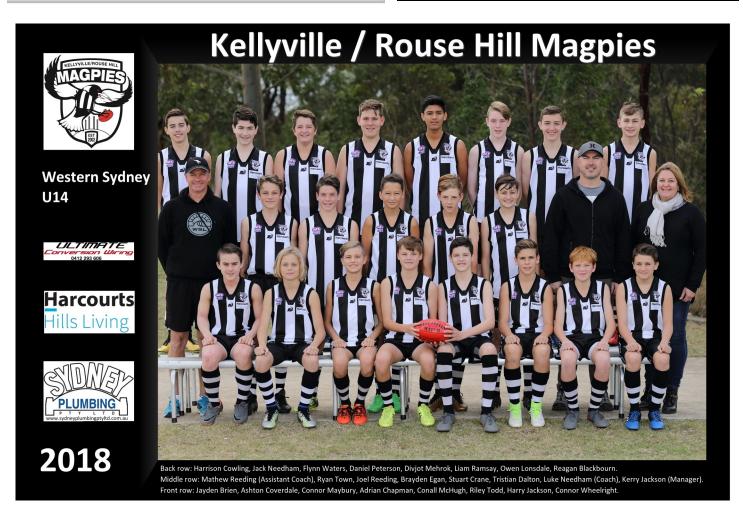


Coach – Luke Needham Manager – Kerry Jackson Assistant Coach - Matthew Reeding

## TROPHY WINNERS

| Best and Fairest             | Joel Reeding      |  |
|------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| Runner Up - Best and Fairest | Divjot Mehrok     |  |
| Coaches Award                | Riley Todd        |  |
| Most Improved                | Reagan Blackbourn |  |
| Leading Goalkicker           | Jayden Brien      |  |



## **SEASON SUMMARY:**

The U14 season commenced in late February 2018 with pre-season training kicking-off. Starting so late, with only 14 players attending on the first night, being a combination of the 2 teams from 2017, it was pretty clear from the start that Mat and I had to really focus on building the player's fitness, skill development and developing a good team culture. By the end of pre-season, our squad had increased to 21, we'd played a couple of practice matches against Canada Bay and Baulkham Hills and were now ready for the season.

The season proper kicked off against the Blacktown Suns....well sort of. With our opposition forfeiting, the competition organisers then made a decision to combine the two U14 Western Sydney Comps into a single competition.



When the season finally kicked off in mid-April, the boys just couldn't wait to get out onto the field. And they didn't let themselves down with a first up win against the Greystanes Goannas. The boys played brilliantly as a team and showed enormous potential at following a game plan that suited the team. We had wins again in rounds 3 and 4 against the Campbelltown Suns and Baulkham Hills Hawks, the boys really gelling as a team and putting on some terrific displays of AFL footy for their supporters. Unfortunately, after our round 4 win, we didn't taste victory again until the final round. We played against some very good footy sides during this period and one thing I will say, the boys never gave up, they continued to train hard and support each other and perhaps most importantly, just always gave it their best on game-day, no matter what the odds. They put their bodies on the line week in and week out in a very tough competition and we couldn't have been any prouder of the boys.

Despite a lean middle part of the season, the win/loss ratio of the other teams in the comp were in our favour and we came into the last round only needing to win and we'd qualify for the finals. Something this group of players has never done before. No pressure!! Well, to no surprise to Mat and I, the boys put on their best display of the season. Cutting through the middle of the ground on countless occasions, we posted our biggest score of the year (13.12.90) and beat our opposition by more than 5 goals.

On 12 August 2018, the U14s got their first taste of footy finals against Ingleburn/Wollondilly, down in Wollondilly, playing on a dust-bowl of a field. Whilst the result didn't go our way, this was another example of the boys playing with the hearts on their sleeve and giving it their upmost right until the final siren. This was a great experience for all the players and a fitting end to the season.

I would like to thank my assistant coach Mat for all his help this year. Mat was also our team runner and had to put up with me barking orders and never once had a crack at me. He was also a constant source of advice and took control of training on those nights I couldn't make it. Thanks mate.

A huge thanks to our manager Kerry for managing the side. The work that you do behind the scenes might go unnoticed by some but please know that your effort and patience is greatly appreciated by Mat and I and all the players and their parents.

Thanks to all the parents for your support throughout the pre-season and season. I have enjoyed the chats with all of you this season and I hope you have enjoyed watching your boys play and develop their footy skills. Thanks to those Dads and Mums that regularly came to training and to all of you for running water, goal umpiring (big thanks to Craig who did this for every game!) and working the BBQ and Canteen. Cheers.

Finally, to the boys, thanks for a great season. You did yourselves proud. You are to be congratulated on making the finals and should be proud of this team achievement. Remember to keep training hard, playing hard and leaving nothing out on the field. Remember to play for your mates first and most of all have fun.

| Thanks | tor a | great | t year. |
|--------|-------|-------|---------|
|--------|-------|-------|---------|

Luke

## **Player Profiles:**

Joel Reeding – Joel won the "Best and Fairest Award" for 2018. Joel is part of the leadership group and predominantly playing across half-back, demonstrated consistently solid footy all year and is thoroughly deserving of this award. Joel is a great trainer, has an exceptionally long kick on him and backs this up with great footy skills and a will to win the contested footy during games. Also a great club player, playing up an



age group in the U15s to help out when needed. Congratulations Joel on the award and on a fantastic season and good luck for 2019.

Joel kicked 1 goal for the season.

**Divjot Mehrok** – Div won the "Runner-Up Best and Fairest Award" for 2018. Predominantly playing in the ruck, Div had a solid season for the Magpies and again shouldered the load against the opposition's biggest players. His footy skills improve every year and his determination to win the contest is always on show. Also a great club player, playing up an age group in the U15s to help out when needed. Congratulations Div on the award and on a fantastic season and good luck in 2019.

Div kicked 8 goals for the season.

Riley Todd – Riley won the "Coaches Award" for 2018, predominantly playing across half-forward and the wing, in his first season of AFL. He is a great team player and is respectful to his team mates, opponents, umpires and coaches. He also was a great trainer and brought the same consistency at training to game day. Congratulations Riley on the award and on a great season and good luck for 2019.

Riley kicked 1 goal for the season.

**Reagan Blackbourn** – Reagan won the "**Most Improved Player**" for 2018 predominantly playing down back and on the wing. This is a fantastic achievement for Reagan who always gives 100% on the field. As each game progressed, Reagan steadily improved his season, often taking on the task of shutting down the opposition's best player. Congratulations Reagan on the award and on a great season and good luck for 2019.

Reagan kicked 1 goal for the season.

**Jayden Brien** – Jayden had another great season of footy (coming equal 4<sup>th</sup> in the B&F), playing the season predominantly in the forward line and midfield. His explosive speed, exceptional footy skills, makes Jayden an important part of the team. He is a fantastic trainer, team player and always gives it his best for his team no matter the circumstances. Also a great club player, playing up an age group in the U15s to help out when needed. Congratulations Jaydo on a great season and good luck for 2019.

Jayden kicked 14 goals for the season and was the team's leading goal kicker. Well done. Again!!

Adrian Chapman – Adrian is part of the leadership group and had another solid season for the Magpies (placing in the top 10 for the B&F), playing predominantly in the midfield. Adrian is another player with great footy skills, speed to burn, with an absolute team mentality first – always striving for perfection. He goes hard at the ball and is one of the team's best tacklers. Also a great club player, playing up an age group in the U15s to help out when needed. Congratulations AC on a great season and good luck in 2019.

Adrian kicked 4 goals for the season.

**Ashton Coverdale** – Ashton had another solid season of footy (missed a bit through injury), playing the season predominantly in the midfield - (placing in the top 10 for the B&F). Ashton is a tough, hard, in-and-under player who revels in the contested footy. Ashton is one of those players that plays without fear and plays well



above his weight and height, never giving up for his team. Also a great club player, playing up an age group in the U15s to help out when needed. Congratulations Ashton on a great season and good luck for 2019.

Ashton kicked 2 goals for the season.

**Harrison Cowling** – Harrison had a good season of Magpies Footy, switching between the back-line and forward line during the season. Harrison demonstrates good footy skills and an ability to put in a great effort when playing. He is also a great team player, which was typified in the last round when he set up a lot of the team's goals with unselfish play. Congratulations Harrison on a great season (50<sup>th</sup> game in the final – well done) and good luck for 2019.

Harrison kicked 1 goal for the season.

**Stuart Crane** – Stuart had a good season for the Magpies, playing predominantly in the back-line. Despite missing a chunk of games through injury, Stuart always tries to put his team first, often off-loading to his team mates, setting up goals. He is a good trainer and won trainer of the week on a number of occasions this season. Congratulations Stu on a great season and good luck in 2019.

**Tristan Dalton** – We welcomed Tristan back to Magpies footy in 2018, playing the season predominantly in the forward line. Tristan always gives it his best and is a popular member of the team. His footy skills are great with his accurate kicking a stand-out. Often out-sized in the forward line, Tristan can take a good grab and kick a goal. Congratulations T-Bone on a great season and good luck for 2019.

Tristan kicked 2 goals for the season.

**Brayden Egan** – Unfortunately Brayden's season was cruelled by injury and he only managed 4 games. What we did see though was a player with silky skills when in space and a really good team player. Hopefully 2019 can bring better luck on the injury front and we'll see you back in Magpies colours next season.

Harry Jackson – Harry had another solid season for the Magpies (placing in the top 10 for the B&F), playing predominantly on the wing. Harry's footy skills and confidence grew throughout the season and he personifies team in everything he does on the field. He is a great role model to other players on playing fair and in the spirit of the game. He is a great trainer and always gives it his best. Also a great club player, playing up an age group in the U15s to help out when needed. Congratulations Harry on a great season and good luck in 2019.

Harry kicked 1 goal for the season.

**Owen Lonsdale** – Owen had another great season of Magpies Footy (coming equal 4<sup>th</sup> in the B&F), playing the season predominantly down back and pinch-hitting in the ruck. Owen was another player that was often asked to take on the opposition's biggest players, with determination and a team attitude first. He took a lot of big hits this year, but always got back-up. He is Mr Consistency – consistently giving 100% game day and training. Congratulations Lonsie on a great season and good luck for 2019.

**Connor Maybury** – Connor had a solid footy season this year, playing predominately in the back-line and venturing down to the forward line late in the season. Connor works well at learning the game of AFL and demonstrates developing footy skills and an ability to put the team's game plan to work – defending his man at all costs. Congratulations Connor on a great season and good luck for 2019.



Connor kicked 1 goal for the season.

**Conall McHugh** – Conall had a solid season for the Magpies, playing predominantly in the forward line. Conall is a player that gives it his best and always turns up to training to develop his skills and game sense. He does well at pressuring the opposition back-line and providing an option in attack, creating space for his team mates. Congratulations on a great season Conall and good luck in 2019.

Jack Needham – Jack is part of the leadership group and had another great season for the Magpies (placing 3<sup>rd</sup> in the B&F), playing predominantly in the midfield and forward line. Jack always attacks the footy and his contested play is a highlight. He shows great leadership and confidence to take the game on and back himself against the opposition. Also a great club player, playing up an age group in the U15s to help out when needed. Congratulations Jack on a great season and good luck in 2019.

Jack kicked 5 goals for the season.

**Daniel Peterson** – Daniel had a solid footy season, playing predominantly at full-forward. Daniel improved steadily over the year, really owning his position in the team. He was a great target for the midfield and won many contests against the opposition back-men. Perhaps most impressively was his ability to always be in the contest and he finished this often with a shot on goal. Congratulations Daniel on a great season and good luck in 2019.

Daniel kicked 8 goals for the season.

Liam Ramsey – Liam had another solid season for the Magpies (placing in the Top 10 for the B&F), playing predominantly across the wing, pinch-hitting in the ruck. Liam reads the play very well and backs this up with really good run and drive for the team. His run and carry through the midfield were definite highlights for the year, playing on quickly to burn his opponents with his pace. Another player that always plays with sportsmanship. Congratulations Liam on a great season and good luck in 2019.

Liam kicked 5 goals for the season.

Ryan Town – Ryan had another solid season for the Magpies, playing predominantly on the wing and down back. Ryan is another contested footy beast who always puts his head over the ball and gives it 100% in every contest. He can take a good mark and that trusty left foot kick got his team out of lots of trouble at times during the year. He is an exceptional runner and also a great club player, playing up an age group in the U15s to help out when needed. Congratulations Rhino on a great season (played his 100<sup>th</sup> game against Penrith – well done) and good luck in 2019.

Flynn Waters – Flynn is part of the leadership group and had another solid season for the Magpies, playing predominantly in the back-line. Flynn was often tasked with the team's kick-ins, due to his accuracy and good decision making. Playing away from the forward line where he usually plays, Flynn didn't complain and was always about doing his bit for the team – a great attitude and very popular player amongst the playing group. Every coach wants a kid like this on your team. Congratulations Flynn on a great season and good luck in 2019.

Flynn kicked 1 goal for the season.













