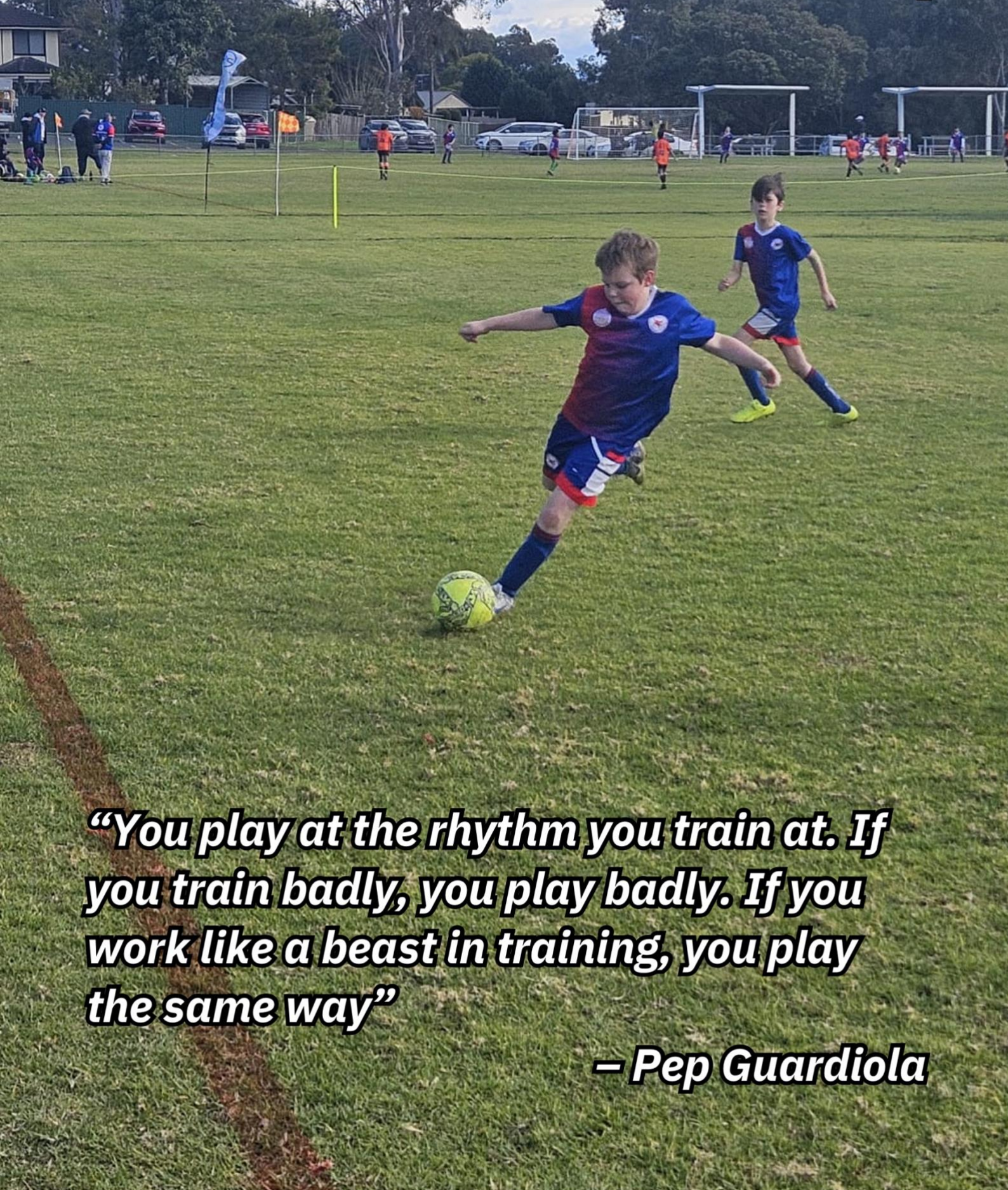




# **Weekly Round Up Round 15, 2024 and Round 9 & 11 Catch-up**



***“You play at the rhythm you train at. If you train badly, you play badly. If you work like a beast in training, you play the same way”***

***– Pep Guardiola***





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## U6 Echidnas vs Ponds FC

Not provided

## U6 Dolphins vs Polonia Rams FC

Great game from our kids on a windy Saturday morning - at least not rain though!

**Player of the Match:** Ricardo

**Encouragement Award:** Riva

## U7/3 vs Doonside Hawks SC

Not provided

## U7/8 vs Lourdes FC

What a wild and windy game but what a game it was. Starting off strong Lourdes did, before our superstars kicked into action with some timely passes and some great defence. Finding the net many times and giving Lourdes a run for their money. Unable to get the result but showing the makings of a premier team. Great times sure to be had in the future. Big shout out to Finn and scoring his first goal. well done matey, more to come. Very proud coach of all my superstars. Stay tuned....

**Player of the Match:** Jack

**Encouragement Award:** Finn

## U8/7 vs Quakers Hill Junior SC

Mason had an amazing day with so many saves and attempts at scoring. One outstanding move was when he managed to save a goal by running across the field and into the goals and stopped the ball from going over

the line. The rest of the team defended well had some good attempts at scoring but couldn't quite get there.

**Player of the Match:** Mason

**Encouragement Award:** Jack

## U9/3 vs Doonside Hawks SC

Not provided

## U9/6 vs Newbury Bulls SC

It was another close game and everyone played really well.

**Player of the Match:** Novindu

**Encouragement Award:** Mikey

## Round 11 Catch-up

### U9/6 vs Parklea SFC

Not provided

### U9/8 vs Glenwood Redbacks SC

Not provided

### U10/2 vs Minchinbury Jets SC

Not provided

### U10/7 vs Plumpton Oakhurst SC

Not provided

### U11/2 vs Quakers Hill Tigers SC

Not provided

## U11/5 vs Rooty Hill FC

We held possession for a large part of the game and had many attempts on goal. But couldn't seem to find the back of the net enough. As the game wore on defence and attackers wore out and the opposition kept up the pressure to take out the match. Great effort from everyone on a cold and blustery day.

**Player of the Match:** Zoe

**Encouragement Award:** Magnus

## U12/4 vs Ponds FC

### **Kings Langley SFC 0 - Ponds FC White 0**

In our on-going battle against the top four, this time we're up against 3rd. Having lost 7-1 to them earlier in the season, we were keen to get a win over them and push harder to get a spot for finals eligibility.

The first few minutes were an amazing contrast to the last few games. We were pressing high early with an opportunity to score, although the defenders held. We had a great long shot that was looking good, helped by a deflection from a defender, but the keeper got to it amazingly and kept it out.

It was a very amazing game to watch, with attacks from both teams, but again, both teams putting in the hard work to keep it out of the goal. Our defenders did an amazing job to shut down their shot options before they were made, and Lincoln with the gloves was more than up to the task for those that did come through. We had some amazing runs down both lines and through the middle, but again, we weren't able to overcome their defenders to put the ball in the net. In the end, it finished up 0-0, which is the first goal-less game across all teams in our division.

Player of the week goes to Obie, and we're so happy to have him back from his few weeks away. He jumped right back into it, holding up the opposition's attacks in the middle, and pushing up and supporting the attacks when we had possession.

**Player of the Match:** Obie

**Encouragement Award:** Jaxon Z

## Round 11 Catch-up

### U12/4 vs Ponds FC

#### **Kings Langley SFC 2 - Ponds FC 4**

If we were going to have a decent attempt at making the top 4 this year, this game was the one to win. Going up against 4th place, just 3 points ahead of us, and winning would make the last spot in the finals a nail biter all the way to the end of the season.

Off the back of a great game the day before, we started well with some great touches in the middle and putting pressure on the Ponds team early. While we didn't quite have the shots on goal, it was great the watch the back and forth. Just over 10 minutes in, Ponds managed a counter attack that surprised the midfield and defense and slotted in a goal. Despite our continued pressing, they managed another 5 minutes later, and another 5 minutes after that. We had our fair share of efforts, putting their goal keeper under pressure and almost forcing a mistake or two. Despite our best efforts, we went into the half time 3-0 down.

A change of goal keeper and some minor tweaks had us playing a lot better in the second half, often with our defensive line up at half way with more numbers in the attack. Despite a few corners, we still failed to put the ball in the back of the net. It wasn't until with 10 minutes to go that we won a free kick about 30m out. Jaxon L, being our best with the long range strikes, stepped up and put the ball passed their keeper into the goal. A renewed spirit from the team, rushing quickly to restart and get another goal saw us make a mistake from a goal kick and give Ponds a shot over our keeper into the goal to give them a 4-1 lead.

Despite the set back, we kept pressing hard, hoping for a miracle of a comeback, and it looked promising with a one-on-one that didn't quite finish and a volley just missing the side of the goal. In the last few minutes, a short throw near their goal line from Xander give Liam a volley into the box. The cross was off target a little, but fortunately veered into the far side of the goal, helped along (because you can never be too sure) by Lincoln.

Despite the goals of the last 10 minutes, it wasn't enough to pick up the 3 points. Unfortunately it's put us 6 points behind 4th. We'll be turning our attention to the next 4 games playing teams below us, aiming for wins in each to help us take advantage of any losses that Ponds may suffer over the same period.

In almost every game, one team comes away a little disappointed, although the way we played today was one of the best all year. We have to remember that during these growth years, the score isn't everything. The way we played is more important. That is a massive positive and a standard to live up to and exceed over the rest of the season.

**Player of the Match:** Jaxon Z

**Encouragement Award:** Annabelle

## U12/6 vs Blacktown St Pats SC

### **Kings Langley SFC 1 - Blacktown St Pats SC 0**

With the business end of the season rapidly approaching, every game takes on a new significance. On a cold and windy day, 4th placed Kings lined up against 3rd place St Pats in a game that was incredibly important in the battle to cement a place in the top 4.

A late withdrawal due to injury meant that Kings lined up with only 10 players against a full Pats team that also had 2 on the bench. Having held this team to a 1-1 at their last encounter, we were keen to go one step better this time around and claim all 3 points.

The game was a proper battle. St Pats were very physical in attack, and tried to muscle through the middle of the park, where they discovered that our midfield and defence was more than up to the task. They had little success pushing wide either, as our wide players kept them honest. In turn, some clever dribbling and through balls put our players in one-on-one with their keeper on a number of occasions. Sometimes we were let down by our final touch, and sometimes the ball was cleaned up by either the Pats keeper or defenders. Finally, the team was able to take advantage of an opportunity and put the ball in the back of the net. The final minutes of the game consisted of an exhausted team throwing bodies behind the ball. Eventually, it was enough to come away with the win.

A monster effort from a team prepared to put in the hard work against a tough and worthy opponent. As a coach, I couldn't be prouder.

**Player of the Match:** Oskar

**Encouragement Award:** Layla

## Round 9 Catch-up

### U12/6 vs Parklea SFC Red

#### **Kings Langley SFC 0 - Parklea SFC Red 3**

We were missing 6 players from our normal squad for this Sunday catch-up, and most of the remaining players were backing up from two training sessions during the week and a game the previous day. The effort was there, but there's only so much a body can give.

With some players upgrading from our U11 teams helping us out, we put on a good show against a team whose only loss to date this season was against a team that was subsequently moved up to a higher division. Parklea had some early chances on goal which were cleanly dealt with by the defence and goalkeeper. We had our own chances, with some strong runs into space and shots on goal. A soft shot that looped high over our keeper's head before dropping into the goal was the only difference between the two teams going into half time.



The second half started off as the first ended, both teams competing strongly for the ball in an effort to decide the game. The absence of almost half our usual team, and the recent workload started to show as the team's ability to keep chasing the game waned as time ticked on. In the end, Parklea were able to put in two late goals on a very tired team to grab the result.

There was no faulting the effort of the team at the end of the day, and I'd argue that the final score was not a fair reflection of the quality of the contest. The squad did the best they could given the circumstances, and they are still in the box seat to secure a finals qualification spot. There's only a few weeks left of the season, and this one is going to go down to the wire!

Huge shout out to Rafael, Max, Ali and Marshall from U11/2 and U11/5 for being available to help us out with this game. You all played an essential role, and you made a positive difference throughout the game. Thank you! 🙏

**Player of the Match:** Monty

**Encouragement Award:** Addison

## U13/3 vs Ponds FC

**Kings Langley SFC 1 - Ponds FC 4**

Not provided

## Round 9 Catch-up

## U13/3 vs Ropes Crossing Strikers FC

**Kings Langley SFC 3 - Ropes Crossing Strikers FC 6**

Not provided

## U15/4 vs Marayong FC

### **Kings Langley SFC 1 - Marayong FC 2**

Not provided

## O35/4 vs Blacktown St Pats SC

### **Kings Langley SFC 0 - Blacktown St Pats SC 7**

With only 9 players available to take the field (and many of those carrying injuries of varying severity), this result was inevitable. It would have been easy to throw in the towel and give the game away before it had even started. However, the old boys in Royal Blue take the crest on their chest seriously, and those that were able booted up and got out there. It's not just for the wins but for the love of the game.

It didn't take long for St Pats to take advantage of their numerical advantage, and within minutes they opened their account. Pats continued to put on the pressure and they slowly continued to add to their tally. We kept pushing them though, and forced them to work for their goals. The Pats defence was shakier than the scoreline would suggest, and we had a number of chances in and around the box throughout the game.

The second half was cut short with withdrawals due to injury meaning the required numbers couldn't be maintained. Credit to the guys at St Pats who took us seriously, showed respect, didn't showboat or muck about, and were happy to have a chat and share a joke on the field during the game. It helped make a bitter pill just that little bit easier to swallow.

Well done to those guys that slogged through the game, and those who couldn't play but still came out to support. True teams stick together through thick and thin.