



8 November 2016

Stewart Horton Appointed As Colts Coach

The Stirling Amateur Football Club is pleased to announce that League player, **Stewart Horton**, has been appointed to the position of Colts coach for the 2017 season.

Stewart joined the Club as a player in 2010, playing in the Club's Colts and Reserves teams after playing Colts for Subiaco (WAFL) and Hamersley-Carine (WAAFL) in 2009. In 2012, he transferred to Lancellin Ledge Point in the Central Midlands Coastal Football League, but returned to the Club in 2013.

An impressive start to the 2013 season saw him make his League debut in Round 6 versus Kalamunda. He played the majority of the season in the Reserves, and finished 3rd in the Fairest & Best. After sitting out most of the 2014 season, he played a mixture of League and Reserves games in 2015, once again finishing 3rd in the Reserves Fairest & Best.

Stewart's standout season occurred in 2016, playing all but two games in the League side to help them reach the Grand Final. His consistent performances and commitment both on and off the track were rewarded with the League Coach's Trophy.

In addition to his playing duties, Stewart has also coached both boys and girls football sides at Central Midlands Senior High School in Moora, as well as coaching juniors teams in Moora.

The Club is now on a recruiting drive to ensure it has plenty of players to have a successful Colts season in 2017. All players and supporters are asked to spread the word to any players aged 17-20 years who are looking to play for a great club in 2017.



For any further information, players can contact Stewart directly on 0437 907 922. For any Club members who are interested in helping out with the Club's Colts team, they are also welcome to contact Stewart.

14 November 2016

Pre-Season Meeting

The Club will be hosting a Pre-Season Meeting this Friday night, 18 November 2016 - in other words, a chance for everyone to catch up. League Coach Tony Mirabella will be outlining the plan for next season, including the coaches, recruits, pre-season training dates and expectations for the 2017 season. This is a great chance to set the standard and continue the culture that we've worked so hard to create in 2016.

It will be kicking off at 6pm for those of you that may need to head off to other commitments. If you cannot attend for any reason, let Tony Mirabella know and an apology will be posted in the rooms on your behalf. Please bring along any mates that are interested in playing for the Club in 2017.



30 November 2016

Saints Appoint New League Assistant Coach

The Club is pleased to announce the appointment of Brad Whittaker as League Assistant Coach for the 2017 season.

Brad joins the Club from East Point Kangaroos in the Ballarat Football League, which is renowned as being one of the top country leagues in Victoria. Brad played over 100 games for the Roos between 2010 and 2016, and kicked more than 200 goals, including being the Club's leading goal kicker on two occasions.

Brad captained the Club's Under 18s team to a premiership in 2010, and a string of solid performances saw him make his League debut for the Roos in that same year. He finished runner-up for the Ballarat Football League's Rookie of the Year in 2010, as well as the Club's Under 18s Fairest & Best. He also played on the MCG for his school side, St Patricks College, in the Herald Sun Shield Grand Final.

After becoming a regular part of the Roos' League side in 2011, Brad played a pivotal role in the club's forward line structure. His consistent form earned him selection in a number of interleague representative sides for the Ballarat Football League, and he has also served as the Club's Vice captain for a number of years. Despite an injury plagued season in 2016, he helped the Club's Reserves team win the BFL Reserves Premiership.

The Club would like to welcome Brad to the Stirling Football Club family.



10 January 2017

Pre-Season Training

All players are reminded that pre-season training re-commences this week, starting on Tuesday 10 January 2017. Training sessions are scheduled every Tuesday and Thursday starting at 6pm.

It's up to all of us to make sure we have plenty of numbers on the track. Strength and commitment will give us the best opportunity to build on the success of last year and make 2017 a great one for the Mighty Saints.



9 March 2017

WAAFL Fixtures Released

The West Australian Amateur Football League (WAAFL) has today released Draft fixtures for the upcoming 2017 season.

The Saints will kick off its premiership campaign with a Round 1 clash versus traditional rivals, Kingsway Roos at Kingsway Reserve on April 8. This will be followed by a bye to coincide with the Easter long weekend. The long awaited Grand Final rematch against Maddington Bulls will be played in Round 3 at Maddington's Harmony Fields on April 29.

For the first time since 2013, the Saints will finish the qualifying rounds with a home game at Richard Guelfi Reserve. The full fixtures are provided on the Fixtures page.

10 March 2017

Scratch Match versus Ballajura

The Saints will play in their first competitive hit out of the season this Saturday against Ballajura Royals at Richard Guelfi Reserve.

The Saints will be looking to put their players through their paces, and hopefully gain some valuable match practice after a long pre-season campaign.

The Saints will also be introducing a Colts team for the first time since 2014.

The Colts game starts at 9:00am, with the Reserves starting at 11:00am and the League starting at 1:00pm.

17 March 2017

Scratch Match versus Baldivis

The Saints will play in their second scratch match of the season this Saturday against Baldivis Brumbies at Baldivis Football Oval.

The Colts game starts at 10:40am, with the Reserves starting at 12:35pm and the League starting at 2:30pm.



21 March 2017

WAAFL Fixtures Released

The West Australian Amateur Football League (WAAFL) has today released Final fixtures for the upcoming 2017 season.

The Saints will kick off its premiership campaign with a Round 1 clash versus Maddington Bulls at Harmony Fields on April 8. This will be followed by a bye to coincide with the Easter long weekend. The long awaited match against arch rivals Kingsway Roos will be played in Round 3 at Kingsway Reserve on April 29.

For the first time since 2013, the Saints will finish the qualifying rounds with a home game at Richard Guelfi Reserve. The full fixtures are provided on the Fixtures page.

25 March 2017

Scratch Match versus Lancelin Ledge Point Pirates

The Saints will play their third and final scratch match this Saturday against Lancelin Ledge Point Pirates at Lancelin Oval.

4 April 2017

Jumper Presentation Night

All players, supporters and sponsors are invited to attend the Stirling Amateur Football Club's Jumper Presentation Night, which will be held this Thursday night at the Saints Clubrooms, starting at 7:15pm.

The Leadership Group and Captains for each side will be announced, as well as the teams that will take the field for the Round 1 clash versus Maddington Bulls at Harmony Fields.

Go Saints!



10 April 2017

Match Review – Round 1

The Saints have lost the opening match of the 2017 season, going down to Maddington Bulls by 58 points at Harmony Fields.

The Saints went into the game as a relatively new side, with only eight players from the 22 that played in last year's Grand Final being available for selection. Maddington set the scene by kicking the first two goals of the game. The Saints opening goal of the season came from the boot of Christian Pocklington in his first game for the Saints. The Bulls had opened up a 17-point lead by quarter time.

The Saints opened scoring in the second term when Tony Mirabella kicked truly within the first two minutes. A second goal shortly after reduced the margin further, but the Bulls responded with a number of goals to stretch the margin out to 25 points at the main break.

The Bulls extended the lead shortly after half time, but three goals in quick succession – including two from the boot of new forward Brad Whittaker – reduced the lead back to less than three goals. However, this was as close as the Saints got, as late goals in the term provided the Bulls with a 40-point lead at three quarter time.

The Bulls completely dominated the last term, with the lead extending by as much as 70 points midway through the term. The Saints managed to pull back a number of goals late in the term to add some respect to the score line. Newcomer Chris Dishot kicked a goal in the last minute of play to cut the margin back to 58 points at the final siren.



In the early game, the Reserves led the Bulls for the entire game to achieve a resounding 44-point victory. It was the first time since 2005 that the Reserves have won their opening game of the season, and the first time since Round 4, 2011, that the Reserves have outscored their opponents in all four quarters of the game.

All teams have a bye for Easter next week, and the Saints will play their first home game of the season against Mt Lawley Hawks in Round 2. It will be the first time the two clubs have faced each since Round 18, 2010.

Scoreboard

League:

Stirling 1.0 4.4 7.5 10.6 (66)

Maddington 3.5 8.6 13.9 19.10 (124)

Goals: Tony Mirabella 3, Christian Pocklington 3, Brad Whittaker 2, Chris Dishot 1, Brett Dobson 1.

League Debut: Chris Dishot, Chris Harry, James Hughes, Allan Jones, Marcuz Lazic, Callum Lockyer, Christian Pocklington, Brad Whittaker

Reserves:

Stirling 4.0 7.2 11.5 13.6 (84)

Maddington 1.0 1.3 4.4 5.10 (40)

Goals: Tony Continibali 2, Ben Mollett 2, Zane Shellabear-Healey 2, Marlon Johns 1, Alex Kostadinovski 1, Jeremy Lloyd 1, Conor O'Brien 1, Paul O'Neill 1, Riley Wojtowicz 1, Sam Woods 1



18 April 2017

Milestones – Sandro Brezar & Stewart Horton

The Saints will celebrate two significant milestones in this week's Round 2 clash versus Mt Lawley, with Sandro Brezar playing his 150th game and Stewart Horton playing his 100th game for the Club.

Sandro joined the Club in 2006, and quickly established himself as the number one ruckman in the Club's Colts team under coach John Batten. He finished 8th in the Jack Friend Medal count for the Colts' Fairest & Best in 2006, and improved with a top 4 finish in 2007. A string of Best-on-Ground performances for the Reserves early in 2008 saw him promoted to the League side, where he made his League debut in the Round 3 game versus North Fremantle. Injuries prevented him from being a regular part of the League side for the season, but he still managed to finish 7th in the Reserves F&B in 2008, despite playing just nine games that year.

Sandro looked set to take the number one ruck position in the League side, but injuries again plagued his seasons in 2009 and 2010, managing just 8 games over two years. However, from 2011 onwards, he has consistently demonstrated his value to the side, finishing in the League top 10 voting on three occasions, including a best finish of 6th in 2015.

Sandro's current games tally of 149 games includes 103 League games, 15 Reserves games and 31 Colts games.

Stewart joined the Club in 2010, having previously played Colts football at Subiaco (WAFL) and Hamersley-Carine (WAAFL). His commitment to the Club and willingness to help was demonstrated by the fact that he played two games in one day (Colts and Reserves) on six separate occasions in 2010.

Stewart played the 2011 season in the Reserves side, before seeking further opportunities playing for Lancelin-Ledge Point (in the Central Midlands Coastal FL) in 2012. He returned to the Club in 2013, and finished in 3rd position for the Reserves F&B in 2013. His excellent form in 2013 was rewarded with his League Debut in the Round 6 game versus Kalamunda.

After sitting out most of the 2014 season, he played a mixture of League and Reserves games in 2015, once again finishing 3rd in the Reserves Fairest & Best. Stewart's standout season occurred in 2016, playing all but two games in the League side to help them reach the Grand Final. His consistent performances and commitment both on and off the track were rewarded with the League Coach's Trophy.

In addition to his playing duties, Stewart has taken the role of Colts coach in 2017. His current games tally of 99 games includes 35 League games, 44 Reserves games, 2 Thirds games and 18 Colts games.





22 April 2017

Match Review – Round 2

The Saints have overcome a two-goal deficit late in the final term to overrun the Mt Lawley Hawks and register their first win of the season in the Round 2 clash at Richard Guelfi Reserve.

The Saints were led out onto the ground by Sandro Brezar and Stewart Horton, who were playing their 150th and 100th games for the club respectively. The squad also included two players making their League Debut, in Zane Shellabear-Healey and Marlon Johns.

The first quarter set the scene for the entire match, with both teams exchanging goal for goal. Tony Mirabella opened the Saints account, while the Hawks added a few of their own. Late goals in the quarter by Mitch Reid and Marcus Lazic allowed the Saints to take a six-point lead at quarter time.

The second quarter was a battle of defences, as both teams struggled to add any scoreboard pressure. It wasn't until the 15-minute mark that Jayden Roth broke the deadlock. Another goal from Tony Mirabella less than a minute later, and the Saints looked to have some momentum. However, the Hawks steadied and scored another two goals to reduce the margin back to seven points at the main break.

Debutante Zane Shellabear-Healey proved his worth when he goaled early in the third term to get the Saints going again. The Hawks had most of the play for the quarter and were able to kick five goals for the quarter. However, the Saints tackling was a feature of their game, and they made the most of their entries into the forward 50, kicking four straight goals to go into the last break just two points behind.

The Hawks scored a goal within twenty seconds of the recommencement of play, and the game looked to be slipping away from the Saints when the Hawks registered another goal just two minutes later, giving them a game-high lead of 14 points. A steadying goal from Tony Mirabella got the Saints back on track, followed by another from Jayden Roth at the 7-minute mark. When debutante Marlon Johns scored his first goal at the 13-minute mark, the Saints had reclaimed the lead. Tony Mirabella scored his fifth for the game at the 15-minute mark to give the Saints a handy buffer, and despite some tense moments late in the quarter, the Saints maintained the lead to open their account for the 2017 season.

In the earlier games, both the Colts and Reserves were soundly beaten by the Hawks, who appear to be the yardstick of the competition in both grades. Despite the disappointing results, the Club is extremely proud of the work done over the summer by first-year coach Stewart Horton to get a Colts side back on the park after not being able to field a Colts team for the last two years.

Scoreboard

Stirling 4.2 6.5 10.5 15.8 (98)

Mt Lawley 3.2 5.4 10.7 13.10 (88)

Goals: Tony Mirabella 5, Jayden Roth 2, Zane Shellabear-Healey 2, Brad Whittaker 2, James Hughes 1, Marlon Johns 1, Marcus Lazic 1, Mitchell Reid 1

League Debut: Zane Shellabear-Healey, Marlon Johns.



25 April 2017
Lest We Forget

*They shall grow not old, as we that
are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them, nor the
years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in
the morning
We will remember them.*



26 April 2017
The Rivalry Continues

The traditional rivalry between Stirling Saints and Kingsway Roos continues this week as the two teams face each other in Round 3 at Kingsway Reserve. However, the current generation of players and supporters may not be aware that the rivalry between the two clubs extends back more than fifty years to the early 1960s. While both teams have undergone name changes since those early days, the rivalry is as fierce today as it was back then.

Osborne Park (which was the predecessor to Stirling) joined the Sunday National Football League (SNFL) in 1957, having previously played in the WAAFL between 1947 and 1956, while Wanneroo (the former name of Kingsway) joined the SNFL in 1960 after five years in the South Midlands Football Association. However, it wasn't until Wanneroo were promoted to the top grade of the SNFL in 1963 that the rivalry started. The first game between the two sides took place on 19 May 1963 at the Osborne Park Showgrounds (now known as Robinson Reserve), with the Saints running out easy winners by 64 points.

The Roos struggled in those early days, and the Saints won the first eleven encounters between the two sides, including a 193-point win in 1965 (a record that remains to this day). However, following the renaming of the SNFL to the WA Football Association (WAFA) in 1968, the Roos' fortunes changed significantly. They signed recently retired West Perth champion Joe Fanchi as captain-coach, and an influx of former West Perth players allowed the Roos to climb from wooden spooners to minor premiers in one year. The Roos won their first ever win against the Saints in Round 13 of that year, but the Saints were victorious in the first final between the two sides, which was the Preliminary Final in 1968.

The intensity of the rivalry gained momentum in 1969, when Wanneroo finished minor premiers again, and Osborne Park finished in second spot on the ladder. Osborne Park, who were led by club legend and former Perth player Guido Leuzzi, were victorious in the Second Semi Final by 30 points. However, the Roos turned the tables two weeks later in the first Grand Final between the two sides, winning by just six points in the decider.

The rivalry continued into the 1970s, but it wasn't until 1975 that the sides were both at their peak again. The two teams played their first drawn game in Round 14 of the 1975 season, and finished the season with the top two positions on the ladder. Between 1975 and 1978, the two sides played each other in four consecutive Grand Finals, with Wanneroo successful in 1975 and 1978, and the Saints winning back-to-back flags in 1976 and 1977.

Wanneroo were the power side of the WAFA in the late 1970s and early 1980s, competing in ten consecutive grand finals between 1974 and 1983, and winning seven flags (including six in succession between 1978 and 1983). Despite the Roos' dominance, the games between the two sides were always regarded as the highlight of the year, with the Wanneroo and Osborne Park Showgrounds being filled with fans and spectators for the fierce clashes.



In 1984, both clubs were part of a revolution in community football, as four teams from the WAFA joined thirteen teams from the South Suburban Murray Football League to form the new Sunday Football League (SFL). Given that Osborne Park and Wanneroo were the only sides in the SFL located north of the river, the matches between the two sides were often referred to as the 'Northern Derby', similar to the traditional Fremantle derbies played in the WAFL between South and East Fremantle.

Such was the strength of both sides during the 1970s and 1980s that they were able to attract some of the greatest names in WA football in the twilight of their careers. The Saints were able to recruit players and coaches of the calibre of Gerard McNeill (East Perth), Barry Beecroft (Claremont & South Melbourne), Brian Douge (Subiaco & Hawthorn), Ed Blackaby (Swan Districts) and Greg Carpenter (Subiaco & East Perth), while the Roos found a home for Greg Brehaut (Perth), Stuart Hillier (West Perth), Gavin Carter (South Fremantle), Les Fong (West Perth) and John Duckworth (West Perth & Fitzroy). Coincidentally, legendary football commentator Dennis Cometti spent time at both clubs in the 1970s, firstly as captain of the Roos in 1973, and then as captain-coach of the Saints in 1978.

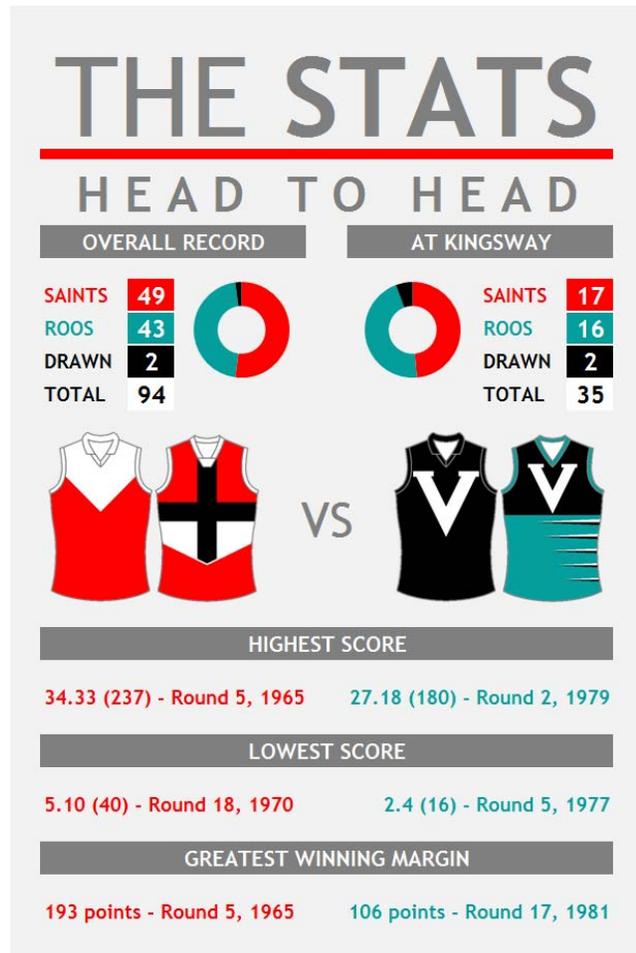
The rivalry was put on hold at the end of 1997 when Osborne Park left the SFL and merged with Balcatta to form Stirling Amateur Football Club in the WAAFL. The two sides played each other on 88 occasions between 1963 and 1997, with the Saints holding the upper hand with 47 wins to the Roos 39 wins (with two drawn games). However, the Roos won 10 out of 18 finals games, and 5 out of 7 grand finals between the two sides.

The Roos remained in the SFL until a decline in numbers forced them to switch to the Mercantile Football Association in 2007. They joined the WAAFL in 2008, and the rivalry was renewed in 2014 when both teams were positioned in C1 Grade. The Roos have held sway in recent years, winning four out of six games, including the 2014 Grand Final.

The encounters between both sides has always been tough battles, and have been ignited by the fact that around twenty players have been recruited to the Roos from the Saints over the last six years, including current Kingsway coach, Kingsley Hunter. Conversely in 2007, the Saints managed to recruit one of the Roos' all-time greats in Brad Trpchev.

Looking through the record books, one of the greatest players to have played for both clubs was Ray Okely. Ray played for Osborne Park in the 1950s, where he won three association Fairest & Best medals in 1953, 1954 and 1956 while the Saints were playing in the WAAFL. Ray switched to Wanneroo in 1957, where he won the Association F&B in the South Midlands Association, and then three more association F&Bs in the WAFA in 1961, 1962 and 1966. He was a six-time club champion for Wanneroo and played over 300 games for the Roos.

The rivalry between both clubs continues to thrive today, and must surely be regarded as one of the strongest rivalries in WA community football.





29 April 2017

Match Review – Round 3

There's a saying in football that winning takes a four quarter effort, and you can't win a game by playing one or two quarters. Kingsway proved an exception to the rule in the Round 3 clash versus the Saints at Kingsway Reserve.

Prior to the start of the League game, the League and Reserves teams from both Clubs lined up for the traditional Anzac Day service, including a sounding of the Last Post and one minute's silence, to pay tribute to those that fought for our country.

When the game started, Kingsway were the dominant side, kicking four goals in the opening ten minutes of play. The Saints were completely outplayed, and by quarter time, they had conceded nine straight goals to just one point – the highest score conceded in the opening quarter in the Club's history.

The Roos commenced where they left off in the second term, kicking another three goals to extend their lead to a game high 71 points. It wasn't until Damien Lloyd kicked a goal from the 50-metre arc at the 22-minute mark of the second term that the Saints finally managed to break the deadlock. The Roos went into the half time break leading by 65 points.

Most supporters at the ground assumed that the Roos would continue the trend and go on to score a 100-plus point victory, but the Saints had other ideas. Despite the disappointment of the first half, the Saints came out swinging in the third term and played a much better brand of football. Goals to Brett Dobson, Cameron Grover and Jayden Roth allowed the Saints to get some respect back on the scoreboard. In contrast, the Roos were not able to score a goal in the quarter, and the margin was cut back to 48 points at three quarter time.

Coach Tony Mirabella asked his players to lift intensity again in the last quarter, and the Saints responded by kicking another two goals inside the first five minutes. Adam Edwards goaled again at the 10-minute mark to give the Saints a glimmer of hope, but time was the biggest barrier.

Marlon Johns kicked his second goal for the game at the 22-minute mark, but when the final siren sounded, the Roos had done enough to record a 22-point victory. The Saints managed to hold the Roos to just four behinds for the entire second half of the game.

Scoreboard:

Stirling 0.1 1.4 4.6 8.9 (57)

Kingsway 9.0 12.3 12.6 12.7 (79)

Goals: Marlon Johns 2, Brett Dobson 1, Adam Edwards 1, Cameron Grover 1, Damien Lloyd 1, Jayden Roth 1, Aaron Sweet 1





3 May 2017

Colts Personnel Required

The Saints are looking for assistance with the Club's Colts team. The Club is seeking the help of people to act in the positions of TEAM MANAGER and TEAM RUNNER. No previous experience is required. If you have ever had an interest in getting involved and helping the Club, this is the perfect opportunity. Parents of Colts players are welcome to get involved. If you are keen to help out, please contact the Club's Colts coach, Stewart Horton, on 0437 907 922.

5 May 2017

Milestone – Tim Pental

The Saints will celebrate another major milestone in this week's Round 4 clash versus Wanneroo, with Tim Pental playing his 100th game in Saints colours.

Tim joined the Club in 2011, and quickly established himself playing on the wing in the Club's Colts team under coach John Batten.

After playing three years in the Colts side, Tim graduated to the Club's Reserves side in 2014, wearing his trademark number 31 guernsey. His performances were always solid in the Reserves, but it wasn't until 2015, after a string of consistent performances, that he was finally rewarded with a spot in the League side. Coincidentally, Tim's League debut was made against this week's opponents, Wanneroo, at the Wanneroo Showgrounds in Round 15 of 2015.

One of Tim's greatest characteristics is his consistency and resilience, having missed only 10 games over the last seven years of football. His current games tally of 99 games includes 2 League games, 50 Reserves games, 1 Thirds game and 46 Colts games.





6 May 2017

Match Review – Round 4

The Saints have missed a golden opportunity to balance their win-loss record, going down to Wanneroo Roos by 21 points in the Round 4 clash at Richard Guelfi Reserve.

The Roos scored the opening two goals to set the tone of the game. With a number of key forwards missing from the side, the Saints struggled to make use of the ball. Tony Mirabella scored the Saints' opening goal at the 17-minute mark of the term, but a quick response from the Roos allowed them to take a 21-point lead at quarter time.

Wanneroo extended the lead to 27 points less than two minutes into the second term, but another Tony Mirabella goal reduced the margin back again. The rest of the quarter was a shootout, with both sides going goal for goal. The Saints reduced the margin to 16 points with two minutes to play when James Hughes scored a goal, but a lapse in concentration in the last minute gave the Roos another goal and a 22-point lead at the main break.

Jayden Roth reduced the margin back to 15 points only three minutes after half time. The Saints played their best footy in the third term, and restricted the Roos to just one goal for the term. When Adam Edwards kicked his second goal midway through the term, the margin had been reduced to just nine points. The last ten minutes of play did not yield any further goals, and the Saints went into the final break just ten points in arrears.

The Saints have become renowned for big efforts in last quarters, and hopes were high of a potential revival. However, the Roos scored the only two goals of the final term to run out winners by 21 points – the same margin as at quarter time.

Scoreboard:

Stirling 1.1 5.2 8.5 8.6 (54)

Wanneroo 4.4 8.6 9.9 11.9 (75)

Goals: Tony Mirabella 3, Adam Edwards 2, James Hughes 1, Jayden Roth 1, Aaron Sweet 1

League Debut: Emilio Jansen





10 May 2017

Past Players & Saints Squad Day

The Club would like to remind all past players and supporters that our annual Past Players (and Saints Squad) Day will be held on Saturday 20 May at Richard Guelfi Reserve.

Spread the word and get down to Richard Guelfi Reserve, as we want as many supporters and past players who donned the Stirling, Balcatta and Osborne Park jumpers in years gone by to come down and support the current group of players.

Tell a story and re-live those glory days!

11 May 2017

Saints Squad Day

The Club would like to provide a correction to the previous advice regarding Past Players Day. The Past Players Day will now be held on Saturday 15 July to coincide with the Premiership Reunions for the 1977 and 1987 sides.

However, Saturday 20 May will still be the Saints Squad Day, with food and drinks provided for Saints Squad members at half time of the League game.

For those not aware, the Saints Squad (formerly the Silver Saints) is the Club's social club, with membership open to any person that has had an association with the Club and/or its two predecessor clubs, Balcatta Amateur Football Club and Osborne Park Football Club.

All past players and supporters are more than welcome to attend the Saints Squad Day, and there will be membership forms available for those that have not joined yet.



13 May 2017

Match Review – Round 5

The Saints' season hit a low point as they were soundly beaten by North Fremantle Magpies in the Round 5 clash at Gil Fraser Reserve.

It was a historic fixture for the Saints, as it was their first League game played under lights. However, the Magpies proved that night football was nothing new, as they kicked the first three goals of the game in the opening five minutes. Damien Lloyd got the Saints on the board at the nine minute mark of the term, and the Saints kept pace with the Magpies for the rest of the quarter to trail by four goals by quarter time.

The Magpies dominated early in the second term, kicking three goals in the first eight minutes to open up a 40-point lead. After kicking their twelfth straight goal midway through the term, the Saints finally broke the drought at the 19-minute mark when Tony Mirabella kicked his second goal of the game. Another goal from Tony Mirabella in the final minute reduced the margin back to 40-points at half time.

The third term was a repeat of the second term, as North Fremantle was able to score goals with ease. The Magpies proved that they would be the team to beat in 2017, as they were able to run in numbers, hit targets and make quick transitions of play across the field to catch the Saints flat footed.



Further dominance in the final term resulted in a margin of 85 points by the final siren, which was the Saints worst ever loss in a Round 5 game. The Saints now have to regroup and prepare for their next clash against Swan Athletic.

Scoreboard:

Stirling 4.3 6.4 8.6 8.9 (57)

North Fremantle 8.0 13.1 18.2 23.4 (142)

Goals: Tony Mirabella 3, Damien Lloyd 2, James Hughes 2, Cameron Grover 1

League Debut: Aaron Holmes, Tyron Walters



20 May 2017

Match Review – Round 6

The Saints staged a brave final quarter comeback against Swan Athletic, but it wasn't enough to claim a victory in the Round 6 clash at Richard Guelfi Reserve. The Saints held the Swans goalless in the final term, but fell short by just seven points, 8.6 (54) to 8.13 (61).

Following an uncharacteristic effort against North Fremantle last week, the Saints were keen to make amends and return to the winners' list. However, preparations were not helped by Thursday night's training session called off due to no floodlights at Richard Guelfi Reserve, but also an increasing list of injuries that has sidelined up to seven players that played in the opening round.

This did, however, provided the opportunity for three more players to make their League debuts for the Saints – Riley Wojtowicz, Malcolm Hipwell and Greg Pullen – bringing the total to 13 new League players in just six games in 2017.

The teams were evenly matched in the first half, with the Swans holding the upper hand by 14 points at half time. The lead stretched to 23 points at three quarter time, and the Swans looked likely to record a big victory. However, the Saints showed a lot of heart, kicking the only three goals of the term, to reduce the margin to just seven points at the final siren.

Scoreboard:

Stirling 1.1 3.4 5.5 8.6 (54)

Swan Athletic 2.5 5.6 8.10 8.13 (61)

Goals: Stirling - Brett Dobson 4, Tony Mirabella 2, Brad Whittaker 2

League Debut: Riley Wojtowicz, Malcolm Hipwell, Greg Pullen



27 May 2017

Match Review – Round 7

The Saints were beaten in their Round 7 clash against Collegians, with the Blues winning by 66 points at Dalkeith Oval, 4.5 (29) to 13.17 (95).

Scoreboard:

Stirling 1.3 2.3 3.4 4.5 (29)

Collegians 4.5 6.8 9.13 13.17 (95)

Goals: Stirling - Brad Whittaker 3, Adam Edwards 1





3 June 2017

Match Review – Round 8

The Saints went down in a pulsating clash in the Round 8 clash, as Kelmscott prevailed by just one point at Richard Guelfi Reserve. The Saints pushed their southern rivals until the final siren, and despite a five goal final quarter, were unable to get the final key score to swing the tide in their favour.

Scoreboard:

Stirling 1.4 5.5 8.6 13.11 (89)

Kelmscott 4.3 8.5 12.12 13.12 (90)

Goals: Stirling - Brad Whittaker 5, Brett Dobson 3, Damien Lloyd 2, Marcus Filocamo 1, Marcus Lazic 1, Ben Mollett 1



7 June 2017

Breaking News

The WAAFL has determined that Kelmscott Bulldogs played an unregistered player in the Round 8 League match versus Stirling on Saturday. As a consequence, the WAAFL has annulled Kelmscott's entire score for the game and awarded the victory to the Saints.

10 June 2017

Match Review – Round 9

The Saints have returned to the winners' list in style, with a gutsy 24-point against Hamersley Carine Hawks at Percy Doyle Reserve. The margin between the two sides was less than two goals for most of the match, but the Saints showed great resilience and composure to kick away to victory late in the final term. The Saints now sit in eighth position and two games clear of relegation zone, thanks to Kelmscott's win over Maddington.

Scoreboard:

Stirling 3.4 4.7 7.9 11.13 (79)

Hamersley-Carine 2.3 4.5 7.5 8.7 (55)

Goals: Brett Dobson 3, Damien Lloyd 3, Greg Pullen 2, Adam Edwards 1, Cameron Grover 1, Riley Wojtowicz 1





14 June 2017

Milestones – Mitch Reid & Matt Cocker

The Saints will celebrate another two milestones in this week's clash versus Maddington, with Mitch Reid and Matt Cocker pulling the boots on for their 100th games in Saints colours.

Mitch Reid joined the Saints as a 16-year old in 2012, playing in the Club's Colts side. He resumed playing in the Colts team in 2013, and a succession of strong performances saw him elevated to the League side, making his League Debut in the Round 13 win against Wembley, at the age of just 17 years 350 days.

Despite playing the last half of the 2013 season in the League side, he finished Runner-Up in the Jack Friend Medal for the Colts Fairest & Best award behind Jonathon Milner.

His standout game for the League side was a best on ground performance against Gosnells in Round 12 of the 2014 season. He has since been a regular part of the League side, playing across half back in his trademark number 28 guernsey. Over the last three years, he has missed only one game.

His current games tally of 99 games includes 71 League games, 1 Reserves game and 27 Colts games.

Matt Cocker joined the Saints in 2011, also playing in the Club's Colts side. He played for three seasons in the Colts side, finishing sixth in the Fairest & Best in 2013 and fifth in 2014 (from just 8 Colts games).

He graduated to the Club's Reserves side early in 2014, and after just two Reserves games, was promoted to the League side, making his League Debut in the Round 4 victory over Canning-South Perth. Despite a lack of opportunities in the League side in 2015, his consistent performances in the Reserves side saw him win the Reserves Fairest & Best in 2015.

His stand out performance for the Club was a best on ground performance against Ocean Ridge in Round 1 of the 2016 season, and he has proven to be a reliable and hard-working midfielder for the Saints over his career.

His current games tally of 99 games includes 16 League games, 37 Reserves games and 46 Colts games.





17 June 2017

Match Review – Round 10

The Saints were beaten in their Round 10 clash against Maddington on Saturday, with the Bulls winning by 2 points at Richard Guelfi Reserve. After making a slow start, the Saints gained the upper hand early in the second term, and maintained the lead for most of the game, but a goal in the dying minutes gave Maddington the victory.

Scoreboard:

Stirling 2.3 8.7 9.9 11.12 (78)

Maddington 4.0 6.0 7.6 12.8 (80)

Goals: Brett Dobson 4, Tony Mirabella 2, Cameron Grover 1, Shea Mathanda 1, Greg Pullen 1, Mitchell Reid 1, Riley Wojtowicz 1

Milestones: Mitchell Reid (100th game), Matt Cocker (100th game), Matt Carlyon (50th consecutive game)

League Debut: Phil Annakin



22 June 2017

Past Players Day

The Club would like to remind all past players and supporters that our annual Past Players Day will be held in three weeks on Saturday 15 July 2017, to coincide with the Round 14 clash versus North Fremantle at Richard Guelfi Reserve.

This year, we will be celebrating the 40th Anniversary of Osborne Park's 1977 triple premiership (League, Reserves and Thirds) and the 30th Anniversary of Osborne Park's 1987 League premiership. A full list of players from those teams is shown in the attached images.

Spread the word to as many past players as you know and get down to Richard Guelfi Reserve, as we want as many supporters and past players who donned the Stirling, Balcatta and Osborne Park jumpers in years gone by to come down and support the current group of players.

Tell a story and re-live those glory days!





24 June 2017

Match Review – Round 11

The Saints were outgunned by Mt Lawley Hawks at Hamer Park, falling to a 77-point loss that sees them fall back into the relegation zone. The injury curse continues to plague the Saints season, with up to nine players from the Round 2 side being unavailable for selection. The Saints will now re-group before facing old rivals Kingsway next week at Richard Guelfi Reserve.

Scoreboard:

Stirling 1.2 3.2 3.3 7.3 (45)

Mt Lawley 4.4 8.7 14.11 18.14 (122)

Goals: Stewart Horton 2, Damien Lloyd 2, Matt Carlyon 1, Brett Dobson 1, Riley Wojtowicz 1

League Debut: Zachary Semmens



1 July 2017

Match Review – Round 12

The Saints started well but were not able to match their old rivals, Kingsway, in the Round 12 clash at Richard Guelfi Reserve. On a wet and windy day, the Roos consolidated their place in the top five and ran out winners by 33 points. The Saints now turn their attention to the clash against Wanneroo at the Wanneroo Showgrounds.

Scoreboard:

Stirling 3.0 3.1 3.2 3.6 (24)

Kingsway 2.5 4.10 6.14 7.15 (57)

Goals: Greg Pullen 1, Brad Whittaker 1, Riley Wojtowicz 1





5 July 2017
Past Players Day

The Club would like to remind all past players and supporters that our annual Past Players Day will be held in two weeks on Saturday 15 July 2017, to coincide with the Round 14 clash versus North Fremantle at Richard Guelfi Reserve.

This year, we will be celebrating six premiership teams, including the 1967 League Premiership, the 1977 triple premiership (League, Reserves and Thirds) and the 1987 League premiership. This year also marks the 60th anniversary of the 1957 that reached the Grand Final in their first year after joining the Sunday National Football League. A full list of players from those teams is shown in the attached images.

Spread the word to as many past players as you know and get down to Richard Guelfi Reserve, as we want as many supporters and past players who donned the Stirling, Balcatta and Osborne Park jumpers in years gone by to come down and support the current group of players.

Tell a story and re-live those glory days!



8 July 2017
Match Review – Round 13

The Saints were beaten in their Round 13 clash against Wanneroo, with the Roos winning by 88 points at Wanneroo Showgrounds. The Saints' next game is against ladder leaders, North Fremantle, at home next week. The fixture will coincide with the Saints Annual Past Players Day, and the Club needs as many supporters there as possible to lift the boys to victory.

Scoreboard:

Stirling 2.1 4.2 5.3 8.4 (52)

Wanneroo 4.1 9.3 15.6 22.8 (140)

Goals: Cameron Grover 2, Zane Shellabear-Healey 2, Brett Dobson 1, Adam Edwards 1, Malcolm Hipwell 1, Tony Mirabella 1





15 July 2017

Match Review – Round 14

The Saints were beaten in their Round 14 clash against North Fremantle, with the Magpies winning by 89 points at Richard Guelfi Reserve. It was a dark day for the Saints, as they registered their lowest ever score at Richard Guelfi Reserve. The Saints next challenge is against Swan Athletic Swans at Fawell Park.

Scoreboard:

Stirling 0.2 0.2 1.3 1.5 (11)

North Fremantle 4.3 9.6 11.9 14.16 (100)

Goals: Brett Dobson 1

League Debut: Luke Jones



22 July 2017

Match Review – Round 15

The Saints were outclassed by third-placed Swan Athletic in the Round 15 clash at Fawell Park, falling by a record 112 points against the Swans. The silver lining of the game was the League Debut of young colts, Jonathon Jaschke, who became the twentieth player in 2017 to make their League Debut in Saints colours.

The Saints final three weeks of the season will see them face off against Collegians, Kelmscott and Hamersley-Carine, and the Club will be aiming for victory in all three games to avoid the relegation zone.

Scoreboard:

Stirling 0.2 2.3 3.4 6.5 (41)

Swan Athletic 5.7 11.10 18.12 23.15 (153)

Goals: Brad Whittaker 3, Brett Dobson 2, Greg Pullen 1

League Debut: Jonathon Jaschke





26 July 2017

Milestone – John Corfias

The Saints will celebrate another milestone in this week's clash versus Collegians, as John Corfias runs out for his 100th game in Saints colours.

John joined the Club as a 19-year old in 2010, playing 16 games in his first year in the Colts side. He spent time away from the Club in the following two years, managing just one Thirds game in 2011 and 7 games in 2012.

He returned to Club in 2013, and after a series of outstanding performances in the Reserves side, he was promoted to the League side. His League Debut was made in the Round 6 game against Kalamunda at Ray Owen Reserve. His standout game came in the Round 15 game later that year, also against Kalamunda.

Between 2013 and 2015, most of his time was spent at Reserves level, where he finished 9th and 6th in the Reserves Fairest & Best count. However, he has been a regular part of the League side over the last two years, wearing his number 16 guernsey.

John's strength in any side has been his versatility across the ground, with the ability to play as a midfielder, defender or forward. He is also an incredible clubman off the field, which has extended to him becoming a Club sponsor with his personal business, 3JS Constructions.

John's current games tally of 99 games includes 35 League games, 37 Reserves games, 11 Thirds games and 16 Colts games.

30 July 2017

Match Review – Round 16

The Saints were beaten in their Round 16 clash against Collegians, with the Blues winning by 66 points at Richard Guelfi Reserve. The Saints next game is against Kelmscott at John Dunn Oval, although it is still uncertain whether the match will proceed, as Kelmscott have forfeited their last two games.

Scoreboard:

Stirling 0.1 0.1 1.2 3.3 (21)

Collegians 4.5 6.8 8.13 12.15 (87)

Goals: Brett Dobson 1, Cameron Grover 1, Greg Pullen 1

League Debut: Joe Wear





5 August 2017

Match Review – Round 17

The Saints have been awarded victories in the League and Reserves games, as the Kelmscott Bulldogs have been forced to withdraw from the League.

12 August 2017

Match Review – Round 18

The 2017 season has come to an end for the Saints, after going down to Hamersley-Carline Hawks by 38 points at Richard Guelfi Reserve. The Saints were in the game for the first three quarters, but the Hawks pulled away in the last term to seal the victory.

The loss sees the Saints finish the year in 9th position, which means automatic relegation to C1 Grade for the 2018 season.

The year will unfortunately be known as one where the Saints rarely had the opportunity to field their best side on the park. A horror run of injuries to some of the Saints' most senior players meant that there were numerous changes to the top side from week to week. The silver lining was the opportunity provided to twenty-two players who made their League Debut for the Club in 2017.

The Round 10 clash versus Maddington played a significant part in the Club's final position. The Saints led that game for most of the day, but were overcome in the dying minutes and went down by just 2 points. Had the result been different, the Saints would have finished in 8th position, and Maddington would have been relegated.

However, what makes this Club great is the ability to rise from adversity. The Club has had a lot of success over the years, but has also had to overcome many hurdles to reach those pinnacles. That is why this great club has been in existence for more than 90 years.

Scoreboard:

Stirling 4.0 5.2 6.4 8.4 (52)

Hamersley-Carline 4.1 6.6 8.7 13.12 (90)

Goals: Brett Dobson 2, Kieran Guy 2, John Corfias 1, Reece Phoenix 1, Greg Pullen 1, Brad Whittaker 1

League Debut: Kieran Guy





31 August 2017

Players' Player Medal

The Annual Players' Player Medal Vote Count and Medal Presentation will be held this Saturday 2 September 2017 at the Clubrooms, starting at 12:00pm. The Medal is donated by club legend, Jim Maldenis, and is determined by votes cast by each player after each game.

Every League, Reserves and Colts player that pulled on a red, white and black Guernsey in 2017 is encouraged to come along. The cost is \$50, which covers food and beverages.

For the record, the Roll of Honour of previous Medal winners is:

2006 Justin Cunningham
2007 Leon Berthelsen
2008 Brad Trpchev
2009 Joel Edwards
2010 Frank Rossi
2011 Adam Edwards
2012 Frank Rossi
2013 Frank Rossi
2014 Rory Muller
2015 Ryan Maldenis
2016 Cameron Grover

3 September 2017

Brett Dobson wins Players' Player Medal

In his first year at the Club, Brett Dobson has joined an illustrious group of players by taking out the Players' MVP Medal for 2017.

The award, which is separate from the Club's Fairest & Best award, was instituted in 2006 and involves each League player casting votes at the end of each game for the best player of the round. The winner of the award is presented with the Players' MVP medal, which is kindly donated every year by club legend, Jim Maldenis. The medal is considered to be a very prestigious award to win, and is held in high regard by all players.

Brett was a clear winner of the award, polling votes in 13 of the 17 qualifying games, including five best-on-ground performances, to finish the count with 55 votes.

Veteran defender Michael Franceschini polled top votes in two of the last four rounds to finish in second place on 43 votes, while last year's winner, Cameron Grover, finished in third on 30 votes. Power forward, Brad Whittaker, finished fourth on 28 votes, while young gun, Riley Wojtowicz, rounded out the top five on 25 votes.

Previous winners of the medal include Justin Cunningham (2006), Leon Berthelsen (2007), Brad Trpchev (2008), Joel Edwards (2009), Frank Rossi (2010, 2012 and 2013), Adam Edwards (2011), Rory Muller (2014), Ryan Maldenis (2015) and Cameron Grover (2016).





13 October 2017

Brett Dobson wins Fairest & Best

Brett Dobson has celebrated his first winter in Stirling Saints colours by winning the Club's top two prizes, the Fairest & Best and the Players' Player of the Year. A bumper crowd was in attendance at Friday's Fairest & Best function held at the Clubrooms to celebrate the 2017 season.

Dobson, who joined the Club after helping Southerners to a premiership in the Lower South West Football League, set his sail early and was a deserved winner of the Fairest & Best trophy, polling votes in 14 out of 17 qualifying games to finish on 101 votes. Finishing in a close second was last year's winner, Cameron Grover on 97 votes, while veteran Michael Franceschini polled top votes in four of the last eight games to finish in third on 81 votes.

Jayden Roth finished in fourth place on 54 votes, with Matt Carlyon and Riley Wojtowicz rounding out the top six on 44 votes and 40 votes respectively. Jayden Roth was awarded the Coach's Trophy for his consistent efforts throughout the season.

Marcus Filocamo polled 78 votes in the Reserves Fairest & Best count to win the DeCinque Trophy. He finished just three votes ahead of last year's winner, Gerrad Prockter (75 votes) with Matt Cocker (69 votes) and Malcolm Hipwell (53 votes) finishing in third and fourth places. Brendan Carr was rewarded for his efforts both on and off the field by being awarded the Coach's Trophy.



Earlier in the night, Kieran Guy was the clear winner of the Jack Freind Medal for the Colts Fairest & Best when he polled 82 votes. Chris Leopardi finished second on 41 votes, while Meen Outama finished third on 33 votes. Chris Saldaris was awarded with the Coach's Trophy for the Colts.

The night culminated in the awarding of Life Membership to Ben Mollett. Ben joined the Club in 2007 and has been a significant contributor to the Club's on field success over the last decade. He has played 195 games and kicked 160 goals for the Club, and has finished in the top 10 voting for the Fairest & Best and Players' Player Medal on numerous occasions. Now approaching the sunset of his career, he has continued playing in the Reserves side as a mentor and coaching role to the Club's younger players.

The Club also paid tribute to the tireless efforts of Mark Attwood by awarding him the Club Service Award. Mark has been a regular contributor for the Club, primarily serving the coaching staff in a match day role.



27 October 2017

Notice of AGM

The Stirling Amateur Football Club wishes to advise that its Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday 26 November 2017 at 11:00am sharp at the Saints Clubrooms on Delawney Street, Balcatta.

Nominations for the positions of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Committee persons can be made in writing to PO Box 169, OSBORNE PARK WA 6917, or by sending an email to Paul Giamov (email: pgiamov@optusnet.com.au). Nominations can also be made in person at the Meeting.

Please note that members must be financial to retain the power to vote at the Annual General Meeting.

Members wishing to move amendments to the Constitution or present Notices of Motion to the Annual General Meeting must give notice in writing to PO Box 169, OSBORNE PARK WA 6917 by no later than Monday 20 November 2017.

26 November 2017

Changing of the Guard

The Club has entered into a new era, as a new President, David Downing, was elected at the Club's AGM held earlier today. David enters the role with a wealth of experience, having served on the Club's Committee since 2006, including a brief stint as Vice President.

Andrew Rottigni made the decision to step down from the position after a decade in the top role, but will continue to serve on the Committee as the Club's Treasurer.

The Club is also pleased to advise that it has two new Committee members in 2018, with Mario Di Scerni and Brendan Carr joining the Committee. While it is Brendan's first time on the Committee, Mario has served on the Committee on a number of previous occasions, and will serve this time in the role of Vice President.

Your 2018 Club Committee are as follows:

President: David Downing

Vice President: Mario Di Scerni

Treasurer: Andrew Rottigni

Secretary: Paul Giamov

Management: Brendan Carr, Damon Eaton, Daniel Tilby, Wade Taseff

Any person that wishes to join the Committee or contribute in some capacity is still able to do so by contacting any of the current Committee members.

