

## Round 7 Dingley Black vs St Bedes Mentone

Final Score: Dingoes 9 15 69 defeated St Bedes 0 0 0

Goals: David Cowell (2), David Schaeche, Billy Peake, Lachlan Lamble (3), Philip Fenton, Nicholas Matic.

Our first game for the year at Souter Oval was always going to be interesting to see how our boys would handle the bigger ground. They were told to stay out of the centre-wicket mud, hold their positions and use the wind to their advantage. We won the toss and went with the wind in the first quarter.

We began with a clean run out of the middle from David Cowell who drove the ball forward with a long kick that was well marked by Davey Schaeche on the run. This was the start of intense forward pressure applied by players such as 'Laino' and Billy Peake who desperately fed the ball into our forward line to give Jack, Ethan and Dakota a chance at scoring a goal. Numerous behinds resulted until David Cowell gathered the ball and attacked the goals resulting in our first goal for the quarter. Philip Fenton again dominated the centre of the ground and kicked a monster into the 'hot spot' where Davey Schaeche received the ball and kicked a goal to have us up by 2 goals at  $\frac{1}{4}$  time.

Against the wind in the second quarter didn't seem to bother the boys. Jeramie Simmons won the ball on several occasions and was brilliantly shepherded by Mitch Newman and Tommy Schaeche allowing 'effective' disposals into our forward fifty. Newcomer Grant Fulston showed us his smooth running with the ball and together with Michael Lemon constantly put the opposition's defence under pressure. Again Philip used his big kicking to square the ball into the 'hot spot' and the boys scored 2 goals for the quarter courtesy of Billy Peake and Lachy Lamble. Half time: DFC 4 6 30 to StBM 0 0 0.

After a dominant first half by the Dingo 'pups', all were aware that the wind would be with us again in the third quarter. Great to have Jordan Dudfield back from injury and with Philip taking a rest, the rucking responsibilities were thrown to Christopher Zanelli who was up certainly up to the task. He was well supported by Lachy Maher who again showed his natural ability to win the ball. The forward 50 was very congested and our boys could not score a goal against a desperate opposition defence. Six behinds were added before perhaps the play of the day resulted in the only goal for the quarter. A clever handball by Rory Wallace found a running Laine Bramley who passed superbly to Lachy Lamble who played on and kicked truly to David Cowell. He side-stepped beautifully 'bamboozling' his opponent to finish with a terrific team goal.

The last quarter was dominated by our boys who managed another 4 goals into the wind with the last from Nicholas Matic kicked with only a few seconds remaining. This was another commanding performance from our boys again showing their team play is improving with every game.

*U9 Black Coach*