



Weekly Round Up Round 18, 2024 and Round 16 Catch-up

“You cannot win a game of football on your own; it's about the entire squad working together to achieve something.”

– Lucy Bronze



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U6 Echidnas vs Marsden Park Galaxy FC Green

Not provided

U6 Dolphins vs Quakers Hill Junior SC

Dominant game by the team. Great defence on display today!

Player of the Match: Ricardo

Encouragement Award: Jack

U7/3 vs Quakers Hill Junior SC

Not provided

U7/8 vs Glenwood Redbacks SC Black

Not provided

U8/7 vs Marsden Park Galaxy FC

Jack was goal keeper in the first half and saved some great attempts at goals. Athena took to the goals in the second half and did an amazing job saving some great shots also. Put herself on the line with several saves and was knocked over a couple of times by the opposition but she just picked herself up and kept playing. Mason scored a magnificent goal in the first half and Aryana had a couple of attempts as well. Rest of the kids defended well.

Player of the Match: Sarah

Encouragement Award: Emma

U9/3 vs Marayong FC

Not provided

U9/6 vs BYE

U9/8 vs Doonside Hawks SC White

Amazing job on the draw U9/8s! On a warm day, everyone chased hard, passed well and supported each other. Well done to our goal scorer Sophia. Our Player of the Match was the energetic, never give up Loki! You ran all over the park! And congratulations to Esther, who brought the team lots of energy in the 2nd half after being goalie in half 1.

Player of the Match: Loki

Encouragement Award: Esther

U10/2 vs Quakers Hill Junior SC White

An entertaining game on one of the warmer days of the season. Game was quite even at the start, and we took the where goals contacted multiple players and the actual scorer was not clear. Quakers Hill then scored off a cross to an unmarked player. In the second half we got a bit more organised up front with some good passes into space, and goals to Tom, Wael, and Connor. Defence got a bit sloppy and they scored, and we let in an accidental own goal. Great effort by the team for the last game of the season.

Player of the Match: Team Effort

U10/7 vs Ponds FC

Not provided

U11/2 vs Quakers Hill Junior SC White

Not provided

U11/5 vs Minchinbury Jets SC

There was a lot of movement up and down the field and for most of the first half it went nil all as some great tackling and jockeying occurred by both teams. Late in the first half the Jets managed to slip in a goal in a chaotic goal box. From there we lost our focus somewhat and struggled to hold them up. Despite renewed focus in the second half we couldn't seem to find their net despite many attempts by some fantastic mids and attacking coordination. A hard end to the season but the team played well together.

Player of the Match: Zachary

Encouragement Award: Baxter

U12/4 vs Minchinbury Jets SC

Kings Langley SFC 7 - Minchinbury Jets SC 0

After a handful of games with no wins, we were keen to get 3 points to add to the ladder. Unfortunately, the morning started with 3 players falling sick overnight and we desperately looked for some upgrades. We were lucky enough to be joined by Elijah and Yara from the 12/6s, after having played their game immediately before, and also Liam's brother Mikey from the 9/6s, who had a bye today. After only just managing to get a team of 12 together, we learnt that Minchinbury only had 10 on the field, so we would have the player advantage through the game.

The opening 5 minutes of the game saw us on the offensive with multiple chances, but nothing to open the scoreboard. We experienced a number of counter attacks with Elijah stepping up massively in the CDM position and ending any attacks before they really started. 10 minutes in, we secured a goal from Jaxon L. During the next 10 minutes, the Jets upped their attacks and a few made it through the defensive line and we rushed to cover. Lincoln had the goals covered amazingly, making no less than 3 diving saves, keeping the ball out of the net and in play. He also had no hesitation to rush out and secure the

ball after a heavy touch, denying the scoring opportunities. As we played on through the first half, Seb contributed 2 more goals to the tally, assisted by Liam on the left wing.

At the half time break, there really wasn't much to say to the team aside from to keep playing the way they were, keep the pressure up, and just enjoy the game.

So on they go in the second half - Lincoln joining the field as Elijah takes the gloves. Within a few minutes, we had more pressure in the Jet's goal area, and an inside-the-box pass by Liam gives his younger brother the ball which ended up punished in the back of the net. Throughout the rest of the second half, Lincoln managed to get a hatrick, assisted by Brayden and Mikey. Jaxon Z had a few great opportunities, but fell just wide of the goal. Jaxon L had a minute there where he had 2 decent shots that were deflected amazingly by the Jets defenders. Xander and Brayden both almost got themselves each a goal, but fell just short.

Awesome callout to those who played as defenders at various points through the game: Amay, Annabelle, Brayden, Xander, Elijah, Yara and Seb for helping maintain a clean sheet - our 6th of the season! I want to give a shout out to the girls on the Jets team who surprised us with their physicality and really made us work to either get past them, or stop them. Great to see young girls at this level with that confidence and ability!

Player of the match and encouragement awards this week were hard to choose, so I left it up to a team vote: Brayden for player of the match this week, and also to Mikey for the encouragement award. Both were well deserving after having an awesome game.

Player of the Match: Brayden

Encouragement Award: Mikey

Round 16 Catch-up

U12/4 vs Doonside Hawks SC

Kings Langley SFC 1 - Doonside Hawks SC 4

This was a game I think most of us will be keen to forget. A must-win game to meet our objective of finishing in the top 5 this season, we struggled to get ahead.

With a number of players still away, we borrowed Mikey again to get to 11 against a team with 3 reserves.

After conceding in the first few minutes, we didn't seem too worried, and continued to pressure their defence with a few attacks. We struggled to get through their left and right backs on the wing and a number of attacks quickly stalled, being pushed back. The transitions, as well as an out of place defensive line allowed Doonside to get 2 goals in the last 4 minutes of the first half, putting us down 3-0 at the break.

Reacting to the way we played in the first half, a few changes were made to the positions to give us a better chance of making a comeback. And while we didn't get there, we have it a really good attempt. The physicality increased, although a little too much with us picking up a yellow early on. A free kick outside Doonside's penalty box gave us our first goal with Jaxon L's initial kick being deflected, but cleaned up by Seb. Now only 2 goals down with 20 minutes to go, we definitely had a sense of urgency, but the desperation to catch up was ultimately our undoing. Small mistakes that could have been recovered were made larger as the young players became too critical of themselves. We put in an amazing second half, but as time dragged on with no change in the score, the frustration well and truly set in. In the last minute of play, we conceded a fourth goal after being caught too high in defence, and we succumbed to an unfortunate one-on-one.

A really disappointing result for us, as we had well and truly dominated this team earlier in the season and were hoping to keep our dream of

finishing in the top half alive. It did identify a weakness in the team with a number of the players taking mistakes and results really personally and that leads to letting the team down. This is something I'll be working on with the parents between now and next season.

To finish on a positive note, I want to call out Annabelle who well and truly deserved player of the match today. Her efforts on the left, both forward and back, were superb, being strong on the ball, fast to recover and never giving up. Even the other team's parents were aware of how dangerous she was when Doonside pushed down her side. Great work!!

Player of the Match: Annabelle

Encouragement Award: Jaxon Z

U12/6 vs Parklea SFC White

Kings Langley SFC 1 - Parklea SFC White 1

This was an important game leading in to the finals. Fifth place was snapping at our heels, and a win here would go a long way towards shoring up fourth spot. Having comprehensively beaten this team much earlier in the season, spirits were high during warm-up. The team was reminded that there are no easy games in our division, but if we played to our potential the game was ours to take.

The match started off patchy, and Kings were off their game a touch. Parklea were able to apply pressure, and made us look very ordinary on the counter attack time and time again. They took advantage of our habit of getting sucked in to following the ball rather than maintaining position and marking loose players. Kings also showed a lack of awareness of where our free players were, and tended to dribble the ball back into traffic rather than look for free players out wide.

In the end it was a frustrating result, as the team was capable of so much better when they are at their best. However, 1 point is still better than 0 points, and there were many lessons learned that can be built upon when we play them again next week in the final round.

Player of the Match: Layla

Encouragement Award: Jill

Round 16 Catch-up

U12/6 vs Riverstone Schofields Junior SC

Kings Langley SFC 2 - Riverstone Schofields Junior SC 1

This was a must-win game to keep the dream of finals football alive.

We kicked off against a 9-player Riverstone team, with a 10th player still on their way. We didn't really do enough to capitalise on our numerical superiority, but some solid passing and aggressive forward play saw us take the lead. We made it hard for ourselves though, as players drifted out of position, and we developed a nasty habit of dribbling back into the compact centre of the field rather than lifting heads up and looking for free players towards the sidelines. Riverstone took advantage of our players being out of position defensively and managed to peg one back, evening the scores.

A few passionate words at half-time from guest speaker Coach Joe from U9s on the importance of passing to free players up front helped the idea sink in. Some one-on-one time with the more prolific dribblers had some extra impact, and part-way through the second half the whole game changed. Kings went from being a team easily dispossessed in the final third to being a team almost untouchable when on the offensive. Players free in good positions were getting quality passes, and a high number of one-twos and triangle passes were suddenly the name of the game. A well-taken penalty in the

second half had Kings jump into the lead. Some scrambling defence and solid saves saw that lead maintained.

A thoroughly well-earned victory!

Player of the Match: Addison

Encouragement Award: Jyden

U13/3 vs Prospect United SC

Kings Langley SFC 2 - Prospect United SC 2

Sunshine, blue skies and a dry field allowed an outstanding game to be played today against number 2 team on the ladder. Looking to improve on an earlier in the season loss of 5-2, today we turned that into a 2-2 draw!

The team turned up ready for the challenge and some key tactics before kickoff were implemented shortly into the 1st half which saw Ollie move to striker and put himself in position to crack one into the back of the net.

Some great corners from Brian all game and we were shown a cheeky back-heel goal from Kaden off a corner.

Muhammad, Brian, Lucas locked down the back with the help of Brody, Joshua, Ryan and Kaden pushing some great offside calls and shutting down many attacking plays.

Great saves from Liam in goals and once again his big kicks and wide distribution allowed us to move up field with options.

Jaxon, Kaden, Tommy, Joshua & Brody chased hard in the middle. A firm field that bounced very high made them all work hard for high balls. Something we have been working on is headers and both Muhammad & Brian getting some great headers as first touches today really helped.

Owen charged and chased every ball and player he could for every minute today in the middle with thanks to words of encouragement from Brody.

Lincoln and Muhammad dominated our left side of the field and got the ball from backline to goal box on a few occasions with some shots at goal also.

Good to have Tommy back this week from injury in the mix with the team.

Once again the team aimed high and played well showing these top teams how good we can be.

Player of the Match: Ollie

Encouragement Award: Muhammad

Round 16 Catch-up

U13/3 vs Marayong FC

Kings Langley SFC 2 - Marayong FC 0

Marayong forfeit

U15/4 vs Ropes Crossing Strikers FC

Kings Langley SFC 0 - Ropes Crossing Strikers FC 3

Not provided

Round 16 Catch-up

U15/4 vs Blacktown Workers FC

Kings Langley SFC 1 - Blacktown Workers FC 4

Not provided

O35/4 vs Marsden Park Galaxy FC

Kings Langley SFC 3 - Marsden Park Galaxy FC 4

Things looked promising before the game as we had the whole team available to play, giving us an almost unheard of 6 players available on the bench.

For hopefully the last time this season, unexpected last minute weather events had an adverse impact on the game. While both sides warmed up and got ready to play, the sky put on a light show that eventually delayed kick off by an hour. The delay and uncertainty of whether or not the game would even go ahead broke focus and gave warmed up muscles a chance to prematurely cool. Not the ideal start.

Once the game finally kicked off, Kings quickly dominated. We picked up a few quick early goals, and there was hope that there might be some light at the end of the tunnel in this otherwise dreary season. Marsden Park had other plans. They had several tall, strong and very quick players who weren't afraid to take you on at pace, making it incredibly difficult to mark them. They also had the confidence to take shots from outside the box, with powerful shots to match that confidence.

In the end, these players made the difference as Marsden Park dragged back the deficit and inched in front. Unfortunately for Kings, it was another narrow loss to add to the collection.