

TURTLE REWIND

A NEWSLETTER FOR ELTHAM COLLEGIANS A.F.C. PAST PLAYERS

EDITION TWO - 2007

Welcome to the 2007 edition of 'Turtle Rewind', a newsletter for past players, officials and supporters of the Eltham Collegians Amateur Football Club. The aim of the newsletter is to assist in keeping ex-Turtles in touch with each other and with the progress of the Club.

2006 SEASON REVIEW

At this point last year I stated that 2005 was undoubtedly the most successful season in recent times for the Eltham Collegians Amateur Football Club. I think it can be confidently stated that the 2006 season surpassed the successes of 2005. The club achieved great success on the field, with both sides making the finals for the first time in the club's history and our progress off the field took another significant step forward with new marks set for sponsorship and total financial turnover. The year, however, failed to deliver the ultimate goal of a premiership with the seniors losing the Preliminary final to the eventual premiers Powerhouse and the reserves losing the Grand Final, also to Powerhouse. Both sides enjoyed remarkable success during the home and away season with the seniors finishing with a 15-3 win/loss record and the reserves recording 16-2 record. It was certainly a disappointment to finish the season without a premiership after these outstanding home and away records.

The seniors completed the most successful season for the club's senior side since the last premiership year of 1993. The young playing group flourished under the direction of first-year Senior Coach Matt Blagrove, who unified the list and had the team playing an exciting, free-flowing style of football. I would like to publicly recognise Matt's contribution to the club, he exceeded all expectations and capped off his own season by winning the Tucker Cup for the Best and Fairest player in the senior team. The on-field highlights of the season were many, with our early season run of 11

consecutive wins featuring comprehensive victories over eventual grand finalists Powerhouse and Hawthorn. The improvement from 2005 was again driven by youth, with Captain John Galvin, Ryden Runco, Glen Turner and Vice-Captain Ryan Foo being standout performers. Adam McClaren topped the goalkicking with 66 goals, closely followed by Matt Blagrove on 59 and Glen Turner on 43.

The reserves were defeated by Powerhouse in the Grand Final after a costly first quarter. Although they fought hard to get back into the game and reduced the margin below 3 goals during the third quarter, the early 'blow out' proved costly. Reserves best and fairest winner Scott Weston had an outstanding year, along with Jason Paisley, Lucas Barnes, Evan Baud, Michael Jarvis and many others. The Reserves were superbly led once again by Coach Paul Gregor, who was meticulous in his preparation and I thank him for his contribution to our club. There were many highlights for the reserves, including a new record winning margin of 206 points being set against Richmond Centrals and stalwart Captain Brendan Evans passed John Glare's club games record.

During the season our club developed in five crucial areas, the players, the coaches, the committee, and our relationship with our sponsors and parents.

I would like to formally acknowledge our sponsors led by 'Trash n Stash', Village Roadshow and Duggan Plastering. These organisations provided significant support for our club and we look forward to a long and mutually beneficial relationship. Contributing sponsors were Andresen McCarthy, Richard Bell Excavations, Pattison Consulting, Stockdale Printstaff, Darren Gilham, John Panetta, Planet Earthworks, Deetmah fashion of Ivanhoe, Wellers of Kangaroo Ground, Evelyn County Estates, Mee's Bus Lines, Ezy-Gas Conversions, The Mint Bar, Ron Chapman, Eltham Physiotherapy (Sam Oldfield) and

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Ron Mizzi. I hope players and supporters show their support to these sponsors where possible. Eltham College must also be recognised for their continued support of our club and I thank the College Council and Staff for the provision of such magnificent playing facilities.

I thank the committee; all club members and supporters for their personal support in 2006 and look forward to 2007, which promises much if we work together for our common goals of on-field success and off-field enjoyment. I welcome our newly appointed Coach John Garrad who brings considerable knowledge and experience to our club in his role working alongside Matt Blagrove and I urge all players and supporters to support him to help the club achieve its aim of winning a premiership and gaining promotion from D4 in 2007.

Graham Leys.

Best and Fairest 06

Seniors	Votes	Games
Matt Blagrove	42	19
Ryden Runco	40	15
John Galvin	39	16
Glen Turner	37	18
Ryan Foo	27	20
Aaron Whyte	26	19
Rhys Thomas	25	17
Andrew Hargrave	19	11
Hayden Dillon	18	10
Luke Austin		
Adam McClaren	16	15/20



Matt Blagrove – Senior Best & Fairest

Senior Goalkicking

Adam McClaren	66
Matt Blagrove	59
Glenn Turner	43
Chris Conole	33

Reserve Goalkicking

Scott Weston	34
Jamie Hyndman	27
Matt Abbott	23
Lucas Barnes	20



Reserves	Votes	Games
Scott Weston	41	19
Jason Paisley	30	14
Evan Baud	29	17
Lucas Barnes	29	14
Michael Jenkin	24	12

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20 YEARS ON - 1987

2007 is a significant year for the Eltham Collegians AFC as it is 20 years since the club recorded its first premiership. A reunion of the 87 side will be the focus of our past players day to be held on May 19th and the club would appreciate any assistance we can get in tracking down members of that side.

For the record

The 1987 side played in H section in what was the second year of the club's existence. They finished the season with a 14-2 record and Sebastian Fitzpatrick was the section's leading goalkicker.

In the second semi-final they defeated Old Brighton 10.10-70 to 7.6-48.

S Fitzpatrick 3, M Fitzpatrick 2, Chesser 2, McVicar, Dare and Weatherill 1 goal each.
Best: Shaw, Dawson and Hall

1987 GRAND FINAL

Eltham 6.9 – 45

Bulleen Templestowe 4.9 – 33

Goals: Sagar, Chesser, Adams, S Fitzpatrick, Shaw, McPhail

Best: Baxter, Gardiner, Hall, New, Dawson, Weatherill

In alphabetical order, the Grand Final side was;

Glen Adams, David Baxter, Damain Bishop, Gavin Blair, Cameron Butler, Ian Chesser, Cam Dare, Les Dawson, Duncan Felton, Mark Fitzpatrick, Sebastian Fitzpatrick, Andrew Gardiner, Gavin Hall, Nick Hamshare, Andrew Kew, Simon McPhail, Shaun McVicar, David Sagar, Stuart Shaw, Wayne Stevensen, Mark Stone, Jonathan Tarvan, Robin Tarvan and John Weatherill.

We are very keen to get our hands on photos or any other information/memorabilia from the 1987 premiership for a display at the Past Players Day this year. Please contact Graham Leys if you have anything, there is certainly a glaring gap in our history when it comes to the early years!

2007 PREVIEW

2007 looms as a season of opportunity for the club. Coming of a year in which we had great success without winning a premiership or gaining promotion, the club is certainly aiming to ensure another opportunity does not pass by. The senior playing remains essentially intact, with only Rhys Thomas (working in the UK) a definite non-starter. John Garrad joins the club as senior coach with Matt Blagrove electing to reduce his role this year. John has had a distinguished career in the Diamond Valley, as a premiership player at Eltham FC and kicking 100 goals with Panton Hill. A number of experienced senior players have joined the club along with a good number of younger players. We are certainly in a good position at this stage of the year, although there would definitely be other clubs feeling the same on the eve of the season. Only time will tell.



Brendan Evans passed John Glare's club record of 156 games in round 3.

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Past Players Dates for 2007

Fixture:

Rd 1 – 28/4	v Albert Park	H
Rd 2 – 5/5	v St Marys	A
Rd 3 – 6/5	v Box Hill Nth	A
Rd 4 – 13/5	v Powerhouse	H
Rd 5 – 20/5	v Hawthorn	A
Rd 6 – 27/5	v Nth Brunswick	H
Rd 7 – 3/6	v Syndal Tally Ho	A
Rd 8 – 17/6	v Richmond Centrals	A
Rd 9 – 24/6	v Bulleen Cobras	H
Rd 10 – 1/7	v Eley Park	H
Rd 11 – 8/7	v Albert Park	A
Rd 12 – 15/7	v Box Hill Nth	H
Rd 13 – 22/7	v Powerhouse	A
Rd 14 – 29/7	v Hawthorn	H
Rd 15 – 5/8	v Nth Brunswick	A
Rd 16 – 12/8	v Syndal Tally-Ho	H
Rd 17 – 19/8	v Richmond	H
Rd 18 – 26/8	v Bulleen Cobras	A

Sponsors and parents lunch – Rd 1 29/4

Interested in sponsoring the Turtles? – from player sponsorship to major sponsors your assistance is vital to the clubs future. Contact Ron Mizzi at ron.mizzi@clorox.com

First home game of the season; come along and enjoy lunch with our key supporters.

Past Players Day – Rd 14/7

For more info on any of these functions keep track on the website -

elthamcollegiansfc.com or email Graham Leys at graham.leys@bigpond.com

If you can assist us in tracking down other past players who may not be on our mailing list please contact us via the website. We are particularly keen to get contact details for any of the original premiership Turtles of 1987.