

SOUTH CROYDON FOOTBALL CLUB Inc.



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

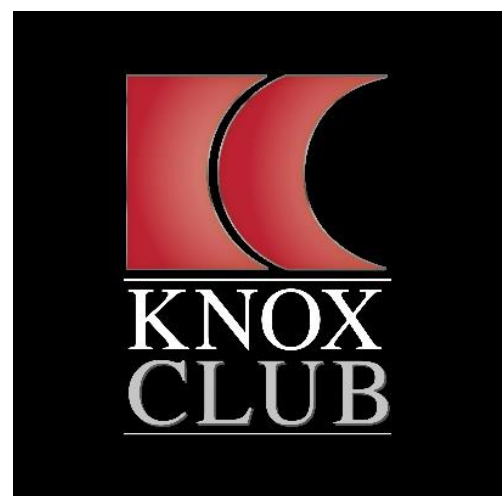
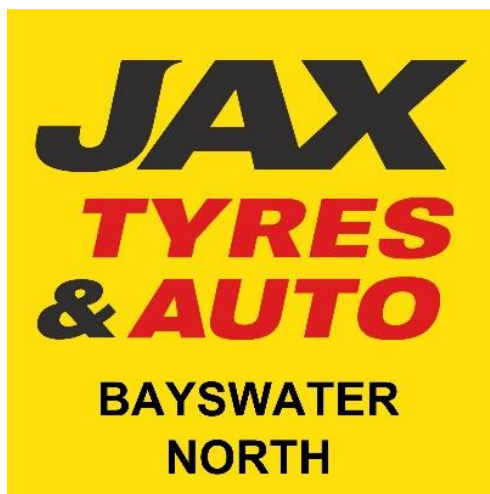


Eastern Football Netball League Affiliated Club

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2024 Executive & Major Sponsors



2024 Key & Support Sponsors

Bowens

David Hodgett MP – Member for Croydon

DJ Baker and Son

Eastern Height Safety

King Cooling and Heating

Len McKeown Tree Services

Larsen Homes

MST Lawyers

Michael Sukkar MP – Federal Member for Deakin

Property Maintenance Australia (Contractors)

Rowano's

Simonds Homes

Skyline Mechanical Services

Thinking Printing

The Sporting Globe – Chirnside Park

The House of Golf - Ringwood

ACTIV8 Group

Littorios

Eastland QIC

Smile Science

The Famished Wolf - Croydon

TSG

diskmandotnet

Club Roles

Committee

President	Stephen Quon
Secretary / Netball Co-ordinator	Molly O'Toole
Treasurer	Warren French
Vice President (Revenue)	Anthony Willis
Men's Football Operations Manager	Damon Hindmarsh
Women's Football Operations Manager / Social	Cathy White
Revenue / Social Media	Vince Cali
General committee - Canteen Manager	Annemaree O'Donnell
General committee - Merchandise Manager	Fiona Schnick
General committee - Registration Officer	Kevin George
General committee - Head Trainer	Wendy Langford
General Committee	John Dinnell, Chris Rodriquez

Non - Committee

Club Chaplin	Graeme Barnden
Kennel Club	Zane Job and Shane Alderson
Bar Manager	Billy Carter
Mudlarks	Paul Lewis
Veteran's Representative	Chris D'Astoli
Thursday Night Meals	Cathy White
Game Day Operations	Paul McConnell, Bryan King and team

Coaching

Senior Men	Brendan Allen
Development Men	Jack Job
U/19.5	Chris Rodriquez
Vets	Ken Darby
Senior Women	Simon Hammersley
Development Women	Ben Fogarty
Netball	Molly O'Toole

President's Report

Well, what a great year 2024 was for the South Croydon Senior Football & Netball Club. It was a year of rebounding, redemption and re-affirming our position as a strong and successful club.

On the netball side we fielded 2 teams who were both competitive without managing to make finals. Plenty of fun was had by all who took to the court and an enjoyable year was had by all involved. Well done to Molly O'Toole who co-ordinates and organizes all the netball teams on a great job.

Our Veterans Men's team had an extremely successful season under the guidance of their coach Ken Darby. There were strong numbers for the season and this resulted in the old boys finishing 2nd on the ladder with only the 1 loss during the home & away season. Unfortunately, they were knocked over in their cut throat semi final and it was season.

Our Under 19.5 Men's team was touch and go all pre-season to see if we could get enough numbers to field a team. We managed to get Chris Rodriguez to take on the coaching role and he did a great job in pulling together a dozen guys but this wasn't going to be enough to field a stand alone side so with 2 weeks to go before the season kicked off we managed to put together a combined side with Ferntree Gully. 'The Beagles' were formed and away they went completing an enjoyable year even though they left a few wins on the table.

The Development Women's & Development Men's teams both had new coaches in Ben Fogarty and Jack Job. Both sides were true development teams and successfully supported their respective senior teams. The Dev Women again made finals whilst the Dev Men were not as lucky. Both teams are creating future senior players which is their role at the club.

The Senior Women had about as good a year as possible under the continued guidance of Simon Hammersley. In late 2023 a plan for success was hatched by the movers and shakers in the Women's program. A wonderful list of dedicated players were prepared to listen, learn, improve and execute what was asked of them. This resulted in the ultimate prize of the Premier Division Women's Premiership. Obviously this result was the highlight of the year for the South Croydon FC and will be long remembered by all who were there to witness it.

The Senior Men struggled but survived in 2023. In 2024 under new coach Brendan Allen the group started to thrive and managed to beat every side in the competition at least once. After avoiding relegation in 2023 the team managed to bounce back and play finals again. Winning the first final before being knocked out was a good result considering the previous year's result. I look forward to continued growth as our playing list changes over the next few years.

The senior committee were outstanding this year & I thank them for putting up with me and being so committed to our great club. You guys set such a professional and high standard off the field that ensures we can have success on the field.

Well done to the junior club on another super successful season and for all their support to the senior club. Lead brilliantly by Junior President Chris D'Astoli the junior club is getting stronger each year. We look forward to continuing to build a strong pathway for our home grown junior players to transition into senior football and to keep our club sustainable.

On the non-committee front I would like to personally thank all volunteers, helpers and contributors around the club on their dedication and efforts to the club for the 2024 season. From canteen to bar to ground set-up to BBQ to training staff to team managers the list just goes on and on. Our club is truly blessed with great people who just get in and get the job done without any fanfare. They just do the work so all our players can have a great environment to be able to thrive in.

This year the 'Kennel Club' transitioned a little with Zane Job & Shane Alderson taking control of the coterie group. In their first season they did a brilliant job and brought lots of fresh and new energy to the club. I can't wait to see what B1 & B2 have instal for 2025 and beyond. 'The Mudlarks' coterie group was also back and firing on all 8 cylinders. Again, there work was outstanding in creating revenue to help us recruit new players. We truly wouldn't be able to cover our commitments without Paul Lewis and his teams tireless work.

Our club is essentially a small business with significant costs associated with it and to be able to survive we rely on having great sponsors who support us in many different ways. We sincerely thank all our sponsors and hope that we as a club are giving them 'value for money' and representing their brands well.

It was great to step back into the role of President this year. Surrounded by a wonderful and diverse group of committee members, volunteers, coaches, players, sponsors and supporters we achieved a lot in 2024. It was a very successful year both on and off the field but the work doesn't stop here. We will have more challenges moving forward but I know our club is well equipped to take them head on and be even better in 2025. The future is very bright and I look forward to see where we can go.

NO FEAR – NO EXCUSES – NO LIMITS IN 2025

Stephen Quon - President

Treasurer's Report

I present my treasurer's report covering season 2024.

A significant turnaround on the results from season 2023. This gives a good base from which to build on for season 2025.

The Results:

We have had a trading surplus of \$19k. However, due to certain "entries" the figure is above \$28k. Income, we had Netball summer registration, early sponsor payment. Expenditure, we paid for footballs and deposit for preseason camp. We also had invoices paid for that related to last season and the Cricket Club will owe us for stock they have not yet paid for. We also had a debtor write off related to last season.

Income and Costs:

Total revenue was \$470k with expenses at \$451k. Revenue is up by 6% and costs are down 3% on the year before.

Revenue Departments:

Bar sales were good, up 17% with the profit margin at a very good 56%, up from 43% last year. The sales increase is due to "in house" functions and an adjustment in prices. Thanks to Billy, Riley, and all the outside bar staff for your efforts this year, a great result.

Food Centre (Canteen, Thursday Nights, and BBQ) had a sales increase of 3% and with adjusting for invoices that related to last season the profit margin was 55%. Thanks to Annemaree, Cathy and all the great volunteers.

Social revenue was down on last year but as we had our functions in-house so too were our costs, with the benefit of the bar sales as a result. We did not have as many functions but those we did have were well attended and enjoyed by all. Thanks again to all those who organised these and we look forward to great success next year.

Corporate Sponsors' figures are up an amazing 42%. Fantastic job from Vince and Anthony, this is a thankless job but so vital to our ongoing success.

Player sponsor figures were down a little, but this was primarily due to having one set package which overall works well. I'm sure we can make a better effort next year.

The Mudlarks were integral to our overall figures, so great thanks to Paul and Peter and all those involved. Kennel Club, thanks to the new managers Shane and Zane, a great first up effort, and with planning in place for a new system, next year will be even better.

Special thanks to Fiona for taking control of the Merchandise Department and making a profit rather than a loss. This has now been straightened out to ensure we maximise sales and more importantly minimize any waste and "dead stock".

Expenses:

The football department, which covers Players, Coaches, Trainers, and all associated costs with putting teams on the ground was up 14% from last year. This was to be expected with a higher salary cap, investment in coaching staff and EFNL increases.

Cleaning, Rubbish Removal and Power have all had increases. Club Supplies is up but this is on the back of investment into the Square System and a Slushie Machine.

Overall, Stephen had a vision of where we needed to go off field wise, and through his determination and the hard work of all involved we achieved this in 2024.

Next Season:

I am confident that we can build on the success of 2024 into 2025.

Again, I would like to thank the executive committee for their hard work throughout 2024.

Warren French - Treasurer

Social Report

On behalf of the committee this year I am writing this report on the social events that were held throughout the season.

Our first major event was a player run function, and it was a great night with the music being played by our resident DJ's Chris Jones and Nathan Kenny. Well done to Sarah O'Toole, Matt George and all the players that organised the night and to those who attended.

Ladies Day was a very successful event that was organised by Tracey Adams and Michelle Currie. Thank you to you both and your team for all your hard work. The day was entertaining, and the raffles were amazing, and you also raised much needed funds for the club. Well done and we can't wait to see what you will do next.

Our main event for 2024 was our Gala Ball. The challenge was thrown out that it was to be held at Cheong Park Club rooms and whilst this was met with some resistance and trepidation, we set about turning the rooms into an event venue. With some planning, buying and hiring of decorations and furniture, many of the comments as people entered the rooms were 'this is not our club rooms' which was what we had hoped for. The catering was fantastic, the music kept everyone dancing and everyone looked amazing and had gone to great efforts to add 'a touch of silver'. The other great aspect was that majority of us were close to home and that the club made some money from the function while it didn't cost too much to attend. So, all round a successful event.

Thanks so much to all the helpers and organisers particularly Kiara White, Fiona Schinck, Annemaree O'Donnell, Charlie McKellar, Alana Prendergast, Jimmy Wilson and Quonny.

Our lucky raffle was well attended, and it was fantastic to have our Premier Women's Grand Final winners join us to celebrate before they all headed off for 'Silly Sunday'.

Our last function for the year was our Presentation night. It was a cocktail event that was well run, and the formalities were conducted in just over 2 hours and then it was party time with the Hot Tub Cover Band entertaining us and they were fantastic fun.

Big thanks to everyone who helped on the night but especially to Quonny for organising.

Well done to everyone who has helped with functions this year and thanks to our caterer Mark from Chefs 2 U who has been fantastic.

It's really important that in 2025 we have a Social Director or even better a couple of people who can work together to coordinate the functions. It doesn't have to be a difficult job, and it can be a lot of fun. It's also a great way to get to know more people around the club.

So, if you have a flair for fun and enjoy a good party, please put your hand up to help out.

Cathy White - Social

Trainer's Report

I will start my report by saying a HUGE THANKYOU to our wonderful trainers.

So, I don't forget anyone, I've done it in alphabetical order... Abbey, Bernie, Christine, Ella, Emily, Gemma, Jenni, Milly, Mitch, Molly, Mon, Damo, and our club physio Lachie.

We are so lucky to have such an amazing and professional group of trainers who often go above and beyond to support our women, men and vets football program.

Our players are supported on and off the field with trainers attending every training session, practice matches as well as on game day, rain hail or shine!

We are already on field again for pre-season!

Our club very fortunate to have access to Lachie Evans and his physiotherapy expertise. Many of our players have benefited from his Monday night injury assessment and ongoing management.

A special shout out to Ella who spends many hours, with the support of Mon and Mitch, packing the trainers bags every week and then loading her car up to the brim on away games to ensure our players have everything they need to get on the field.

I also want to thank Molly who jumps in after playing her own game to help strap, run on the field, run boundary or help set up.

And we can't forget Damo who gives us an extra trainer in between canteen duty.

We follow strict concussion guidelines, and protocols. Unfortunately, we did have some of our players across all our teams, under the concussion protocol, and then we have seen many of the players successfully return to play.

THANKYOU to the committee, coaching staff and players who support our trainers and the decisions we make each week. We are lucky to all work together as one club.

Wishing everyone at South Croydon Football Club a very Happy Christmas and a safe and healthy 2025.

Wendy Langford - Head Trainer

Coach's Report – U19.5 Men

After a late call on getting a coach, and a late call to try & get a team up, we had a small core group of players from last year who started pre-season. After selecting 5 top age players to help bolster playing numbers for the year, we were still short on playing numbers, so we put the call out to try & get a merger going. We wanted the boys playing football, so this was the next best solution if we could not get a stand-alone team.

Ferntree Gully FNC had excess numbers in their Div 3 bottom age 19.5 team, so after meeting with their coaches & President, the decision was made to merge the two squads, alas, the birth of the Beagles, who would play in Div 4 U19.5. We only had 2 training sessions together pre-Round 1, so we quickly worked on getting players into preferred positions, and emphasised training attendance so we could continue to develop the players skill and create a strong connection between the 2 clubs. We finished the season 6th with 5 ½ wins and 10 losses.

We started the season strong with 2 wins in the first 4 weeks, and the connection between the whole squad was starting to grow nicely. Our midfield was our strongest line closely followed by our backline. With the injection of a few new unfamiliar faces lining up in our forward line it took time to gel, and we saw the most growth in that part of the ground. Even if the scoring was inaccurate, we were certainly getting shots on goal. On our day, we were more than a match for most in the competition for most of the year. We just had a few slumps after more than our fair share of byes. We continually worked towards being more consistent. That was certainly a focus from the South boys. Our leadership group from the South Croydon side consisted of Max Haun (Captain) with Linden Hammersley (Vice Captain), with Reed McGreevy & Lachie Cooper leading by example at every chance, just without the titles.

I would like to congratulate our award winners for 2024 Best and Fairest winner Max Haun, Runner Up Lachie Cooper and third place Josh Connor. I expect a few players who were close to playing with the Development team this year to play next year especially if they continue to apply themselves like they have over the last 12 months. Upon reflection of the season, it became evident how much of a positive impact we can have on these young men. I have been able to see growth in their football, but I am prouder to see their growth as men. Thank you to FTGFNC Coach Mike McNess for his support throughout the year at trainings and player selection for game day. Thank you to our Team Manager John Connor for all your assistance, specially creating a roster for the player's parents. Thank you to our runners, the SCFC trainers and the senior coaches, BA, Dinz, Dimma, Jobey for your guidance with the playing group, and the learnings I obtained during the season.

Finally, a huge thank you to the parents and volunteers that are willing to assist with various roles, without them the club would not be the same. I am saddened that I have to pass the role on for the 2025 season, as I know this group has plenty of untapped potential.

Chris Rodriguez - U/19.5s Coach



Coach's Report – Development Men

2024 was a season of growth for the development squad, finishing the season with 7 wins and 11 losses.

Defence was the primary focus in the preseason and early rounds, upon which our offensive game was later built during the balance of the season.

Our ability to hit the scoreboard effectively was a challenge throughout the year, as it has been for several previous seasons.

However, it was pleasing to see improvement in this regard over the course of the year. This needs to remain a key focus for the development squad in 2025.

It was also particularly pleasing to see the eagerness and ability of the players to learn and implement new game structures throughout the year.

Thank you to all assistants and volunteers throughout the course of the season. In particular, thank you to Michelle Cox, Liam Fitzgerald, Chris Rodriquez, Justin McCormack and Marcus Clavant, without who the growth of the development squad this year would not have eventuated.

Thanks as well to BA and Dinz for leading the club and rigorously implementing a new game plan this year. Your guidance to the younger players as well as to myself has been invaluable.

It's been a pleasure to coach the 'footy factory' in 2024, and I look forward to bigger and better things to come in 2025.

Jack Job - Development Men's Coach



Coach's Report – Senior Men

For six years, I locked horns with the might of South Croydon. I admired, respected, not just a talented and successful football team, but a great community club. Fast forward to November 2023 I had the privilege of being announced the new senior coach of South Croydon. Albeit very late in the piece, we rolled the sleeves up and went to work.

Steve Dinnell was already in place as the Senior Assistant coach, a fantastic asset and headed up the midfield with distinction over the season. As a right-hand man, you couldn't ask for any better. The coaching group was added to over the pre-season, again given the little prep time at our disposal.

We were lucky enough that a past player and coach in Jack Job decided to get back involved after a short stint at Park Orchards. Jack was thrown into the deep end as our development coach with help from Liam Fitzgerald. No doubt this would've been a daunting position to find yourself in, but Jack did a great job with the development side, especially managing numbers and expectations around selection and player rotation given our healthy playing list and available numbers. A tough but fantastic position for the club to be in given recent seasons and low numbers in the squad. Jack unfortunately can't continue in 2025 due to work commitments, but we thank Jack and Liam for their contribution in 2024.

Another thrust into a position which was so vital to the future of the club was Chris Rodriquez. Chris headed up the 19's side, which although low on numbers, managed to combine with Fern-tree Gully to achieve a combined outfit, nicknamed the Beagles. The way he managed players, logistics and personalities from both clubs, all the while trying to teach and develop the game style, we were implementing at South was a real credit. It was so vital to have this side in place to make sure the flow on effect continued from the junior club from 17.5's to 19.5's as to not have a side in place, may have meant that our talented juniors pursue other avenues given the break in the pathway. Current Players James Willsen and Jayden Cass also took on extra responsibility in coaching the forward line while playing. Both provided great insight and guidance to the entire list, and everyone enjoyed Jim's forward preview on a Thursday. Both are going to concentrate on playing in 2025, but very likely coaches in the years to come.

Pre-season kicked off a fortnight after I was appointed, so a lot of meetings and planning were undertaken in a very short period of time. A lot of thanks and praise must go to Lachy Evans and his able assistant Mitch Schafter, setting up and executing an excellent training program that gave us a great fitness base for the season ahead. There was a tentative and draft plan in place, but Lachy and Mitch worked quickly and seamlessly to implement a conditioning program that complimented the football program. All with an eye on replicating VFL standards at a community level. It also can't be underestimated the role of Damon Hindmarsh and Steven Quon for their help, support and belief in implementing what I wanted in my overall program, one of those requests being the re-introduction of a pre-season camp.

The pre-season camp, I label the "Grand Final" of the off season. We ventured down to the summit In Trafalgar East after work on Friday and had a great weekend of hard work, team cohesion, setting team culture, getting to know one another and above all a good time as a group. A few of the key takeaways from the weekend was an understanding of what Sth Croydon as a team and a playing member stands for. This also led to a criterion of voting for our leaders and a new award highlighting the "player's player". This criterion was used to vote weekly by all players in the grade they played in, highlighting the player that best reflected the values of a South Croydon player. The award was fittingly named the Daniel King Award, not only to reflect the contribution of Daniel but throughout his whole career he has epitomised all the values that the playing group believed a South Croydon player should strive to reflect.

Practice Matches against Park Orchards and Montrose allowed the cobwebs to be blown out and a look at how the new way of doing things was translating on the park. Unfortunately, a much needed third game couldn't be organised so we were a little bit underdone going into the season proper.

Round 1 was filled with anticipation, facing close neighbours and as I learnt very quickly archrivals in East Ringwood. Fair to say the beginning of the season was a bit slow, disjointed and some demons of the previous year needed to be exorcised.

Round 3 against Blackburn notched the first four points of the year and kicked started an understanding of how we want to go about our football moving forward. Along with the Blackburn victory being special personally, wins against Rowville when severely undermanned, blowing both eventual grand finalists off the park at their home grounds and digging deep to secure a finals birth in the final round, after a slow start we played some exciting football. We went on to post 12 wins from 18 rounds, adding to that an epic elimination final victory against Vermont.

Unfortunately, we succumbed to Rowville in the semifinal as the cost of the Elimination Final and a long year became evident on the very sore and tired playing group.

Our best football was clearly right up with the top sides, defeating everyone at some point throughout the year a testament to this. But the combination of a slow start and some inconsistent patches probably reflected where we did end off finishing. Regardless, the turnaround from nearly being relegated in 2023, to a return to finals in 2024, is a positive result for the club and solid platform to continue to build on in 2025.

My thanks must be extended to the numerous people that volunteer and help the club be the envy of all other community football clubs. There's too many to mention individually but your work does not go unnoticed, and we value all that you do. I must, however, acknowledge a few people that have directly assisted the football program in 2025.

Bernie Petrie and his ever-diligent stats team, your information is invaluable on game day. Michelle Cox as an ever-diligent team manager, never once did I have to ask for anything, all was organised in advance. Wendy Langford and the team of trainers, exceptional care of the players. Damon Hindmarsh on the match day board and of course heading up footy operation's, you do a mountain of work, and the club wouldn't be a constant power in the premier division without that work. To all the committee who put in countless hours, the club can't operate at any level without you. Vince Cali who headed up the socials and had to put up with my match reports, thanks great man. Last of all much praise must go to the President Stephen Quon and the exceptional job he has done this year. Many, many hours spent managing all facets of the club and as the saying goes, get the off field right then on field follows. South Croydon are lucky to have such a devoted servant.

I'm very excited to be back on board in 2025 and what the year might bring.

Brendan Allen - Senior Men's Coach



Coach's Report – Veterans Men

The 2024 season was another year of growth and progress for the Veterans team, as we continued building on the momentum of previous years. Overall finishing 3rd on the ladder, the team demonstrated a strong competitive spirit and a commitment to improvement throughout the season. While we missed out on a Grand Final berth, falling in the preliminary final to Waverley after holding the lead at one stage, the match underscored our potential. This season not only showcased how far we've come as a group but also provided a valuable reminder of the fine margins that can define success at this level.

Training & Team Culture:

This season saw another noticeable boost in player engagement and participation at training, with an average of over 24 players attending each session. The camaraderie and positive team environment were evident, with past and new players of all ages coming together to kick the footy around and being part of the group.

Leadership & New Additions:

2024 brought a leadership transition, with Chris D'Astoli stepping down as Captain after several successful years. Paul Mitchell stepped into the role, supported by Vice Captain Jordan Buckingham and Deputy Vice Captain Garry Davies. Paul and Chris shared the Best and Fairest honours, with Paul Medveczky as runner-up. The team also welcomed back several past South Croydon players and new recruits, many of whom are connected to the Junior South Croydon sides.

Challenges & Successes:

The season wasn't without its challenges. Two forfeited matches resulted in a six-week gap without games, which tested our momentum. However, it also allowed the team to approach the finals fully fit and ready. Despite this disruption, we secured 2nd place in the home-and-away season, reflecting the team's hard work.

Community Support:

Our connection with the South Croydon Football Club remained a vital part of our success. We're incredibly grateful for the club's ongoing support, from promoting the Veterans team to providing resources for our games. Increased attendance at club events and the crowd at the preliminary final were particular highlights for the players.

Acknowledgements:

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed to the 2024 season. Special mentions include:

Paul Mitchell, for stepping up as Captain with passion and commitment.

Jordan Buckingham and Garry Davies, for their leadership as Vice Captains.

Cory McGrath, for his dedication as Senior Assistant Coach despite an injury-disrupted season, and Timmy Kennedy, for his work with the magnets as Assistant Coach.

Nat Ayton, for consistently supporting the team as our runner & Luke Huon, for taking on the role of team manager.

Monique Kouvaras, our trainer, and to Wendy Langford for all her support and help, for ensuring the players' safety and readiness each week.

Reflecting on 2024, we're excited about what lies ahead. With solid performances, leadership changes, and the mix of returning and new players, we have a strong foundation for the 2025 season.

Here's to another fantastic year for the Veterans team in 2025!

Ken Darby -Veteran's Coach



Coach's Report – Development Women

The 2024 season was full of new faces, highs, lows, laughter, tears (on my behalf) and challenges that were taken head on. With that, we took off into preseason learning new structures and a game plan to successfully project us to a final's series.

We started the year off with back-to-back wins, which came to an end in our first night game of the year against an opponent who we couldn't seem to beat. We then lost the next 3 games and had some work to do and some confidence to regain. With playing finals as our goal, we knew we needed to win 6 out of the last 7 games. The girls put in a tremendous effort, and we finished the season 3rd. Our finals series was short lived, with a narrow 6-point loss at the hands of Heathmont, at the dreaded Silvan Oval.

The high point of the season was beating Mooroolbark. Going in with a point to prove after 3 consecutive losses the girls came ready to beat an opposition many thought we couldn't (but we knew we could). With standout games from our youngsters Hannah Griffin and Millie Pinney, as well as some straight kicking from our full forward Tearnu Graham who kicked 3, we beat the eventual premiers 29 – 10.

As with any season, there is always areas we seek to improve on.

This season we came across a number of tough opponents, which sometimes saw our structures coming unstuck. Learning to adjust to our opponents' strategies and adapt to the game are areas we hope to develop looking forward to next year.

That being said, with new players to the team, and new players to the sport, we put in a solid effort.

This season saw Under 18's girls come up into their first season of senior football and some get exposure of senior football whilst still playing under 18s and gee, did they deliver. Hannah Griffin and Beth Goodall proved that they can play football. With both playing in the premier division team and Beth in the premiers win. Along with Atalia Kelly, Millie Pinney, Ciara Kogler, Lenny Roach, Cindy Sargent and Sienna Crapper, all of whom came up for exposure into senior football and did not look out of place. The club has a lot of talent ready for senior football in the coming years and it is such a testament to the South Croydon Junior Football Club.



Grace Tobin was our standout player for the year, winning the Best and Fairest in a season where she also made team of the year, juggled being an amazing assistant coach, a mother and pushing for senior selection into the Premier Team and playing in the Premiership. Hannah Griffin with her first year in senior football came second in the Best and Fairest. Tearnu Graham won our goal kicking this year, kicking multiple goals for the first time and improving her craft as a full forward.

Overall, the year was successful. Playing in finals and watching everyone grow into confident and resilient players. Every girl has improved from preseason, and I can't wait to watch them improve even more next year. I would like to thank Quonny and Simon for giving me the opportunity to coach this amazing team of women and their help throughout the year. To my support staff, Grace and Hayden my assistants, Declan our runner, Alex our Water boy and team mascot and Mel who played but also was our board gal for most of the season. The leaders in the group who supported the girls, our amazing trainers and volunteers whose tireless work doesn't go unnoticed and the whole South Croydon community and sponsors who have followed us this year, thank you. To the players, thank you for your hard work, the laughs and your patience with me. Lastly, thanks to my wife, Emilie, for letting me coach her and this group of girls.

Ben Fogarty - Development Women's Coach

Coach's Report – Senior Women

Hard to find the right superlative to describe Season 2024 for the Premier Women.

It commenced with a major focus on becoming more Elite across the program and challenging the players to embrace the clubs 'no limits' mantra. Pre-season was buoyed by the return of several 2022 Grand Final players to the playing list, and we were also positive in the recruiting space. The program extended our alignment with VFLW listed players to 10 in 2024, of which 7 played in South Croydon colours at some stage throughout the year.

Part of the program's Elite focus was around changing our game system and through the first half of the year there were certainly times where we didn't have it working on match day. Our early season form was mixed and included a narrow come from behind win against Mt Evelyn, strong wins against South Belgrave, The Basin and Vermont, and losses to the Devils and Whitehorse. Despite this, the playing group remained committed to the change and with continued improvement won 8 straight games finishing the regular season in second place one game behind the back-to-back premiers Eastern Devils after beating them for the first time in Round 13.

Semi Final day brought some changes to the side owing to VFLW player finals ineligibility. Despite this and a couple of early injuries, the side played a strong game and eventually fell short by 10 points. The team then sailed through Preliminary final day and were never headed in a 46-point win.

This placed us in our second Grand Final in 3 years. Our opponent we'd played 11 times across those 3 seasons, with the record 10-1 in their favour. But Grand Final day brought the best football our team has ever played. The group's ability to play the ground, conditions, game plan, and team system under the pressure of the biggest game of the year, to the standard that they performed was truly incredible. Unfortunately, words can't really do it justice, and probably neither will the film with the game itself being a typical Grand Final, high pressure scrappy affair.

But season 2024 is one for the history books for the club with the Premier Women claiming the ultimate prize on grand final day!



Obviously, none of this can happen without the tireless work and support of the club's committee and many volunteers. I need to thank Quonny for his support and confidence in appointing me to coach in 2024.

Thanks to all the assistant coaches / match day team for the women's program, we have an embarrassment of riches that our program is fortunate to possess; Ben, Giz, Grace, Disco, Hayden, Tim, Riley, & Declan. Also, thanks to BA and the Men's coaching team for their willingness to share ideas and support the women's program.

Thanks to our training staff for always looking after our players, especially Em who does every training session starting in November.

Thanks to all the off-field helpers each week, notably Dani and Cass for team managing, Cath for her work in footy Ops, Deano the bullet proof vest, Johnny and Michelle Thursday specialists, Tony #1 goal umpire, and all the parents / partners / siblings that pitch in to get the team rolling every week.

Finally, thanks and congratulations to all the players across the program. We set lofty goals, we worked hard, we did a great thing!

Simon Hammersley - Senior Women's Coach

Netball

Well, what can I say about the 2024 netball season. The year started off with some very keen interest from a number of players allowing us to put up two sides. This was great for the club as two years ago we could barely get one side up and running.

With two sides taking the court, I knew I had to enlist some help with managing and organising the numbers. So, with this Bron Cain kindly stepped up to be team manager for our second team. I can not thank Bron enough for this. Her expertise and coaching skills brought together a brand-new side who were able to come together and work hard week in and week out. South Croydon Blue only managed a couple of wins for the season, finishing 8th on ladder, however, with each week the team showed massive improvements and find their niche by the end of season. Some impressive milestones to take note of for South Croydon Blue are Caitlin Taylor reaching 50 games for the club. A player who shows great determination and grit in any position she plays, she doesn't let her size stop her from running circles around her opponents. Also congratulations to Charlotte who smashed out over 100 goals for the season, a massive effort for the young player and we can't wait to see what else she can bring to the club. The next congratulations is to Eloise Goodall who took out this year's 'player's player' award out our presentation night. Voted by the players, Eloise was a standout this season and was a well-deserved recipient.

Well done to our Blue team and we can't wait to see what you guys can bring into season 2025.

South Croydon White was our Div 12 team this year. Strong numbers one the court each week saw White finish the season 4th of the ladder, securing a finals spot before the season finished. This was a massive achievement as South Netball haven't been able to make finals in a few years. Unfortunately, we got beaten by Coldstream in the semi-final ending our season, but the girls never gave up and put up a good fight right until the final siren. I could not be prouder of the girls this season and we can only go up from here.

One special milestone we had for this team is Molly O'Toole, reaching 100 club games this season. An OG player, playing every season since day dot and so a massive congrats to Molly and we hope that she has many more games left to play. Our award winners for this season 'player's player' award went to Stephanie Phillips and Molly O'Toole. Both players continue to work hard week in and week out, and both players are returning players for a few seasons now, which we love to see.

I would like to thank every player who donned a South dress this season, each week everyone, who showed up with passion and determination to work hard and keep the netball program up and running. The program is looking to continue to grow and become stronger than ever so if you are interested in playing, don't hesitate to reach out!

Molly O'Toole - Netball Co-ordinator



Junior Club Report

Well just like that season 2024 has come to an end!

What an amazing year it has been for our club, with 14 sides taking to the field and over 300 kids donning the Doggies colours this year.

The number 7 featured prominently in 2024:

7 of our competitive teams qualified for the finals

7 of our players were invited to the EFNL Best & Fairest

3 of which won the league B&F, 1 runner up and 3 finished top 5 (*Congratulations to Tarj, Zac, Alira, Cam, Marina, Josh & Sienna*)

7 of our players have been invited to join the trials to train with the Eastern Ranges over the summer!

(*Congratulations & good luck to Zac, Alira, Hudson, Emily, Lucy, Elouise & Reese*)

7 fantastic individuals were nominated for Club person of the Year

The club was recognised by the EFNL for the 3rd consecutive year as one of four finalists for the coveted 'Best Conducted Club' award. Whilst the award ended up elsewhere, it is a testament to all involved in our community that we continue to be recognised as a club that conducts itself in the right way both on and off the field. Long may this continue.



Congratulations to our U11 side who were victorious in a nerve-wracking grand final. Coach Ken Darby and his assistants have worked diligently with this group over the past few years and were rewarded with the ultimate prize. To our U12 boys, U14 boys, U16 girls & U17.5 boys congratulations on what were otherwise very successful seasons. You did yourselves and the club proud.

We wrapped up the season with a presentation evening for our 17.5 boys and 18 girls at the Dorset Hotel. This was a wonderful evening, celebrating the season that was and for many the end of their junior football journey. To those players and families, we wish you the very best for the future and hope to see many take the step up to the senior club in 2025.

A special mention to Belinda, Joline, Steve & Tony for helping bring the night together.

For our under 8s through to 16s, we came together at Cheong to celebrate the season and it was fantastic to see so many families enjoy the day.

I was delighted to announce, Jenni Modica as Club Person of the Year. Jenni has played a key role overseeing our Trainers for many years amongst committee, social media, and many other things including her work with the senior club. Congratulations Jenni!

To Belinda, Dale, Ken, Dan, Elise & Jaime who were all very worthy nominees, well done on being recognised as valuable contributors to the club this season, and in the case of some, many years.

Our AGM was held prior, and we saw 2 long standing committee members decide to take a step back after many years of outstanding service. To Steve Hiney & Dale Elphick, thank you for everything you have done for the South Croydon Junior Football Club. I am pleased to advise, whilst neither will hold a formal role in 2025, both won't be going too far away, and you'll see them around the club on a regular basis in 2025. Thank you also to Kerrie Anns and Cris Rojas for your contributions.

I am pleased to advise many new faces will be joining the committee in 2025. As ever, we are always on the lookout for people to help in numerous ways so if you would like to be involved, please get in touch. As the club continues to grow it is important that we share the workload and as the saying goes 'many hands, make light work.'

To the Exec committee and the broader committee, thank you for the huge effort you have put in this season. A new registration platform and requiring an entire set of new playing jumpers were just a couple of the challenges faced this year. Ultimately, junior sporting clubs rely on volunteers to make things tick and we are fortunate to have many dedicate their time to ensure we are a community many wish to be a part of.

For now, please enjoy a well-deserved break and we look forward to seeing you all in 2025.

Go Doggies!

Chris D'Astoli - Junior Club President

Award Winners - 2024

Senior Men

SCFC Seniors - 2024	Best & Fairest	Christopher Jones
SCFC Seniors - 2024	Runner-up Best & Fairest	Matthew Jones
SCFC Seniors - 2024	3rd Best & Fairest	Mason Hellenen
SCFC Seniors - 2024	Best Finals Player	Brayden Kilpatrick
SCFC Seniors - 2024	Leading Goal Kicker	James Wilsen
SCFC Seniors - 2024	Daniel King Award	Matthew George

Development Men

SCFC Reserves - 2024	Best & Fairest	Thomas Hardstaff
SCFC Reserves - 2024	Runner-up Best & Fairest	William Connor
SCFC Reserves - 2024	3rd Best & Fairest	Lenny Robin
SCFC Reserves - 2024	Leading Goal Kicker	Nathan Rancie
SCFC Reserves - 2024	Daniel King Award	Thomas Hardstaff

U/19.5s

SCFC U19.5 - 2024	Best & Fairest	Max Haun
SCFC U19.5 - 2024	Runner-up Best & Fairest	Lachlan Cooper
SCFC U19.5 - 2024	3rd Best & Fairest	Joshua Connor
SCFC U19.5 - 2024	Most Determined	Pat Doherty
SCFC U19.5 - 2024	Best Team Player	Thomas McNess
SCFC U19.5 - 2024	Coaches Award	Luke Bracken
SCFC U19.5 - 2024	Zane Job Rookie Award	Max Haun

Veterans

SCFC Veterans - 2024	Best & Fairest	Chris D'Astoli
SCFC Veterans - 2024	Best & Fairest	Paul Mitchell
SCFC Veterans - 2024	Runner-up Best & Fairest	Paul Medveczky
SCFC Veterans - 2024	3rd Best & Fairest	Ken Darby
SCFC Veterans - 2024	Ian Chatterton Memorial Award	Ryan Cliff

Award Winners - 2024.

Senior Women

SCFC Womens Premier - 2024	Best & Fairest	Nicole Garner
SCFC Womens Premier - 2024	Runner-up Best & Fairest	Amy Grimwade
SCFC Womens Premier - 2024	CDS Award	Heather McMillan
SCFC Womens Premier - 2024	Best Finals Player	Abbey Marshall
SCFC Womens Premier - 2024	Leading Goal Kicker	Taylah Black

Development Women

SCFC Women D3 - 2024	Best & Fairest	Grace Tobin
SCFC Women D3 - 2024	Runner-up Best & Fairest	Hannah Griffin
SCFC Women D3 - 2024	CDS Award	Bethany Goodall
SCFC Women D3 - 2024	Best Finals Player	Grace Tobin
SCFC Women D3 - 2024	Leading Goal Kicker	Tearnu Graham

Netball

SC Netball Blue - 2024	Player's Player	Eloise Goodall
SC Netball White - 2024	Player's Player	Molly O'Toole
SC Netball White - 2024	Player's Player	Stephanie Phillips

Other club awards

SCFC – 2024	Life Member	Cory McGrath
SCFC – 2024	Life Member	Cathy White
SCFC - 2024	Stephens Best Club Person	Brian Batty

Milestones -2024

Men

300 Senior Games	Dano King
100 Club Games	Max King
100 Club Games	Jayden Cass
150 Club Games	Liam Cox
100 Senior Games	Max King
100 Senior Games	Jayden Cass
50 Senior Games	Ben Willis
50 Senior Games	James Wilsen
50 Senior Games	Jason Want
150 Development Games	Luke O'Toole
50 Club Games	Charlie McKellar
50 Club Games	Sam McKellar
50 Club Games	Fraser Sheridan
50 Club Games	Lachie Evans
50 Club Games	Tyler Charlton
50 U/19 Games	Flynn Burgess
50 U/19 Games	Justin Johnston
50 Veterans Games	Ken Darby
100 Veterans Games	Dale White

Women











50 Club Games	Elizabeth Griffin
50 Club Games	Taylor Hammersley
50 Club Games	Tannika Martin
50 Club Games	Heather McMillan
50 Club Games	Abbey Marshall
50 Club Games	Caitlyn Adams
50 Club Games	Alana Prendergast

Netball

100 Club Games	Molly O'Toole
50 Club Games	Caitlin Taylor

Ladders - 2024










Senior Men

		P	PTS	%
1	 East Ringwood Seniors	18	64	165.28
2	 Balwyn Seniors	18	52	148.36
3	 Rowville Seniors	18	48	134.80
4	 Vermont Seniors	18	48	115.91
5	 South Croydon Seniors	18	48	110.83
6	 Blackburn Seniors	18	44	145.51
7	 Noble Park Seniors	18	24	104.04
8	 Doncaster East Seniors	18	20	75.64
9	 Berwick Seniors	18	8	47.29
10	 Norwood Seniors	18	4	39.46











Development Men

		P	PTS	%
1	 Blackburn Reserves	18	64	305.73
2	 East Ringwood Reserves	18	58	229.30
3	 Vermont Reserves	18	52	228.34
4	 Rowville Reserves	18	46	205.86
5	 Noble Park Reserves	18	40	163.83
6	 Balwyn Reserves	18	34	153.97
7	 Doncaster East Reserves	18	30	107.61
8	 South Croydon Reserves	18	28	100.43
9	 Berwick Reserves	18	8	20.43
10	 Norwood Reserves	18	0	3.66

U/19.5s

		P	PTS	%
1	 Kilsyth U19.5	16	64	333.63
2	 Blackburn U19.5 Red	16	44	127.05
3	 Chirside Park U19.5	16	44	115.21
4	 South Belgrave U19.5 Red	16	36	83.81
5	 Scoresby U19.5	16	28	89.62
6	 Ferntree Gully/South Croydon U19.5	16	22	78.47
7	 Wantirna South U19.5 White	16	20	71.72
8	 Mitcham U19.5 Yellow	16	18	61.80
9	 Berwick U19.5 White	16	12	72.17

Veteran's



		P	PTS	W
1	 North Ringwood Veterans Men	9	36	9
2	 South Croydon Veterans Men	9	32	8
3	 Waverley Blues Veterans Men	9	28	7
4	 Scoresby Veterans Men	9	24	6
5	 Croydon North MLOC Veterans Men	9	18	4
6	 The Basin Veterans Men	9	14	3
7	 Chirside Park Veterans Men	9	12	3
8	 Boronia Veterans Men	9	8	2
9	 South Belgrave Veterans Men	9	8	2
10	 Endeavour Hills Veterans Men	9	0	0

Ladders - 2024

Senior Women

		P	PTS	%
1	 Eastern Devils Senior Women White	14	52	413.25
2	 South Croydon Senior Women Blue	14	48	252.83
3	 Whitehorse Pioneers Senior Women	14	32	98.95
4	 South Belgrave Senior Women Black	14	28	88.85
5	 Vermont Senior Women Purple	14	24	73.08
6	 Mount Evelyn Senior Women	14	20	96.06
7	 The Basin Senior Women Red	14	12	39.48
8	 Boronia Senior Women Brown	14	8	34.04

Development Women

		P	PTS	%
1	 Mooroolbark Senior Women	14	48	366.23
2	 Coldstream Senior Women	14	40	132.34
3	 South Croydon Senior Women Red	14	36	200.81
4	 Heathmont Senior Women	14	32	112.96
5	 Eastern Devils Senior Women Black	14	28	100.24
6	 Mitcham Senior Women	14	20	68.60
7	 North Ringwood Senior Women Red	14	16	52.84
8	 Croydon North MLOC Senior Women	14	4	39.37

Netball Blue (DIV 8)

		P	W	L	% WON
1	 Whitehorse Pioneers	13	13	0	100
2	 East Ringwood White	13	11	2	84.6
3	 Vermont Eagles Black	13	10	3	76.9
4	 UFTG Blue	13	6	6	50
5	 Bayswater Black	13	5	8	38.5
6	 Park Orchards Green	12	3	9	25
7	 South Croydon Blue	13	2	11	15.4
8	 Mitcham Black	12	4	7	37.5
9	 Waverley Blues White	13	1	12	7.7

Netball White (DIV 12)

		P	W	L	% WON
1	 Waverley Blues Kestrels	12	9	2	79.2
2	 Montrose Raptors	13	9	3	73.1
3	 Coldstream Green	12	8	3	70.8
4	 South Croydon White	12	8	4	66.7
5	 East Burwood White	12	4	7	37.5
6	 Scoresby Magpies	13	4	8	34.6
7	 Nunawading Lions Black	12	3	7	33.3
8	 Bayswater Green	13	1	11	11.5
9	 Waverley Blues Mavericks	13	1	12	7.7