



U9 Shipley



Trophy Recipients	
Best & Fairest	Tom Hayhow
Most Improved	Ethan Longden
Coaches Award	Lucas Williams

Season Summary

One of 4 x Under 9 teams for the Magpies this year, Team Shipley was a mix of keen talent.

Made up of 9 players, everyone basically got a run each week with the occasional extra player bought in from the U12 Girls to make up numbers if we were short. (a big thanks to Erin!)

All players showed a keen enthusiasm for the game and although there were some standouts, all players showed very good improvement as the season progressed. With a reasonably even competition to compete in, with we 'won' more games than we 'lost.' Regardless of a no scoring policy in this age bracket the players always reassured the mums and dads how many goals were scored and the final result and the end of each game.

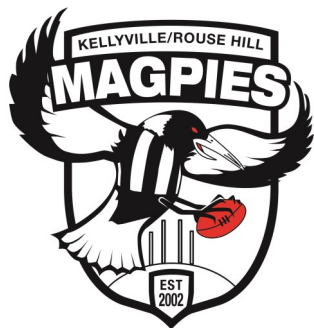
As a first time coach and long term assistant, it was both pleasure and 'pain' ☺ mentoring the players through weekly training drills and game days. As with most 8 year olds, working on skills such as hand passing, kicking correctly, legal tackles and general handling along with having fun were our key objectives for the year. We were a fairly close knit team and as coach I was fortunate enough to have what seemed to be an endless array of parent helpers who made training and game days a much easier process for both the players and the team as a whole.

A big thanks to Scott Hayhow for his terrific contribution as the Team manager this year. As most coaches would agree, the team manager is the spine behind the team with their organisational efforts of the players and the parents, ensuring all of the necessary documentation, paperwork and general running of the team is sorted out throughout the season. It certainly made the task of coaching much easier and pleasurable so a big thank you Scott from myself and all associated with Team Shipley.

To Phil Scandizzo for his assistance at training and match day goal umpiring, thankyou also. I'm

Manager: Scott Hayhow

Coach: Malcolm Hurst



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sure there were some sneaking match day advice for the forwards or backs each week and your 100% win rate as stand in coach sets you up nicely for next season to take over the reins?

Adrian Hicks for his weekly photography of the match and the 'Player of the week' and the distribution of these on FB for the kids and parents to admire. Not too many references to Ken Duncan but we all reckon they were pretty good! Thanks from all of us.

Although I have picked out 3 parents here, I would like to say what a wonderful and supportive group of parents we had this year. No criticism, no judgements, no white line fever, and your continual support of all of the players and the team staff was a credit to you all and the club. Thanks for a wonderful season watching all of our kids develop into AFL superstars.

Player Profiles:

Ben Parsell – A tough and hard competitor, Ben's rugby league skills he brought into the game served him well as a strong defender often letting his opponents know he was around with big tackles (*sometimes a little too high Ben!*). *Once we got that sorted, Ben's contribution as a team player stood out as he always looked to combine with his team mates with good off-loading skills and always looking for his targets when kicking.*

Declan Leach - A big improver this year, Declan was a capable player who would always take his chances in whatever position he played in. Loved chasing goals when he was in the forwards and could tackle hard and as good as any other player when defending his line. Occasionally needing redirecting on the job at hand, Declan showed me that he could produce the goods when he put his mind on the task. Great effort in improving his hand passing and defensive skills throughout the season and I look forward to him building on that next year. Well done Declan.

Samuel Hicks - Our big tall who was very effective in the ruck and was always my go to man for that position when he was in the mids. Samuel could always be found among the ball at ground level and his improvement in tackling and kicking were well noted come seasons end. Whilst no speedster Samuel constantly put himself in the right position to take down that attacker or support his team mates in defence. I especially saw a good improvement in his kicking and his continual efforts has set him up well to challenge his opponents next year. Terrific effort Samuel.

Jacob Scandizzo - A fantastic season from Jacob. A very reliable and selfless player, Jacob was very much the team man and was competitive in any position he played in. Jacob would always be looking for that off load or getting himself into that supporting defensive role when the heat was on. With his a great long straight kick and always looking for the ball, he constantly made an impact on the field. First to training and last to leave his dedication to the game was unwavering and this could be seen week in, week out during the season. There wasn't much to advise Jacob on as far as skills go and he showed this numerous times when co coordinating with his team mates. I look forward to seeing him advance through the age groups. Fantastic stuff Jacob.

Parker Lehn - Parker advanced very well as the season progressed. Although not evenly matched in size, Parker developed a desire to tackle hard and he constantly worked on his skill sets. It can be a tough game AFL and Parker would be the first to admit he took his fair share of hits both defensively and in attack. To his credit he listened hard at training, worked hard on putting this advice into action on the field and this culminated in a player who can be very proud of where he finished personally come the end of the season. One of my highlights of the year was positioning Parker at full forward at a home game where he booted his first goal much to his, mine and the crowd's delight. He backed this up with another later in the season and this only supported the fact that he tried hard to improve all aspects of his game. Congratulations Parker on your efforts this year.



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Luke Hurst - Luke was pretty much the reason I coached the team this year and I have him to thank for putting me in that position now it is done. Luke is quick, has clean soft hands and could often be seen taking a bounce when in attack. A good left boot and worked well when looking for targets up forward. A great defender with second and third efforts and strong in attack kicking plenty of goals when his opportunity arose. An honest and fair player and like his team mates, just loves playing footy. As his dad I couldn't be prouder of him and his efforts this year. Well done son.

Ethan Longden - One of the big improvers this season. Ethan's skills needed a bit of work earlier on and with help from the group he developed those skills week after week. Most impressive was Ethan's tackling and defensive skills and he equally used those when in attack, cracking through tackles and looking for that off load. His handpassing, marking and general ball handling skills really came into their own late in the season and was noted among those around him including parents and his team mates. As a coach it was inspiring to watch Ethan's development and he is this year's receiver of the 'Most Improved Player'. Congratulations Ethan, well done.

Lucas Williams - Lucas is a reliable, hardworking team player who performed equally as well in the forwards, mids or backs. I was impressed with his ability to work with others in defence and attack and was often seen running off his team mates or supplying them with that hand pass or kick. Worked hard at training, a good listener and developed well throughout the year. Lucas's efforts this year have earned him my 'Coach's Award'. Great effort and determination this year Lucas and congratulations on your award.

Tom Hayhow - Tommy 'Turbo' was no nickname. Tom is a fast, energetic, hard tackling, no nonsense player. Equally good in defence as he is in attack there were plenty of opposition players who wore the wrath of his big hits. Rarely if ever would you see him back down from any player coming at him or running away from him and he always had an impact in all aspects of the game. Tom always wanted to be right in the action and was rewarded with plenty of goals when his chance in the forwards was there and was just as good when defending his own goal line. His consistent work ethic on the field has earned Tom this years 'Best & Fairest' award. A great year Tom and congratulations on a well earned award.





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