



Tiger Talk

September

Claremont Football Club(Inc)
Claremont Oval,
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Phone 08 9384 9200
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2010 CFC Board, Admin Staff, Players in all 3 grades, Coaches, Football Support Staff, and our Volunteers



CONGRATULATIONS

CONGRATULATIONS to our three teams for qualifying to play in all second semi finals last weekend and what a great day for the Claremont Football Club with our two senior teams advancing through to the Grand Finals.

Unfortunately our Colts went down narrowly to East Fremantle by nine points and will now play Peel Thunder in the Preliminary Final at this ground at 10am on Saturday.

We have won the prestigious Rodriguez Shield for the most consistent club over the three grades and achieved a massive 301 points. When you have great depth in your senior player group, quality footballers, an extremely passionate and talented Senior Coach in Simon McPhee, who I feel will go a long way in coaching football at any level, if he so chooses, and a very strong Colts squad you have every chance of winning such a prestigious award.

Our congratulations and well done to Simon, Ross McQueen [reserves] and Wayne Blackwell [Colts] and all their assistant coaches for their outstanding achievements this year all three teams have excellent chances of achieving the ultimate success and we urge as many of our members and supporters as possible to get along to the finals and support our boys as they strive to achieve their respective premierships.

I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the Board, to sincerely thank all our volunteers who continue to do such a fantastic job. To our Ladies Committee who have once again provided hundreds of meals throughout the year including country week football and the wonderful home game lunches which continue to be so popular and have certainly set the standard amongst most WAFL clubs. To Dads Army, our Tuesday group, who continue to keep our tired old facilities in tip top shape and also the huge number of support staff who week in week out keep our three football teams on the track a huge thank you to everyone.

Whilst on the subject of volunteers any assistance from members and supporters to help with the parking during Royal Show week would be greatly appreciated. Please let Arthur Smith or Penny know by phoning the Club on 9384 9200.

Go the TIGERS in the year of the TIGER.

Best wishes

KEN VENABLES
President

2010 RODRIGUEZ SHIELD

Claremont.....	301	South Fremantle	148
East Fremantle	248	Subiaco.....	140
Swan Districts	203	Perth.....	108
West Perth.....	192	Peel	90
East Perth	190		

DOMINANT TIGERS SE

After two years in the doldrums, the Claremont Football Club has burst back as WA's leading football power in 2010, with all three sides enjoying spectacular successes.

The league and reserves sides finished on top of the premiership table after the qualifying rounds of matches and the colts finished second behind East Fremantle. And rewarding this wonderful consistency the Tigers earned the prestigious Rodriguez Shield.

Then the league and reserves sides qualified for their respective grand finals at Subiaco Oval on Sunday September 19 with magnificent victories in second semi-final matches before a bumper crowd in excess of 5000 at Claremont Oval.

The colts fought valiantly in their second semi-final before losing by nine points to East Fremantle. They will now meet Peel Thunder at Claremont Oval at 10am on Sunday September 12, with the winners qualifying for an appearance in the grand final.

In quite a remarkable 85th year in the WAFL, Claremont's three sides played a total of 60 qualifying-round matches for 48 wins, two draws and only ten losses. This came after each of the three sides were unbeaten in three interclub pre-season matches.

The league side set the standard, losing only twice during the season and finishing with a massive percentage of 178.27. This percentage was bettered only six times by the leading side in the competition in Claremont's previous 84 years in WAFL ranks.

The Tigers scored a runaway victory in the Rodriguez Shield, scoring 301 points to finish well ahead of East Fremantle (248) and Swan Districts (203). Claremont are justifiably proud in showing the way by winning the Rodriguez Shield 13 times. The Tigers are followed by East Perth (nine), Subiaco (eight), East Fremantle and South Fremantle (six), Perth (five), Swans (four) and West Perth (three).



JESSE LAURIE

ET THE STANDARD

Earning further prestige for Claremont was the victory by brilliant midfielder Tom Ledger in the Jack Clarke Medal as the fairest-and-best player in the colts competition.

Chad Jones booted 85 goals to gain an easy victory (for the second successive year) as the leading goalkicker in the league competition. This was an outstanding effort, considering he missed several matches with a fractured hand and a serious hamstring injury. The Tigers also had two others in the top ten, Ian Richardson (57 goals) and Jarrod Ninyyette (41)

Jones will be unable to play in the grand final and inspirational captain Clancy Rudeforth is most unlikely to be fit for the big game after receiving multiple fractures to the jaw during the final quarter of last Sunday's second semi-final.

Claremont regained their imperious form in the league second semi-final, charging to a 50-point victory over Swan Districts to greatly enhance the club's prospects of winning the WAFL premiership for the 11th time and for the first time since beating East Perth by two points in a thriller in 1996.

The reserves also swung into top gear with a resounding 35-point win over East Fremantle to move into then grand final. The colts produced a tremendous brand of football in the opening quarter of their semi-final against East Fremantle before being outscored, six goals to one in the second quarter and then fighting back to lose by nine points.--- Ken Casellas



TOM LEE

CULTURE CHANGE IGNITES TIGERS REVIVAL

Oh, what a difference a year makes. This time in 2009 the Claremont league and reserves sides were in mothballs, with only the colts side flying the flag.

A massive change has come over the club in the past year and the Tigers have been trendsetters throughout 2010, with the league, reserves and colts sides all in the thick of September finals action after qualifying for second semi-final appearances.

The culture has altered dramatically, greater professionalism has permeated the club and a sense of teamwork from the management, administration, coaching staff, players, support staffs and volunteers has had the result of melding the entire organisation into one big, happy family, all pulling in the same direction.

No favours are expected or given. Players are rewarded on merit. Reputations count for little. It is form that dictates the composition of the Claremont teams.

There are many reasons for the dramatic Claremont revival after the league side finished in eighth place and the reserves in sixth spot in 2009. The major reason can easily be traced to the decision of the board last October to appoint Simon McPhee as league coach after he had taken over in a caretaker capacity in May following a dismal start to the season.

McPhee has proved himself to be a high-quality coach and he has enjoyed a wonderful group of assistants this year in Peter Falconer, Adam Lange, Brad Dodd, Phil Matera, reserves coach Ross McQueen, David Crute, Darren Kowal, Adam Clarke, Trevor Scott, chairman of selectors Ryan Lasscock and strength and conditioning gurus Jeremy Ingram and Steve Smith.

The inspirational leadership of Clancy Rudeforth and the great support from his lieutenants Andrew Browne, Chad Jones and Luke Blackwell has also played a vital part in the revival. McQueen and his assistants have moulded the reserves into a formidable combination, while coach Wayne Blackwell and his assistants have done a tremendous job with the colts.

Selective recruiting and the return to the club of a bunch of talented players has been highly beneficial to the league side. Browne showed his love of the club by signing up after eight years with the Fremantle Dockers, and others to return to Claremont after stints with AFL clubs were Ryan Brabazon, Jesse Laurie and Tom Lee, while David Crawford, Blake Anderson and Nic Chidzey all returned after a year's absence.

Heartening and influential features of Claremont's rise to the top this year include the rapid improvement of players like Anderson, Laurie, Lee, Andrew Ruck, Tom Derickx, Jarrod Ninyyette, Kane Mitchell and Brandon Franz.

And on top of all that the Tigers were strengthened considerably by the recruiting of quality midfielder Andrew Foster after his time with the Dockers. The Tigers also were boosted at times during the year by the inclusion of their AFL listed players.

The league side has been weakened many times during the season by the loss, through injury, of many players, including Browne, Jones, Brabazon, Foster, Laurie, Anderson, James Thomson and Simon Starling. And to the credit of the coaching staff and all players, these losses have been covered extremely well.

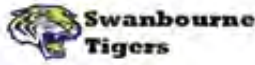
The overall strength of the league side has made it difficult for many talented reserves players to get an opportunity in the top grade. Indeed, this is naturally frustrating, but it a measure of the camaraderie which exists at the club that all players accept the situation and their support of each other during the year has been exceptional.

By Ken Casellas



Andrew Foster, Andrew Browne and Ryan Brabazon

JUNIOR PARADE DAY AND AUSKICK GALA DAY



Two big events have taken place in the Claremont District over the past month. The first was the Claremont District and Football Club Junior Club Parade Day held on Saturday 7th August when Claremont took on arch rival Subiaco.

Approximately 700 kids from the 13 junior clubs took part in the pre game parade which included forming a 'guard of honour' for when the Claremont league players ran onto the ground. Following the pre game parade the kids enjoyed activities throughout the day which included handball competitions, bouncy castles and the animal farm. The afternoon was capped off by half time sprint races and longest bomb competitions and just to top off the day the Tigers were 8 goal victors of the Lions. Pictured right are kids from the Cottesloe, Innaloo and Marist Junior Football Clubs at the Junior Parade.

The second of the major events was the Claremont District NAB AFL Auskick Gala Day which was held Sunday 15th August at the home of the West Coast Junior Football Club, City Beach Oval.

This year 103 teams and 1700 participants from the thirteen junior club Auskick centres took part in the day which involved a series of round robin fixtures for the pre – primary, year one, two and three year groups with all games umpired by Claremont Football Club league, reserves and colts players who did a fantastic job. The day could not have gone ahead without the effort of the West Coast JFC committee who did an exceptional job organising the whole event. A huge thank you must go to everyone involved in the preparation and your efforts are greatly appreciated by the Claremont District Football Development Council and the Claremont Football Club.



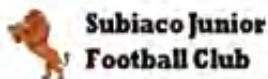
Pictured are kids from the Cottesloe, Innaloo and Marist Junior Football Clubs at the Junior Parade.



West Coast & North Beach JFC



CFC's Aaron Holt Umpiring at the Gala Day



ROYAL SHOW PARKING

Saturday 25th September
to Saturday 2nd October

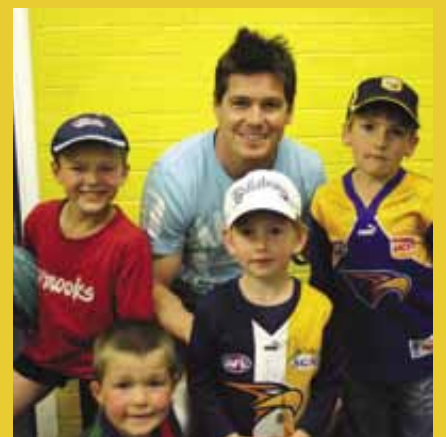
At the time of going to print we still needed to fill 90 four hour shifts parking on the oval and railway yard.

If you can help please telephone
Arthur Smith on
94464221 – all hours



Birthday Party At Tigerland

Max Mumme who is the son of Brad Mumme and grandson of Les Mumme celebrated his 7th birthday on Sunday at the 2nd Semi Final. Max told his grandfather Les "this was his best birthday ever"



Max Mumme and friends with Ryan Brabazon



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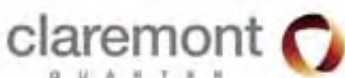
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CLAREMONT LEGENDS

Above: Les Mumme, John McIntosh & Lorne Cook
Right: Jaxon Crabb and Matt Orzel



Colts Players seen enjoying a big breakfast catered for by our fabulous Ladies Committee



Two of CFC's hardworkers in Tamer Mol [District Officer] and Helen Rutherford [Administration]

Colts Preliminary Final



This Saturday at 10.00am at Claremont Oval



Claremont v's Peel Thunder

We urge all Members and Supporters to come and support the boys to see if we can all 3 grades into the Grand Final.

Entry is free.

THE WAFL GRAND FINAL

SUNDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER 2010

SUBIACO OVAL

LEAGUE – 2.15pm / RESERVES – 11.00am

COLTS GRAND FINAL – Saturday 18th September at Subiaco Oval – 5.30pm

**Phone us now for
ticket information:**

93849200



McQUEEN'S LONG WINDING ROAD TO TIGERLAND

Ross McQueen trod a circuitous route before switching his football allegiance to Claremont seven years ago when he was Simon McPhee's runner for the Tigers reserves side.

And this year he graduated to become a senior coach in his own right and has exceeded all expectations, guiding the young Claremont reserves squad to the top of the premierships table, with 15 wins, a draw and four losses in qualifying-round matches.

"On paper, we have a young but very talented group of players and if they perform to their potential they'll do the club proud in the finals," the 41-year-old McQueen said. "At different times of the season we've had 12 to 14 players from last year's colts premierships side and this augurs well for the future of the club."

McQueen, a mathematics teacher at Shenton College, spent his formative years living on a farm between Moora and Dandaragan, studying at the local primary and high schools and playing football for the Moora Warriors, through the grades from the under-12s and under-16s to the senior team.

As a youngster he followed East Perth and retains happy memories of the Royals winning the 1978 WAFL premiership. Then he had an association with East Fremantle and took part in clinics in Moora run by Sharks players Brian Peake, Andrew Purser and Ken Judge.

But his football dream was to play for Subiaco, and after he finished high school in 1986 he moved to Perth to try his luck with the Maroons. Eddie Pitter was Subiaco's colts coach and McQueen, a burly, straight-ahead and no nonsense full-back, played in the opening colts match of the 1987 season before losing his spot for a few weeks.

His second match was against Claremont when he performed strongly and retained his place in the side before being promoted to the reserves side for the final five matches.

"I was also a keen cricketer and was living in a house with Karl Langdon, who was playing cricket with Claremont-Cottesloe," McQueen said. McQueen, a top-order batsman, played in the club's third and fourth-grade sides. "I thought I could balance cricket and football and had a fairly limited pre-season with Subiaco," he said.

"Midway through the season reserves coach Wayne Loxley called me aside at training one night and said he thought I had lost a yard in pace." Thus ended McQueen's career with Subiaco, and this started his long association with Wembley in amateur ranks where he met and played with McPhee, Peter Falconer, Grant (Fish) Ryan and Michael Barton, all of whom are at Claremont in a variety of roles this year.

Serious illness halted McQueen's sporting activities at the end of the 1990 season when he was diagnosed with testicular cancer. After two operations and six months of chemotherapy treatment he was given the all-clear, allowing him to resume at Wembley, mainly in the B side, in 1992.

Cricket was always a major love and McQueen left for Scotland in 1994 where he played cricket at the small town of Melrose for three seasons, as well as being encouraged and enticed to play rugby for the local side for two seasons.

"The first year I was there I watched Melrose, who were the Scottish rugby champions, and in the first game I watched one of my mates, a big red-bearded 25-stone fellow, stomped on a guy for no reason, and I thought that the game was far too rough for me," McQueen said.

"But they encouraged me to play the next season, and I managed a couple of first-team games. I played on a wing and scored a couple of tries."

McQueen returned to Perth at the end of 1996 and after finishing his teaching degree the following year he was posted to Kalgoorlie where he played with Mines Rovers, as well as helping the club's league coach Merv Dellar and coaching the reserves one year.

Returning to Perth at the end of 2000, McQueen finished his playing days



with the Wembley fourth-grade side the following year and his final match was in the fourth-grade grand final against Whitfords in appalling wet conditions at Claremont Oval. Wembley won by a point, scoring 2.14 to 4.1.

After acting as McPhee's runner for the Tigers reserves in 2003 McQueen and his wife Ida went to Scotland as exchange teachers for a year. Then it was back to Wembley as runner for coach Falconer's side in 2005, when the club won the B-grade premiership, beating Wesley-Curtin in the grand final. He was Falconer's assistant coach in 2006 before returning to Tigerland as McPhee's assistant for the colts side in 2007 and 2008 before graduating to a league assistant coach in 2009.

A keen student of the game, McQueen is always keen to emphasise the positives. "The only downside as a coach is having to tell good young men that they're going to miss out this week," he said. "Fortunately, at Claremont we've got good men."

By Ken Casellas

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