtage. Like all star players, they transitioned seamlessly into the rigours of Under 9 football and adopted the 'team first' brand of footy we like to play.

This year the boys got off to a flyer, their confidence was up, teamwork was paramount and some exquisite skills were on display. The highlight of the season came in the last round and really encapsulated the 'team first' brand of footy played by the boys. There was no more pleasing moment than to see the whole team get around our star forward Josh McLoughlin as he steered a left foot snap home for a goal – the team's reaction was priceless and a moment to be cherished forever.

Well done boys. It's been a pleasure coaching you and I look forward to seeing you all go around again in 2017.

*Matt Pietsch, Coach*





# Under 9 White

Coach - Simon Goodwin

Under 9 White celebrated a golden year of football in 2016. As a team, they developed their skills, their game awareness and they had fun. The boys were indeed fortunate to be coached by former AFL star Simon Goodwin who gave them confidence and direction.

Ultimately the feature of the team's play was the willingness to share the ball and to enjoy each other's achievements.

This year will be remembered as one in which these boys came of age, they learnt more about the game and improved their skills. The weekly Under 9 White match reports produced a new generation of names and angles on junior footy and will be a great record for the future. Well done Ashy!

*Mark Branagan, Parent*



## Under 9 Black

Coach - Simon Miller

**FRIENDS  
PHARMACY**

With a few new players recruited from the school yard, U9 Black had a full squad and were raring to go, the only thing left for the group to contemplate was the introduction of tackling and which number they would wear on their jumpers. All logistics were promptly sorted out by the guru of all Team Managers, Richard Zvirbulis, and as for the tackling, well this was sorted out by the players in the first 30 seconds of Round 1.

The season progressed very well with improvements each week, and adapting well to the required style of play – which was:

- if you are in the back zone: keep close check of your opponent,
- if you are in the middle zone: win the ball and clear it into the forwards, and
- if you are in the forward zone: keep moving, create space and kick goals.
- 

Plenty of highlights, laughs and fun had by all this season, big thanks to Team Manager, Richard Zvirbulis, Assistant Coach, Jarrod Neilson, Trainer, Shanon Collett, and a huge thanks to all the players.

*Simon Miller, Coach*

A team photo of the Ashy Redbacks Under 9 Black team. The team consists of 21 young boys in green and red striped jerseys, arranged in three rows. The background is a dark spiderweb with a large red and black spider on the left. Text overlays include the team name 'ASHY REDBACKS' in large green and red letters, 'ASHBURTON UNITED JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB 2016' in red, and a 'Neel Jones Glen Iris Platinum Club Sponsor' logo. A list of players and staff is provided on the right side of the photo.

**ASHY REDBACKS**  
**ASHBURTON UNITED JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB 2016**

Neel Jones  
Glen Iris  
Platinum Club Sponsor

**UNDER 9 BLACK**

**BACK ROW L-R:**  
Jamon Neilson  
Charlie Mounas  
Mitchell Hall  
Ryan Corcoran  
Ben Miller  
Declan Collett

**MIDDLE ROW L-R:**  
Julian Dowling  
James Orton  
Cooper Fry  
Kurt Zvirbulis  
Snowy Evans

**FRONT ROW L-R:**  
Theodore Hrysomalis  
Riley Woods  
Lachlan Glover  
Ben Syme  
Ben Anderson  
Riley Langkau

**ABSENT:**  
Josh Nolan  
Jarrod Neilson  
(Assistant Coach)  
Richard Zvirbulis  
(Team Manager)  
Simon Miller (Coach)  
Shanon Jarvis  
(Trainer)



## Under 9 Teal

Coach - Rob Jurac

The 2016 season was the first season of competitive football for no less than 11 players for U9 Teal. The excitement and energy from the entire squad was evident from the very first training session, which made life easier for first time coaches Darren Murphy and Rob Jurac.

The first few games were a real eye opener for players and coaches as opposition teams showed great teamwork and understanding of their zones. It is fair to say the coaching staff were thankful there was no scoreboard to contend with! At the same time, the Teal players also began to understand team play and basic footy fundamentals such as winning the loose ball and playing your role for your team. As the season ticked over to the middle stages, the evolution of Teal became very obvious. They began to tackle, fight hard for possession and kick a few goals which bred confidence. The coaches began to play some of the kids in the same position for a few weeks and this seemed to add stability and a fair amount of responsibility to the kids, which they thrived on.

The last five games of the season were very exciting as Teal really began to play team footy. It was at this stage of the season that all coaches and parents wished there was a scoreboard present at all games as Teal began to kick multiple goals and became a difficult team to contend with for all opposition sides. There were many highlights, comical moments and some very chilly mornings throughout the season but the entire team always held their heads high after every game and approached training and match day with great enthusiasm. The squad was a great mix of kids. There is some real talent amongst this group and we hope they stick together next year to continue their footy journey at this great club. Many thanks to Darren Murphy, Team Manager Chris Ryan and (interim coach / senior tactical advisor) Paul Christie for their passion and making

it all very enjoyable. Thanks also to all parents who played their roles in helping with all the little things that are needed to run a successful campaign.

*Rob Jurac, Coach*



# Under 8 Red

Coach - Scott Blackman



U8 Red started the season as a mix of Ashburton Primary (nine players), Solway Primary (three players), Wattle Park Primary (one player) and St. Andrew's Primary (one player) and ended up as a fantastic unit who all became friends. Friday night trainings were very well attended by both kids and parents.

The key to our performances on Sundays was undoubtedly 'running and sharing', which the boys excelled at in the last month of the season.

Well done to every boy who gave their all for the Ashy jumper each week. A special thanks to Niall Keating as team trainer, Peter McArthur as Team Manager and Sean Harris as Assistant Coach for the season.

*Scott Blackman, Coach*





## Under 8 Green

Coach - Matt Sharp

Under 8 Green had a terrific year and the boys improved every week. The team was made up of boys from Camberwell South Primary, St Benedict's and St Michael's.

Every player had the chance to spend time in a different position each week in order to learn the basics needed in each part of the ground. More and more passages of play and linking up through the back zone, mid-zone and into the forward zone occurred each week, which resulted in many good goals during the year.

Well done to all the boys for the year and the improvement in their games as a team and individually. Thanks to Team Manager Sue Ellen Dixon, Trainer Claire Hemingway, Assistant Coach Paul Shaw, Daniel Wall for helping out at training each week and all parents for their support during the season.

*Matt Sharp, Coach*



# Under 8 White

Coach - Tim Schleiger

U8 White embarked on its first year in the Junior League full of excitement and the spirit of competition which exemplifies the Ashburton Footy Club. No one was disappointed as the boys banded together and grew (literally, in a few cases) to become a rugged, close-knit group that was hard at the ball and always gave their best.

The lads never left anything on the ground - except for that one time when the backline decided to carefully read the play from a strategic lying down position!

While the playing group was lucky enough to enjoy fantastic guidance from the seasoned coaching staff, the boys showed that no lessons were needed on how to have fun. And they had fun in spades, week after week.

From Tuesday afternoon's training slugfest, to the weekly rendition of the Ashy club song, every moment was marked by a trademark toothy grin or mischievous giggle.

Special thanks to Tim Schleiger for providing coaching excellence and for being there for the kids, week in week out. Thanks also to Assistant Coach, Glen Cormick, and to all parents who volunteered each week to make game-day happen.

*John Kataforis, Team Manager*





# Under 8 Black

Coach - Mick McKenna

U8 Black this year was fortunate enough to have players from St Michael's Primary with the addition of one player from Ashburton Primary during the year. As a coach you could not ask for a more enthusiastic group of boys to play football.

"SEE BALL,GET BALL" was our mantra that the boys played by every week. When it came time the boys put their heads down and got the ball. I couldn't have been prouder of them.

Throughout the year there were many highlights, too many to mention and fear of missing one, I won't mention any.

A huge thanks goes out to all the parents that were involved and gave up their sleep ins on Sunday to help. A very special thanks to Chris Murray(assistant coach) Jayson Frazer(Team Manager) for their help and guidance throughout the year.

*Mick McKenna, Coach*



We congratulate all of the teams  
that enjoyed success on the field this year



*Under 15 Girls Red - Section 2 Premiers*



*Under 15 Girls Green - Section 3 Premiers*





*Under 13 Black - Section Black Premiers*



*Under 12 Black - Section Blue Premiers*



## Victorian and TAC Cup Selections

Harrison Shugg - U15 Victorian Team

Nathan Boucher - TAC Cup

Will Griffin - TAC Cup

## Yarra Presentations Best & Fairest

U11 Preston Burns 1st

U12 Max Miller 2nd

U14 Quinn Schwartz 1st

U15 Mitch Bowman 2nd

U15 Eliza McNamara 2nd

## YJFL Metro Championships Team Selections

Sam Hynes – Under 13

Jesse Allen – Under 13

Ryan Walsh – Under 14

Ryan Valentine – Under 14

Mitch Bowman – Under 15

Harrison Shugg – Under 15

Connor McKee – Under 15

Aleisha McKertish – Under 15

Georgia Wyett – Under 15

Indya Sandhu – Under 15





## Milestone Games

### 150 Games

Tom Moncreiff \* – Colts Red  
Hamish Soden – Colts Black

### 100 Games

Matthew West – Colts Red	Joel Lagastes – Under 15
Connor Bavage – Colts Red	Angus Molden – Under 15
Dominic Arthur – Colts Green	Lawrence O’Brien – Under 15
Ruben Beeby * – Colts Green	Cooper McNamara – Under 15
Dylan Smith – Colts Green	Luke Davis – Under 14 Green
Jasper White – Colts Green	Luke Allen – Under 14 Green
Nathan Blizzard – Colts Black	Harry McLean - – Under 14 Green
Finegan Sampson – Colts Black	Matthew Wollheim - Under 14 Black
Tod Phillips – Colts Black	Joe Hunt - Under 14 Black
Tom Vance – Colts Black	Hayden Reed - Under 14 Black
James Ritchie – Under 15	Ryan Valentine – Under 14 Red
Liam Gusti – Under 15	Karl Worner * - Under 14 Red
Harrison Shugg – Under 15	Sam Dinneen – Under 14 Red
Eamon Noonan – Under 15	Ryan Walsh – Under 14 Red
Zach Huggins – Under 15	

\* Not all Ashy games



## Milestone Games

### 50 Games

Laurence Panozzo – Colts Black	Harrison Haintz - Under 12 Black
Oliver Moore – Colts Black	Cameron Witt - Under 12 Black
Mitch Bowman – Under 15	Tom Dinneen - Under 12 Black
Will McDonell – Under 14 Green	Cameron Ross - Under 12 Black
Cooper Mayes – Under 14 Black	Joel Tyquin - Under 12 Green
Rourke Sheridan - Under 14 Black	Joel Bennett - Under 12 Green
Keegan Eardley - Under 14 Black	Thomas Martin - Under 12 Green
Ben Eldridge – Under 13 Green	James Davies - Under 12 Green
Artan Walker – Under 13 Green	Ben Mithen - Under 12 Green
Petro Pirozek – Under 13 Green	Daniel Hogan - Under 12 Green
Jack Wyld – Under 13 Black	Billy Branagan - Under 12 Green
Will Drew - Under 13 Black	Finn Jessen - Under 12 Green
Jamie Torey - Under 13 Black	Angus Perry - Under 12 Green
Nikita Politis - Under 13 Black	Tom Blaikie – Under 12 Red
Angus Dixon - Under 12 Black	Harry Bowen – Under 12 Red
Cameron Proposch - Under 12 Black	Connor Ferguson – Under 12 Red
Lachlan Aumuller - Under 12 Black	Patrick Jones – Under 12 Red
Luke Caddy - Under 12 Black	Ed O'Donnell – Under 12 Red
CaLvin Lehr - Under 12 Black	Will Richards - Under 12 Red
William Orton - Under 12 Black	Finn Haylock - Under 12 Red
Alexander Mathieson - Under 12 Black	Josh Bell - Under 12 Red

\* Not all Ashy games





## Milestone Games

### 50 Games

Henry Jones - Under 12 Red	Nate Sheridan – Under 11 Red
Ed Dunlop - Under 12 Red	Max Dal Pozzo – Under 11 Red
Mitch Horne - Under 12 Red	Charlie Adams – Under 11 Red
Luka Best - Under 11 Green	Henry Lasscock – Under 11 Red
Charlie Matthews – Under 11 Green	Noah Caruso – Under 11 Red
Will McQueen - Under 11 Green	
Angus McCleery - Under 11 Green	
James Kerr - Under 11 Green	
Elijah Bazley - Under 11 Green	
James Gorman – Under 11 Black	
Owen Cox - Under 11 Black	
Preston Burns - Under 11 Black	
Oscar White - Under 11 Black	
Harry Lanigan - Under 11 Black	
Finn Grogan - Under 11 Black	
Nicholas Francis – Under 11 Red	
Joey Tuszynski - Under 11 Red	
Luca Kotis - Under 11 Red	
Bradman Docherty – Under 11 Red	
Alex Karpathakis – Under 11 Red	
Billy Macmillan – Under 11 Red	

\* Not all Ashy games

