



maccabi

MACCABI HAKOAH FEDS F.C.



In this week's edition, the Feds Youth sides humiliate Hills Brumbies, whilst the First Grade stumbles out West. We also introduce the newest member of the Opens coaching staff, former Socceroo Hayden Foxe.

First Grade Falter in Fairfield

The First Grade side suffered their first loss of the season against Fairfield Wanderers this week in a tough match that saw a host of chances wasted.

Out on a narrow pitch in Fairfield, and with a dead heat of 30 degrees offering little respite, the First Grade boys came out with the intention of capitalising on a mid-week victory over Roosters FC in the Waratah Cup (full details of the cup game can be found later on in the newsletter).

With injuries starting to affect the depth of the squad, Coach Mark Robertson sent the side out as follows:

Adam Sonnabend

Greg Moss

Simon Weiss

Marc Kacen (c)

DaanRanshuijsen

Deklan Gilmartin

Nathan Kosmina

Michael Randall

Neil Jablonski

Justin Kosmina

Moshe Wakil

Bench: Jon Pillemer, Seamus Dowd, Zac Rabin, David Helfenbaum

Hakoah began the game in style, dominating play and creating chances. Looking very comfortable, it took only 17 minutes for Hakoah to get off the mark.

Causing havoc down the left flank, Michael Randall knocked a cross into the box, only for Neil Jablonski to attempt the spectacular with a bicycle kick. Although Jablonski made minimal connection, the ball landed at Moshe Wakil's feet who made no mistake from point blank range.

This is Wakil's first goal for the season, at the age of 16.

A break down the middle of the park shortly after saw Nathan Kosmina play in his brother Justin, who created a one-on-one with the Fairfield keeper. However, J Kosmina couldn't finish, narrowly striking past the far post.

Almost immediately after this, Fairfield gained some possession in the centre of the park, and a lazy foul was committed by Hakoah 25 yards out. Relishing the chance, the Fairfield player drove the free kick into the far corner of the net.

1-1.

The goal seemed to stun Hakoah, who were dominating play prior to this. Two minutes later, Fairfield launched an attack, which found their left-winger free in the Hakoah box. The winger made no mistake, and suddenly Hakoah found themselves 1-2 down going into the half time break.

The second half saw Hakoah push forward in search of the elusive equaliser. Deklan Gilmartin was terrorising the Fairfield defence, however Hakoah could not find that final touch to create many clear-cut chances.

Jon Pillemer was brought on for Randall, but failed to make an immediate impact.

Captain Marc Kacen limped off on the 77th minute with a groin injury, bringing Seamus Dowd into the central defence.

Soon after, Simon Weiss was subbed in a last ditch effort for Zac Rabin, changing the formation to a 3-4-3. This was Rabin's debut for First Grade.

However, Hakoah wasted a host of chances in the final 15 minutes, failing to capitalise on their dominance.

The match ended 1-2, and whilst it is too early to press the panic button, the boys will be looking to make amends as soon as possible.

The Reserves fell to a disappointing loss to Fairfield, going down 0-4.

The side played some great football in the first 30 minutes, dominating the play. However some poor defending gifted Fairfield a goal in the 35th minute.

A howler from keeper David Helfenbaum saw the score line 0-2 straight from the Fairfield kick off, and the boys never recovered.

The Youth Send a Message to the Rest

There has been a growing buzz among the youth parents and players that all the teams are about to hit form. Stars were starting to align, and the coaches were falling into that period of finding the best working formulas for their teams.

Well, this week, it pretty much all fell into place.

The youth sides took home 12 points from a potential 15 against Hills Brumbies out in Rouse Hill, which included the first win of the season for the Under 15s.

In the early game, the Under 13s destroyed their opponents, winning 6-1. An exceptional first half saw the side up 5-0, with Jordon Koton slotting home a hat-trick. Despite taking their foot of the pedal in the second half, the boys deservedly won by five goals, with the crossbar and posts stopping at least three other chances.



The Under 13s defend a free kick on their way to hammering Hills 6-1

The Under 14s carried on their form from last week, winning 4-2. The boys began the game on fire, however couldn't find the opener till late in the first half, with Greg Ellerine finding the net. The second half saw the boys concede two soft goals very quickly. Trailing 1-2 down woke the boys up though as they began to dominate play, eventually putting three more away to take out a hard-fought win.



Under 14 Josh Machet (right) hold off a Hills defender

With the side struggling in recent weeks, the Under 15s went to Hills on a mission to get that elusive win. In a tight match, the side went up 1-0 in the first few minutes through a Jared Fisher finish. However, a late red card put pressure on the boys to defend the lead. The boys chose against playing too defensively though, and pushed on to put two more away, winning 3-0 through goals from Gilad Hersch and Daniel Shein.



The Under 15s begin an attack on their way to a 3-0 win

The Under 16s were up against the second placed Hills, in a game that would be watched very closely by the rest of the competition. Ever to rise to the occasion, the boys demolished Hills, winning 5-0. A brace to both Josh Shubitz and Robbie Ezekiel, as well as an Adam Goldberg finish, capped off a brilliant team effort that once again reminded the competition that the Under 16s are the team to beat again this season.

So the scene was all set for a whitewash. All that was left was for the Under 18s, one of the form teams of their competition, to take home the three points.

Sadly, the boys, in no uncertain terms, choked, falling 0-1 in a physical hit out. A Judd Krok red card made the match that much harder, with the boys struggling to create many clear cut chances. The boys will be looking to make amends this week and keep the pressure on the top placed sides.

Introducing the Newest Member of the Feds Coaching Staff

A few weeks ago, it was rumoured that Hayden Foxe had been attending the Hakoah Feds First Grade trainings in an attempt to help out the defensive capabilities of the side.

Now we can officially confirm that Foxe has been added to the Feds Opens Coaching staff in a full-time capacity.

Foxe will be working alongside Mark and Alex Robertson as First Grade coaches, as well as running the senior academy with Mark Robertson and Neil Jablonski.

Foxe is excited about the role, which is his first coaching position since retiring from a stellar international and domestic career six weeks ago.

“Yes I’m excited”, said Foxe. “The side has many talented players that like to work hard but at the same time play a passing game. I think, in time, this side has a real chance of winning promotion this year, which is our number one goal.”

Foxe has played for a host of international clubs, such as Ajax, West Ham, Portsmouth and Leeds United. He also represented Australia 11 times, where he scored two goals for the Socceroos.



Foxe representing West Ham United in 2001

After finishing his playing career with Sydney FC in the 2010/11 season, Foxe has now chosen to pursue a coaching career, and is looking forward to beginning this new era with his good friend Mark Robertson.



Foxe after helping Sydney FC win the 2009/10 Grand Final

“I have been fortunate to have Mark as a friend for a long time as we started our international career together many years ago and are now starting our coaching pathway together as well.”

Foxe is looking to help restore Hakoah to its rightful place in the NSW football hierarchy, and is relishing the challenges ahead.

“The club has a lot of history in Australian football and our aim is to bring success back to the club by playing a good brand of football”.

Despite the loss on the weekend, Foxe is confident that the First Grade side will be a force this season.

“If we play with the same spirit and keep passing the ball, we will win more often than not this season.”

Chairman of the Hakoah Feds Committee, Jon Marcuson, is ecstatic with the acquisition of Foxe to the clubs coaching ranks.

“Hayden is exactly the kind of person we want coaching our senior academy and First Grade side”, said Marcuson. “This is a major coup for the club, as Hayden has a wealth of experience and will be invaluable to the players under his guidance”.

All of us here at the Feds club are eagerly waiting to see the bright red hair of Foxe pacing the sidelines with the Robertson’s this season as the First Grade challenge for promotion to State League Division 1.

Waratah Cup

The First Grade was up against Roosters FC this week in a mid-week cup match for the Waratah Cup.

The Waratah Cup is a knockout competition that pits all NSW sides against each other, all the way up to Premier League clubs such as Marconi and Bonnyrigg.

On a picturesque night at Hensley Athletic Field, the Hakoah First Grade once again showed that Hensley will be a fortress this season, winning 2-0.

From the outset the game was clearly a physical challenge; however the passing game of Hakoah began to take control as the side began to create chances.

Neil Jablonski converted a 25th minute penalty after Michael Randall had been taken out in the box by the Roosters keeper.

The game began to fluctuate into the second half, with Hakoah controlling parts of the game before allowing Roosters too much possession.

However, Hakoah were the better side, and soon enough were rewarded with a second through Rani Rimmer.

The game ended in ugly style, as a Roosters player began to fight anyone on the pitch. It was a sad end to a competitive game that showed quality football from both sides.

The draw has yet to be released for the next round of matches, but we will keep you posted as to whom Hakoah will be playing.

Get Your Diaries Out!

Next weekend, Sunday 17th April 2011, is a major event for the entire Hakoah Feds family. The whole club, from Under 13s to First Grade, will be playing at Hensley in a back-to-back format.

The entire club will be staying to support the First Grade, and we want all of you there as well to support **your** First Grade side.

This will also be the first time in years that past Hakoah greats will be recognised and introduced to the new club. Players from both old eras of Maccabi and Hakoah have been invited to come and watch this new group of very talented players.

The youth sides will be up against Inter Lions, before the First Grade and Reserves challenge long-time rivals Roosters FC.

So put the date in you diaries and come on down and see the best Hakoah side in years challenge an old foe for three vital competition points!

7pm Sunday 17th April at Hensley Athletic Field, corner Corish Circuit and Wentworth Avenue, Pagewood.



WE WANT YOU!
AT HENSLEY ON THE 17TH

Awards of the Week

Player of the Week: Getting sent off is always a hard punishment. You feel that you've let down the team, the coach and the club. Add public scrutiny to that and it's a pretty low feeling.

Well, there's one way to make everything right.

Jordon Koton, returning from a two game suspension, made amends in stunning form this week, netting four goals in the Under 13's 6-1 demolition of Hills Brumbies.

It takes a top player, as well as the very strong mental character of a such young kid, to come back firing in this way. As a result, Koton is the clear winner of this week's Player of the Week Award. Congratulations Jordon.



Jordon Koton (centre) bounced back from suspension to net four goals and take this week's 'Player of the Week' Award.

Blunder of the Week: Well they might not be winning games, but the Reserve Grade side is sure giving us a lot of laughs here in the Blunder department.

Coming out at half time trailing 0-1 to Fairfield, and after what has been described as a 'blasting of epic proportions' from Coach Alex Robertson, the boys were raring to go and get the equaliser.

It was Fairfield's kick off. The Fairfield striker looked up as the whistle blew, and took a shot from half way.

There was a moment of universal shock and disbelief as the shot rippled against the back of the net.

Somehow, the ball that was not travelling fast, managed to beat the reach of keeper David Helfenbaum, hitting the back of the net and crushing the Hakoah side.

It should be noted that Helfenbaum is 6"3 with his arms by his side.

As due course, Helfenbaum has comfortably won this week's Blunder award, and will probably be having nightmares of that day for many years to come.



David Helfenbaum seen here with his girlfriend overseas is the proud winner of this week's 'Blunder' award.

The Upcoming Week

This week the Hakoah Feds Opens are up against Nepean FC at Cook Park (St Marys), Wilson Street, St Marys, on Saturday 9th April 2011.

First Grade kicks off at 3 pm. Reserves at 1 pm.

The Youth sides are up against Gladesville Ryde Magic on Saturday 9th April 2011 at Magdala Oval, Magdala Rd , North Ryde

Game times are:

Under 13 – 8.30 am

Under 14 – 9.45 am
Under 15 – 11.40 am
Under 16 – 12.45 pm
Under 18 – 2.30 pm

That is this week's edition of the Hakoah Feds Newsletter. Until next time, let your passes find the man, your shots find the goal, and your skills find the girls.

For any comments, please email me at mark.jamison00@gmail.com.
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