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## Redbacks FC 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala Dinner

*(50 Seasons 1962 – 2011)*

Tickets are selling fast for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala Dinner being held on Saturday July 16<sup>th</sup> 2011 at Castle Hills RSL. For full details please visit the Redbacks FC website. Bookings and enquiries to [redbacksfc@hotmail.com](mailto:redbacksfc@hotmail.com). Payment can also be made at the website via PayPal.

Regards,  
*Redbacks FC Executive Committee*

## Around the Grounds

### Under 6 Purple

*Redbacks versus Beecroft*

Player of the Week: Jude Cusbert  
Achievement Certificate: Jack Buttner

After a few weeks of wet weather preventing games and training, we found ourselves down at tiny Booth Park Beecroft with our guys eager to get the game under way. Any rustiness was soon brushed away, as the team worked the ball up the field in to offensive territory; a place where the ball remained for much of the game. If the opposition made a break or kicked the ball long, our team covered good ground to defend the goal. Most of the Redbacks had a shot or two on the hotly defended goal, with the score belying the effort and attempts made.

Jack showed skill in consistently attacking and looking for gaps to run the ball. He was rewarded with an early goal! Lawson made a good break up the field and tenaciously followed the ball around the ground. He made a great save in goal and cleared the ball away from harm.

Ryan ran all over the field too and was particularly strong in attack this week. He of all the team had the most to show of the muddy conditions – a pair of dirty legs!

Beecroft equalised when a wayward ball passing across the goal was kicked in.

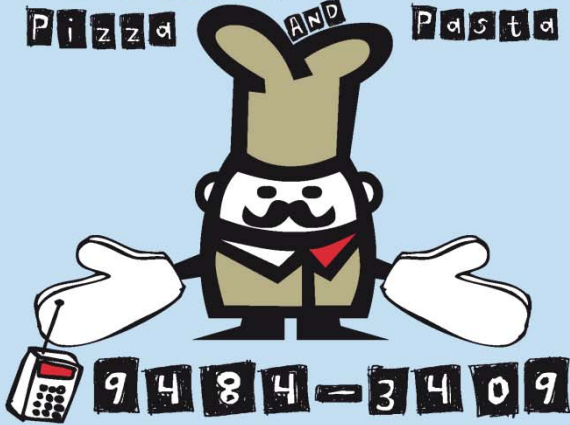
Lachlan was his usual controlled self showing good skill in turning the play around in defence and guiding the ball through holes in between players.

In the second half the deadlock was finally broken when Jude gave good chase and planted the ball in to the net. It made up for the strong tackle made on him which left him eating dirt!

ISSUE 8, 2011 – 25/26 JUNE

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Sophie was hungry for a goal with several attempts made throughout the game. Good attack and clearing of the ball was part of her strategy. She took advantage of a Beecroft goal kick by intercepting it and shooting it in to their net.

Congratulations to our Redbacks today - a win in tricky conditions! Keep it up Under 6 Purple!

### Under 8 Green

Well another beautiful winters day for our team to run on the field against the Hills Hawks A side. We were always going to be one man down with Jakob away, however, John fell ill overnight and with some team members running a little late for the game, we had to have a substitute from the opposing team, Sean in the first half and Aaron in the 2nd, to help field a team. Josh worked up a sweat and tried very hard to get the ball into position on many occasions while Eion ran his heart out and was also exceptional with a few good attempts at goal. We keep the ball in their half for the most of the game, with Danielle using here fancy footwork to get around some players, while Liam was strong in attack. Brodie was solid in defence and made a few cross field kicks to find support. Nikhil also showed his fancy footwork and made some good passes. Louis was a great goalie for both halves however he had some tough kicks sent his way. Unfortunately the score went against us 4 nil, but overall a very good game by everyone. Thanks to the Hills Hawks for loaning us two team members that really did help us with our game. They were great sports!

Certificate of the Match - Danielle Gonsalves

### Under 9/2

*Vs Hills Hawks Lost 2-4*

The young team lined up against a side that beat them 7-1 in the first round. But through a great team effort the Redbacks were up 2-1 with only 5 minutes left on the clock. However with no reserves they could not hold out against some very good individual play from Hill hawks to finish a gallant second. Redbacks played the better team game but were beaten in the end by some very good individual players. Alex Pearce was player of the match.



REDBACKS FC

1962 – 2011

50th Anniversary

Gala Dinner Invitation

*Redbacks FC have much pleasure in inviting all members, past and present, to join us and celebrate this historic occasion*

Saturday 16th July 2011

7pm

The Lyceum Room

Castle Hill RSL

77 Castle Street

Castle Hill

Cost \$55.00 per head

All bookings welcome, singles, couples, groups or tables of 10

3 course meal and live band included

Dress Code Formal with a touch of Red and Black

Tickets available from 21st May 2011 to 13th June 2011

Email bookings to [redbackscf@hotmail.com](mailto:redbackscf@hotmail.com) and leave credit card details. Cash/ Cheques can be made via manager.

(Cheques can be made payable to Redbacks Football Club)

Any queries please contact Jodi Woods on 0421 976 148



### Under 10/2

What a gorgeous day for a fantastic but nerve wracking game of football. The Redbacks played some beautiful football to draw 1-1 against a team which they lost to very convincingly last round, which shows how much they have improved. They always had the goods, but their confidence is growing, as is their ability to play as a team.

The pressure was on right from kick off, the Redbacks dominated the play with great passing and had quite a few shots on goal, which narrowly missed their mark. At half time neither side had managed to score despite their best efforts. In the second half the intensity increased as the minutes ticked by. The nerves of the supporters on the sidelines were frayed as yet more good shots on goal were narrowly missed. Luck was on the side of North Epping Rangers when they scored bringing the score to 1-0. After some very determined play by the Redbacks, Josh had a fantastic run, weaving between the Rangers and taking the ball into goal with a great angled shot with his left foot, 1 - 1.

A memorable moment will be the miss reminiscent of the World Cup match between Germany and England, when the ball appeared to hit the inside of the crossbar, dropping just short of the line, only to be kicked back in the direction of the goal, to no avail.

Matthew worked very hard in goals saving numerous well placed shots from the Rangers. It was probably the game of the season so far, with a really exciting standard of play, a great concentrated and determined effort by all members of the team. Player of the match was well earned by Daniel who stayed strong in the face of some tough tackling and was very persistent in his efforts. Well done guys and thanks to Romeo and Brian for their time and effort with the kids.

### Under 10/6

*Thornleigh Defeated Redbacks 5-1*

Player of the match: Matthew

Parents Choice 1st 1/2: Ethan. 2nd 1/2: Ryan

Although the Redbacks lost, the team showed great guts by playing with enthusiasm and trying hard for



the duration of the game. In the first half Ridwaan showed off his goal keeping skills with 3 great saves and Ryan equally skilled with 4 saves in the second half. A special mention should go to Ethen for a valiant effort in defense. Matthew Received a well deserved player of the match for a very close shot from a penalty bouncing off the cross bar, and a outstanding solo goal in the second half.

### **Under 12/1**

The game started with great enthusiasms from both teams. Good passing allowed Adam to crack the opponent defence but unfortunately their keeper was lucky enough to save the first attempt toward their goal, the boys kept using their skills but unfortunately were not able to defend the aggression of the North Ryde team and a goal was scored at the 15<sup>th</sup> minute of the game.

At half time the boys had a good rest and it paid off, they played the second half a lot better and were well positioned over the opponents. They kept the pressure on the opponent team and a good pass lead Adam to sprint down the field from half way to score the tie breaker. The boys kept tackling well but were unfortunate to score a win and the game ended with 1-1. Adam and Andre were both player of the match.

Well played boys and look forward to another exciting game next Saturday.

### **All Age 19**

*vs Gladesville Sharks*

Great to be back playing football. Down by the river, with no fence, we were looking forward to our balls being lost in the mighty Parramatta River. After beating the opposition 9-2 in the first round, there was confidence, perhaps too much, that today would be an easy repeat this afternoon. Alas it was not to be as we played a far more confident side and it took us until the 2nd half to start playing some football.

After conceding early in the 2nd half, despite the valiant attempts of our defence, we finally kicked into gear and Matty pulled one back with a sublime finish - which just shows what he can do when he doesn't try to beat *everyone*. Strangely the opposition went down to 10 men soon after and we completed our comeback after a well placed freekick found Yogi's rising head.

We definitely rode our luck and were lucky to get some favourable calls from the ref, hopefully proving that these things do tend to even out over the course of the season.

Good solid 3 points and back into a run a form - team sheet forfeits permitting - hopefully next week will see the return of Scott to the fold.

### **Premier League**

*v Gladesville Ravens*  
*First Grade Loss 3-1*  
*Res' Grade Loss 4-1*

Both First & Reserve Grade were handed down big defeats on the weekend in two games where a combination of a lack of focus and failure to convert opportunities proved costly. With only 7 games remaining in the Premiership Rounds it is going to be a tough time for both teams with each game being a mini final in itself to stay in the hunt for the finals. There were few highlights from the day, but in each game there were flashes of brilliance which had they gone our way could have resulted in different outcomes. But there is no place for "what ifs" at this point in the season.



In Reserve Grade, defender Todd Johnson was able to put away his first open play goal in some 12 years. This goal gave our boys an early lead but an unlucky penalty saw the score evened up soon thereafter. Some further lapses in defence saw our boys down 4-1 by the final whistle. And to add to their woes, workhorse Luke Morrow fractured his forearm and is likely to miss all but one of the remaining premierships games.

First Grade had it all before them today against the competition leaders and a win would have seen them stay only two points behind first place on the ladder. But today was not their day. An early goal to the Ravens from a marginal offside call saw them down on the scoreboard until Calem Lukeman scored a cracker of a shot from 18 yards out. But the Ravens hit back soon after thanks to a long range bullet which beat keeper Billy with nothing but sheer force. Captain Mark Mittiga almost tied it up with seconds remaining in the first half with a low and hard shot from 22 yards out but the Ravens keeper was able to just get to it and push it onto the post.

So down 2-1 at the break our boys came out firing and were unlucky not to get the equaliser in the opening minutes. But in the 65<sup>th</sup> minute a break away from the Ravens and another driving shot from 24 yards out saw keeper Billy beaten at the near post and the score was 3-1. Despite our boys continued pressure we were unable to get a second goal and the win and even a draw remained out of our reach. The final whistle blew at 3-1 to the Ravens and the reddiees were left to kick their wounds.

Whilst a double defeat is never good for morale, it is always good to ditch sub-par performance before the critical last few games and this is how Coach Nick reflected on the game. The Ravens were the better team on the day and took their opportunities when presented with them.

So with Saturday's game been and gone focus turns to the first of three homes games for the mighty Redbacks. The first game at the Spider's Web is against cross town cousins, West Pennant Hills. Not having played against WPH in the top division for many years it is a much anticipated game and pride is on the line. But our boys will be playing for more than pride as they battle to keep fourth spot from Kenthurst (who we play in two weeks time). Reserve Grade kicks off at 1:15pm and First Grade 3:15pm. So make sure you block out the next three Saturday afternoons and get down to support our boys in these final critical games for season 2011.

*THE REDS...THE REDS.....*

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