



CROYDON BLUES

Under 16C

Vs Waverley Blues

QUALIFYING FINAL

SCORE:

Waverley Blues 12 – 10 – 82 def Croydon 3 – 3 – 21
Goal Kickers: Jack 1 Bretta 1 Wizz 1

AWARDS:

Best: Nathan Wiggins , Jake Smith, Blake Serzycki, Ricky Brown, Jake Wisneske, Jake Henshall

MATCH SUMMARY:

Today was the Qualifying Final for Waverley Blues who ended up 2nd for 2011 and Croydon who ended up 3rd for the season. The venue was Morton Park in Blackburn and the ground was like many grounds this year wet and muddy. The weather was cold and cloudy and there was hardly any wind and the rain held off for the whole game. We brought Locky back for his first game and I thought after all his bad luck this season he could have some good luck with the toss, unfortunately we lost the toss again.

This was this teams first final since the boys first started playing football, some of the boys had played finals in other teams, but in general it was new ground for all of them. We had worked extremely hard all season to get to this position and we were all very keen and thought we would do well. All season we had set ourselves some goals to achieve and today's was to win. In the 1st quarter Waverley kicked towards Central Road. We were aware they would start quickly and the last time we played they kicked 31 points to us not scoring. We started slowly and Waverley kicked 3 goals, we were able to come back and kicked 2 late goals for the quarter. We lost the first quarter by 2 points and I thought we had done fairly well. Goals scored in the first quarter were kicked by Brett and Jack.

In the 2nd quarter it was still fairly tight and Waverley kicked 2 goals to our 1 and we were playing well below our best. We were second to the ball, not as desperate and our kicking was very poor resulting in many turnovers. Some positives were that we were tackling well and we were still trying. Our only goal was scored by Wizz and he and Ricky were throwing themselves into every contest they could.

At halftime we had lost both quarters and we were 14 points behind. As the siren went and Waverley made their way off the ground they said "We were nothing" I spoke to the boys about this and thought that this would fire them up. In the majority of our games this season we had always made sure we ran the games out

	<p>and I thought we would be able to do this again. We were playing poorly, but 14 points was not that much that we couldn't get back into the game.</p> <p>Unfortunately in the 3rd and 4th quarters we were soundly beaten, I tried switching players around to get some into the game, I spoke about if you get walked on you have to have laid down first and we really did lay down. We were still second to the ball, let them get the ball first, did not get in front of our man, kicked poorly, made poor choices and did not kick a goal for the whole second half of the game.</p> <p>At the end of the game we had lost the game by 61 points, lost all 4 quarters and were soundly beaten across all aspects of the game. We even started to turn on our own team mates, truly the worst game we have played all year, our lowest score, lost all quarters and we did not play anywhere close to our ability.</p> <p>In saying all of this it is not all over for 2011, we have worked all season to get the second chance and after today's game we need it. We will be playing South Croydon next week after they beat Coldstream convincingly. We have the opportunity to redeem ourselves and show everyone what we are capable of. It is now up to all of us to bounce back from this defeat, get our positive attitude back and remember we are a team that has been down and has risen up to get to 3rd position and we are a team that does not want to finish this season being down. Some positives for our game this week is that we cannot play any worse, we will have Tim back from holidays and we are hoping that Locky might be able to get some limited game time to ease him back into playing.</p> <p>Neill</p>
<p><u>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:</u></p>	<p>Injuries: Ricky (Cramp), Michael (Knee)</p> <p>Anyone with Knocks, Corky's etc ice for 20 mins every 2 hours for the first 72 hours, not heat or Dencorub</p> <p>Next game 31st July vs. South Croydon at Seeback Oval, Stud Road, Rowville. Melway map ref. (73 C12) 1.15pm arrival for a 2.30pm Game, Blue Shorts TBC</p> <p>Focus for next week is simple and that is to win to keep our season alive.</p> <p>Training Tuesday & Friday 6pm till 7.30pm</p>