



Manly Bombers J.A.F.C. Newsletter February 2009

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Message from the Club President

by [Ashley Parker](#)

Not long now until we kick off another fun filled year of football at the Manly Bombers! Your Committee continues to prepare the Club for the 2009 season. Our priority has been to secure training and match day grounds as Weldon Oval will be resurfaced over winter. To this end, we are pleased to report that significant progress has been made over the past two months and facilities have been secured for 2009 pending sign off from the Manly Warringah Pittwater Sporting Union.

The Club will host some of the Sydney Swans players on Thursday, 12 February who will be in attendance for a free Clinic and to sign a few autographs at Weldon Oval from 4pm to 6pm. Spread the word among your friends and lets make sure we all get down to Weldon to show our support for our local AFL team!

The Committee continues to explore First Aid options for the Club. As indicated in Lindsay Greinke's article in the [December Newsletter](#), a centralised resource is the preferred option, however, we have been without centralised First Aid for the past three seasons. One possible solution is to assign first aid responsibilities to each team's parent group where a parent from each team would be appointed as First Aid officer for the team and undertake appropriate First Aid training paid for by the Club. We'll keep you posted on developments.

Congratulations to Doug Hadden (Under 15) who has become the Advanced Training Group's first AFL scholarship award winner. Find out which lucky club has signed up Doug in Haydon Bray's article later in this newsletter.

By now, all families should have received a letter from the Club outlining registration procedures for 2009 which are also posted on the [Club's website](#). We look forward to receiving completed forms either by post or at one of our three Registration Days which are outlined later in this newsletter.

Venues for 2009

After a long and arduous quest for grounds, the following facilities have been secured pending final sign off by the Manly Warringah Sporting Union in February.

Team	Training venue	Match day venue
U / 15	North Narrabeen Reserve	Nth Narrabeen Reserve, North Narrabeen
U / 14	North Narrabeen Reserve	Nth Narrabeen Reserve, North Narrabeen
Auskick to U / 13	Old Reub Hudson Oval & Reub Hudson Oval, North Curl Curl	Frank Grey Reserve, Freshwater

For those of you unfamiliar with the grounds around the district, both Old Reub Hudson and Reub Hudson Ovals are the rugby and baseball fields directly across the creek from Weldon Oval. In fact, there is a footbridge which takes you from the western goals of Weldon directly to Old Reub Hudson Oval. Some of you may be familiar with the Scout Hall which sits next to this field. Directly to the west and up a small embankment is Reub Hudson Oval. Both Ovals are accessed from Abbott Road and are serviced by car parks. The map on the last page should help you with your understanding of the location of these grounds.

The Under 14 and Under 15 teams will train and play at North Narrabeen Reserve, Walsh Street, North Narrabeen (better known to most people as Pittwater's home ground).

The Club very much appreciates the assistance of the Pittwater Tigers JAF, Harbord Harlequins Junior Rugby Union Club, North Curl Curl Knights Junior Rugby League Club, Manly Warringah Softball Association and the Manly Warringah Womens Hockey Association in assisting us with our quest to find temporary accommodation in 2009.

Most of our junior teams trained on Wednesdays in season 2008. In 2009, our main training night will **most likely be Friday for our Auskick to Under 13 teams** on Reub Hudson and Old Reub Hudson Ovals. Obviously, we need to fit in with our hosts but it is our preference to have as many teams as possible training on the one night to assist with family logistics – allocating Friday nights to the Manly Bombers suited both our hosts in this regard.



Meet The Swans: Thursday 12 Feb, 4pm – 6pm.

This is the first time that the Swans will visit Weldon Oval so let's make sure we all turn out in force to welcome our local AFL heroes. There will be a clinic and a chance to grab an autograph or two. We'll also be taking registrations so mark your diaries for this special event. Remember that if the Swans are prepared to support the Manly Bombers, then we should reciprocate and support these events in numbers. So spread the word and bring along your friends!

Registration Days

Registration procedures have been posted on the [Club's website](#). Fees are unchanged from last year and registration days are as follows:

Date	Venue	Time
Sat, 7 Feb	Bendigo Bank, 20 Albert Ave, Freshwater	8 am to 12 noon
Thur, 12 Feb	Weldon Oval, Stirgess Ave, Curl Curl	4 pm to 6pm Meet the Swans
Sun, 15 Feb	Bendigo Bank, 20 Albert Ave, Freshwater	8 am to 12 noon

Vacancy - Assistant Secretary to the Executive Committee of the Manly Warringah Pittwater Sporting Union.

The Manly Warringah Pittwater Sporting Union has a vacancy for any sporting minded volunteers as the Assistant Secretary to the Executive Committee. The Sporting Union comprises of regional sporting associations based in Manly-Warringah-Pittwater area who represent the clubs and report to the State body. The role entails recording minutes of meetings for the Secretary of the Sporting Union. Meetings are held roughly eight times a year. If anyone is interested in filling this role and contributing to the general wellbeing of sport on the northern beaches, please contact our Vice President [Kelvin Millsom](#).

AFL For Disabled Kids

We are looking for volunteers to help formulate an AFL program for disabled children. This is a Manly Bombers initiative and we have already started working with Warringah Council on identifying community groups that may be interested in what we might be able to offer.

Engagement between our players and the disabled children will be central to the program which will have the dual goals of bringing a positive dimension to the lives of less fortunate children, as well as giving our players a deeper understanding of the value that disabled people bring to society.

The concept is not based on any particular model so our volunteers will be pioneers in some respects. If you are interested in contributing to this program and have ideas on how it could operate, please contact the President, [Ashley Parker](#).

Reminder – Reconvening the 2008 AGM: 9 February 2009.

As explained in the last newsletter, we will be reconvening the 2008 Annual General Meeting on 9 February to ratify the 2008 annual accounts and amend the Constitution to give the Committee more time to prepare accounts in the future.

The agenda was attached to the [December newsletter](#) which is on the Club website. If you wish to attend the meeting, please contact the Club Secretary, [Kim Layton](#).

Auskick Update

by Kelvin Millsom, Auskick Coordinator

Due to Easter being combined with the First Term school holidays this year, I have decided to delay the start of the 2009 Auskick Season until Term 2 in the interest of continuity rather than making a start on 29 March and then two weeks later, having a four week break. We will be starting on Sunday, **3 May 2009** at 8.30am on Frank Grey Reserve.

This season will see half of our 2008 squad advancing to the Under 9's and with them go many of the parents who have been the Assistant Coaches, the Drill Leaders, the on-field Coaches and Umpires and those who have turned up early and set up the fields so we could start on time each week.

As with every new season, comes change and a challenge. 2009 will see an influx of new players and parents to our Auskick squad and our returning players will advance an age group, some will no longer be the youngest while others will find themselves now in the senior group within the squad. This will also require the existing parent group to step up and fill the positions vacated by those who are moving to the Under 9's. New parents are also invited to put their hands up for a role within our Auskick program.

Over the next few months, before the Auskick season starts I will organise a Sunday morning training session for parents who would like to feel more confident about the roles they are interested in taking on in 2009. Basically we can go through a session at our own pace from start to finish, with me going over the individual roles and how they interplay with the overall Auskick program. There are on-field and off-field roles to be filled.



Auskick Update continued

So now is the time to drop me a line and let me know which role you would like to take on in 2009. If you are unsure of what the role entails or you've been thinking you might like to give a particular role a go, then email or phone me or when you're returning your registration form, put a note on it and I will give you a call. But do it now, while we have time to prepare. These roles are simple and very rewarding and with many parents involved, it keeps it that way.

Kelvin Millsom

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Mobile: 0407 228 443

Advanced Training Group (ATG) Update by Haydon Bray

Since 18 November 2008, Tuesday nights at Weldon Oval have been a hub of activity for the AFL talent scouts as they take our more talented players through their paces. St Kilda, Sydney Swans, Adelaide Crows and Collingwood have all taken our 40-strong squad on a weekly rotation basis, with the Brisbane Lions and West Coast Eagles making their debut's in the next 2 weeks.

To say that the sessions have been valuable is a massive understatement. All players have learnt some amazing new skills and football technique from these elite coaches and have really got a taste of what the AFL clubs take their players through as the drills are straight from the coaching handbooks used by each club. After the initial technique development phase, we are now moving the squad into more 'skills with pace' drills to introduce a low level of pressure to test their new found technique. By the time the season comes around, the squad will be in full competitive mode with all players ready to unleash their new abilities from the first bounce.

The purpose of the ATG is to have our more talented players ready for selection in the various representative teams for 2009, and ultimately considered for scholarships with the AFL clubs. The first age group to trial for the STARZ squad will be the under 15's and 16's. Manly have nominated a total of 9 players for these trials which commence on 9 February with the NSW carnival played in the April school holidays. The nominated players are:

Under 15's

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| - Doug Hadden | - Jasper Harkness-Dunne |
| - Christian Jurlina | - Brodie Elliott |
| - Mitch Cullen | - James Behagg |
| - Mitch Douglas | - Jacob Graham |

Under 16's

- Pat Martin

We wish the boys all the best for their trials.

Dougie Hadden makes his mark

What an amazing year 2008 was for Manly's Dougie Hadden. In mid 2007, this mad-keen footballer thought his footy days were over when his family left Adelaide for Sydney.

But, after a few games with Pittwater in 2007, he turned up at Haydon Bray's under 14's training at the beginning of 2008 and instantly struck a rapport with 'H'. Through lots of hard work on skills development, Dougie moved from being a 'good little player' to becoming one of the top players in the NSW Under 14 carnival at Narranderra and attracted the attention of a host of AFL clubs.

After many meetings with the various clubs, Dougie has been invited to be part of St Kilda's NSW Development Squad. This makes Dougie the first Manly Bombers player to be offered such a position from an AFL club. Lets hope that this opportunity evolves into Dougie being officially recruited by St Kilda in a few years time. Based on the way Dougie approaches his football and the guidance he's receiving from Haydon and the St Kilda development coaches, it's not hard to imagine Dougie wearing the tri-colours in the future.

Congratulations Dougie from all of us at Manly.

Umpires Required!

With the Club fielding so many teams this year, we are desperately in need of umpires. Boys and girls must be 13 years and older and must complete a six weeks training (one night per week) at Belrose starting in February, then fortnightly throughout the season. You can earn great money as an umpire – even as a trainee!

The Club also needs to appoint an Umpires Coordinator. The Umpire's Coordinator role is ideally suited to a parent of an umpire. Duties are to appoint umpires to games throughout the season and support young umpires.

Please contact David Fitzgerald for more information on 9938 1766.



Location Map

Here is a map of the Location of the Reub Hudson, Old Reub Hudson Ovals and Frank Grey Reserve.

Additional information regarding registration and the 2009 season is also contained on the [Manly Bombers website](#).

