

# **ELLERSLIE AFC**

## **Senior Prizegiving**



# **2015**

# Welcome

*Phew – tonight pretty much marks the close of another season – my third as chairman and undoubtedly my most challenging season to date. There are just as many highs this season however as there has been lows and we all (including myself) continue to learn and develop as members/administrators etc.*

Let's quickly speak about the challenges first, before we focus on the great things this season.

## **Facilities**

The lack of support facilities for our marquee asset (the Artificial Turf) was always something that was potentially going to cause issues, and sadly it did as members struggled to all fit on the turf during training and on weekends – this caused pressure on our volunteer network as a complex layer of fixture scheduling became more and more difficult and labour intensive

## **Communications**

Getting our message to our members when they had no physical link with the club (due to the above issue) was a challenge – a popular set of social media streams helped but at the end of the day if people don't buy into your message, no number of emails can change that.

## **Finances**

Obviously a key part of the challenges for this season – faced with increased costs mainly due to increased operations and compliance costs and very few additional revenue outlets meant our volunteer network needed to work harder and harder to deliver the same level of service as previous years – not an ideal scenario and something we can hopefully remedy for 2016. Thank god for Rob who has managed to keep this from really blowing out (thanks Rob!!)

Those were the key challenges for the 2015 season, but to put a positive spin on things – without experiencing challenging moments you are not pushed to achieve positive change – and that's something we are very keen to see in 2016.

Our highlights for the 2015 season were:

## **On-Field Membership Affiliation**

Whilst off the field we sometimes struggled to get members to buy into our initiatives, on the field was another story. We had a pretty good response to our continuing Referee Exchange Program (headed up by Mike Clark) and pre-season we had big numbers at our open training sessions – so many in fact we managed to create a entire team from all the new faces (thanks to Nathan and Anthony for this). Teams generally had more players this season and results showed with some very impressive if not consistent results across all our teams. We hope to continue this by running all these little programs again



in 2016.

### **Funding Success**

While we struggled at the sponsorship table we excelled at the “All you can eat” funding table – a more structured approach with more specific targets meant we were able to tick a few expense boxes (especially late in the season) with grant money – that couldn’t be possible without Mark and his management of that process, so many thanks to him!

### **Facilities Update**

This is probably the best news I can deliver tonight, but I have purposely not focused on this, purely because as with all council owned facilities delivery timeframes and conditions of facilities are hard to pin down exactly. What I can report is the extremely high likelihood of being able to access three sand based fields at Michaels Ave in 2016 (in addition to all our existing resources) as well as a more than decent chance we will have a large chunk of use of one field at Ngahue Reserve on the artificial there. What I can’t wait to do is stand on the bank between the upper and lower fields (the proposed future site of our new clubrooms and changing rooms) and be able to see four Ellerslie AFC senior teams all playing at once – that will be exciting!

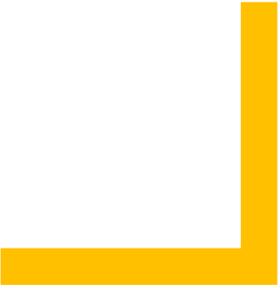
### **Increased Profile**

It’s hard to measure but with the relationships we have built with Auckland City Youth, Auckland United, NZ Football and Auckland Football over the past 12 months has really confirmed our place as one of the progressive clubs in the AFF area – things of course can be better, but I am confident our volunteer group who are highly dedicated (across both divisions) can continue to push us towards excellence.

For tonight – I am very happy to begin a new era of prizegiving, and that’s an event which is inclusive for all members, tonight is just the start but we have already broken boundaries with tonight’s attendance of roughly 150 people being our biggest ever event. There really is no limit to how big this event could be and that’s also pretty exciting.

Please enjoy the event and drink merrily but responsibly and take the chance to get to know a couple of members from another team and celebrate what makes Ellerslie AFC the club it is:

*a big club with a family orientated attitude*





# HOUSEKEEPING

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Just so we can all enjoy the night as much as possible please take note of the following housekeeping rules:

No smoking inside

No drinks to be taken outside

No heels to be worn in the YMCA Stadium

No glass bottles or glasses to be taken into the YMCA Stadium

Men's and Women's Toilets are upstairs in the Sports Club

Club Trophies are to be left at the club - personal mini's can be taken home

Food is available for purchase in the kitchen – light snacks will also be available

Water is available for free at the bar in the Sports Club

Please turn your phones to silent while the awards are being carried out

If you have an issue please come see one of us:

**E AFC Committee**

Tim Adams  
Nathan Russ  
Mike Clark  
Tim Hawes  
Paul Grogan

Or

**Bar/Kitchen Staff**

Alannah Mickle  
Saskia Hardaker  
Joyce Long



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# Tonight's Program

## TEAM AWARDS

Kiwis v the Rest (under 30's)

Kiwis v the Rest (over 30's) - Willy de Witt Trophy

*Nathan Russ to present*

Div 5 Shotaholics – Sportsman of the Year

Div 5 Shotaholics – Player of the Year

TEAM MEDALS – LEAGUE

*David Simpson to present*

Div 3 Simpson – Sportsman of the Year

Div 3 Simpson – Player of the Year

Women's Div 3 – Sportswomen of the Year

Women's Div 3 – Player of the Year

*Nga Kairua to present*

Women's Div 1 Rebels – Sportswomen of the Year

Women's Div 1 Rebels – Player of the Year

Women's Div 1 Rebels – Most Consistent Player

Women's Div 1 Rebels – Golden Boot

Women's Div 1 Rebels – Most Improved

Over 40's Metro – Sportsman of the Year

Over 40's Metro – Player of the Year

Over 40's Metro – Jo Crichton Supporters Player of the Year

TEAM MEDALS - LEAGUE

*Jason Oliver to present*

Women's AFF Conference – Sportswomen of the Year

Women's AFF Conference – Player of the Year

Women's AFF Conference – Players Player

Women's AFF Conference – Golden Boot

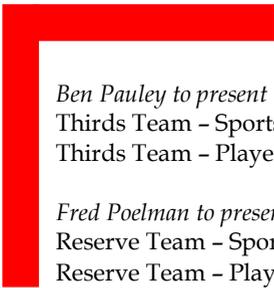
Women's AFF Conference – Most Improved

Women's AFF Conference – Supporters Player of the Year

*Anthony to present*

All Stars – Sportsman of the Year

All Stars – Player of the Year



*Ben Pauley to present*

Thirds Team - Sportsman of the Year

Thirds Team - Player of the Year

*Fred Poelman to present*

Reserve Team - Sportsman of the Year

Reserve Team - Player of the Year

Reserves Team - Players Player of the Year

TEAM MEDALS - CUP

*Chris Wallace to present*

Brian Compton Memorial Cup - First Team Golden Boot

Joe Walton Memorial Cup - Supporters Player of the Year

1st Team - Most Improved Player of the Year

1st Team - Sportsman of the Year

1st Team - Players Player of the Year

1st Team - Player of the Year

Colt Cup - Outstanding Young Player

Jack Hatton Memorial Trophy

INTERMISSION - 15 mins

### CLUB AWARDS

*Paul to present*

Club Golden Boot

*Tim H to present*

Brewster Shield - Best Overall Performance

*Freddie to present*

Supporter of the Year

*Mike to present*

Sportsperson of the Year

*Nathan to present*

Ritchie Family Cup - Manager of the Year

*Tim A to present*

Clubperson of the Year



# Trophy Definitions

Here is something to help you understand some of the trophy's handed out tonight, and how the winners are chosen.

**Player of the Year** – your team's best player, by team vote or chosen by your coach

**Sportsman of the Year** – the player who gave your team the most, on and off the field, typically also someone who plays hard but clean (the Ellerslie AFC way!)

**Supporters Player of the Year** - some of the teams have this award, most of them have been donated by ex members and have the trophy's themselves have ties to great Ellerslie AFC family's – as you can see from the title these are awarded to the supporters favourite player!

**Most Improved** - this is awarded to players who the coach thinks have made the biggest improvements during the year - it doesn't mean the player wasn't good to start with but more that their attitude and learning experience this season has been above the rest.

**Golden Boot** - Easy this one, the player who top scored (league goals only) for your team

**Players Player of the Year** - some of the teams have a player of the year and a players player of the year – this is as the title suggests the version that the players pick, it's not always the same as what the coach picks!

## **SPECIAL AWARDS:**

**Colt Cup** – donated to the club to help recognise ultimate up and coming exceptional talent, usually rewarded to someone in the First Team or Reserves under 21.

**Jack Hatton Memorial** – donated by Matt Hylla in memory of his brother who passed away, this award also recognises exceptional up and coming talent but also takes into consideration a strong off-field personality.

**Club Golden Boot** – the top scorer across the entire club in league games – based on goals recorded on your teamcards

**Team of the Year** – this award is judged on league record alone - the team with the most games played and least losses (present at prizegiving) wins the "Team of the Year"

**Manager of the Year** - The Manager who has made a massive positive impact on his team this season, someone who goes above and beyond the call of duty regularly

**Sportsperson of the Year** - probably the most prestigious award for a player/member to win - the best of the best!

**Clubperson of the Year** - The ultimate award at the club – this award recognises ultimate contribution across any avenue at the club, could be a player, coach or a volunteer

# Boylan

Boylan FC had a very successful season after their promotion from Division 6 to division 1. The season started with a bit of a splutter as we adjusted to the competitiveness of division 1.

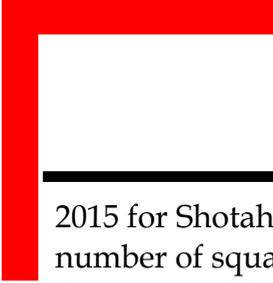
However, we dug in and pulled together as a unit and went on a 6 game winning streak. Division 1 was extremely close and towards the end of the season 4 teams were playing for the top spot. Unfortunately we stumbled at the final hurdle and lost to Onehunga, who went onto take out the league. If we had bet Onehunga that day we would have walked away with the top spot. Apart from the loss at the end the boys all had a great season and look to re-group for the 2016 season and plan to take it out this time. Cheers for all the Ellerslie organisers for making it a great year.

Player of the year – Matthew Boylan (as voted by the Team)

Sportsman of the Year – James Cameron (as voted by the Team)

## CURRENT LADDER

POS	TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Tuakau Soccer Club M1 Wanderers	16	11	2	3	57	26	31	35
2	University-Mt Wellington AFC M1 K.T.	16	11	1	4	58	21	37	34
3	Onehunga Sports M1	16	11	1	4	45	23	22	34
4	Ellerslie AFC M1 Boylan	16	10	2	4	62	25	37	32
5	South Auckland Rangers AFC M1 Bullet Boys	16	8	2	6	29	35	-6	26
6	Orakei Football Club M1 Vatukoula	16	7	1	8	38	42	-4	22
7	Papakura City FC M1	16	6	1	9	33	42	-9	19
8	Ellerslie AFC M1 TIP Squad	16	2	1	13	23	53	-30	7
9	Metro FC M1 Wrimac	16	0	1	15	19	97	-78	1



# Shotaholics

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2015 for Shotaholics was a season with quite a lot of change, with a number of squad members coming and going over the course of the season. This is likely to continue through to the summer series, but we have taken it in our stride.

Nathan Russ

Shotaholics Manager

Teamlist:

Regular Squad:

Aaron Beckford

Blake Beckford

Bradley Rae

Brendan Kerwick

Elliot Thompson-Bean

Finn Knight

Ivan Atkins

James Marks

Michael Clark

Michael Woolerton

Nathan Russ

Nikhil D'Souza

Nilroy Packiyarajah

Quintin Russ

Scott Harper

Seamus Cervin

Steve Soyeux

Casual Cohort:

Lewis Parke

Mathew Russell

Moritz Berg

Ross McInley

Tim Hawes



I am very pleased with the positive and welcoming atmosphere in Shotaholics to respect all players and work with them. It's been rewarding to train alongside the brand new Ellerslie All Stars team and see them grow and develop over the course of the season also, as well as see a lot of familiar faces in other teams as well. Promoting a positive and supporting environment at Michael's Ave Wednesday night trainings has done a lot to build a football community and a home here at Ellerslie for our team.

Division 5 provided a worthy challenge for us, with at least 5 of the teams in the division being in the running, and 90% of our games showed decent skill, sportsmanship and good football every week. Respect to the Ellerslie Hicks team & Joe Barnes for giving us a couple of the most memorable games of the season.

It was great to get the win for the division. I attribute our success to a combination of consistency, organisation, determination and sheer hard work. Looking forward to the Summer series and next year. Shotaholics!

#### CURRENT LADDER

POS	TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Ellerslie AFC M5 Shotaholics	18	17	0	1	67	22	45	51
2	Eastern Suburbs AFC M5 Mad11	18	13	2	3	68	27	41	41
3	Ellerslie AFC M5 Hicks	18	13	1	4	64	27	37	40
4	Bucklands Beach AFC M5 RED BULLS	18	10	3	5	43	35	8	33
5	South Auckland Rangers AFC M5 Suva	18	10	1	7	60	50	10	31
6	Western Springs M5 Wanderers	18	5	2	11	32	55	-23	17
7	University-Mt Wellington AFC M5 Red Devils	18	5	1	12	35	49	-14	16
8	Clevedon M5	18	5	1	12	23	61	-38	16
9	Onehunga Sports M5 Waikaraka Warriors	18	3	2	13	29	66	-37	11
10	Lynn-Avon Utd AFC M5	18	1	3	14	32	61	-29	6

# Elks

Goal scorers: Graham Mustard (8) Sam Beresford (5) Jonny Lee (2)

Player of the Year: Jonny Lee

Sportsman of the Year: Ross Cooper

Not a great season for us results-wise, but we've had a lot of fun. The team took some time to gel, but once we did we played a lot better and some results started coming our way. The second half of the season was a lot better than the first, we picked up some wins and generally played much better football. 6 draws this season has left us wondering what might have been had we stuck a few more in the net, but that's football.

Highlight would definitely be our win away against one of the Three Kings teams, they came into the game thinking it would be a walkover and left the field in a state of shock after we put 4 past them for a 4-2 win. Great reward for the way we played and something positive to build on for next season.

## CURRENT LADDER

POS	TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Western Springs M3 The Young Ones	18	11	4	3	40	16	24	37
2	Manurewa AFC M3	18	10	3	5	34	25	9	33
3	Bucklands Beach AFC M3 THE BEACH	18	9	3	6	49	40	9	30
4	Three Kings Utd M3 Ajay	18	9	2	7	40	33	7	29
5	Ellerslie AFC M3 Simpson	17	7	6	4	40	29	11	27
6	Eastern Suburbs AFC M3 Braks	17	6	5	6	43	36	7	23
7	Three Kings Utd M3 Brothers	18	7	2	9	26	35	-9	23
8	South Auckland Rangers AFC M3 AK Lions	18	7	2	9	30	41	-11	23
9	High School Old Boys M3 Kadavu	18	3	3	12	20	42	-22	12
10	Ellerslie AFC M3 Elks	18	2	6	10	23	48	-25	12



# Simpson

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We are a squad of 20 players who came together for the first time this season, largely made up from two South Auckland Rangers teams from last year plus a couple of wily summer signings. We joined Ellerslie this season to be part of a bigger and better run club and have enjoyed our first year here. A big thank you to Tim, Nathan and everyone else involved at the club that made the switch so easy for us.

After a strong start, we had a disappointing five game spell in the middle of our season which ultimately cost us the title and saw us knocked out of the cup on penalties up against Ellerslie's Division 2 side. We continued to fight all the way up until round 16 of the league, when a 2-2 draw against the eventual winners Western Springs finally put an end to our ambitions.

This is a team with huge "ticker", best summed up in our final game of the season. With a game against Manurewa to decide who finished 2nd in the league, it was a must win game for Ellerslie. And when only nine players turned up on the day, many could be forgiven for going out there and just having some fun with no regard for the result. Not this team. For 90 minutes we played like our lives were on the line and arguably put in our best performance of the year, coming away with a hard earned 0-0 draw. That result meant we would finish 3rd in the table but it also gave us the hunger to come back next year and play all 18 games like we did that day. A championship next year is surely on the cards.

Well done to all the players. Enjoy the off season and look forward to doing it all again next year.



# Over 40's Conf

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## OVER 40'S CONFERENCE

Played 17 Won 15 Drawn 0 Loss 2

Goals For 90 Goals Against 16 Goal Difference 74 Points 45

League Position 1<sup>st</sup>

Golden Boot Simon Laphorne 21 goals

Team List :

Coach Dave Witteveen, Manager Stewart Ritchie.

Players: Stuart Cameron, Stan Clark, Rodney Cooper, Peter Downer, Paul Grogan, James Hart, Mike Horgan, Tim Hutchens, Simon Laphorne, Ross Leaver, Brian McDonnell, Johan Oosterhoff, Mark Phillips, Altan Ramaden, Gary Walton, Darryl Ward, Cameron Mathewson, Scott Meikle, Geno Granger.

With the team getting older we decided to move from over 35's to over 40's which was a good move with the team back on their winning way.

We lost Terry and Dave this season but picked up Simon, Tim, James Brian. Simon and Tim fought for the golden boot for the team so were both good signings. Over the weeks the team clicked and in some games we scored double figure goals, but most of the games it took awhile to get going. We had two losses to Fencibles. The team played well this year and with the new boys we should do well next season as well. We will carry on with Thursday night kick arounds.

Have a good summer and see you all again next year.  
Stew.

# Over 40's Mustangs

League 6th place (of 10), Played 18, Won 8, Drawn 0, Lost too many, Goals For 51, Goals Against 44, Clean Sheets 2

Players:

Alan Opperman, Allister Simpson, Andrew Kelland, Bruce Allison, Campbell Notley, Daryl Price, Gowan Creamer, Graeme Steel, Greg Woolley, Ian McLean, Ian McMullin, Ian Perry, Jay Kaylan, Jason Gabites, Keith Littmoden, Ken Hart, Len Nelson, Lyubisha Mirkov, Max Peach, Paul Christian, Sam Ratnam, Tony Jenkins

If you judged a season solely based on reading the results it could be considered an average season but looking at it from a teamanship view we had another stellar year. The guys are great to play with, mates on and off the field, and as talked about during our away trip last weekend to New Plymouth, during which we acknowledged Len and Ken's for their 25 years in the team, the guys have not come to blows at any time over the years, apart from the hot air wind / words during the game and no listens anyway.

New Plymouth proved to be another end of season fun away trip. Most of us departed on Thursday for Hamilton as New Plymouth was considered too long a stretch for one day. Hamilton set the scene, or was it the car accident in the carpark as we drove off, either way the next 24 hours were eventful but what goes away stays away. The game against New Plymouth Rangers was bloody hard and the result a 5 - 1 loss. Still missing 2 goals that your grandmother might score didn't help.

Due to the lateness of getting this report in it has been kept short. Only thing left to say is a big thanks to Ian McLean and Ian Perry for organising the team and all, and a big see you next year to all the guys - hopefully fitter and trimmer than this year - Yeah Right!.

Team Management

# Women's Rebels

<b>Team Coach:</b>	<b>Nga Kairua</b>
<b>Team Manager:</b>	<b>Natasha Whitehead</b>
<b>Team Co-Captains:</b>	<b>Maree Blair &amp; Lauren Recny</b>
<b>V/Captains:</b>	<b>Ayla Surtees &amp; Chelsey Ritson</b>

## Players

Felicity Barnfield, Natasha Whitehead, Belinda Carson, Donna Per-  
van, Ayla Surtees, Kiri Aikman, Katrina Newton, Maree Blair,  
Chelsey Ritson, Lauren Recny, Kirsten Sibbit, Lana Davies, Eva  
Perrone, Nicky Harrison, Marissa Ables, Kerri-Anne, Palmer, Ash-  
ley Hardie, Katherine Wilson, *Hayley Nepia, Nora Koch, Petra Wed-  
lake*

Key: *Italics* – Casual players

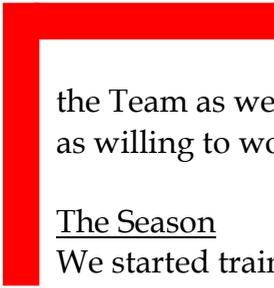
The 2015 Season was going to be a season of continuity from 2014 with 7 new players and with a squad of 18 plus 3 Casuals. The Rebels will endeavour to improve from where we left off in 2014.

Even though we lost the very 1<sup>st</sup> game we were very much focused and committed to pushing forward but on the horizon were 4 new Teams added to the 4 from last year. The battle was on. The Rebels held trials for 5 weeks and the Rebel Squad was selected. We had the same Management Structure as last Season.

## New Players

This Season the new players to Team were Lauren Recny, Eva Per-  
rone, Nicky Harrison, Marissa Ables, Kerri-Anne Palmer, Ashley  
Hardie & Katherine Wilson. 3 Casual players were also added.

These players brought new dimensions, dynamics and new cul-  
ture to the Rebels. The attitude was that we wanted to play good  
football and the attitude of winning football. There is experience in



the Team as well as fresh players who were willing to learn as well as willing to work hard for each other.

### The Season

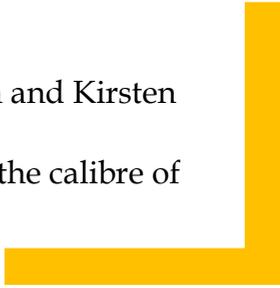
We started training hard and getting to mould all the players together as a unit and then we came against the new Teams – Waiheke, Central, Pukekohe & Metro, throw in Papakura and Eastern Suburbs you have Teams with an average age of about 18 and the majority are still at school – fast and fit as!!! Anyway we battled on with one of our highlight having beaten Waiheke after coming from 5-2 down at half-time to win 7-5!!! Epic come-back!

Our position during the Season were either 2nd or 3rd and were really looking for that final push at the Business end but unfortunately it never eventuated. Due to some injuries, unavailability we were always going to struggle competing with the faster more mobile players. Despite that, we played with Passion and dedication. Some games were very tough but the Rebels had Character, Heart, a Never say Die Attitude and the Passion to win. Unfortunately we slipped down the table very quickly to 5th placing and by the time this Report went to print we were in 3rd place and waiting to play our final game to see if we end up 3rd or 4th. Our goal this Season was – Top 4 finish!

### Notable Contributions

The Rebels were ably led by Maree and Lauren with Ayla and Chelsey vice-captains. Good mix of players both experienced and new. All 4 of these players led by example and were passionate about this Team. Always had that excellent work ethics. Great Role Models on and off the field.

In Goal we had Fliss for the most part of the Season and Kirsten towards the end great performance by these two  
Our defenders had a torrid time this season due to the calibre of





the opposition but everyone did a fantastic job – led at the back by Lauren and Chelsey, the back 4 was ably supported by Belinda, Tasha, Katherine, Eva and Kerri-Anne.

The midfield were very solid with the very experienced Quartet of Maree, Ayla, Lana and Donna with Nicky the new kid on the block – a very solid engine Room and of course up front where another quartet of Katrina, Kiri, Ashley and Marissa completes the attacking armoury.

The casual playing trio of Hayley, Nora and Petra were invaluable when we were struggling for numbers – so much appreciated ladies – great contribution!!

### Highlights

In Total including KO Cup Games – Played 20, Won 11, Drawn 4, Lost 5, Goals for – 54 – Against – 40  
Hat-Tricks scored – Lana Davies (1)

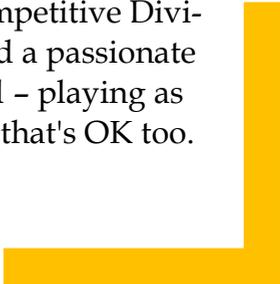
Rebels reached the Semi-Final Stage of the AFF Womens Knock-out Cup beating a Conference Team (Onehunga Sports) on the way 2-1

We also introduced a trio of U15 young future players to play in our Team

### Acknowledgements:

If I may take this opportunity to thank the Rebels for a wonderful Season. Thanks for playing hard, for playing an attractive style of football and I think overall it was another successful Season.

Look, we are a Social Team that plays in a very Competitive Division so its Testimony to your tenacity, skill-base and a passionate demeanour that we have achieved what we wanted – playing as the Rebels and that we play to WIN but if we loose that's OK too.



I'd like to thank Jason Oliver, Lewis Parke, Sam Forde and Nicola demaine for their support and assistance for the Rebels during this Season, to all the 1st Team players who helped us out when we were struggling with numbers - We all Thank you so much ....you all ROCK!

BTW - The Rebels are off to RAROTONGA for 8 days over Labour weekend for some R&R and playing 3 games and experiencing the local hospitality and drinking wells  
Maybe a day in Aitutaki too .....God its so depressing but someone had to do it!

May see ya next Season

Nga Kairua

# EAFC PRIZEGIVING



# 2015

# Women's First Team

## Ellerslie Women's AFF/NFF Conference Division

*\*Please note: results/stats may vary pending final games being played.*

This has been a season where we achieved several new milestones. In terms of basic stats we've blown our previous seasons out of the water, we've won as many games this year as in our previous two seasons combined and doubled last year's points tally. We've also scored considerably more goals and conceded less than half of last year's goal tallies. We've finished with a positive and pretty decent goal difference and it is the highest ranking we've ever achieved - cementing ourselves into the top 5.

Year	Placing	Wins	Draws	Losses	GF	GA	GD	Pts
2013	7 <sup>th</sup>	5	4	9	27	35	-8	19
2014	7 <sup>th</sup>	4	3	11	22	45	-23	15
*2015	5 <sup>th</sup>	9	3	5	37	19	18	30

We've had more obstacles than I care to count along the way, but each time we overcame them, learning and getting stronger. We've lost players to injury, lost players to travel, holidays and opportunities, and lost players to other clubs, but also we've gained new faces along the way to keep our momentum going and to keep us striding towards our goals.

I'd like to thank everyone who helped us throughout the season, supporters, helpers, the club, coaches and the players, not to forget our steady supply of ring-ins. Through our combined spirit and



attitude we've shown a glimpse of what can be achieved when we work together.

## **Looking to the future**

Our numbers this year were higher than ever with each women's team having 20 players or so, and each team achieving great success: the Conference Team finished higher than ever before; The Rebels made the AFF Cup semi-finals; and the Third Team reached the Division 2 play-offs. I believe it's time to expand and include a fourth women's team at the club, and I'd like to see us introduce a proper First/Reserve team squad that trains on the same nights with the aim of challenging for a top three finish next year (or hopefully winning it).

If anyone has any thoughts, concerns, or would be interested in helping this get off the ground then please contact me, we would be looking for coaches, assistants, managers and could even look at developing a pathway from youth to senior. I would also like to make sure that no existing players or teams are left by the way-side, so please contact me if you have any worries or want to keep completely independent, I truly believe we can find a solution that will work for all 4 teams.



# Men's Thirds

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Well, I knew last season would be hard to live up to, but I never thought it would be this hard! After being fortunate enough to be included once again in the NRFL Div 2 League we joined the preparations for the season with our Firsts and Reserves.

Thankfully we managed to retain some key players from last season, Luke Dixon, Ross Borrill, Tim Covey and Glen Jones whilst others moved on, most to the First and Reserves set up. We recruited well bringing in players such as Delan, Jono, Tom, Hoops, Tim, Happy and Baljit.

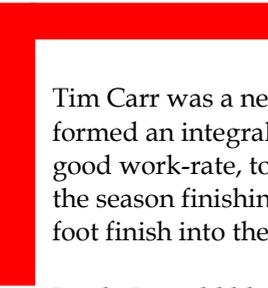
After a disjointed pre-season whilst the team was being built we began the season well accumulating some good points and finding ourselves at the pointy end of the table. Luke Dixon was particularly impressive from the right wing scoring 6 goals in our opening 4 games.

Overall however as other commitments, injuries and general malaise got the best of the squad results began to taper off as we got to into the season. Entering into a patch of games about 7 weeks from the end of the season we knew that if we won the next 2-3 games we would be sitting on top with a good run in. We proceeded to lose our next 5.

Whilst moments like above were difficult as a coach there were some great highlights from the season.

Paul Hooper ventured out of semi-retirement to play a large role in the team. Paul is a very controlled, technical leader on the pitch. He has the ability to control a game and its tempo from a deep position and was a key player in many of our wins this season. Always providing welcome advice at half time, trainings, pre game and post game he has had a huge influence on myself and many players in the team.

Luke Dixon truly kicked on from last year, moving forward from right back into a right wing position and has established himself as a true workhorse in the team. Working tirelessly up and down the flanks and bringing some goals into his game he was a star performer this year. Luke is someone who should definitely kick on over the next few years and I wouldn't be surprised to see him playing reserve level football or higher.



Tim Carr was a new addition to the team and deserves special mention as he formed an integral part of the midfield three for much of the season bringing good work-rate, tough tackling and consistency. He scored arguably the goal of the season finishing a move that began on our own 18 yard box with a crisp side foot finish into the bottom corner.

Lastly I would like to make a special mention to Delan Mahlagwai. Delan grew up playing at Ellerslie before venturing to Otago where during a game he suffered a heart attack. Thankfully he has pulled through and had with us this year his first full real season back to playing. Moving from his traditional fullback position to that of a striker the year has been a real adaption for Delan, however he has taken all advice on openly and was a key into the style of play this team developed. He has an amazing ability to hold up the ball and involve other players despite his size, and has a bright future in front of him if he chooses to continue pushing on.

Overall – the end result of the season was disappointing given the quality available in our team however there have been, as above, some real highlights and exciting talents along the way. I believe that this core of players can kick on like the last and look forward to seeing what they do in the future.

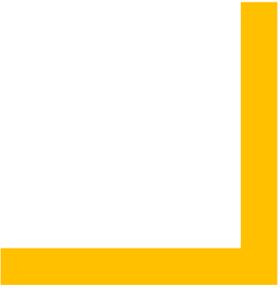
I want to thank Ellerslie football club for the opportunities they have given myself and the lads in this team and hope next year we are presented with similar opportunities.

A special thanks as always to Tim Adams who without him none of this would be possible. Someone who puts in an insurmountable amount of work behind the scenes to ensure that all the senior club is on track.

To Chris, Marshy, Fred, Dave and Ben the remainder of the senior coaching staff. It has been a pleasure working with you all this year and I have learned a lot. I think you all have a lot to look forward to with the direction of the club and can safely say the club is lucky to have people like yourselves around to help.

Cheers

Ben





# Men's Reserves

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A very competitive league which was great to see. Although we ended up fourth in the league, if we had won the last game we would have won the league. It is an awkward team to coach due to the constant movement of players into the first team however it is the role of the reserve team to train players and make them competitive enough to support the first team. We used forty seven players in the Reserve team this year with many of them young players which all bodes well for the future of Ellerslie Football Club.

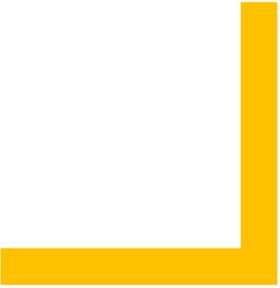
We won the knockout plate against the team we lost to in the last game which was a good way to finish the season.

Most of the coaching was done by Dave Witteveen, many thanks. The boys enjoyed his positive attitude. We were well supported by Tim Adams managing the First Team and the Reserves and doing a fantastic job.

Thanks to the efforts of the players and the senior coaching staff and our physio team of Connor O'Driscoll and Avantha Hewvitharana

Cheers

Fred Poelman



## CURRENT LADDER

POS	TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	North Shore Utd (NRFL1R)	22	16	4	2	68	31	37	52
2	Takapuna AFC (NRFL1R)	22	16	3	3	56	24	32	51
3	Forrest Hill Milford (NRFL1R)	22	16	2	4	78	28	50	50
4	Ellerslie AFC (NRFL1R)	22	16	2	4	59	24	35	50
5	Tauranga City Utd (NRFL1R)	21	11	1	9	47	34	13	34
6	Hibiscus Coast (NRFL1R)	22	10	3	9	50	36	14	33
7	Mt Albert Ponsonby (NRFL1R)	22	9	3	10	55	48	7	30
8	Mangere Utd (NRFL1R)	21	8	1	12	27	62	-35	25
9	Manurewa AFC (NRFL1R)	22	5	5	12	17	41	-24	20
10	Metro FC (NRFL1R)	22	4	2	16	28	56	-28	14
11	Waiuku AFC (NRFL1R)	22	4	2	16	22	64	-42	14
12	Ngaruawahia AFC (NRFL1R)	22	1	2	19	23	82	-59	5

# Men's First Team

This year was a fresh start and a complete reshuffle of the coaching team. Introducing the team;

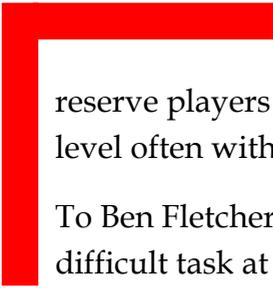
	1 <sup>st</sup> Team	Reserves	U19	3 <sup>rd</sup> Team
Head Coach	Chris Wallace	Fred Poelman	Ben Fletcher	Ben Pauley
Assistant Coaches	Grant Marshall	Dave Witteveen		Glen Jones
	Ben Fletcher			
Goalkeeper Coach	Kris Pinnock			
Physios	Avantha Hewa and Connor O'Driscoll		Napier = Matt Hyla	
Manager	Tim Adams			

Thank you to the extended coaching, physio and management group for your desire and passion to make Ellerslie the great club it is on and off the field. I think we had an awesome year and great success with what was a very young squad. The platform has been set for us to kick on from next year.

To Fred and Dave and “the Reserve lads”, well done in winning the Reserves Knockout Plate, defeating Forest Hill Milford 3-1 in the final, a great effort. Thanks to Fred and Dave for your invaluable input to the senior teams this year, awesome job.

Thanks to Grant Marshall for all your work with the teams particularly in warm ups and cool downs but also being a great sounding board and mentor to the lads.

We again fielded a 3<sup>rd</sup> team in the NRFL Division 2 Reserves League. Thanks to Ben Pauley and Glen Jones for coaching and organising this group which this year allowed some less experienced U19 players senior team experience and also some senior 1<sup>st</sup> and



reserve players with work commitments to still play at a decent level often without training.

To Ben Fletcher, a big thank you for running the U19's. This is a difficult task at the best of times organising young men on a Sunday and this year each week was a different team as the team was made up of U16/17 players who were rotated. Ben never got to coach the boys during the week as they were not available, however his management and mentoring of the team on game day was done without fuss, so well done. U19s are a vital part of the senior club as it is the first link between the junior and senior club and essential for us to maintain the pathway through to the senior teams for boys in their last year at school and school leavers not quite ready for the senior reserves or 1sts.

To Kris Pinnock thank you for your patience and diligence in coaching and mentoring all the Keepers this year. Kris has been involved at Ellerslie for a while now coaching both a Junior Metro Team and the young keepers as a group. To his credit the club now has abundant young GK talent which bodes well for the senior club in future. This was Kris's first year at senior level and his input to the squad was invaluable.

This year the 1<sup>st</sup> team and reserves operated as a squad of 30 + players. We retained a good core from last year's first team/reserves and added a great number of talented young players who had just left school, had returned to the top flight after time away or had returned from other clubs. The only disappointing thing was that we were not organised enough to retain more of the U19 Torrens group following Terry being unavailable to continue coaching.



The squad was well balanced which enabled us to split the group to different sessions based on position or technical elements once a week and then to train as teams once a week in readiness for the weekends game. The squad was also quite young with 6 U20 in 1<sup>st</sup> team and 12 U20 in reserves.

The season started very well and we were top of the table after 5 rounds but struggled with consistency and closing games out when we had them won, finally finishing 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Games**    **22**                    **Points**    **42**

**Won** 12    **Drew**    6    **Lost** 4

**Goals For** 56

**Goals Against** 35

The League was won by Forest Hill Milford with 51 Points.

Of interest is that;

**We beat**                    FHM twice – 1<sup>st</sup> round 3-0 away and the 2-1 at home.

**We drew with**    Ngaruawahia – 1-1  
who finished last.

Metro – 2-2 at home and then 3-3 away.

*In both games we were winning with 5 minutes to go*

MAP – 3-3 away

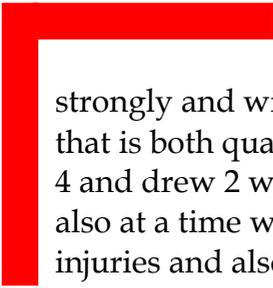
*winning 3-1 with 10 to go*

North Shore – 3-3

*leading the comp for a good part before finishing 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup>*

As a squad, at the start of the season we talked about the need to play intelligently to close out games and that we did not want to get to the end of the season and rue results that should have gone our way. Ironically that is what happened. Had we got max points from the three games that were drawn when we were winning for at least 80 minutes of the game then we would have finished on 48 points and be in second place. But that's football isn't it!

What I think is most pleasing is that we finished the season very



strongly and without a doubt we were playing the type of football that is both quality and entertaining. In the last six games we won 4 and drew 2 with Goals For = 21 and Goals Against = 9. This was also at a time when the squad was depleted with some long term injuries and also OE's for a number. This allowed a number of younger players to step up and gain vital 1<sup>st</sup> team experience and were able to do so because of the way we ran the squad.

**So looking forward to next year and beyond.**

The club has a great Junior section which is producing a large number of talented players. We are at present trialling players for the annual Labour weekend U19 Tournament in Napier and there are 20 16 and 17 year olds who have great skills, pace and good understanding of the game. It is essential that our 1<sup>st</sup> team is playing at the highest level so we can retain these players. Clearly this means getting promoted first but also having the depth of talent and experience to be competitive at the highest level and so stay in the league.

My final thank you is to Tim Adams. Tim does a huge job for the club in his role as Chairman and also a fantastic job as Manager of the 1st and Reserve NRFL teams. Tim is a great organiser and his work behind the scenes means we as coaches can focus on coaching and not being side-tracked by administration, so thank you once again.

All the best for a relaxing summer. To all senior players gets some R&R first but, if serious about playing at the highest level again next year, use this off season to work on those weak areas of your game and your strength and fitness so we can hit the ground running late January/early February 2016 with a clear aiming of gaining promotion to the Premier League in 2017.

Regards

Chris Wallace





Ellerslie AFC is running a summer 11s series this year at Michael's Ave Saturday evenings, Competition is a 10 week season starting in mid to late October, ending in March 2016.

We welcome registration from teams and will also work to place individuals and groups into teams as well.

This will also be a paid referee development program with support from senior referees. Contact us to register interest in this program, no experience necessary.

E-Mail [chairman@ellersliefootball.org.nz](mailto:chairman@ellersliefootball.org.nz) for more information and to register interest. Spaces are limited.

# EAFC DRINKS MENU



## Standard Beer

all \$5.00 each

Wild Buck Ale  
Carlsberg  
Pure Blonde  
Steinlager

## Premium Beer

all \$6.00 each

Asahi  
Corona  
Heineken  
Steinlager Pure  
Montheiths Original  
Speights Old Dark

## Other Beer

Quarts, Tap etc

Honesty Box Pint \$3.00  
Wild Buck Pint \$5.00  
Carlsberg Pint \$6.00  
Wild Buck/Lion Red Quarts \$7.00



## Light Beer

all \$5.00 each

Steinlager Light  
Amstel Light  
Light Ice (NOW \$3)

## RTD's

all \$6.00 each

Woodstock  
Coruba and Cola  
Cruiser Cans  
Long White Vodka's  
Jim Beam and Coke

## Cider

Honesty Box \$5.00  
Bulmers \$6.00  
Wild Side \$8.00

## Wine

Glass \$6.00  
Bottle (Large) \$25.00  
Bottle (Small) \$6.00

## Spirits

Single \$5.00  
Double \$6.00  
Jagerbomb \$9.00

## JUGS NOW AVAILABLE

Honesty Box \$10.00  
Wild Buck \$15.00  
Carlsberg \$16.00

## NON-ALCHOLIC DRINKS

Red Bull/V \$3.00  
Soft Drink - Standard \$2.00  
Soft Drink - Premium \$3.00  
Juice/Gatorade \$3.00

## Snacks

Chips	\$1.50	Lollies	\$1.00
Chocolate Bars	\$2.00	Lollypop	\$0.50

**THANKS TO:**

**TBC - MC Extraordinaire**

**Tim Hawes - Program/Printing**

**Joyce Long and Hanna - Kitchen/Catering**

**McCarthy's - Admin/Finance**

**Lynette Margison - Fixtures**

**Saskia, Alannah - Bar**

**All the EAFC Committee, Executive and Volunteers**

**All EAFC Members!**

**SEE YOU IN 2016!**