



In this week's edition, the Hakoah Under 13s lift the trophy, whilst the First Grade qualify for the Grand Final next week. We also wrap up the 2011 season for the Feds Youth sides, with opinions from Coaching Director Barry Walker.

First Grade Play for the Title: Get Out to Hawkesbury!!

After disposing of Northbridge in the Preliminary Final, the Hakoah Feds First Grade have one last challenge remaining ...

THE GRAND FINAL THIS SUNDAY!!

The boys are up against long-time rivals Roosters FC in what is sure to be a blockbuster.

The game is being played out in neutral Hawkesbury.

WE WANT EVERYONE OUT THERE TO PUSH THE BOYS ON!!!!

The club is planning on providing ONE supporters bus going from White City to the ground in Hawkesbury for the Grand Final. If you want to book a seat on this bus please call Dawn Herman on 0416259546 to reserve a seat urgently.

Because seats are limited we will allocate on a first in basis.

Please note the Club will pay for the bus.

So save the date, and make sure you come out for the First Grade Grand Final this Sunday!!

Game details:

Sunday 25th September 2011

Address: Bensons Lane Field, Benson Lane, Richmond.

Kick Off at 3 pm



The Feds First Grade play for the Grand Final this Sunday at Hawkesbury.

The Under 13s Win the Grand Final!!!!

Up against the minor premiers, Southern Branch, the Under 13s knew that this Grand Final would be a test of both physical and mental fortitude.

Southern Branch inflicted a 1-7 drubbing of the boy's early in the season, which sparked a remarkable turn around that saw Hakoah place 3rd on the table.

From the outset of this match, it was clear that it would be a contest of the highest quality. Short, crisp passing from both sides produced an attacking game filled with the individual flair of some of the State's best players.

Hakoah grabbed the lead midway through the first half, after Captain Ryan Blumberg produced a stunning 35 yard free-kick that rocketed into the top left hand corner.

Southern Branch responded soon after, grabbing an equaliser that was also of the highest quality.

Coming out for the second period, Hakoah were determined to regain their advantage, and it was Captain Blumberg who again stepped up. A Jordi Swibel free kick sailed over the defence, where Blumberg, running through, placed the ball past the advancing keeper into the right corner of the net.

This was Blumberg's third goal in the last two matches ... and he's a Centre Defender!!

Try as they might, Southern Branch couldn't break down the defensive Hakoah unit. Keeper Brad Sarif made the save of the season with just two minutes remaining, when Southern Branch took a shot which was destined for the top right hand corner. Sarif leapt up to get a finger to the ball, pushing it around the post for a corner and ensuring the win.

As the final whistle blew, an almighty cheer erupted from the stands and the pitch as the Hakoah Under 13s celebrated the Club's first ever Grand Final victory!

Coach Barry Walker was understandably thrilled with the outcome.

"To win the grand final against the Minor Premiers after winning successive semi final games against Camden and Mount Druitt, on their home grounds, was a fantastic achievement", said Walker.

"It was an excellent game, worthy of the occasion and both teams played fantastic football and in a great spirit. Ryan Blumberg deserves special mention after scoring both goals in the grand final and also the winning goal in the major semi."

Walker was proud of his boys, who have improved beyond sight from the start of the season.

"The 13s success was built on a great squad and every player played there part", said Walker. "As a coach, I could not have asked any more of the boys and they where a fantastic credit to the whole club and they where a joy to coach."

Congratulations to the entire Under 13 squad and Coaching Staff!!



The Under 13s thank the crowd after winning the Grand Final.



Under 13s Captain Ryan Blumberg (no. 6) calls up his players to receive their medals.

The Under 16s Falter at the Final Hurdle

With the side qualifying for their second successive Grand Final, the Under 16s were out to go one better than last year and take home the trophy.

Standing in their way were the Minor Premiers, Gladesville Ryde Magic.

From the off, Hakoah began dominating the play, reducing the Magic to spectators as they moved the ball around the park with comfort and ease. Two golden chances were fired wide, before Gareth Milner turned his defender from a long clearance from keeper Harry Rosen. Milner went wide, before crossing for an unmarked Robbie Ezekiel to head home.



Under 16 Robbie Ezekiel (far left) dives to header the opening goal for Hakoah.

But just as the crowd were starting to expect a demolition, Hakoah took their foot off the pedal, resorting to a long ball game and giving away cheap fouls. Off one such free kick, Gladesville found the equaliser from a header that beat Rosen.

Both teams came out of the sheds desperate to find a winner, but neither controlled the game for any lengthy period. Hakoah's best chance fell to Ezekiel, after he cut in from the left flank, before hitting with his weaker right foot. The shot sailed just wide of the post.

The match went into extra time, where the arm-wrestle continued. However, after another cheap foul was committed, a Gladesville free-kick found its way over Rosen's head.

Despite fighting valiantly for the equaliser, the boys couldn't find the back of the net, and went down 1-2 at the end of extra time.

Despite the loss, the Under 16s have had a phenomenal season, and should be congratulated on proving that last year was no fluke.



The Under 16s fell just short of a Grand Final victory after a stellar season.

First Grade Get Revenge on Northbridge to Play for the Grand Final Trophy

Report submitted by the Hakoah Feds Committee.

The Sunday showcase of football concluded with the Feds First Grade up against rivals Northbridge FC in the Preliminary Final, with a spot in the Grand Final the prize for the victors.

With the boy's still licking their wounds from Northbridge's last round win, costing Hakoah promotion, it was clear that this match would be about far more than just qualifying for a Grand Final.

With that in mind, Coach Mark Robertson sent his side out as follows:

Terry DalBroi

Marc Kacen (c)

Joe Vrkic

Pat Darvill

Greg Moss

Daan Ranshuijsen

Nathan Kosmina Deklan Gilmartin

Neil Jablonski

Justin Kosmina Jon Pillemer

Bench: Seamus Dowd, Rani Rimmer, Michael Randall, Adam Joseph, David Helfenbaum.

Hakoah began strongly, taking hold of possession and fluidly passing the ball around the park.

In control and looking ominous, Hakoah opened the scoring in the 10th minute with Captain Marc Kacen putting away off a corner.

Soon enough it was 2-0, when a Deklan Gilmartin left foot shot deflected into the back of the net at the 20th minute.

The boys continued to tease the Northbridge side, forcing them to chase shadows as the ball was pushed around the park with ease.

The second half was a less-exciting affair, with neither side creating many chances. Northbridge hit the cross bar off a free-kick midway through the second half, before Rani Rimmer skied a glorious chance on the 80th minute, which would have made it 3-0.

Northbridge did grab a consolation in stoppage time, however it was too little too late to change the outcome.

The 2-1 win was just reward for the heartbreak Northbridge inflicted on Hakoah in the final round of the season. The boys now face off against old rivals Roosters in what is sure to be a blockbuster Grand Final.

The Feds First Grade challenge for the Grand Final trophy this Sunday against Roosters FC. Full details at the top and bottom of the newsletter.

2011: The Season the Feds Youths Announced their Intentions

For the Hakoah Feds Youths, the 2011 season was the first time that all the teams had a real shot at the finals. Although two teams missed out, it was the first year since the Club's inception that Hakoah began to have an awe factor surrounding the teams.

The man responsible for the success of the Youths is Coaching Director Barry Walker. Walker, who also coached the Grand Final winning Under 13s, was instrumental in all the team's success, as he works closely with all the coaches to ensure that all teams are up to scratch.

For Walker, the Grand Final win for his Under 13s was a fitting close to a fantastic season by the team. "it was an incredible season for these young boys", says Walker. "They finished third in the Minor Premiership, and took out the Grand Final in fantastic fashion. They are a talented group of players with some outstanding individuals".

The Under 14s, coached by First Grade marquee signing Neil Jablonski, were the surprise package of the Club, making the finals after finishing 4th in the regular season. They are currently on tour in Singapore to cap off such a brilliant year. As Walker says, "Coach Neil Jablonski had these boys playing a great brand of attacking football and should be a major force next season."

For the Under 15s, it was a turbulent season with some great wins at times, however overshadowed by injuries that dented their late finals charge. Walker is highly optimistic though about this side, saying, "they have plenty of individual talent and can look forward to next season. With a little more focus, they will certainly be semi final players."

The Under 16s fell agonisingly short again this season, however Walker believes they should be applauded for their consistent form over two years. Walker sees this side as forming the foundation of the Hakoah Club for years, saying, "there is an immense amount of talent in the squad and they will form the backbone of the club for many years to come."

The Under 18s narrowly missed out on the top five, which Walker puts down to a need for "a little more consistency". However, Walker is comfortable with these player's as the next generation of Open's players, saying, "there are plenty of talented players in this squad who will move forward to Reserves, which again outlines the strength of the club."

Walker sums up the 2011 season in simple terms.

"Overall, a great season for the YDL, finishing 5th in the club Championship and only five points from third. Three teams played semi final football, two in the grand finals and one Major championship. Combined with the reserves making the semi's and First Grade in this week's Grand Final, it was a fantastic season for the club and much anticipation already for next season!"



Under 13s (L-R) Ben Akres, Jordi Swibel, Matteo Mangioni, Jake Berman, show off their medals after their brilliant season.

Road to the Finals ... With Dino D'Agrosa

Each week we will be checking-in with Feds First Grade defender Dino D'Agrosa for an insight into the First Grade's push to the finals from within the looking glass. Dino, known somewhat as the Loch Ness Monster, has been injured for a large part of this season. However, he has a way with words that we feel can give everyone a strong understanding of the First Grade side (largely pointing out their foibles!!). We are all looking forward to his weekly segments.



Editors Note: If you have no idea what Dino is talking about this week, make sure you use the 'Cockney Rhyming Slang Dictionary' that he has included at the bottom!!

“Lord Nelson, Lord Beaverbrook, Sir Winston Churchill, Sir Anthony Eden, Clement Attlee, Henry Cooper, Lady Diana, we have beaten them all, we have beaten them all. Maggie Thatcher, can you hear me? Maggie Thatcher your boys took a hell of a beating! Your boys took a hell of a beating!”

The year was 1981 and England had just been beaten by Norway 2-1 and Bjorge Lillelien delivered what must go down as one of the best commentary moments in the history or the beautiful game. My work doesn't allow YouTube so I cannot verify it's on there but trust me it's worth perusing the world-wide web for it (and not the web address that was mentioned in the dugout on Sunday....wrong dot com!)

The male cast of Eastenders and Only Fools & Horses* rocked up at the fortress Stadio De La Hensley in the back of our very own Del Boy's yellow 3 wheeled chariot clearly buoyed by their last fixture against our brave lads and the minor premiership belt. They were in our manor looking to cause our first graders some “barney rubble” and derail our Grand Final ambitions. With no jellied eels** on the menu they looked unsettled and seemed to have lost their “harry halls” in what was arguably the biggest fixture of the season. Our boys didn't give them a “butcher's hook” and more importantly left us toasting our victory with a few cold “Britney Spears” at the end of the 90 minutes courtesy of Kacen's “loaf of bread” and Manchester's finest Deklan Gilmartin.

Other notes and questions from the changing room at the weekend include;

- Rani has clearly accepted the offer from Just for Men.....not a grey in sight!!
- Randall must've bought his alarm clock from Del Boy after Thursday nights fiasco
- Daan is the longest in the shower....no not like that! He takes ages in the shower, Dutch hygiene...

- JP was on his mobile drumming up support even during his pre-match rub – dedication
- No white thermal in sight from the Kosmina brothers...
- Mossy ironed his tracksuit at the weekend.....with a cold brick.....
- Did Paddy provide the beer? Direct line into Lion Nathan and still no beer....

I've also had a few Look-A-Like pictures sent through this week, which I'll try and roll out in next week's newsletter. Unfortunately I have restricted web access at work for a number of reasons....so cannot pick them up and post! If you have a First Grader Look-A-Like contender please email the details (everything is anonymous) to donatodagrosa@hotmail.com

The boys have worked hard to get to the Grand Final and I'm sure I speak for all the lads when I say we would love everyone to take the trip out to Hawkesbury to support us in the big one this weekend!

P.S. Well done to Jabba in winning the State League Two Golden Boot Award 2011. Brilliant effort fella!

*Long running British soap opera's set in the East End of London

** Traditional 18th Century East London dish

Cockney Rhyming Slang Dictionary

1. "barney rubble" = trouble
2. "harry halls" = balls
3. "butcher's hook" = look
4. "Britney Spears" = beer
5. "loaf of bread" = head

Awards of the Week

Player of the Week: This week there is no controversy with the 'Player of the Week' Award.

After bringing home the first ever Grand Final trophy to the Hakoah cabinets, the entire Under 13s deservedly win this week's award.

The boys have been the standout side all year, playing a brand of football that is both exciting and disciplined. The entire squad bonded together in fantastic fashion, and this came through when the chips were down and they needed to grind out results.

Well done boys on a great season and for winning this week's 'Player of the Week'.



The Under 13s are well-deserved winners of this week's 'Player of the Week' award.

The Upcoming Week

This week there is only one match, the Feds First Grade Grand Final!!

The match is being played out in Hawkesbury and we want everyone to get out there to support the boys.

Full details are:

Date: Sunday 25th September 2011

Time: Kick Off 3 pm.

Address: Bensons Lane Field, Benson Lane, Richmond.

GET OUT AND CHEER THE BOYS ON FOR THE TITLE!!!!

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

To unsubscribe, please reply 'unsubscribe'.

Written by:

Sarah Gill, members of the Feds Committee, and private anonymous contributors.