



Marist Australian Football Club

YEARBOOK 2022





MaristCollege
Canberra

TOGETHER,
WE CREATE
FINE YOUNG
MEN



CONTENTS

SPONSORS	2
COMMITTEE	2
PRESIDENT'S REPORT	3
MAFC LIFE MEMBERS	6
MAFC CLUB AWARDS	6
AFL CANBERRA AWARDS	7
REPRESENTATIVE PLAYERS	7
TEAM AWARD WINNERS	8
TEAM REPORTS	9
Under 10 Team Report	12
Under 11 Team Report	15
Under 12 Team Report	18
Under 13 Royal Team Report	21
Under 13 Sky Team Report	24
Under 14 Team Report	30
Under 15 Team Report	34
Under 17 Team Report	38
First XVIII Team Report	42
MAFC PLAYER CAREER STATISTICS	50

SPONSORS

THE MARIST AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL CLUB COMMUNITY THANKS OUR 2022 SPONSORS –

MAJOR SPONSOR



OTHER SUPPORTERS



COMMITTEE

President	Geoff Davidson
College Sports Coordinator – AFL	Sarah Mahar
Vice President	Kylie Denny
Secretary	Peter Hyde
Treasurer	Hugo Ellwood
Registrar	Vacant
Director of Coaching	Chris Maher
Manager's Coordinator	Jodie Stephenson
Property and Merchandise	Mark Vardy
Canteen Manager	Tamara Korsten
Sports Medicine	Gemma McRae
General Committee	Kate Reed Lawrie Hosking

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Marist Australian Football Club enjoyed another hugely successful season in 2022 – both on and off the pitch.

This season Marist fielded nine teams with two teams in the Under 13 competition and one team in all other age groups. Six teams played in finals – Under 11 and First XVIII (semi-finalists), Under 12 and Under 13 Sky (preliminary finalists) and Under 14 and Under 15 (grand finalists).

Our Under 15 team dominated the competition all season and were crowned premiers with a convincing 13.10 (88) to 3.5 (23) win over Weston Creek Wildcats. It was an awesome performance by our boys on a sunny but freezing cold afternoon at Footy Park. It's been a horrid two years and our Under 15 boys lifted the spirits of the whole club – it even felt like a win on behalf of boys who missed out on premiership glory when last season was cancelled. Congratulations to Steve Mahar and his team on a wonderful achievement including an undefeated season of footy.

We also celebrated many individual player achievements. Hugh Strickland and Will Green were both named in AFL Canberra's Rising Stars Team of the Year and multiple boys were selected in School Sport ACT and GWS Giants Academy and representative teams. Jude Leech (Under 11) and Alexander Maher (Under 12) were named AFL Canberra's league Best and Fairest.



Some club achievements during 2022, included:

- Implementing the new PlayHQ registration and game-day management system including online merchandise orders as part of player registration
- Launching a new and improved club website using the AFL's template club website
- Establishing a working group to commence planning for the club's 50th anniversary in 2023
- Celebrating Indigenous Round at Lindwall Oval including Acknowledgement of Country said in Ngunnawal language
- Our First XVIII wearing special playing socks to raise awareness of motor neurone disease and all teams wearing yellow socks for R U OK? Day
- Hosting semi-finals and preliminary finals matches at Lindwall Oval.

I would like to thank our coaches, assistant coaches, team managers and other volunteers for their efforts this season. I would also like to thank our Head of Sport, Paul Mead, my colleagues on the footy club committee and especially our College sports coordinator, Sarah Mahar. We are fortunate at Marist to offer many sports and it's only possible because of the contribution of our volunteers and College staff involved in the extracurricular programs.

Farewell and best wishes to our Year 12 players. You have been terrific role models for our younger boys, and you will be missed.

Finally, I would like to thank our Major Sponsor Brooks Marchant, and other sponsors Delta Electric Motor Repairs, Callida Consulting and ProArb Trees. This season our sponsors again covered the cost of warm up tops and the preseason Wagga match for the First XVIII, the club's season launch expenses and polo shirts and jackets for all team officials and many other expenses. Brooks Marchant again sponsored the Spirit Awards.

I was truly grateful for another opportunity to serve as Marist AFL president in 2022. I feel very lucky to be a member of this proud and passionate community – which is led by our Catholic and Marist values and ethos. I look forward to doing it all again in 2023.

Servo Fidem

Geoff Davidson
President – Marist Australian Football Club





MAFC LIFE MEMBERS

John Brown	1986	Anne Davies	2004
David Bailey	1998	Peter Woods	2005
Denis Sweeney	1998	Andy Finlay	2005
Peter Verdon	1998	Joe Box	2006
Tom Wharton	1998	Brendan O'Rourke	2008
Mark Winchester	1998	Chris Toogood	2011
Paul Sullivan	2000	Helen Delahunty	2013
Sue Sullivan	2000	Maria Hicks	2014
Denis Heritage	2001	Peter Maher	2016
John Sirr	2002	Ciril Karo	2016
Kerry Woods	2002	Peter Moon	2017
Br Mark May	2003	Janine Clark	2019

MAFC CLUB AWARDS

Damian McMahon Coach of the Year	David Geremia, U13 Sky
Sirr-Woods MAFC Volunteer of the Year	Gemma McRae
Senior Clubman of the Year	Ned Korsten
Junior Clubman of the Year	Marcus Buckley

AFL CANBERRA AWARDS

AFL CANBERRA JUNIOR BEST AND FAIREST

Under 11	Jude Leech
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Under 12	Alexander Maher
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AFL CANBERRA SENIOR AWARDS

Rising Stars Team of the Year	William Green and Hugh Strickland
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REPRESENTATIVE PLAYERS

SCHOOL SPORT ACT 12 YEARS

Tom Bolton
Jude Leech
Alexander Maher – co-captain
Lucas Fogels (shadow player)
Michael Schultz (shadow player)

SCHOOL SPORT ACT 15 YEARS

Oliver Cannon
Brodie Davis
Daniel Egan
Finnegan Ellwood
Kelley Jack
Harry Mahar
Will Polinelli
Archie Webb

GIANTS SUPER 24

Xavier Beesley (Under 13)
Jesse Dickerson and Jonah Korsten (Under 14)

GIANTS UNDER 16 NATIONALS

Digby Blacker
Ben Vardy

TEAM AWARD WINNERS

UNDER 10

COACHES AWARD

Noah Johnston

COACHES AWARD

Lachlan Edwards

COACHES AWARD

Henry Denny

MOST IMPROVED

Lachlan Hendrie

BROOKS MARCHANT CLUB CULTURE SCHOLARSHIP

Henry Lejsek

UNDER 11

BEST & FAIREST

Jude Leech

RUNNER UP BEST FAIREST

Hudson Taylor & Lucas Fogels

COACHES AWARD

Indie Mackay

MOST IMPROVED

Jake Konjevic

BROOKS MARCHANT CLUB CULTURE SCHOLARSHIP

Jonah Hamilton

UNDER 12

BEST & FAIREST

Alex Maher

RUNNER UP BEST FAIREST

James Bartlett

COACHES AWARD

Archer Burroughs

MOST IMPROVED

Jay Miller

BROOKS MARCHANT CLUB CULTURE SCHOLARSHIP

Zac Bartkowiak

UNDER 13 SKY

BEST & FAIREST

Elijah Roff

RUNNER UP BEST FAIREST

Griffin Sluis

COACHES AWARD

Carter Freeman

MOST IMPROVED

Nathan Watt

BROOKS MARCHANT CLUB CULTURE SCHOLARSHIP

Abhayan Tharmarajah

UNDER 13 ROYAL

BEST & FAIREST

Xavier Beesley and Jesse Ellwood

RUNNER UP BEST FAIREST

Not awarded as joint B&F

COACHES AWARD

Bailey Maher

MOST IMPROVED

Oscar Webb

BROOKS MARCHANT CLUB CULTURE SCHOLARSHIP

Fraser Smith

UNDER 14

BEST & FAIREST

Nic Stephenson

RUNNER UP BEST FAIREST

Joel Buckley

COACHES AWARD

Jesse Dickerson

MOST IMPROVED

Nathan Kerr

BROOKS MARCHANT CLUB CULTURE SCHOLARSHIP

Luke Allardyce

UNDER 15

BEST & FAIREST

Daniel Egan

RUNNER UP BEST FAIREST

Oliver Cannon & Brodie Davis

COACHES AWARD

Archie Webb

MOST IMPROVED

Hugh Barry

BROOKS MARCHANT CLUB CULTURE SCHOLARSHIP

Harry Mahar

UNDER 17

BEST & FAIREST

James Davidson

RUNNER UP BEST FAIREST

Angus Miller

COACHES AWARD

Xander Wild

MOST IMPROVED

Sam Wilkie

BROOKS MARCHANT CLUB CULTURE SCHOLARSHIP

Owen Hardy

FIRST XVIII

BEST & FAIREST

Will Green

RUNNER UP BEST FAIREST

Hugh Strickland

COACHES AWARD

Connor Hill

MOST IMPROVED

Arran Harsdorf

MARK WINCHESTER SPIRIT AND DEDICATION TROPHY

Ryan Ellis



TEAM REPORTS





UNDER 10 TEAM REPORT



TEAM DETAILS

Coach	Declan Welsh	Team manager	Kylie Denny
Assistant coaches	Morgan Holland; Rob Johnston	Team captain(s)	Shared across the season

SUMMARY OF SEASON

For most boys, Under 10s marks the first year of their Marist football journey, and this was the case for all but 2 players. Within this group, several were new to the sport of Aussie Rules. With all of this in mind, there was a constant focus on fun, immersion, and the upholding of the Marist values, as taught in all Year 4 classes, in all training sessions and matches; respect and sportsmanship naturally became a focus for all 'Blue and Blue' players.

The U10 boys rotated throughout defence, the forward line and the midfield in order to get a taste of each position and develop a broad range of skills. Game rules were modified in order to nurture development and

allow for maximum participation. For example, only players in the forward zone could kick a goal. This, in turn, allowed for plenty of practise in the fundamentals of leading for the ball and forward entries. Another modified rule that resulted in an easy development focus was 'no kicking off the ground'. This, naturally, encouraged boys to put their head over the ball and always look for the best option when dishing the ball out.

All Under 10 players represented the College with immense pride, and although the boys didn't lose many games for the season, the focus always returned to fun and development (while still allowing the song to be belted out after a 'W').

PLAYER SUMMARIES

DANE BERTRAM

Dane showed immense courage and football 'smarts' all year, with countless follow-up tackles (often on players twice his size!), and clever 'in and under' plays, always supporting those around him.

RYDER BOERSIG

Ryder ran and tackled hard all year, growing in self-confidence as the season wore on. He played in front, never out of a contest, and showed great composure and skill by foot.

HENRY DENNY

Henry displayed leadership and sportsmanship in equal measure, and never shied away from a contest. He began to find his voice as the year went on, and was acknowledged with a coaches award.

LACHLAN EDWARDS

Lachlan, one of the recipients of the coaches award, showed a great eagerness to develop his game, and was a huge asset due to his thumping right foot, composure under pressure, and relentless forward and defensive pressure and courage.

LOUIE ELLIOTT

Louie showed tremendous improvement throughout the year, and proved to be one of our toughest contested players by season's end. It was great to see Louie's pure enjoyment of the game week-in, week-out.

HARVEY FILLBROOK

Harvey showed dash in all positions, and a lethal snap kick, picking up countless contested marks and impressive goals (despite being robbed of one, on the line, by his little brother!).

MAX FRIZZA

Max was another big improver and showed discipline and a 'team-first' approach wherever he played on the field. Max's follow-up work was respectable as he always supported his teammates.

JOE GEYSEN

Joe was bullish in the middle of the ground, always putting his head over the ball and driving us forward. He also brought others into the game with his skill.



LACHLAN HENDRIE

Lachlan, our official 'most improved', displayed great courage in aerial and ground-ball contests, and thrived at either end of the ground where he rarely dropped a mark, and constantly repelled us forward.

NOAH JOHNSTON

Noah was a strong leader – disciplined, supportive, and clever in the contest. His improvement in his attack on the ball, run-and-carry, and positive attitude towards training and games earned him the coaches award.

HENRY LEJSEK

Henry showed phenomenal skill by foot and hand, and dominated every third of the ground. However, it was his impressive maturity, sportsmanship and the way he brought others into the game that earned him the Brooks Marchant Club Culture Scholarship.

WILL LOFT

'Lofty' was courageous and demonstrated great ability and enthusiasm in all positions. He also showed maturity and good sportsmanship in several tough encounters.

ERNEST MORRISON

Ernest demonstrated great character and enthusiasm towards representing Marist and was one of the most courageous and hardworking players in the side. He also popped up for some great sneak goals throughout the year.

LACHLAN ROBERTS

Lachlan, another vast improver, showed pride in rarely getting beaten in an aerial contest all year. He improved in many facets of the game including kicking, running to space, and using his voice.

ALEX SEDGWICK

A skilful quiet achiever, Alex showed great nuance in a leading forward role, but always supported his teammates well in the backline and midfield. His footy 'smarts' and big growth in confidence was great to see.

RILEY WALTERS

Another mature, quiet achiever, Riley was hard at the contest, enthusiastic, and always ended a third (quarter) of play with a big smile on his face.



UNDER 11 TEAM REPORT



TEAM DETAILS

Coach	Richard Bartlett	Team manager	Tim Graham
Assistant coaches	David Leech	Team captain(s)	N/A

SUMMARY OF SEASON

The U11 boys had a fantastic season. Finishing 3rd on the ladder at the end of the home and away rounds, Marist lost a nail-biting elimination final by just 3 points to eventual premiers Queanbeyan.

It was difficult to know how the team would perform at the beginning of the season. We had an impressive 24 players on our list; ten boys up from U10s, seven remaining from last year's U11s, and seven who were playing footy for the first time. The boys blended in very well from the first training session and over the season implemented our game style better than we could have ever expected.

On the player development front, all boys experienced a variety of field positions and played a minimum of three-quarters every game. The idea was to fast-track player improvement through exposure to different roles. We think this paid off well and as a result we had impressive depth in all areas of the ground. We hope to see the boys back, 'reporting for duty' in 2023.

Thank you to The MAFC committee, Assistant Coach Dave Leech, Runner Tim Brown, Manager Tim Graham and to all who volunteered for the various matchday roles. A special mention to our field umpires James Morrison, Sam Hamilton and Matt Hocking who umpired in exactly the right way.

PLAYER SUMMARIES

ANTHONY APOSTOLAKIS

Anthony played in a variety of positions and looked most at home as a forward. He often caught our attention using his strength to win contests and find space. At times he was an important goal scorer and provider for the team.

PATRICK BARTLETT

Paddy found an excellent balance in his game this season. Strong in the contest, he always put his head over the ball and used release handball to great effect. In space he made good decisions and used the ball superbly.

ZANDER BERG

Zander brings enthusiasm and endeavour to the team. He mainly played key position and showed solid defensive skills. We look forward to seeing him continue to progress. A fine season for a newcomer to our great game.

NATE BOROWSKI

Nate is another newcomer with a natural feel for the game. He positions himself intelligently and uses his speed and coordination to impact the contest. With more exposure to the game, he will become a seriously good player.

RYAN BROWN

Ryan was one of the big improvers this season; both at training and in games. He is naturally competitive and his marking and kicking skills are developing nicely. His tackling and contested pressure are also sharply trending up.

CHASE CARMODY

Chase bonded exceptionally well with his new teammates. He is a natural forward but also excelled on the ball and in defence. His leg speed and ball use are seriously eye-catching, and he finished as our season's top goal scorer.

FINN DUFFY

Finn is a wholehearted competitor. His skills have improved out of sight, and he is becoming a very complete footballer. He also showed he has the discipline to shut down dominant opposition players, which is rare at his age.

LUCAS FOGELS

Foges is another of our smaller players with a huge appetite for the contest. His speed, tackling and pressure are his main weapons. He also makes good decisions, uses the ball well and is dangerous around the goals.

DOMINIC FRASER

Dommie's season got better the longer it went. He started predominantly forward then moved up to the wing where he started to read the play very well. When he moved forward again, he became a real weapon and scored regularly.





MATTHEW GRAHAM

Matt continues to improve every week. He involves himself in the game through his tackling and pressure acts. His hand and foot skills have come a long way - no surprise, as he works on his game as hard as anyone in the team.

JONAH HAMILTON

Joe is a delight to coach. He listens intently and plays to instruction. He reads the game very well and can be used in multiple positions on the ground, including on the ball. Versatility is a big strength of his.

PATRICK HOCKING

Pat continues to develop his game. This season we saw Pat at more contests providing impact with his tackling and pressure. His field positioning is very good, and we saw him take a timely defensive intercept mark. Great signs.

CHRISTIAN HOWE

Christian is new to the game but from the outset showed us that he will be an excellent player. What sticks out is his ability to handle the ball cleanly under pressure. This is a huge asset to build on alongside his hard tackling.

KAI KEMPER

Kai has had another superb season. His ability to read the play and position himself to intercept makes him one of the best defenders in the competition. When playing on the ball or forward he also showed wonderful versatility.

JAKE KONJEVIC

Jakey was perhaps our big surprise packet. New to the game, he impacted with strength, balance, and speed. Late in the season we tried him in the midfield and watched him explode from contests and drive the footy forward.

JUDE LEECH

Jude had an exceptional season. On countless occasions his strength, skill and work rate lifted the entire team. He is an excellent leader both on field and at training. He represented the ACT admirably and deservedly won our B&F.

INDIE MACKAY

Indie is another newcomer who adapted to our game superbly. His field positioning and ability to read the play show a natural footy IQ way beyond his years. He is also super quick, balanced and an exceptional ball user.

DAMON MARTIN

Dusty continued his footy journey in fine style. He is a very hard competitor and fears no-one. This year his kicking skills went to another level. He also regularly entertained us with spontaneous acrobatic feats.

LIAM MORRISON

Liam completed an excellent season. His strength in the contest was a notable addition to his excellent hand and foot skills. In the second half of the season, we tried him in the midfield, and he acquitted himself very well.

ISAAC SLADIC

Isaac is a coach's dream. He listens intently and encourages others around him. His footy is consistently good with his marking and raking left boot a feature. We also love him around goals as he has a knack for hitting the scoreboard.

CAMERON SMITH

Cam is a strong competitor who has completed another exceptional season. Whether in the ruck, forward or defence he always gives 100%. His ability to intercept and drive the ball out of defence was sensational.

OLIVER TARBUCK

Ollie is another newcomer who will do well in this game. He has blinding speed and an ability to get in behind defenders, setting up scoring opportunities. He also tackles and pressures opposition players at every opportunity.

HUDSON TAYLOR

Huddo distinguished himself as a super mobile ruckman. After the initial tap he becomes a fourth midfielder, often winning his own clearances. His athleticism, strength and skill also serve him well as a key defender and forward.

NICHOLAS WRIGHT

Nick can play anywhere on the ground. He competes hard and wins a lot of contested ball and applies terrific pressure. With these attributes he spent plenty of time in the midfield and as a rebounding half back.

UNDER 12 TEAM REPORT



TEAM DETAILS

Coach	David Whalen	Team manager	Susan Bartlett
Assistant coaches	Trent Yates; Callan Williams	Team captain(s)	Alex Maher (Finals)

SUMMARY OF SEASON

The Marist Under 12 boys had another great year, finishing second after the home and away season, playing two finals but just missed out making it through to the Grand Final. We had a percentage of 515, up from 347 last year. We dominated a lot of the games only losing twice throughout the home and away season, our biggest winning margin was 152.

We welcomed a few new boys to AFL this year, but the bulk of the team remains unchanged from their u10 days.

The focus was to continue to develop the boys' fundamental skills of handball and kicking while sticking to a simplistic game structure. Training was

well attended, which assisted the boys to improve their skills over the year. Fifty footy is still the favourite part of training –played with great intensity.

Off the field highlights included some u12s families travelling together to Melbourne, for a visit the MCG and also a game at Marvel.

Thank you to Susan as team manager making sure all things ran smoothly, Trent and Cal in your assistant roles, Mappa for running, Stacey and Meghan for First Aid, Emma for her photography and all parents who chipped in with other match day roles – all very much appreciated.

PLAYER SUMMARIES

ZACHARY BARTKOWIAK

Unfortunately, Zac was struck down with injury for most of the season. He started the season with 6 goals from 4 games. His ability to lead up the ground and find the goals was sorely missed. He was winner of the Club Culture Award, showing up to games and training when injured. Next year will be a big year for Zac.

JAMES BARTLETT

Jimmy had a great season, runner up in the B&F. New to the team having previously played up, The Pitbull was aggressive at the ball, getting into the pack and extracting to his teammates. He always featured in the best players each week and found the scoreboard regularly.

THOMAS BOLTON

Our centre man. Played nice and tight, burrowing under the pack to win the ball. Often feeding the ball to our outside runners with deft handballs. Continues to work hard on his kicking, he loved to sneak forward and kick a goal, including bagging 3 in a game against Belconnen.

LOGAN BRAY

Covered a lot of positions, backline, on-ball, and forward. Best suited in the forwards where he can use his exceptional kicking skills to find players in better positions or slot the goal himself. Kicked multiple goals in a game on three occasions.

ARCHER BURROUGHS

Archer was new to Marist, having come over from the Wildcats. Archer was quick to make his mark kicking one of the only two goals to be scored in the opening game. Winner of the Coaches Award, Archer was always seeking advice or clarification on team rules.

LIAM CHARLES

Liam was new to footy this year, he brought enthusiasm to training and the game. Liam developed over the season improving his kicking and handballing. Did not miss a game, and his better games were saved for the back end of the season.

COPPER CLARKE

Copper was also new to the team this year. He played a number of roles around the ground, and ended the season in the ruck –utilising his tackling skills to apply pressure to the opposition.

DANNY COFFEE

A new member to our team, but not new to the Blue and Blue, having plied his trade in the age group above last year. Danny owned the wing working his way back and forth taking intercept marks and kicking the ball forward on his silky left foot.

XANDER DENNY

Another who could play most positions, Xander enjoys kicking goals. He managed to kick at least one major in 8 games, a best tally of 6 came against the Tigers. He also gave off a few to his teammates as reward for their efforts. He was also used on a wing in addition to back and forward.

HENRY HYSON

Henry is a natural spine player, can play fullback and full forward with a great ability to read the play and get his hands on the ball. He played a little more forward in the second part of the season, kicking multiple goals on 5 occasions, with a best of 6 coming against the Cats.



JACOB GARRETY

Jacob had his first season of AFL. He was a good inclusion to the team as he understands the game and got his hands on the ball either in the backline or forward line. He kicked one goal in his very first game (1 of only 2 kicked). Will improve with more exposure.

MATTHEW GARRETY

Matty was also new to AFL, another good inclusion, had to wait until his second game to hit the scoreboard, managing to kick two majors against Ainslie. He improved throughout the season and played backs and forwards.

LAWRENCE KOVACS

Lawrence played well in his second season, uses his pace to break away from the contest, played wing and back. He will continue to improve with more exposure.

JUDE LEECH

Jude was a top up player from u11s. He played a total of 8 games. He is an exceptional talent, he kicked 11 goals in his 8 games, a best of 4 goals in one game. Jude's attack on the footy in the ruck or marking contest or ground ball is fantastic to watch – gives his all.

KAI LEESON

Kai has been with us from the start, he has improved his attack at the footy and his kicking. A great contributor at training, he always listens to the coaches and he's keen to improve as he continues his AFL journey.

ARMAND LISMAN

Another great season of continued improvement for Armand. Armand's attack on the footy is first rate. His breakout game was against the Wildcats where he dominated the ruck. Also strong in defence through the season.

ALEX MAHER

The dominator, Abomb was in a class of his own this year. Playing the majority of the season out of the middle, his ability to continue to run to the next contest, push forward or back wherever required. Kicked 48 goals, his best was 8 in a game against the Tigers. He also pinch hit in the ruck at times to give us another edge over the opposition.

CONNOR MIDDLETON

Connor was new to the team, he worked hard on his skills at training, and worked throughout the game to make better position for his teammates. He played in the back pocket and forward pocket for most of the season. His season highlight came when he kicked a goal against the Wildcats.

JAY MILLER

Mr Improvement, Jay has worked on his game to take it up a notch. He plays predominantly in defence and works on competing in the air, using his height to take a mark or make sure it comes to ground. His standout game was in the Jack Steele Cup when I coached against him, he took a number of intercept marks to stop our attack.

HARRY RAVEN

Harry played across the board, speedy, with a classy kick to finish, hitting up his team mates further down the ground. Started playing as a close-knit defender or run with player against some of our better competition, and held his own when head to head against some of AFL Canberra's best.

MICHAEL SCHULTZ

Michael owned fullback for the most part, uses his height to nullify the opposition talls. He often played on from the kick out, then take a couple of bounces, then launch us into attack. He also pinch hit in the ruck where he used his height to tap the ball to our on-ballers advantage.

HARRY WHALEN

Harry is a tackling machine, applied defensive pressure across the whole ground. Suited as a high half forward, applying pressure and also hitting the scoreboard. He saved his best games against the better teams, kicking 3 against Gungahlin and 4 against the Tigers.

DAN YATES

Dan had a great season, improved on his efforts from last year. He played mainly on the wing – using his ability to read the play to get in a position to intercept the opposition. He also played down back a little where he took a number of impressive intercept marks.



UNDER 13 ROYAL TEAM REPORT



TEAM DETAILS

Coach	Paul Nihill	Team manager	Christie Wilson
Assistant coaches	Phil David	Team captain(s)	N/A

SUMMARY OF SEASON

The Under 13 Royals had some great wins this season however some unfortunate loses too. We did not have luck on our side having a few narrow losses during the middle of the season – which saw us miss out on the finals only by percentage. A big shout out to the boys who continued to work on their skills at training that saw some major improvements especially in goal kicking and positional play.

A big thank you to our manager Christie who once again kept everyone informed including me throughout the season. Our assistant coach Phil who was always eager to run the training drills and provided me with support,

counselling, and reassurance on game day. To Troy and Tom who helped as runner, Hugo and Munyard who took on the tough umpiring role each week and all the parents who helped with goal/boundary umpiring, positive support with the team and the votes - without all of your help, the season would not have been as successful as it was.

Well done boys for a great season and everyone should be proud of how well you played as a team.

Paul Nihill

PLAYER SUMMARIES

HENRY ATKINSON

"Aka" continued with another solid season of footy this season that saw him take on some key defensive roles in the backs. Henry has a great and positive attitude to training that resonates with the whole team. Great season Aka!

XAVIER BEESLEY

Another great season by Xavier who regularly featured in the best players each week. It was great to watch Grub really push himself this year that was evident in some amazing/freakish plays that saw him continually win a hard ball.

HUGO BARRIE

Hugo had some great games this year, using his speed and tackling ability to stop the opposition that usually resulted in winning the ball for the team. Hugo improved each week when he was available to play.

OLIVER BREW

Ollie continued to work hard at training practicing his skills each week which really paid off during the games. Ollie became a regular in our forward line this year that saw him put tackling pressure on the opposition that allowed the team to kick some great team goals this year.

LUCAS CLIFFORD

Lucas is a dynamic and skilful player that has an accurate kick who was a regular in our forward line. If Lucas wasn't kicking goals, he was often pushing up the ground and getting the loose ball then setting up the next team mate that would result in a goal. Great season Lucas.

HARRY DAVID

Harry plays with great enthusiasm and his AFL skills just keeping getting better each year. This year Harry continued his dominance on the back flank position, playing some amazing games and taking some great contested marks.

JESSE ELLWOOD

Jesse played an outstanding season again this year. His attack on the ball and busting through tackles has become legendary and it was great to see on display at each game. Jesse's fitness has increased that saw him often having to play the whole game in the centre without a break. Outstanding season Jesse.

MAX FRANCIS

Max is another one of our dynamic players who played both back and forwards that was vital to the team. Max used his speed to be first to the ball and snag some great goals this year. Max's attitude at training was a positive on the whole team.

JOSH HOLDOM

Josh is a versatile and skilful player that uses both his speed and determination and he can play either backs, forwards and mid-field for the team. Josh had some great games, especially towards the end of season running off the back flank.

JAMAL LEGGE

In his first season for Marist, Jamal played in the forwards - either the pocket or on the flank. A skilled player, he often bamboozled the opposition backs to get the ball accurately to our big forwards. His efforts and attitude at training and on game day were great - well done Jamal!

BAILEY MAHAR

Bailey worked hard in the off season and this showed in his efforts at training and in games. He was rock solid in the key backline positions - mostly unstoppable at full back - getting the better of opposition forwards with fantastic intercept marks and defensive work. Bailey was always willing to learn to improve his skills and played every game with a great attitude and leadership. A worthy winner of the Coaches Award and another great season!

JAKE MUNYARD

Jake played in key positions this year mainly in the forwards, however one of the games in which Jake starred was playing in the back pocket! He often dominated with his skills, ability to read the play, bringing the ball to ground and delivering with accuracy. Good season Jake!



HENRY NIHILL

Henry continued to improve as a key position player on the full forward line. He slotted 10 goals - his highlight a 3 goal haul against the Tigers. Henry is versatile and has played defensive roles when needed. His enthusiasm is awesome as is his contribution to the team - great season Henry!



TOM PENROSE

Tom's skills improved over the season - he played in a variety of positions often being able to bring the ball to ground for the small forwards. He was put in the ruck over the second half of the season and did a great job tapping to the midfield! Tom saved his best game for last against the Jets - a fantastic mark in the forwards followed by a great goal!

SAM ROUWHORST

Sam continues to be a tagging back pocket player who often stops opposition forwards. He tackles hard and has a fantastic attitude. Sam's skills have improved highlighted by a great game against the Demons to be in the best players! Thanks for your efforts Sam!

FRASER SMITH

Fraser was one of the teams most enthusiastic and valuable Talls. Fraser put his body on the line in the contest and often made a defensive play to change the game. An immediate impression was made in his first game, as he slotted the first goal for the Royals season and was in the best players. His attitude, enthusiasm and willingness to learn was evident at training and in games. Despite an injury just before season end, he still came to training and the games to help out! Awesome season Fraser!



ETHAN TEEDE

In his first AFL season, Ethan played in the forwards, on the wing and occasionally midfield. He is a team player with speed who continues to learn the game and translates that into effort on game day. Ethan can take a good contested mark and move the ball on quickly. His improvement in skills and effort were rewarded in a great game against the Tigers where he slotted 2 goals!

MITCHELL WADIE

Mitch is the Royals big ruck and forward - an excellent season!! His endurance and contribution in every game was awesome, owning the positions he played in! Using his size, Mitch would often take the game on and win the contested ball! He hit the scoreboard with 7 goals, with his contribution being consistent and pivotal in all games. Again, a season where you starred Mitch!



OSCAR WEBB

Oscar made an instant impression for the Royals as a strong midfielder, willing to put his body on the line. His skills and game sense improved over the season, often able to get clearances out of the centre as well as play as a defender if needed. He finished the season with 4 goals and the teams most improved player! Well done, Oscar!

FINN WILSON

Finn again proved to be a versatile and valuable player this year. Whether it be in the engine room, on the half back flank or in the forwards, Finn was always hard at the ball and in contests. He kicked 4 goals and played a season of consistent footy, contributing and being effective in all the games he played. Fantastic effort Finn!

UNDER 13 SKY TEAM REPORT



TEAM DETAILS

Coach	David Geremia	Team manager	Kylie "KK" Kovac
Assistant coaches	Paul "Sheano" Sheahan; Rod "Rocket" Cowie; Steve "Stix" Miller	Team captain(s)	Lachlan Green

SUMMARY OF SEASON

The Under 13 Sky team returned to football this year and in similar fashion to last season was bolstered with some talented recruits which complemented the core group nicely. With COVID still in the community, we were sceptical about having a consistent season, but luckily for us it had minimal effect. By complementing our squad with regular efforts from the Under 12s – Danny, Hazza, A-bomb and Xander, we were able to field at least 18 players for each game and play out a full season.

This season was the first season of senior footy for this group – big boy rules, big boy training sessions (2 of), big grounds, bigger footy (and leather) and generally bigger boys! The coaching group from last season

returned and were further supported by the super talented, highly skilled, legendary Steve "Stixy" Miller who signed on to assisting this awesome group (this on top of head coaching the u17s). Having learnt some lessons from last season, the coaching group decided early that despite the outcome we were going to keep it simple and focus wholly on skill development rather than complicated game plans. The thought process here is that through gaining confidence with basic skills – the game sense part of coaching will be easier in the future. With that said, you still need to have some sort of game plan and luckily for us the 9:15am game times for the Under 13s naturally set the catalyst for the way the coaching group approached the season. As you would all know, Canberra winter mornings are not only bitterly



cold, but wet and slippery from either rain or frost. Conditions not really suited for champagne football, the game plan was simple - kick to advantage at all costs, territory is king! We basically turned up and played wet weather footy every weekend, certainly not pretty, but proved to be effective at this age group, thanks Rocket!

Based on our finishing position last season (8th) and our stripped back approach to fundamental player development, the coaching group set a goal to achieve a 50% win/loss ratio with anything better than this a bonus. Well obviously, we forgot to communicate this to the boys as they played 13 games, won 12 and lost 1, ended up finishing equal first on points (lost minor premiership on %), for and against was 548/267, had 16 different goal kickers totalling 65 goals. This result catapulted us straight into a preliminary final which we had the privilege of hosting Tuggeranong Blue at Lindwall Oval. Having beaten Blue in a fierce encounter a few weeks earlier, we knew this was going to be a tough match, and despite leaving nothing in the tank, we unfortunately lost by a small margin. The boys, coaches and supporters were devastated, having never played finals before, to come so close to reaching a grand final really hit home. Despite commencing the season with no expectations you can't help but feel for this group of little champions – who worked tirelessly throughout the season to not only improve individually but as a united group.

Once again, all the coaches can agree that this group has further united, welcomed new members and showed genuine love and respect for each other. Despite the group gaining new members, the friendship amongst the boys this season has strengthened, we always got the sense that when they were playing, they

were doing it for each other, no individuals, just mates across the park. The coaching group are proud of the way the boys conducted themselves, not only on the field but off the field as well. They are a credit to their parents and deserve all the successes we all got to share with them this season.

Following a 10-year tradition and to complement the MAFC sanctioned awards, in the land of Sky we have four non-sanctioned team awards – Golden Boot, Golden Tongue, Golden Spirit and Golden Leader. I am pleased to announce the winners for season 2022 are as follows:

MAFC PERPETUAL

- Junior Clubman of the Year – Marcus Buckley

MAFC TEAM

- Best and Fairest – Elijah Roff
- Runner Up Best and Fairest – Griffin Sluis
- Coaches Award – Carter Freeman
- Most Improved – Nathan Watt
- Brooks Marchant Culture – Abhayan Tharmarajah
- Team Player (Peer Selected) – Reuben Belcher

TEAM GOLD

- Golden Boot – Mitchell Wise
- Golden Tongue – Kylie Kovac, Brad Freeman (parents)
- Golden Spirit (Joint Winners) – Reuben Belcher, Will Rees
- Golden Leader – Lachlan Green

The coaching staff would like to thank to all the parents/family members/carers for getting the boys to training and games, taking on weekly tasks (officially or un-officially), trusting our coaching style and continuing to be friendly and approachable. We particularly loved parents/family members/carers succumbing to our regular requests for training assistance, the boys love the inclusion of this at training and the coaches would often comment on the rise in commitment and effort in your presence. We would like to make special mention of the following (in no particular order) – Paul for being our umpire and the best umpire in the comp, Grant for being the second best umpire in the comp and the equal best boundary umpire, Bucko for being the equal best boundary umpire, Rhys for being the most intimidating runner (and the best) in the comp and second best boundary umpire, Jodi for being the most protective trainer in the comp, Heater and Al for the most consistent attendance at training to assist. The following for not so consistent but still attendance at training to assist – Alison, Mel N, Emma, Kate, Jodi and KK. Extra special mention to Mick Burgess (still KK's dad) whom despite being absent for a lot of the season with illness, still managed to be present by sponsoring the weekly Burgo award, he would give KK strict instructions on the criteria and KK would hand the responsibility to a nervous parent that would deliver on the criteria provided. I know the boys missed having Mick at the games this year and we are looking forward to his return next year, minus the Collingwood flannie...

Finally, Kylie Kovac "KK" for her super managerial skills that did not go unnoticed. Keeping on top of things this season was a big step up from last season, the amount of time KK must put in outside of what we all see is massive and we are so lucky to have someone who does this week in week out whilst always maintaining a smile. I think it is only fair that due to the shortened season this year...whoops this was last year's script... all jokes aside, not that it needs to be said but this group is very lucky to have someone of KK's nature involved. The whole group has nothing but admiration for the kind and caring way KK goes about her role, nothing is a problem for KK and she is a big part of the why this group has fantastic culture. Thankfully KK has once again renewed her contract and will return next season as our awesome manager.

In conclusion, it was fantastic to see the boys rewarded for their hard work, not only by the obvious on-field results, but the strengthening of their friendships which will extend beyond the football season. As coaches we have tried to foster an environment that provides the boys with a positive experience, we hope this is enough for them to remain involved in sport, preferably MAFC, for many years to come.

Gerra, Sheano, Rocket and Stix.



PLAYER SUMMARIES

REUBEN BELCHER

Reuben was moved onto the ball this season and was exceptional both defensively and offensively. His leadership on and off the field along with his ability to execute instructions made him a great asset to the team and a deserved winner of the Golden Spirit award.

XADE BORWICK

Xade had the opportunity to try different positions this season with his best work happening off the wing. He naturally plays a kick behind the contest, and we will continue to encourage his work rate to transition from loose man to attacking weapon.

MARCUS BUCKLEY

A perpetual trophy winner taking out the "Junior Clubman" of the year award. Marcus loves his footy, loves the team and rightfully earned the nickname "The Hulk" for being a contested ball beast. A couple of games turned our way on the back of Marcus's commitment at the contest. Thankfully his legendary speeches continued this season, a big part of the bond this group has.

XAVIER CARPENTER

New to MAFC but certainly not footy, Xavier have had an excellent season and played a vital role in our back six. His ability to get his head over the footy, gain possession and distribute to our advantage was fantastic to watch and can't wait to see the player Xavier becomes as he continues his career with MAFC.

DANIEL COFFEY

Danny's focus this season was the Under 12s and was one of four from this team that regularly backed up to play with us. Danny is naturally gifted and with his ability to read the play, his speed and his sublime skills saw him get plenty of the footy which often led to connecting plays to our advantage. Danny loves to get feedback and often asked for areas of improvement. This kid is going to be a star.

ETHAN COOK

Cookie is one of those players that if available is picked first. Cookie's season started off slow as he worked his way through a challenging health diagnosis but not surprisingly, he slowly but

surely made his way back to form and we all loved witnessing this. Cookie is one heck of a fighter – he never complains or makes excuses, and the team certainly appreciates his leadership skills and footy smarts. Looking forward to seeing what next season brings.

XANDER DENNY

Xander, another one of the four from the U12s that backed up to play when available. Xander is a natural forward but helped bridge some gaps in our backline, something he did with no fuss and looked right at home physically. He possesses a safe pair of hands and a reliable kick that the team were thankful for whenever required.

CARTER FREEMAN

Carter had a breakout year finding himself in a niche forward role where we drew on his defensive prowess and dogged determination to help the team maintain possession in our forward fifty. Highlight was witnessing Carts kick his first ever goal and can't wait to see many more go through the sticks in the coming years. Carter was deservedly awarded the Coaches Award which is a great reward for his consistent efforts on and off the field.

ARI GEREMIA

Ari struggled with some foot issues early in the season but once he got on top of this his work rate and agility went through the roof. Ari is mastering the art of moving his defender around, being in position to win the footy and started to run some effective forward lines. Ari loves his footy and is his own harshest critic, driving himself to strive for the best. Looking forward to witnessing what Ari can achieve when all the stars align.



LACHLAN GREEN

Greenie is a natural born leader and did an exceptional job as team captain for the season. Greenie loves the banter and always knows when to work and when to have fun. His ability to engage the team, communicate coaches and his own messages was seamless and a big part of the success the team experienced. Playing in a non-favoured position, Greenie looked right at home at CHF and was a pivotal attacking and defensive forward. No surprises Greenie took out the Golden Leader award.

HARRY KEYS

Harry was another new MAFC recruit, but familiar with footy having played previously. Harry complemented the group well by providing additional size and silky skills. Harry is a thinking player who can quickly assess and make appropriate decisions under pressure. It was great seeing Harry develop his understanding of un-rewarded running and how important it is in this game. Harry will unlock serious potential if he continues down this path.

ARCHIE KOVAC

Archie had another strong year in the forward line, his contested and ground ball work was awesome. Archie is an unselfish team member and is a keen analyst who reviews aspects of his game, his teammates and engages in discussion to better understand and improve himself and those around him. Archie overcame a fractured foot late in the season to lace up and play in our preliminary final, seriously gutsy.

ALEXANDER MAHER

A-bomb is yet another one of the four U12s that supported us throughout the season. Quite simply, A-bomb is an exceptionally talented kid who is showing signs that if he wanted it, footy could become a career for him. You would think he was born with a footy in his hands, A-bomb is a great read of the footy, can kick well on both feet, fierce at the contest and seems to be able to find time and space that isn't there. Watch this space...

LOGAN MCRAE

Logan is a hard worker who always expects the best of himself and regularly seeks input for self-improvement. Logan was an instrumental member of our "Fantastic Four" inside midfielders. Hard and fair, Logan is a genuine workhorse who fearlessly attacked contest after contest. He is the hard ball get player that every team needs and wants. Logan is always fun to have around and his hard work at training and in games is a motivator for others.

WILLIAM NEWBURY

Will N picked up where he left off and had a cracking start to the season, he was really enjoying his footy right up till the point where he tried to mimic 'Andre the Giants' wrestling moves at home, unfortunately a broken finger being the result. This injury meant Will N spent far too many weeks on the sideline, but we were glad to have him back once healed. Will N was a solid contributor in our forward line and is an exceptional reader of the

ball flight which resulted in some excellent marks. Looking forward to Will's continued development next season, fingers crossed it is injury free.

WILLIAM REES

In only his second season, Will R was a standout and performed well above his experience level in a position some would argue is the hardest on the field, the half-back line. Will R is a smart player and is good at anticipating the action ahead of time, he was always accountable for his man and any other dangerous forwards in proximity. Will R was a worthy recipient of the Golden Spirit Award for continuously displaying acts of courage for the betterment of the team.

DHANVEER RISHIRAJ

This year was Dhanveer's first season of footy and he has really taken to the game. Coming from a non-AFL sporting background really highlights the uniqueness of AFL from a skills and gameplay perspective. Dhanveer is really engaging with all aspects of the game and team and soaking it all up like a sponge, playing mostly forward he contributed well and was unlucky not to get a goal. It was great having you onboard Dhanveer and look forward to working on your contested game next season.

ELIJAH ROFF

Elijah is a quiet achiever, and it is only through playing practice games with him that you get an understanding of how influential his direction and encouragement is for the organisational structure of our backline and the performance of our team. Elijah's read of the play, ability to intercept attacks, speed to break away and consistent delivery to our advantage is brilliant to watch. With all players improving significantly from last season, it is a great achievement and most definitely deserved for Elijah to be awarded the Best and Fairest Award.





ASHTON RYAN

Ashton was awesome this season and despite being played as a forward last season showed this season his best work is performed off the half-back line. In a relatively injury free season, Ashton really lifted his work rate at training and the rewards were evident come game day. As the season progressed, Ashton improved his anticipation and positioning which led to him getting more of the footy. Next season is going to be exciting, keep it up mate.

GRIFFIN SLUIS

Griffin was quite simply the best ruckman in the comp this season. Coming up against some talented opposition he rarely lost, our challenge was counteracting the smarter opposition teams that would work off his dominance. Playing a full game of ruck is physically demanding, the expectation for continuous running is high and Griffin handled this challenge unbelievably well. Griffin should be proud of his contribution to the team and deserved to be awarded the R/U Best and Fairest Award.

ABHAYAN THARMARAJAH

Aby owned the centre position and provided great physical support to his smaller midfield crew. Aby is a determined young man who looks deceptively meek and mild, put him near a footy and his drive to compete makes him an absolute ball gathering weapon. Aby loves his footy and is always keen to talk about his role and how he is going, a no-nonsense player who is keen on achieving a positive outcome and having some fun along the way. Well-deserved winner of the Club Culture Award.

CHARLIE WALL

Charlie is new to MAFC and we are so happy he has joined this group. Prior to this season he had limited experience with AFL. But in his spare time Charlie does soccer goalkeeping – so he was able to contribute immediately to the team with a safe pair of hands and an awesome right boot. Charlie slotted right in and has a natural understanding of the game and was able to position himself and read the play quite well. The coaches were proud of the way he embraced the contested aspects of the game, this is not easy, and Charlie showed courage by trusting our advice which resulted in confident attack at the contest which improved each week. A great start to a MAFC career, super nice kid and a couple of goals as reward.

NATHAN WATT

Watty really started to bring out some of his inner strength and determination on the field this year. Watty continues to be a key member of our backline and is really starting to learn when his opponent is dangerous and must be covered and when he can work the space. You can tell Watty worked on his skills in his own time as his improvement this season was next level, a big factor in being rewarded with the Most Improved Award.

HARRY WHALEN

Harry, another one of the four from the U12s that backed up regularly. What Harry lacks in height, he more than makes up in courage and toughness. Harry loves playing in the forward line for us, and we loved having him there. Opposition

defenders certainly didn't have any easy contests and Harry epitomised what forward defence is all about. We were lucky to have Harry help and we certainly hope that he felt part of the team as he most definitely contributed.

LEO WILLIAMS

Leo most certainly found his feet this season, it is almost like something clicked, he loved training, he loved footy, he loved being part of the team and he loved having a dedicated role where he gained cult status. With the biggest kick (not prettiest) in the team Leo assumed the role of fullback and absolutely owned this role. Leo was often the last man between the ball and the goals, and we were always confident he would work hard to affect a great defensive outcome. This often involved him busting through defensive attempts and launching a kick to our advantage, just awesome. Leo played in a high-pressure role and handled it brilliantly.

MITCHELL WISE

Mitch is one talented kid, and you can't help but admire the way he goes about his business. Mitch spent most of the season as an attacking winger and following on from last season continued with his strong outside game and natural roving skills to get his fair share of the footy and find the goals. Despite only playing 8 out of a possible 14 games, Mitch managed to win the Golden Boot Award for kicking the most goals, this is a fantastic achievement and is such an asset to this group. Mitch always gives great effort at training and helps lift those around him with his work rate.

UNDER 14 TEAM REPORT

TEAM DETAILS

Coach	Gus Blacker	Team manager	Wayne McAuliffe
Assistant coaches	Tony Bufalo; Glenn Dickerson; Dom Egan; Mark Korsten	Captain	Liam Clowry

SUMMARY OF SEASON

2022 proved to be a very successful season for the Marist 14s, which saw us eventually finish as runners up to 4-time premiers Eastlake.

We started the season with a bang, beating Eastlake convincingly at Kingston in the season opener and went on a 10-game winning streak beating all teams in the competition. In round 11 we hosted Eastlake at Lindwall, and they came to play, returned the favour and inflicted our first defeat for the year. Another tight loss followed weeks later at Reid Oval to Ainslie Black and ultimately, we would finish the regular season at 11-2 and second on the ladder.

Come finals, we eventually hosted Ainslie Black at Lindwall in a prelim, and we played our best game as a team for the year, winning 100-36, and charged into the grand final with confidence. While we lost the grand final 38-28, we had every opportunity to win the game with scores locked at 21-all at half time. Upon reflection, Eastlake played better football than we did on the day, and while we could have won, they were deserving premiers.

With a squad of 28 players, we had strong numbers and many enthusiastic players. They were a terrific group, with all players full of endeavor at training, and keen to play well on game day. Importantly, they were committed to playing a "team game" where they were prepared to play in any role, share the ball and look for a teammate in a better position. The boys gelled as a team quickly and happily elected a leadership group of 6 boys with Liam Clowry as captain.

Pleasingly, with mentoring from assistant coach Mark Korsten, our leaders defined the values we wanted to be known for as a team and set out how we wanted to go about our footy. This will hold these young men in good stead into the future as a group and team, and as individuals.

There are many people to thank, with no one more important to the success of the season than our manager Wayne McAuliffe who kept us organised with a smile, and ensured we had great support from all the families who donated their time in many different ways. Thanks to everyone who contributed and helped during the year.

Also, a shout out of thanks to our coaching team of Glenn Dickerson, Tony Bufalo, Dom Egan and Mark Korsten. We love our footy, had many laughs during the season, and we consider the season a huge success given all our players improved and appeared to have a great time.

Thanks also to Geoff Davidson, Kylie Denny and the Marist committee who do a great job and are tireless volunteers. We also appreciated Headmaster Matthew Hutchison making regular appearances at our games during the year.

Finally, thanks go to all the families of the players. The positive energy and camaraderie this year was amazing, with the post-game gatherings a real highlight particularly in the Marist sheds, and it has been a terrific group of people to be around.





PLAYER SUMMARIES

LUKE ALLARDYCE

Luke had a great season and was one of our most consistent players, playing centre half back all year and was never beaten. Luke backed himself to win the football and launched many attacking moves by taking the game on. He was chosen to receive the Spirit Award reflecting his fine approach to footy.

ARCHIE BLACKER

Archie started the year well and played a strong game defensively against the competition's leading goal scorer before missing 10 weeks with injury. Upon his return, he eventually settled in at full forward and was dominant in our prelim win, and kicked all 4 of our goals in the grand final.

JED BOURKE

As someone who loves their footy, Jed was always happy to play anywhere. Early in the season he had a breakout game defending on a flank at Tuggeranong, and his season highlight was an amazing quarter of footy on a forward flank, putting on a show in front of his dad who was running the line.

NOAH BROWN

One of our players who lets his actions do the talking, with the occasional wry comment that made the coaches chuckle. A talented back-man who reads the ball well and is always calm under pressure, he could be relied upon to sweep the ball out of defence and hit targets with his trusty left foot.

JOEL BUCKLEY

From the season opener when he dominated the game, Joel had an excellent year and is developing into an outstanding footballer. He was often able to use his pace and size on the wing to propel the team into attack. Joel was a deserved runner up in the Best & Fairest this year.

NICHOLAS BUFALO

One of our most versatile players, Nic looks at home playing forward, middle and back. Had an outstanding game across half back early in the year at Lindwall, then had some notable games up forward where he always brought strong pressure as a defensive forward who could sneak a goal

LIAM CLOWRY

Voted captain by his peers, Liam led the team strongly in training and on game day. Playing as a ruckman, midfielder and occasionally at full-forward, Liam had an impact on every game. His best game was in the middle in a tight loss to Ainslie, when he ran himself to an absolute standstill.

SEVIE DE COS

As with last season, Sevie continued to provide pace and dash to our team up forward near goal, but also enjoyed finding space when playing in the middle. His season highlight was an amazing performance in our preliminary final win, kicking 6 goals with 4 goals coming in a 10-minute burst.

JESSE DICKERSON

Jesse had an outstanding year in his first season for Marist playing mostly in the midfield where his strength over the ball and ability to evade a tackle saw him win many clearances and drive the team into attack. Jesse dominated a number of games and was one of our best players in the finals.

BLAKE EGAN

Blake is loved by his teammates and regarded as a real team man. This season he played back and forward, and his strong hands led to some great marks in front of goal allowing him to kick some timely and handy goals for the team. Blake was always a threat around the big sticks.

LUKE EGAN

A leader with his actions, Luke showed his class week-in-week-out, consistently racking up the stats playing a physical game on the ball, with occasional impressive cameos up forward. Our hard, in and under player, he had his fair share of bumps and was always willing to commit to the contest.

RILEY GOLLEDGE

Being a versatile player, for much of the season Riley played all over the ground, depending on what the coaches needed for the team. Late in season, Riley settled into the role of a deep defender where he always looks comfortable, and he showed this in a strong performance in the grand final

XANDER HALL

2022 was another good season for Xander, and it started with a bang against his old club Eastlake in the first round, when he gathered the ball outside 50 and bounced home a goal on the run against the eventual premiers. Xander is a team player and does the little things to help those around him.

EWAN HYDE

Ewan picked up from where he left off last year using his pace, skills and tenacious desire to win the ball. A standout game was against the Magpies, where he dominated in the middle, in one of our best quarters as a team. Ewan was a vice captain and kicked many a handy goal when forward.

WILLIAM HYSON

Another player in our leadership group, Plugger enjoyed playing as our fullback for the vast majority of the year. With a calm manner and an ability to see the game unfolding in front of him, he was always able to position himself perfectly as the last line of defence. A teammate you can trust.

NATHAN KERR

Winning this year's award for Most Improved reflects the progress that Nathan made this season. Tall and athletic, Nathan spent time forward and had nice moments, but he found his ideal role as a deep defender late in the year, with his determined approach. He had a strong game in the grand final.

JONAH KORSTEN

Voted one of our vice-captains, Jonah led by example at training and on the field, with his loud voice and positive attitude. Over the season he moved between ruck and playing full forward and centre half forward. Jonah had several dominant games in the air and repeatedly kicked bags of goals

DANIEL LANE

Daniel enjoyed playing as a deep forward, where he could use his height to out-manoeuvre his opponent and take important marks inside our attacking 50m. This saw him hit the scoreboard on occasions, including the occasional booming goal from outside 50m.



LOGAN LITTLE

Logan is a popular teammate and played his best football on the halfback line where his defensive prowess and courageous attack on the football saw him win many contests. Logan has been working hard on his skills and his improvement though the year was outstanding.



DARCY MCAULIFFE

This year Darcy played most of his football on the wing where he always ran into space, setting up numerous attacks with his blistering speed and awesome left foot. Darcy is a natural athlete that never stops running and always uses the football well, and has significant improvement to come.



LUKE MCCORMACK

Smaller in stature than most, Luke continually threw himself into the contest in a fearless manner, taking pride in his ability to bring down bigger opponents who underestimated him. When he found space, he used the ball well. Responsible for the photo of the year with his one percenters.

XAVIER RICHARDSON

As one of the team's quiet achievers, Xavier goes about his game in a determined fashion where he prides himself on his ability to beat his opponent. This saw him play the majority of the season in defence, and his efforts under pressure and ability to win a 1-on-1 contest were fantastic.

ETHAN WILLEMSSEN-BELL

With a nice left foot and ability to cover the ground, EJ spent time on the wing and forward earlier in the year. With a preference to play back, he became a trusted defender who really improved his attack on the contest late in the season after working hard at training. Set for a big 2023.

JOSH NUSS

Josh played a number of positions this year and always made a valuable contribution. Josh's best footy was played as a forward flanker where he set up a number of goals and also kicked a few. Josh missed some games and hasn't played a lot of footy but is a natural talent with a bright future.

LEO RYAN

Just like last year, Leo enjoyed his footy throughout the season, and again he stepped it up a notch as we approached finals. His competitive nature on the field meant he played in many positions, but the coaches valued his never-give-up attitude as a key defender in the finals, where he played well.

JARED WILSON

A player of silky skills, Jared had another strong year, where he influenced many games with his clean ball use. Able to kick on both sides and with the best non-preferred kick in the team, Jared enjoyed the space of the wing or forward flank, and linked well with his midfield and forwards.

THOMAS SMITH

Sticks had a very consistent year playing a key role on the half back line, often using his ability to read the game and anticipate the play to repel the oppositions attacks. Looking forward to next year with Sticks continuing to be a natural leader who is developing his game nicely.

NICHOLAS STEPHENSON

Our Best & Fairest winner this season, Nic produced a consistently high performance in almost all games this year. A key position player with sublime hands, Nic did well up forward, although he eventually settled into the midfield as centre, controlling games, and was our best in the grand final.

UNDER 15 TEAM REPORT



TEAM DETAILS

Coach	Steve Mahar	Team manager	Kelly Davis
Assistant coaches	Brett Davis; Matt Knox; Rod Cowie; Guy Cannon; Brendan Egan	Team captain(s)	Sam Laria and Brodie Davis

SUMMARY OF SEASON

Marist Under 15s had an extremely successful 2022 season, going through undefeated and winning the premiership against Weston Creek Wildcats. The boys put in a dominant display of teamwork and commitment to play an attractive style of football. We prided ourselves on how we played, and it is testament to the boys that they continued to develop and maintain such a high standard for the entire year.

The season was a great success on and off the field with the boys creating a great culture of training and playing hard, with a sense of fun to achieve the ultimate prize that footy has to offer. Having 33 players was always going to present some challenges, but all the boys committed to how we wanted to play and performed their respective roles with such a positive attitude.

I can't thank the boys enough for their commitment to the season and willingness to always strive to get better. This strong commitment was very well supported by the entire MAFC family including parents, siblings,

grandparents and the occasional pet, many of whom volunteered for a range of roles throughout the season. Thank you for encouraging and supporting your boy to be the best they could be.

Thank you to our wonderful assistant coaches who put in a mountain of work throughout the year, Brett Davis, Matt Knox, Rod 'Rocket' Cowie and runners, Guy Cannon, Brendan Egan and Harvey Jack who provided great support to bring out the best in the boys. Sylvia Gallagher, Nicole Knox and Kate Reed ensured the boys had the best medical attention on game days, my sincere thanks to you all.

Thanks to the 'Best in the Business' team manager, Kelly Davis who makes everyone so welcome and really fosters that sense of belonging that comes with playing a team sport. Her organisational skills made things run like clockwork. Our GF celebration was just one example of Kelly going above and beyond to make things that little bit extra special for all of us. Thanks Kel!

PLAYER SUMMARIES

HUGH BARRY

Baz had an outstanding year by being a rock in defence. He worked exceptionally hard on his fitness and strength work and was very rarely beaten by his opponent. Baz also worked hard on his skills and often took calculated risks to find a teammate and put us into attack.

LEVI BELCHER

Levi reads the game exceptionally well and was a vital cog in our strong backline this year. His confidence grew throughout the year to take the game on and run and carry out of defence to set up many attacks. Levi is a natural competitor who never gave up.

JACK BERG

As Jack grew in confidence so did his ability to impact the play. He has excellent athletic ability and reads the play exceptionally well. When he put these great attributes together with a positive mindset, he was outstanding for the team. Jack's kicking and running skills set up many attacking options for the team this year.

ZAYN BUTLER

Zayn had an interrupted year with a few injuries and unavailability. Zayn has amazing natural athletic ability and played a variety of roles where his strength and commitment for the contest was very good for our team.

OLIVER CANNON

Ollie had an outstanding year, asserted himself as a premier player in the competition and was rewarded with ACT Rep honours and GIANTS Development member. Ollie can play anywhere on the field, but it was his marking, increased fitness and competitive nature that saw him have a very consistent year as one of our best players.

TOM COLES

Tom played various roles for us this year, but it was his positional play on the wing that improved out of sight and gave us some real drive forward at various times throughout the year. Tom worked hard on his fitness and skills at training which paid off on game day.

BRODIE DAVIS

Brodie was named as one of our captains this year, because of his excellent leadership on and off the field. He honed his skills and reading of the play, as a running half back and set up many of his teammates with his improved foot skills. Brodie was an ACT Rep player and GIANTS Development member.

DANIEL EGAN

Daniel had an amazing year. He was injured for several games and still won the team's Best and Fairest. Daniel played his best footy when he was confident in himself and was his typical hard as nails at the contest. He was rewarded with another strong year by representing the ACT and GIANTS Development teams.

FIN ELLWOOD

Finn's hard work of rehab from several injury interrupted years was rewarded with an excellent second half of the year. He put some great games together and provided a massive boost to the team's forward line. Finn was rewarded for his impressive comeback with ACT Rep and GIANTS Development honours.

TOM EVENDEN

Tom was a new member to the U'15s MAFC team this year from Rugby. He brought a great deal of fun, a commitment to learn and loved kicking a few sausage rolls. Tom has natural game sense and developed his AFL skills throughout the year to be a great contributor.

TOM GEEVES

Tom was also a new member for the MAFC family. He has great commitment for the contest and runs hard and straight which provided some much-needed drive from our backline. Tom's knowledge for the game grew throughout the year and his long powerful kick is a real weapon!



TIM HANLEY

Tim had a very successful year. We saw Tim back himself on many occasions to use his incredible pace and propel the team into attack. His talent is at such a high level, and we would love to see him continue to build confidence in his own ability to really take his game to the next level.

KELLEY JACK

Kel had an excellent year, playing a vital role as an attacking winger. He obviously worked hard on his physical strength, and this was on display on many occasions throughout the year by being strong in the contest and laying some crunching tackles. Kel was rewarded for his hard work by being in the ACT Rep and GIANTS Development teams.

WILLIAM JOHNSTON

JJ played a vital part of our team's success this year. He has amazing athletic ability and is very committed to beating his opponent, often when they are much taller! JJ continues to develop his kicking accuracy. When he turns on his pace and gets into space, there isn't anyone in the comp that can catch him.

CALEB KIRK

Caleb was a solid contributor this season and played a variety of roles in our midfield, backline and up forward. He worked hard on his contested footy at training and this shone through into games where he was able to play some vital roles for us.

SAM KIRKCALDIE

Sam was a very strong player for us this year. He gave the team an excellent target up forward and when his confidence in own ability grew, he kicked some amazing goals for the team. Sam has natural talent, and his marking and team play was a vital part of our strong forward line.

DANIEL KNIGHT

Daniel managed a very serious injury to get back and play a vital part of our team's defence this year. He is very rarely beaten by his opponent and provides the team with great confidence when he takes the field. Daniel's competitive nature and leadership on the ground are his weapons that set him apart from others.

PARKER KNOX

Parker had a very good year and was a solid contributor in various positions, albeit with some injuries to navigate throughout the year. His ability to run out from fullback and make excellent decisions when kicking out was a real strength of his. Parker also reads the play exceptionally well and puts himself in the right position.

COOPER LAW

Cooper was a new member to the MAFC family this year. Cooper has amazing natural athletic ability that is very suited to AFL. He played a variety of roles while he learnt the game but was most dominant for us in the ruck where he could run and jump at everything. Cooper has a very long accurate kick which propelled us into attack on many occasions this year.

SAM LARIA

Sam was one of our captains this year and provided a great example of the way the game should be played on and off the field. He overcame a serious ankle injury to come back and prove to be a real asset to our midfield group. Sam increased his work rate and his ability to get to more contests.

GRIFFIN LEITCH

Griff has very good goal sense and can genuinely kick goals from anywhere inside the 50. He is very powerful and at times this year looked like he was playing at another level with his intent and intensity. Griff led our forward line well and provided great pressure to opposition backlines.

SAM LLOYD

Sam was another new member to the MAFC family. Sam fitted in straight away with his football knowledge and ability to play multiple positions. His defensive skills were something that he took into every area of the ground and was able to create great pressure around the contest that set up many attacking options for us.





HARRY MAHAR

Harry battled some injuries this year to get back and play a vital part of the team's success. He reads the play exceptionally well and has great goal sense. None better than his one from the boundary in the Grand Final! Harry's hard work paid off with selection in the ACT Rep and GIANTS Development teams.

COOPER MAHER

Cooper had an excellent year, and he grew in confidence on a weekly basis. Cooper worked exceptionally hard on his fitness and skills to be a vital part of our attacking backline. He impressed when he played through the midfield and proved that he can add some other elements to his game. Cooper was a GIANTS Development player in 2022.

ELLIOT PARKER

Elliot is a quiet and unassuming player who often gets the opposition's best player and keeps them quiet, but then also provides a lot of drive with his long accurate kicking. He attacks the ball well and has also played in the ruck at various times this year. Elliot continues to develop all aspects of his skills and reading of the play.

CAM PEPPER

Cam persisted throughout the season to overcome many injuries and build up his fitness to get out onto the ground and be a solid contributor for the team. His willingness to play in defence or in the ruck and shoulder the physical stuff was a real lift to his teammates and something he should be proud of.

WILLIAM POLINELLI

Will had to manage several injuries this year to get onto the field. He played his best footy when he displayed a real hunger for the contest and a competitive energy that saw him get plenty of the ball. Will represented the ACT and GIANTS Development teams and continues to develop his skills and make the most of his impressive athletic attributes.

JAKE ROSS

Jake was a very solid contributor to the U'15s this year. His ability to use his incredible pace to lead and find space or create pressure in our forward line was vital to our success as a team. Jake's skills developed throughout the year through his hard work and commitment at training.

ALEXANDER ROUWHORST

Alex was a great team player for us this year. He always met the challenge of playing various roles with positivity and willingness to learn. Alex improved all of his skills this year, especially his kicking to a teammates advantage.

ALEXANDER SLADIC

Alex continues to develop his confidence and skills which made him a real weapon for our forward line this year. He improved his ability to take a contested mark and was rewarded for his hard work at training by kicking 4 goals in a superb game against the Queanbeyan Tigers.

ANGUS WALL

Angus was new to the MAFC family this year. He has great athletic ability and developed his overall skills throughout the year to be a great contributor for us. Angus' ability to take some great contested marks and then use the ball well to his teammates advantage was vital in our team's success.

ARCHIE WEBB

Archie is a standout player across the competition and has an amazing competitive nature, he never gives in. He developed his game to a whole new level this year with his decision making and work rate. Although being a superstar of our team, he also bought his teammates into the game, by kicking it to their advantage.

MATT WRAY

Matt was probably one of most consistent trainers and his skills reflected that throughout the year. He improved his confidence to engage in the play on a regular basis. Matt also developed his strength and laid some excellent tackles this year.

UNDER 17 TEAM REPORT

TEAM DETAILS

Coach	Steve Miller	Team manager	Penny Scholtens and Nicole Munyard
Assistant coaches	David Geremia; Murray McRae; Tom Munyard	Team captain(s)	Angus McRae

SUMMARY OF SEASON

The Under 16s were primed and ready to go in 2022 after the previous two COVID-19 interrupted seasons. The coaching group was really excited about the Under 16 competition and consisted of 2020 MAFC coach of the year, David Geremia our forward line coach, who continues to make an outstanding contribution to the club. We welcomed Murray McRae and Tom Munyard as new coaches to the MAFC fold in our back and mid-line respectively. It was an outstanding group who were totally committed to the development of the boys and enjoying the season. I also wanted to recognise Rocket and Sanso for their coaching mentorship. Thanks lads!

Despite positive efforts of AFL Canberra, a 2nd XVIII competition was deemed not viable two weeks prior to the commencement of the 2022 season. Many other clubs were not able to field a second XVIII and had the numbers for U17s. The restructure to the competition meant the Under 16s suddenly found themselves in the Under 17s. This presented a tremendous challenge considering our entire squad of 25 were all eligible for Under 16s and now found themselves all playing up an age level. The removal of a 2nd XVIII also meant integrating an additional 7 MAFC players. I commend these players who trained their whole preseason as part of the senior squad to suddenly be informed, two weeks prior to season commencement, that they were required to play in a different team. I admire their resilience through this whole process.

The coaching group set out roles and responsibilities of the leadership group consisting of a captain, 2 vice captains and four senior players. 14 boys nominated for the leadership positions and the team voted on who they felt was best placed to wholeheartedly lead our game philosophy; bring energy to lift the standard of training; motivate others through positivity; demonstrate influential communication and had exemplary behaviour. I congratulate our Captain, Angus McRae, who really stepped up as a leader in 2022. He

was positively supported by vice captains Angus Miller and Solomon Belcher and a senior playing group of Jacob Scholtens, James Davidson, Leo Patterson and Sam Hosking. All the boys committed to their roles and should be proud of taking on a leadership position.

Throughout the first half of the season, the boys were competitive but were outclassed by quality opposition. Our highlight of the first half of the year was our first win against the Jets at Lindwall. To come from 5 goals down at the final break – demonstrated that we could play for each other.

The challenge to unite two separate groups who had not played together before was not insignificant. We had quite an honest review of the first half of the year and incorporated some changes, inspired by the boys, to help gel the team. What resulted was inroads in competitiveness against both the top Belconnen sides and matching a classy Queanbeyan Tigers team to a narrow loss. We beat Ainslie and Eastlake on a second attempt and had we not had a wash-out game – we could have finished fourth and played finals. I am so super proud of the lads. Halfway through the season we could have capitulated and lost motivation, but instead we were honest about who we could be as a group, found resilience and made significant improvements to finish the season on the up. So proud!

One of the proudest things for me was the increased parent involvement throughout the year. The supporter group grew with every huddle, every end of game award ceremony, and every social night. I want to give a shout out to Penny and Nicole our brilliant managers; Gemma the best first aid volunteer in the competition; our runners and water carriers, Sanso, Chris, Justin, and Ben, our boundary umpires Julia and Will and of course the social glue Justine Angus. I wish the boys all the best in their pursuit of the Rising Stars next year. Thanks for the season. Stix.



PLAYER SUMMARIES

WYLIE AGNEW

Each week Wylie grew in confidence. His commitment to training was outstanding and was reflected in often starting as a small forward.

JAMES ANGUS

Jimmy made a solid contribution to the team in several roles throughout the year. He solidified his position in the backline with competitive defensive work.

NOAH APPS

Apsy was outstanding for us this year. He was composed in his use of the footy and we were quietly impressed at his ability to counterattack from the halfback line.

SOLOMON BELCHER

Solly was an important midfield contributor and played a significant leadership role as our Vice-Captain. His fitness was a brilliant asset to the team and his breakout speed enabled us to break from the stoppage and drive the team forward.

AUSTIN BENNIE

Aussie is an extremely versatile player who was able to take on a utility role for us. He is hard at the footy and competitive. He has an elite kick and was always reliable in hitting a target.

XAVIER BUCKLEY

I don't know what was more impressive about Bucko. It was either his hard competitiveness at the footy as an inside midfielder or his chiselled biceps that were often on display in the warm-ups. Such a brilliant contributor and engaged to learn.

ZACK CARMAN

Zack was often seen at training barrelling torpedoes at training beyond the fence line. Not sure he cracked a torp in a game though. Zac has the potential to be dominant in a one-on-one contest.

CONNOR DARBY

Connor made significant improvements throughout the year and found his place in the backline this year. We were super impressed at the defensive efforts he made this year to save certain goals.

JAMES DAVIDSON

Davo was one of our leadership group and took to the role in the best way possible, and that was to inspire others through action. He did this on game day and during training. He had some standout performances in the midfield this year and thoroughly deserves the U17 Best and Fairest award.

GEORGE DENNY

G had quite an interrupted year with injury which I acknowledge was really frustrating for him. The coaches we super impressed, that despite injury, he turned up to trainings and games to maintain his contribution to the team. Great work G.

CHARLES EDWARDS

Charlie is such a strong player who is great overhead and excellent in a marking contest. He is prepared to get physical and use his strength to advantage and he was always reliable.

ERIC FIRTH

Eric is super quick, composed and provided us quality transition down the wing and across the corridor. He has a penetrating kick and he made a solid contribution to the team. He was also unlucky to miss the last game due to a collar bone break on the last training session.



CHARLES GILL

Gilly made leaps and bounds this year in his confidence and was dedicated to his craft at training. He was always willing to learn and implement any advice from the coaching group.



JAMES HALEY

James is a gun. He has pace at the ball and a genuine ability to win clean possession at the stoppage. His distribution to teammates is outstanding as well as his ability to break the lines and send a deep penetrating kick into the forward 50.

OWEN HARDY

Owen had a breakout year. Quite simply, he was outstanding. We were able to convert multiple clearances from the centre bounce due to his dedication in the ruck. He was the fittest player in our team and was often seen streaming down the corridor to shore up our defence. He was a unanimous vote for the Club Culture award because of his inspirational acts and we want him back.

SAM HOSKING

Frosty made the transition from midfield to forward this year and was invested in learning as much as possible to learn his new role. He was a motivator at training with his booming voice. Sam was also an integral part of our leadership team.

VANSH MALHOTRA

The boys respond positively to Vansh and they love his natural humour. He earned our Golden Tongue Award this year for his ability to make us all smile.

ANGUS MCRAE

Our 2022 captain really grew into his role this year and demonstrated an ability to inspire and challenge others. He was also outstanding on game day, composed as our last line of defence, and he was able to repel multiple attacks from the opposition. Such a wonderful member and leader in the team.

ANGUS MILLER

Gussy earned the title of vice-captain from his peers and he stepped up into the position. He has a booming kick and can be often mistaken for Charlie Curnow due to his attacking flair. Despite helping us in the midfield in a few games he was able to earn the Golden Boot Award and came runner up goal kicker in the whole U17 league. He also earned runner up best and fairest.

ISAAC MOSS

Pound for pound Isaac is one of our strongest players and he also has a brilliant turn of speed. He provided us quality transition down the wing and the corridor and would work hard on game day and training.

LIAM MOTHERWAY

Muthers cemented his role in one of the most challenging key positions on the field. As our centre half forward, he was a solid target in attack and he also was able to transition to undertake a defensive act to ensure there were no easy outs for the opposition.

RYAN MUNYARD

Munyas has a frustrating season this year with injury. I must say though that the coaches are super proud at his dedication to the team by turning up to all games and training despite spending the season trying to transition to game fitness.



LEO PATTERSON

Leo was an outstanding in the leadership group this year. He dominated the halfback line and the ability to counter an opposition attack was a pleasure to watch on game day. He also earned our Golden Spirit Award this year as a member of the team who inspired us all with the way he goes about his craft.

DOMENICO PELLE

Dom was a little underprepared this year and acknowledged that he needed to work on his fitness. He impressed us all by taking that critical feedback and working to make improvements. What resulted was some crafty and composed work in the stoppages and a brilliant contribution to the team.

MATTHEW PEPPER

Peps is a crafty player when dedicated to his craft. He can be a x factor in the stoppage. Peps has a brilliant kick and is confident when hitting targets. He knows where the goals are when an opportunity arrives.

JACOB SCHOLTENS

Jacob was another contributor to our leadership group this year. He is a gifted athlete who can change the direction of a game to our favour. He was outstanding off the halfback line with brilliant timing to take a contested mark. He had a few injury dramas this year but was also able to transition to the forward line as a dangerous and crafty small forward.

ISSAC SLOAN

Issac was an additional member of the team who commenced just before the halfway point. He is athletic and solid and provided support in the ruck and speed down the wing.

HENRY SMYTH

Henry was another of our capable wingers this year. He was dedicated at training and he was able to chase down a player and effect a spoil.

NATHAN STILWELL

Stilly provided wonderful transition for us down the wing this year and was a smart player who was able to position himself into an uncontested gap. His experience shone through in many transitions from defence to attack.

ZAC THOMAS

Zac is a talented footballer with natural goal kicking instincts. Unfortunately for the team he only played a handful of games this season.

XANDER WILD

Congratulations to Xander on achieving the 2022 Coaches Award. The vote for Xander was unanimous. His attitude, dedication, fun and enjoyment, lifting others, game day performance and improvement was noted. He is an absolute pleasure to coach, and we love having Xander in the team

SAMUEL WILKIE

Sam was a deserving recipient of the 2022 Most Improved Award. He polled well in our voting and earned more as the season progressed. He has footy smarts and with the mindset he demonstrated absolute composure in the contest. He was always thoughtful about his kick and often hit targets.

BEN VARDY

Ben was selected in the First XVIII this year. He has always been integral to our group and we want to thank him for helping with two games this year when his commitments allowed.



FIRST XVIII TEAM REPORT



TEAM DETAILS

Coach	Michael Stinziani	Team manager	Michael Fitzgerald
Assistant coaches	Richard Green; Michael Strickland; Peter Day	Team captain(s)	Ned Korsten (c), Hugh Strickland (vc)

SUMMARY OF SEASON

The Rising Stars (RS) season was probably the longest season of any Marist sporting team. Training commenced before school resumed in January, and the dedication and perseverance of every boy probably deserved better than the eventual fourth-placed finish we achieved. Nevertheless, the season had plenty of highlights and much for the boys to be proud of.

Pre-season training was open to all MAFC players, and the senior team were joined by many players from younger teams, which provided the seniors with a great experience of leadership and role-modelling. The number of compliments received from parents of these younger boys was testament to the fine way the older lads carried themselves.

Our regular pre-season trip to Wagga was another successful one, both on the field (where we gave Mater Dei College a touch up) and as a chance to get away

together, and a win against Tuggeranong finished off our preparations. We were ready to go.

Midway through the season, after we had played all the other teams in the comp, we were on top, undefeated. Things were looking good. But there had been a few close wins – even lucky ones – so we were not getting ahead of ourselves. Irregular byes and washouts meant the remainder of the season was a bit fractured, and we found it hard to get back into a rhythm, and so dropped to 3rd by the time finals came along. Nevertheless, we were confident of the quality of our players and the soundness of our game plan.

On Elimination Final day, all the demons gathered together to conspire against us. Nothing went right: more scoring shots (including hitting the post with 60 seconds remaining), some unlucky umpiring decisions, our captain, Ned, on one leg, and when the siren



went, we had lost by 3 points. A tough way to finish a season that had started so optimistically. The boys were devastated as it sunk in for the Year 12s that this was the last time they would pull on the blue and blue.

I think it was particularly hard for the leadership group of Ned Korsten (c), Hugh Strickland (vc), Ryan Ellis, Will Green and Hugo Blacker. These guys had been elected by the team and took the weight on their shoulders with willingness and determination, but then put an extra weight of expectation on themselves, and felt the loss most keenly. They needn't feel at all guilty or responsible for the way the season ended: they led by example on the day and throughout the season, communicating effectively and appropriately with the coaches and the playing group. They were fine leaders.

The boys were a wonderful group to coach. They were mature about their footy, yet had fun and a close bond that made training and match days terrific experiences to be part of. At the start of the year, I had spoken to them about bringing their gifts to the team, no matter what level of skill or ability that entailed, and they all brought whatever they had, worked to improve it, and gave it to the team.

The boys had a tremendous crew supporting them throughout the season. Michael Strickland and Richard Green brought knowledge, experience, insight and positivity to the coaching group. Fr Peter Day was

the jack-of-all-trades: from running water, to moving cones, to just having a friendly word for every boy, he added immeasurably to the culture of the group. Michael Fitzgerald went about the managerial tasks and made sure all was in order for the team, whether it be socks or indigenous jumpers or jelly snakes after the game – when we needed it, it was there. Jono Beesley and Marty Robinson were the runners on game day. They were (literally) tireless and always had a positive message for the boys, despite what the coaches had told them to say! Greg Jenkins kept the boys strapped and healthy, managing the First Aid duties with reliability and understanding; ready with a quick, accurate diagnosis and a bag of ice. Lots of others chipped in, both on game days or in the background: special mentions to Geoff Davidson as MAFC President, who was always supportive and positive; Kylie Denny, MAFC Vice-President had every answer ready to my endless questions and requests; and to Sarah Mahar as college rep and Chris Maher as Director of Coaching were also never anything but supportive and helpful. And I always felt appreciated and supported by the parents and families of all the players.

For many, the RS team is an unusual one in that there's no "we'll come back better next year," since the Yr 12s (and their parents) move on. We hope they stay in touch with footy, finding a team somewhere, somehow, and continue to give to, and reap benefits from, the great game of Aussie Rules footy.

HUON APPS

Huon was always calm, composed and tough in the contest, often putting his body on the line between a high ball and leading opposition forwards. Very strong overhead, with a great ability to read the play, we could always count on him for at least a couple of intercept marks each game. A great team man and a leader in the backline all year.

TOM BEESLEY

Tom was superb for us this season. If there's an opposite to "the bigger they are the harder they fall," Tom was it. He was one of our most competitive players every week. He combined fierce attack on the ball with speed and a deadly left foot to continually give us drive from the wing. When moved to the forward line to give it added defensive bite, he happily sacrificed his own game to do the team thing, being our best player in the semi-final.

DIGBY BLACKER

Digby's the kind of kid who makes you question your ability as a coach. If asked, we're not sure if he could remember a thing the coaches said to him all year but, based on results he probably didn't need us anyway. Blessed with abundant athletic ability, Digby had an excellent year as our number one ruck. Often playing against taller ruckmen and almost always against older opponents, Digby was seldom beaten. Given he is still in Yr 11, we expect he will dominate the competition next year.

HUGO BLACKER

Hugo led from the front, literally and figuratively, in the forward line this season. His football smarts were constantly in evidence and he led and presented to the footy incessantly, as all good key forwards do, either making himself an option or creating space for others. His strength overhead was a feature, and his reliable kicking for goal calmed and reassured the bench many times!

MITCH BREHAUT

Mitch was a revelation. Our second ruck, he was probably undersized for the position, but, as the saying goes, it's not the size of the dog in the fight. Mitch's effort in every game was unquestioned and he continually beat taller and better-credentialed opponents. Every week he gave us a 100% effort which is all you can ask for as a coach. Mitch should be proud of his efforts this year and should look forward to a great year next year.

MATTHEW CHOULES

It was a frustrating year for Matthew. He was outstanding in the pre-season, leading in attitude and effort. Cruelly affected by injury, he only managed a handful of games, but still made an impact in those, with his strength and passion. It was an unjust way to cap off his immense contribution to MAFC over the years.

CADEN EGAN

Caden was supremely valuable as a utility player, not just filling, but impacting as a midfielder, winger or half forward. He read the play well, was courageous, and always sought to bring his teammates into the play. Part of the Egan clan, he carried the name with honour and never let the side down.

RYAN ELLIS

For someone who played so few games, Ryan had a huge impact. Despite sitting out the first two-thirds of the season with a foot injury, "Rellis" nevertheless turned up to every training session and contributed by helping the coaches with setting up drills and keeping stats on game day. Ryan's patience paid off when he finally did get on the field. All that time paying attention to the structure drills and being meticulous with his rehab meant that once he was on the field, he hit the ground running. He knew the structure well and executed his role. This year Rellis has been fantastic example of the impact of having the right attitude. He should be commended for his commitment to the team.

NATHAN FITZGERALD

Nathan gave all he had to the team and was ready and willing to take on whatever role the coaches needed from him. Starting down back, it was decided his ability to find space, but also lay a tackle would be an asset in the forward line, and he accepted the move there without complaint. He proceeded to be a valuable cog in the forward machine, leading intelligently and applying pressure. He was a player appreciated by his teammates.



HARRISON GEEVES

Harry generally played on an opposition tall forward on the last line of defence, but with his quiet, calm demeanour was never overawed by the situation. Rarely out-marked in a one-on-one contest, with his strength and mobility he was able to bring the ball to ground, where he consistently followed up with second and third efforts. A valued member of the backline team.

WILLIAM GREEN

Tough, uncompromising and passionate are words that describe the way Will plays his football. He was a midfield bull who does his best work on the inside, where his clearance numbers this year would have had him top of the class in the competition. Being well over 6 feet tall, his ability to run at close to top speed, bent over with head and hands down, headfirst into a pack and come out the other side with football in hand must be seen to be believed. Works just as hard without the ball and thrives on the opportunity to lay a heavy tackle or crash a pack. An excellent leader who showed us the way all year.

ARRAN HARSDFORF

Arran was one of the key members of our centre-line rotation this year. He was given this role because of his running capacity, his football nous, and his skills by hand and foot. He was able to quickly understand and execute the game style the team was trying to develop. One less problem for the coaching staff to worry about. Arran also had a knack for finding the goals. He knew when the moment was right to drift forward and find the goals. He came close to winning our goal kicking award. Aaron had an excellent year and should be proud of his efforts.



CONNOR HILL

Connor grasped the challenge of playing at fullback - probably the hardest position on the ground - with both hands. His acceptance of the important role was done with a nod, a smile and a quiet confidence that he could beat his opposition player every week, which he generally did. His defensive work was second to none with many pack-clearing spoils; his intercept marking was a feature of his game; and when he got the opportunity to attack, he licked his lips and took the game on. Lead by example all year and was an outstanding contributor.

FLETCHER HOWDEN

Fletcher loves to run, and he slipped right in to the gameplan as a running option both ahead of and behind the ball. His tackling pressure and presence was out of proportion to his size, and he knew how to get to great spots, either to be an attacking option, or to stifle the opposition's moves. Cruelly cut by injury down as finals approached, he nevertheless continued to attend training and games to support the boys, demonstrating the commitment we had already seen when he was in the jersey.

HARVEY JACK

Harvey's determination, attack on the footy - both on the ground and in the air, and fearless tackling made him an important cog in our backline. Rarely beaten one-on-one, his strength and competitive nature, together with second and third efforts meant that he could always be relied upon to at least halve a contest. After some recent disappointments with injury, it was great to have Harvey back this year leading the way in our backline.

DARCY JAMES

Darcy is as hard as nails and thrives on the physicality of the game. He always used his strength and aggression to impact the contest, often opening up a pack as he dashed through, leaving bodies on the ground behind him. Rarely beaten in a one-on-one contest, he was a strong tackler and he constantly made opposition players earn their touches. He was defensively sound and among the best back-shoulder defensive spoilers in the backline team. A great team player, valued by his backline mates.

ZAC JENKINS

Zac was one of the mid-fielders who greatly improved over the course of the year. While at first, he appeared to be bemused by the coaching staff's insistence on running, eventually he seemed to be at one with the pain, coming to a begrudging respect for 'the grind'. Blessed with a lethal left foot, he was most dangerous close to the goals, a position we tried to get him to more often as the year progressed. Hopefully Zac is pleased with what he has achieved this year and is looking forward to continuing his football journey with one of the senior clubs.

NICK KENT

Nick was used as a jack of all trades at the start of the season, which some players might have found disheartening, but not Nick. Regardless of whether he played forward, mid, or back, two things never changed: his positive attitude and his attack on the footy. He brought a fantastic level of physicality to the team. Towards the end of the season this meant that he found his home in the mid-field. When the coaching staff were looking to add some extra physical presence at the contest, Nick's was the name that came to mind. What we didn't realise until he started to spend more time in the middle was that he also had a knack for making the right decision under pressure. As he is only in Yr 11, Nick has the potential to take on a leadership role next year, setting the example for the team in the areas of attitude and effort.

NED KORSTEN

Ned had a season frustrated by injury. It was equally frustrating for the coaches as, whenever he was on the field, we were a better side. Despite his injuries, Ned was a constant presence at training and game day and always provided encouraging words for his teammates. His leadership was



evident throughout the season, a trait the other boys obviously saw in him, and the reason he was voted as the captain of the side by his peers. While Ned might have been frustrated by this season, he has been an excellent contributor to the MAFC and to Marist College. He should look back on his time at Marist proud of what he has achieved.

LIAM NAUGHTON

I hope he won't be upset by our saying this, but Liam was a real surprise packet to the coaches. Quiet and unassuming off the field, he amazed us with his skill and daring once he crossed the white line. His marking was a feature as he held on to important grabs, often to continue the forward momentum of the team, but equally as part of the wall locking the ball in our forward zone. He invariably then went on to use the ball intelligently. His courage in putting himself under the high ball – and more often than not claiming it – was an inspiration to his teammates.

BEN PATON

Ben had a strong year this year. Over the course of the season, he was one of the big improvers in the team, cementing his position in the mid-field. While not the fastest across the ground, Ben is quick between the ears. He reads the play well and understands where his team-mates are in relation to

where the ball is, and where it is going to be. He rarely gets caught with the ball because he has clean hands and makes good decisions about who to give it to. One of the underrated parts of his game is that he is a very good mark for his size. He should be proud of his contribution to the team this season. He has been an important part of the team's success.

NICK QUINLAN

Nick worked really hard throughout the season to make himself fitter and more mobile, and it paid off as he provided much more than a goal square marking target. He led intelligently, doubled back to support, and was willing to use his size to protect teammates as well as being able to out-muscle opponents. When the chances came, he invariably took them, and the forward line functioned well when he was on song.

BEN RANKIN

Ben epitomised the MAFC spirit and was one of the most reliable team members. He was never short of enthusiasm for training, his teammates and the game. His reliable left foot was an asset that seldom let him down and he competed for the ball every time, rarely allowing his opponent an easy possession. His team-first approach was infectious and 2022 capped off nine years of tremendous service to MAFC.

PATRICK ROBINSON

Pat held down the key centre halfback position for a large chunk of the year and often gave away size to opponents. His desire to compete meant that he was rarely beaten in a one-on-one contest, and never beaten over the course of a full game. His willingness to listen and learn over the course of the year made him a pleasure to coach. Reads the play well and on many occasions was able to turn defence into attack, forming part of a very solid defensive wall when the ball was in our attacking zone. A terrific player with a team first ethos.

SEBASTIAN SENTI

Seb started the season slowly, underdone due to shoulder surgery, and even contemplated missing the year. We are glad he decided to give it a go. His fitness picked up and he was able to contribute more and more as the season progressed. He gave us a physical presence in the forward line, and combined it with a real goal sense, able to snag a major when the team needed it most. Opponents always knew they had had a game when matched up with Seb, and his teammates lifted when he attacked the ball.

JOSHUA STAKELUM-SIBLEY

Josh was a livewire in the forward line. He read the play exceptionally, ready to duck out the back into space, or slice in to be front and centre. He was always a really difficult match up for the opposition because he was also good in the air, not shy to fly when the chance presented. His goal sense was outstanding, and his ability to find himself in space, with the ball, within range, was uncanny. He also did the unglamorous stuff in chasing and tackling, determined to "lock the ball in" to our forward zone. A player of passion, he had a great year.



HUGH STRICKLAND

The one player who has need of coaching the least was Hugh Strickland. Hugh is a natural footballer who reads the play perfectly and anticipates where the ball is going to be and where he is needed. He is also deceptively quick, passing through a gap just as you expect him to get tackled, and he has excellent skills. He uses his vision and timing to impact the play at the right moment and distribute it effectively into the forward line. I look forward to seeing Hugh's football journey as he transitions to senior footy.

BARTON TAYLOR

Barton is the consummate teammate: loved by all, ready and willing to do whatever he was asked every time he took the field week in, week out. He never gave his opponent an inch and was ferocious in the contest whenever the ball was in his area, winning a couple of important moments for us during the year. A valued member of the backline team.

XANDER TUAN

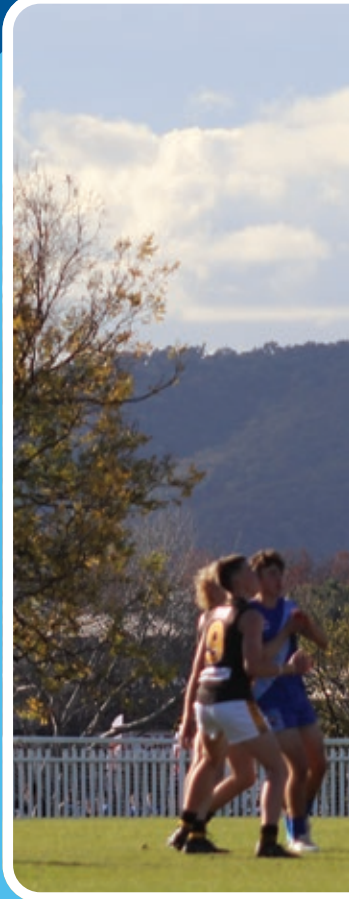
The X-man was a key part of the vaunted Bourke, Barrett and Clay centreline for the First XVIII this year. We wanted to use his running capacity, to provide some two-way running for the team. Consequently, the centreline became an important part of the team structure. Xander quickly came to learn his role within the team and executed it week-in, week-out. This was a significant contribution to our consistency throughout the year. Xander was an important member of the team.

BEN VARDY

Ben started the year in our ruck rotation, but based on his own assessment, he was moved to centre halfback later in the season. Regardless of the role he was filling, Ben played well. One of the things the coaches noticed was his eagerness to learn. He always listened intently and often asked questions to clarify any questions he had. This thoroughness displayed itself on the field in the diligent way he carried out his role. Whether intercepting the ball across the halfback line, positioning himself to act as the long down the line option, or looking inside to switch the ball to the open player, Ben had a thorough understanding of what his job was. Ben has had a very good year and should look forward to a strong season next year.

CALLAN WILLIAMS

Cal was a terrific focal point for the attack this year, constantly presenting on the lead, and, if not being rewarded, working back hard to either support, or to lead again. Possessed of strong hands, he was a nightmare for opponents to try to out-mark, and they usually did not even try, resorting to spoiling and manhandling him to prevent him getting those mitts on the Sherrin. His goalkicking was really solid, as he paid attention to his technique and was determined that every chance would count. He was also an enthusiastic learner, resolute that each game would be better than the previous one, so keen was he to seek and apply advice. He had a strong season and can look forward to 2023 with confidence.





MAFC PLAYER CAREER STATISTICS

Name	Career Games	Career Goals
Wylie Agnew	104	9
Luke Allardyce	129	22
James Angus	8	
Anthony Apostolakis	24	5
Huon Apps	124	28
Noah Apps	48	5
Henry Atkinson	23	2
Hugo Barrie	8	
Hugh Barry	77	4
Zachary Bartkowiak	24	9
James Bartlett	53	19
Patrick Bartlett	19	6
Thomas Beesley	79	8
Xavier Beesley	55	33
Levi Belcher	48	13
Reuben Belcher	25	5
Solomon Belcher	17	7
Austin Bennie	99	9
Jack Berg	29	4
Zander Berg	9	1
Dane Bertram	1	
Archibald Blacker	49	38
Digby Blacker	8	3
Hugo Blacker	10	8

Name	Career Games	Career Goals
Ryder Boersig	2	1
Thomas Bolton	43	15
Nate Borowski	11	
Xade Borwick	30	1
Jed Bourke	63	8
Logan Bray	34	22
Mitchell Brehaut	100	65
Oliver Brew	43	1
Noah Brown	70	7
Ryan Brown	10	1
Joel Buckley	69	12
Marcus Buckley	40	
Xavier Buckley	76	5
Nicholas Bufalo	16	5
Archer Burroughs	69	6
Zayn Butler	101	2
Oliver Cannon	80	64
Zack Carman	54	33
Chase Carmody	15	15
Xavier Carpenter	18	
Liam Charles	13	
Matthew Choules	109	27
Cooper Clark	19	
Lucas Clifford	44	12

Name	Career Games	Career Goals
Liam Clowry	33	27
Daniel Coffey	46	2
Thomas Coles	71	3
Ethan Cook	44	19
Connor Darby	71	14
Harry David	68	
James Davidson	114	20
Brodie Davis	99	24
Sevie de Cos	40	42
Alexander Denny	47	24
George Denny	108	12
Jesse Dickerson	51	13
Finn Duffy	16	5
Charles Edwards	33	3
Lachlan Edwards	13	
Liam Edwards	55	9
Blake Egan	67	18
Caden Egan	86	12
Daniel Egan	76	21
Luke Egan	86	12
Ryan Ellis	76	17
Finnegan Ellwood	66	62
Jesse Ellwood	52	18
Tom Evenden	12	7
Eric Firth	97	16
Nathan Fitzgerald	129	8
Lucas Fogels	26	9
Max Francis	33	9
Dominic Fraser	15	3
Carter Freeman	39	1

Name	Career Games	Career Goals
Ryan Gardner	13	
Jacob Garrety	11	2
Matthew Garrety	10	4
Harry Geeves	12	
Tom Geeves	15	
Ari Geremia	38	19
Joseph Geysen	5	3
Charles Gill	31	9
Riley Golledge	92	13
Matthew Graham	15	
Lachlan Green	43	12
William Green	14	4
James Haley	40	7
Xander Hall	50	15
Jonah Hamilton	28	3
Tim Hanley	95	25
Owen Hardy	103	21
Arran Harsdorf	73	28
Connor Hill	128	36
Patrick Hocking	11	
Joshua Holdom	52	10
Xavier Honan	1	
Sam Hosking	110	29
Fletcher Howden	10	
Christian Howe	11	1
Ewan Hyde	69	38
Henry Hyson	32	24
William Hyson	72	18
Harvey Jack	117	6
Kelley Jack	127	111

Name	Career Games	Career Goals
Darcy James	95	7
Zac Jenkins	96	36
William Johnston	74	4
Samuel Kearns	8	
Kai Kemper	18	1
Nicholas Kent	61	18
Nathan Kerr	49	11
Harry Keys	40	22
Caleb Kirk	47	3
Sam Kirkcaldie	108	11
Daniel Knight	85	15
Parker Knox	85	17
Jake Konjevic	11	5
Jonah Korsten	63	34
Ned Korsten	96	60
Archie Kovac	70	9
Lawrence Kovacs	21	
Daniel Lane	49	16
Sam Anthony Laria	81	19
Cooper Law	12	3
Jude Leech	34	45
Jakiah Leeson	29	
Jamal Legge	42	1
Griffin Leitch	75	88
Henry Lejsek	25	
Armand Lisman	32	2
Logan Little	55	3
Sam Lloyd	40	28
William Loft	33	
Indie Mackay	13	5

Name	Career Games	Career Goals
Harry Mahar	134	53
Alexander Maher	51	101
Bailey Maher	23	1
Cooper Maher	71	7
Vansh Malhotra	22	
Damon Martin	13	3
Darcy McAuliffe	93	10
Luke McCormack	38	1
Alastair McGregor	46	1
Angus McRae	67	
Logan McRae	33	10
Connor Middleton	42	1
Angus Miller	104	85
Jay Miller	28	2
Ernest Morrison	28	
Liam Morrison	30	
Isaac Moss	9	
Liam Motherway	51	12
Jake Munyard	57	22
Ryan Munyard	77	7
Liam Naughton	83	33
William Newbury	27	6
Henry Nihill	69	38
Joshua Nuss	20	9
Elliot Parker	83	11
Benjamin Paton	118	140
Leo Patterson	65	11
Domenico Pelle	11	2
Tom Penrose	23	2
Cameron Pepper	77	10

Name	Career Games	Career Goals
Matthew Pepper	140	26
William Polinelli	67	18
Nicholas Quinlan	117	139
Ben Rankin	115	25
Harrison Raven	45	1
William Rees	19	2
Xavier Richardson	94	13
Dhanveer Rishiraj	10	
Patrick Robinson	48	13
Elijah Roff	40	4
James Ross	14	1
Alexander Rouwhorst	87	
Samuel Rouwhorst	57	
AShton Ryan	38	
Leo Ryan	16	4
Jacob Scholtens	107	72
Michael Schultz	30	3
Alexander Sedgwick	14	
Sebastian Senti	105	36
Alexander Sladic	51	20
Isaac Sladic	21	7
Isaac Sloan	86	38
Griffin Sluis	41	15
Cameron Smith	52	9
Fraser Smith	72	4
Thomas Smith	53	8
Henry Smyth	10	
Joshua Stakelum	95	39
Nicholas Stephenson	67	35
Nathan Stilwell	96	13

Name	Career Games	Career Goals
Hugh Strickland	127	55
Oliver Tarbuck	12	1
Thomas Tarbuck	9	
Barton Taylor	33	1
Hudson Taylor	28	12
Ethan Teede	14	2
Abhayan Tharmarajah	25	
Zachary Thomas	87	66
Xander Tuan	156	50
Ben Vardy	104	47
Mitchell Wadie	58	11
Angus Wall	12	2
Charlie Wall	11	2
Riley Walters	14	
Nathan Watt	33	
Archie Webb	86	45
Oscar Webb	23	6
Harry Whalen	51	19
Xander Wild	39	1
Samuel Wilkie	37	4
Ethan Willemsen-Bell	74	6
Callan Williams	99	87
Leo Williams	38	3
Finn Wilson	66	12
Jared Wilson	52	18
Mitchell Wise	46	30
Matthew Wray	51	12
Nicholas Wright	64	1
Daniel Yates	42	











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