



In this week's edition, the Feds First Grade storm home at Hensley, while the Youths silence Camden. We also speak to Feds Committee Chairman Jon Marcuson on his thoughts after the first full round of the season has been completed.

It's Hensley Time Again!!

This Sunday 5th June 2011, the entire Hakoah Feds club will be playing back-to-back at Hensley Athletic Field, Corner Corish Circuit and Wentworth Avenue, Pagewood.

The First Grade will be playing Prospect United, a team that mustered a 2-2 draw against our boys in the first match of the season.

We want everyone there to support the First Grade in this crucial match. A win will put the side back in the top five and restore the side's title challenge.

So get down to Hensley this Sunday, bring the family, and come create the unique atmosphere that only Hakoah fans can make!!

YOUR FIRST GRADE NEEDS YOU!!!

Sunday, Hensley Athletic Field, 7pm Kick Off.

The First Grade are Back with a Bang

After last week's heartbreaking draw in the final minutes of the match, the Feds First Grade were under no illusions as to the importance of this match against Northbridge FC on Sunday night. Anything but a win at Hensley could be lethal for the side's title hopes.

After returning from his coaching course in London, Coach Mark Robertson sent his side out as follows:

Adam Sonnabend

Marc Kacen (c)

Dino D'Agrosa

Seamus Dowd

Michael Randall

Greg Moss Nathan Kosmina Deklan Gilmartin Rani Rimmer

Neil Jablonski Jon Pillemer

Bench: Simon Weiss, DaanRanshuijsen, Moshe Wakil, David Helfenbaum

In an exciting first half, Hakoah dominated proceedings through a quick passing game that tore wide gaps through the Northbridge formation. The line-up encouraged Michael Randall and Greg Moss to play as wing-backs, which added an extra element to the attacking plays of the side. On two occasions, Randall found himself one-on-one with the Northbridge keeper after making 40 metre sprints up the left flank.

A goal was always coming, and eventually fell to Rani Rimmer after another superb passing move generated from the midfield.

Despite only holding a 1-0 lead at half time, Hakoah returned with vigour in the second half, assuring the packed stands that complacency would not be an issue.

Within a ten-minute spell, Jon Pillemer wound back the years, slotting away a clinical double that left the Northbridge side stunned and the Hakoah fans in raptures.

Despite a host of chances toward the back on the game, including two one-on-one's to Pillemer, Hakoah were unable to convert, finishing the game comfortably 3-0 winners.

Unfortunately the match did come at a cost, with injuries suffered to marquee signing Neil Jablonski and goalkeeper Adam Sonnabend. Hopefully these won't be significant and the boys can be back on the pitch as soon as possible.

In the Reserve Grade match, Hakoah were wasteful in front of goal, going down 0-1. In a tight match that seemed destined to be decided by a single goal, Hakoah were unable to convert, missing a host of chances. The side is still in finals contention, however will need to notch up some wins in their next few games to stake a claim for the playoffs.

Silence in the South – The Youth Settle Old Scores

Since Hakoah's inception into the Youth Development League, now known as State League Division 1, Camden Tigers have always been the benchmark Club.

Their players are tough, fight to the end, and, historically, have always been a bogey team for Hakoah.

However, with the current form of all the Hakoah Youth sides, there was a strong sense that this year Hakoah could really challenge the Tigers at their fortress of Ron Dine Reserve.

Setting the tone from the outset, the Under 13s, placed 2nd on the table, were up against front-runners Camden. Hakoah gave their opponents no respect, dominating the play with crisp passing and sharp runs. It wasn't long before Jordan Koton opened the scoring after some superb lead up play down the flank from Matteo Mangioni. Shortly after this, Mangioni made another run down the flank, before delivering an awkward cross, which chipped the Camden keeper. Despite conceding on the stroke of half time, the boys came out in the second half, refusing to give an inch. The match ended 2-1, with Hakoah sending shivers down the spines of the rest of the competition.

The Under 14s were given a lesson in the Camden battle mentality, going down 0-1. Despite a recent run of results, the Hakoah boys were shaky on the Camden territory, struggling to play their passing game. Camden grabbed a goal five minutes before half time. The side were unable to equalise against the strong, determined Tigers, and will now be looking to get straight back on the winner's list next week against top of the table, St. George.



The Under 14s in the huddle before their battle against Camden.

The Under 15s continued their great form, taking home a 2-1 victory. A seasoned performance all over the park was the key theme of this match, as the side

attacked with vigour, before defending resolutely to ensure another important win. The goals fell to Jason Cohen and Dale Palte, whilst Aaron Sperber was regarded as the best on pitch for his relentless efforts in attacks and defence. This side is definitely showing their determined character and are making a serious play for finals football.

After a shock loss last week, the Under 16s bounced back to form, comfortably winning 3-0 over Camden. With the return of Coach Mark Robertson, and the side itching to regain top spot on the ladder, the boys withstood some early pressure from Camden before they took control of the match. Two goals either side of the half from Gareth Milner, before a Josh Shubitz finish, topped off a clinical performance from the side. The boys were strong all round the park, with team manager Harry Wrublewski explaining that “the pressure was piling on from the right, the left and the middle. There was no one area that Camden could shut down.”

The Under 18s fell to a 0-1 loss to top of the table Camden. Despite starting off brightly, the boys were unable to convert two early chances, and were punished just before the break. The side pushed hard in the second half, but the equaliser remained elusive.

The Half Time Wrap with Chairman Jon Marcuson

We are now half way through the season, and, with all seven teams still a chance for finals football, we thought we would catch up with Hakoah Feds Committee Chairman, Jon Marcuson, to gain the Committee’s opinions on the season thus far, and the goals moving forward into 2012.

Q: Jon, all seven teams are still in with a shot of the finals. What is the feeling going through the Committee?

JM: We’re definitely all feeling very excited. We knew at the start of the season that our teams have enough quality to challenge across all ages. It would come down more to the depth of the squads and the character of the players. So far, all the sides have fought in every game, and the individual team’s positions on the table reflect this. We at the Committee are all quietly confident of getting at least four of the seven Feds sides into the finals.

Q: At the start of the season, the Committee was focusing intently on the First Grade. How have the Committee felt this side has performed, and are they still on track of gaining promotion?

JM: The First Grade have struggled with consistency, but overall, have played some fantastic football and represented the Club proudly. The side play attacking football and have torn teams apart at will. We have been away for the majority of the first Round, and this should give us an advantage in the back half of the

season, playing at Hensley. We still hold the belief that the First Grade can win promotion, but the next few games are key, as we are up against the top teams.

Q: For the first time ever, all the Youth sides are a genuine threat to the competition. What do you think has been the change this year, compared to past seasons?

JM: The Youth sides have all undergone an overhaul in professionalism and development, which is directly related to the Club's coaching staff under **Barry Walker our coaching director** and backed up by **Peter Grunfeld our Football manager**, together with our Academy sessions. This has given the player's the platform to excel at higher levels and perform with higher intensity.

However, the key aspect that has changed this year is that Hakoah is, at long last, developing a killer instinct. This is the first year that all teams hold the self-belief that, not only can they win games, but that they *can't* lose games. This belief is vital to the success of the Club going forward.

Q: Overall, what are you thinking about all the teams, going into the second Round of the competition?

JM: We, as a Committee, are very confident that all the teams will challenge for the playoffs. Naturally, we accept that not all teams will get to that nirvana, but we are expecting four of the seven teams to be playing into late August and early September. The U13s and U16s are genuine title challengers, while the U14s and U15s are taking home big wins in their pursuit for the finals. They are both a very good shot at getting there. The U18s and Reserves are struggling to take their chances, but are still in with a chance if they work out how to score goals! The First Grade are challenging for the title, and we are going to do everything we can to get them there!



The Feds Committee are looking to mimic the success of the Under 16s, who are last year's minor premiers and Grand Finalists, across all Feds teams.

The Halfway Point for All Teams

Here are all the grade tables for the Hakoah Feds sides at the halfway point of the season:

Club Championship:

	Played	Wins	Draws	Losses	Total
Mt. Druitt Town Rangers	63	40	10	13	130
Camden Tigers	65	40	5	20	125
Gladesville Ryde Magic	63	37	12	14	123
St. George	65	36	9	20	117
Stannmore Hawks	65	35	11	19	116
Hakoah	65	36	7	22	115
Hills Brumbies	65	27	11	27	92
Hurstville City Minotaurs SC	63	26	11	26	89
Southern Branch	65	24	9	32	81
Springwood	63	20	13	27	73
Balmain East Tigers	65	17	6	42	57
Infer Lions	65	15	12	38	57
Northbridge FC	65	14	12	39	54
Nepean FC	65	12	10	43	46

First Grade:

Table After Round 13

POS	TEAM	P	W	L	D	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Luddenham United	12	9	3	0	33	25	8	27
2	Roosters FC	13	7	4	2	34	22	12	23
3	Chopin Park Rams FC	13	5	2	6	20	13	7	21
4	Fairfield Wanderers FC	12	6	3	3	17	14	3	21
5	Prospect United	12	6	4	2	22	13	9	20
6	Hawkesbury City SC	12	5	2	5	23	20	3	20
7	Hakoah	12	5	3	4	35	20	15	19
8	Springwood	11	4	3	4	20	14	6	16
9	Northbridge FC	12	4	4	4	26	25	1	16
10	Hurstville City Minotaurs	11	4	5	2	22	27	-5	14
11	Bathurst 75	12	3	7	2	16	19	-3	11
12	Belmore Hercules	12	1	5	6	14	26	-12	9
13	Nepean FC	11	1	6	4	12	23	-11	7
14	Gazy Lansvale	13	1	10	2	14	47	-33	5

Reserves:

Table After Round 13

POS	TEAM	P	W	L	D	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Fairfield Wanderers FC	12	11	1	0	27	10	17	33
2	Hawkesbury City SC	12	7	2	3	25	15	10	24

3	Northbridge FC	12	7	2	3	25	16	9	24
4	Chopin Park Rams FC	13	7	4	2	21	17	4	23
5	Gazy Lansvale	13	7	5	1	26	19	7	22
6	Springwood	12	5	5	2	20	13	7	17
7	Luddenham United	12	5	5	2	22	20	2	17
8	Prospect United	12	5	5	2	23	27	-4	17
9	Belmore Hercules	13	3	5	5	19	18	1	14
10	Hurstville City Minotaurs	11	4	5	2	16	18	-2	14
11	Hakoah	12	3	6	3	8	14	-6	12
12	Roosters FC	13	3	9	1	15	37	-22	10
13	Bathurst 75	12	2	8	2	9	20	-11	8
14	Nepean FC	11	2	8	1	11	23	-12	7

U18:

Table After Round 13

POS	TEAM	P	W	L	D	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Camden Tigers	13	10	2	1	50	16	34	31
2	Hills Brumbies	13	9	0	4	47	13	34	31
3	Gladesville Ryde Magic	12	8	0	4	48	14	34	28
4	Stanmore Hawks	13	8	3	2	38	20	18	26
5	St. George	13	8	4	1	41	34	7	25
6	Springwood	12	6	3	3	23	14	9	21
7	Mt. Druitt Town Rangers	12	6	3	3	33	24	9	21
8	Hurstville City Minotaurs SC	12	4	4	4	30	21	9	16
9	Northbridge FC	13	5	8	0	31	46	-15	15
10	Hakoah	13	4	8	1	23	25	-2	13
11	Nepean FC	13	4	8	1	27	40	-13	13
12	Inter Lions	13	2	9	2	26	46	-20	8
13	Balmain East Tigers	13	1	11	1	16	48	-32	4
14	Southern Branch	13	0	12	1	8	80	-72	1

U16:

Table After Round 13

POS	TEAM	P	W	L	D	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Hakoah	13	10	2	1	43	12	31	31
2	Stanmore Hawks	13	10	2	1	30	11	19	31
3	Gladesville Ryde Magic	12	7	2	3	23	9	14	24
4	Springwood	12	7	2	3	25	11	14	24
5	Hills Brumbies	13	7	4	2	27	23	4	23
6	Hurstville City Minotaurs SC	12	6	3	3	23	13	10	21
7	St. George	13	6	5	2	24	18	6	20
8	Camden Tigers	13	6	6	1	23	20	3	19
9	Mt. Druitt Town Rangers	12	5	4	3	22	15	7	18
10	Inter Lions	13	5	6	2	26	20	6	17
11	Balmain East Tigers	13	2	9	2	15	32	-17	8

12	Southern Branch	13	2	10	1	11	41	-30	7
13	Nepean FC	13	1	10	2	8	52	-44	5
14	Northbridge FC	13	0	9	4	11	34	-23	4

U15:

Table After Round 13

POS	TEAM	P	W	L	D	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Mt. Druitt Town Rangers	13	11	0	2	45	7	38	35
2	Southern Branch	13	9	1	3	35	16	19	30
3	Gladesville Ryde Magic	13	8	4	1	21	13	8	25
4	Balmain East Tigers	13	7	5	1	16	14	2	22
5	Stanmore Hawks	13	6	4	3	21	11	10	21
6	Hurstville City Minotaurs SC	12	6	5	1	16	15	1	19
7	Camden Tigers	13	6	6	1	23	23	0	19
8	Hakoah	13	5	6	2	20	17	3	17
9	Springwood	12	3	3	6	11	11	0	15
10	St. George	13	4	7	2	12	16	-4	14
11	Northbridge FC	13	4	7	2	15	32	-17	14
12	Hills Brumbies	13	3	7	3	17	29	-12	12
13	Nepean FC	13	2	10	1	12	39	-27	7
14	Inter Lions	13	1	10	2	9	30	-21	5

U14:

Table After Round 13

POS	TEAM	P	W	L	D	F	A	GD	PTS
1	St. George	13	11	1	1	31	4	27	34
2	Stanmore Hawks	13	9	1	3	41	3	38	30
3	Mt. Druitt Town Rangers	13	9	3	1	36	11	25	28
4	Hakoah	13	8	4	1	25	23	2	25
5	Camden Tigers	13	7	4	2	18	13	5	23
6	Balmain East Tigers	13	6	5	2	30	24	6	20
7	Gladesville Ryde Magic	13	5	5	3	18	20	-2	18
8	Southern Branch	13	4	7	2	17	28	-11	14
9	Inter Lions	13	3	6	4	16	25	-9	13
10	Hills Brumbies	13	4	8	1	28	41	-13	13
11	Hurstville City Minotaurs SC	12	4	7	1	16	30	-14	13
12	Northbridge FC	13	3	7	3	17	36	-19	12
13	Nepean FC	13	2	8	3	18	38	-20	9
14	Springwood	12	1	10	1	5	20	-15	4

U13:

Table After Round 13

POS	TEAM	P	W	L	D	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Camden Tigers	13	11	2	0	36	9	27	33
2	Hakoah	13	9	2	2	45	18	27	29
3	Southern Branch	13	9	2	2	37	15	22	29
4	Gladesville Ryde Magic	13	9	3	1	30	11	19	28
5	Mt. Druitt Town Rangers	13	9	3	1	33	16	17	28
6	St. George	13	7	3	3	32	13	19	24
7	Hurstville City Minotaurs SC	12	6	4	2	20	13	7	20
8	Inter Lions	13	4	7	2	13	27	-14	14
9	Hills Brumbies	13	4	8	1	21	31	-10	13
10	Nepean FC	13	3	7	3	13	24	-11	12
11	Northbridge FC	13	2	8	3	22	38	-16	9
12	Springwood	12	3	9	0	9	39	-30	9
13	Stanmore Hawks	13	2	9	2	10	36	-26	8
14	Balmain East Tigers	13	1	12	0	8	39	-31	3

The Race for the Golden Boot and Golden Glove Award

With a full Round now complete, we are officially at the half way part of the season, with only one catch up game due for the Feds Opens. The big awards are now very much up for grabs, with players from all age groups making big movements for these Awards.

Here are the rules for both awards:

- The player who scores the most goals across ALL seven Hakoah Feds teams is the winner.
- The goalkeeper who concedes the least amount of goals in the season, across ALL seven Hakoah Feds teams, based on the number of games played, is the winner.
- The Feds Committee reserves the right to adjust the criteria once they receive all the feedback from the coaches.
- The winners will receive \$500 worth of sports equipment thanks to **Victor Sports**.

Here are the current tables for both awards.

The Victor Sports Golden Boot Award:

Rank	Team	Name	Goals
1	U16	Josh Shubitz	15
2	U13	Jordan Koton	14
3	Firsts	Neil Jablonski	12
4	U16	Gareth Milner	12
5	U13	Sam Massis-Wolf	6
6	U13	Brad Paikin	6
7	U14	Simon Rouse	6

8	U13	Harry Buch	5
9	U14	Mikey Herman	5
10	U14	Greg Ellering	4
11	U16	Sam Wrublewski	4
12	Firsts	Deklan Gilmartin	4
13	U13	Ryan Blumberg	4
14	Firsts	Rani Rimmer	4

The Victor Sports Golden Glove Award:

Team	Name	Goals Conceded	Games Played
U16	Harry Rosen	12	13
Reserves	Gil Pollak& David Helfenbaum (GP =8, DH =6)	14	12
U15	Max Nightingale	17	13
U13	Brad Sarif	18	13
Firsts	Adam Sonnabend	20	12
U14	David Booth	23	13
U18	Liam Jeffreys	25	13

Please note that the Victor Sports Golden Glove Award is organised by team. Hence, if two goalkeepers play in one team, they will share the prize if they win.

Putting Fathers Day on the Line

There's good reason why players lining up in a wall protect their crown jewels and not their faces. After all, a ball driven into your face will hurt for a bit, but at least you'll have a bruise. A kick to the crotch hurts your pride, your health, and above all, your future!

Sadly, poor old goalkeeper Adam Sonnabend copped a scorcher in the second half of the First Grade match against Northbridge on Sunday night. Although the exact incident was somewhat innocuous, 'Sonny' was in genuine pain, forced to be subbed from the pitch.

Under 15's Coach Steve Lawrence was also in a bit of pain in the nether regions, forced to miss his side's outing at Camden.

Although many, many jokes can be made, we'll wrap it up there, wishing both Sonny and Steve a quick and full recovery.

Awards of the Week

Player of the Week: Some great performances this week left many contenders for the 'Player of the Week', no less than the Under 13s who overwhelmed top of the table Camden Tigers, at the Tiger's home ground.

But for this week, the 'Player of the Week' Award goes to perennial First Grader and rumoured jockey, Jon Pillemer.

Winding back the years, Pillemer put away two brilliant goals in quick succession for First Grade in a key ten minute spell, before blowing the chance for a spectacular hat-trick, missing two one-on-ones.

Whilst Pillemer's age is still in question, this week his performance demonstrated all his experience and ability. As a result, Pillemer is the clear winner of this week's 'Player of the Week' Award.



Jon Pillemer: A happy winner of this week's 'Player of the Week' Award.

Blunder of the Week: With the Youth's at Camden this week, the 'Blunder' department were keeping a keen eye on the U15's match. For all purposes alone, this was a massive test for Coach Steve Lawrence.

Steve is a foundation coach of the Hakoah Feds Club, and, during his tenure, has NEVER won at Camden. But it is the way in which Steve has lost that has lived on in infamy through the Club.

Steve's Under 18s last year were leading against ten-man Camden with 10 minutes remaining, before two brain snaps left the side with nine-men and a losing score-line at full time. In the pervious year, Steve's side were winning 2-0, before an infamously stupid red card left the side with ten-men, eventually going down 2-4.

So you can imagine the joy that everyone was feeling when word came out that Steve's U15 side had broken the Camden hoodoo.

However, it turns out there was just one catch ... Steve wasn't there!!

Yes, it turns out that Steve was incapacitated with his illness, and hence the team, and win, fell into the capable hands of Assistant Coach Linzsy and coaching Director Barry Walker.

For missing this monumental day, and of course, continuing his drought at Camden, Steve is deservedly this week's 'Blunder of the Week' winner.



For missing the drought-breaking Camden match, Steve Lawrence is the week's 'Blunder of the Week' winner. PS This was taken before his recent operation. The smile has totally gone.

The Upcoming Week

This week the Hakoah Feds sides are all back-to-back at Hensley Athletic Field, Corner Corish Circuit and Wentworth Avenue, Pagewood, on Sunday 5th June 2011.

The Feds Opens are up against Prospect United, while the Feds Youths are up against rivals St. George.

We want all of you down there to support the First Grade in this crucial match.

Get down to Hensley, bring the family and come watch the best Hakoah First Grade side in years!!

Full game times are:

Under 13 – 9.00 am
Under 14 – 10.15 am
Under 15 – 11.40 am
Under 16 – 1.15 pm
Under 18 – 3.00 pm
Reserves – 5.00 pm

First Grade – 7.00 pm

That is this week's edition. For any comments, please email hakoah.feds@gmail.com.

Written by: Guest writer: Sarah Gill, members of the committee, and private anonymous contributors.

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