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SOUTH WEST QLD THUNDER

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Completing this report can be challenging, as from the moment the first ball is kicked in February, focus inevitably shifts into planning mode for the following season. This is particularly relevant as we start to consider the significant and critical task of submitting an application for the 2018-2022 NPL license. While this can be a daunting exercise, we are fortunate to have an engaged Board of Directors who are committed to the task, and who will never lose sight of the privilege to have an opportunity to compete in the national second tier.

In reviewing my 2015 report, it is pleasing to note the progress towards achieving the high level goals listed in the report.

- We are progressing with the upskilling our coaches, with a significant number putting their hand up to progress through the advanced coaching pathway.
- We have strengthened or relationship with the Zone, and are working collaboratively to increase the reach of the sport outside of Toowoomba.
- We have made some progress recently in discussions with the Toowoomba Regional Council with the development of Captain Cook Park as the South West Queensland Football Centre of Excellence. This will serve as an interim home until the completion of the desperately needed Charlton Sports Precinct.

A number of our strategic goals for 2017 are:

- Expanding footballing activities into the community to provide the dual benefit of engaging the community and diversifying revenue.
- Providing development opportunities for the U8-U11 age groups.
- Continuing the momentum created by the Senior Teams in 2016. The finals are realistic goals in both the NPL and WNPL.
- Developing our coaches to meet the 2018-2022 NPL license criteria.

While the Skills Acquisition Program and Junior Football remain the cornerstone of the NPL Program, as significant highlight of the season was the performance of the Men's and Womens Senior Squads. The Senior Women where a genuine finals chance until very late in the season, and the Senior Men exceeded all expectations achieving a number of firsts. While we do not lose sight of junior development as the remit of the NPL, it is critical that we continue to

develop a winning mentality in senior football; to provide an aspirational goal for our juniors, and to provide an alternative to the too often tread path of heading overseas to pursue opportunities to play football at a high level. Senior NPL and WNPL football must be seen as a continuation of the development path of a footballer in this Country.

While hesitant to flag one particular achievement over another, I must make mention of our Under 18 Boys Team. Notably, the first team from our Club to achieve a NPL Premiership, and in style, securing the title with a number of rounds remaining. It is significant to note that the vast majority of this squad have been with the Club for four years, and where previously players representing the SWQ Zone in the Junior Premier League. A very clear indication of what is achievable in senior football in our region.

I cannot start to thank all of those involved that volunteer within our Club. It is notable that apart from our full time Technical Director, we do not have any other employees. The Club is run purely from a volunteer base, and I am not exaggerating when I say that it takes thousands of hours of volunteer effort to run our Club. As we expand our footballing activities into growing our clinics and academy structure, this volunteer workload is only increasing, and I encourage our members and players to reflect on the fact that there are people getting home from their day jobs, and continue to put many hours of work into the job they love

In closing, I am very proud of our achievement this season, and while acknowledging this, also understand that there is much scope for improvement in some areas. If you have any feedback or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me at chairman@swqthunder.com.

Yours in Football

Jon Haynes





BOARD MEMEBER	POSITION	PORTFOILIO
Jon Haynes	Chairman	Financial
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Sue Lister	Director	Clothing
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Janelle Sothmann	Football Operations Manag	er
Salvatore Sottile	Club Technical Director	

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Richard Brannelly Sponsorship

Paul Smith Photographer / Media

David Lobwein Photographer
Andrea Purcell Accounts
Lachlan & Jessica Marwood Physios



SWQ THUNDER SUPPORTERS GROUP

Sue & Simon Lister
Bruce & Alesha Smith
Bjorn & Stefanie Jachmann

SAP COACHES

SAP Co-ordinator - Doug Spinks
SAP Girls Coach - Scott Teakle
SAP Boys Coaches - David Nugent

Doug Spinks
Thomas Lund
Matt Proctor

AGE	COACH	ASSISTANT COACH	MANAGER
U12 Boys	Scott Teakle	Thomas Lund	Michael Smith
U13 Girls	Kris Hemmerling	Tim Gallegos	Sue Gotz
U13 Boys	Matt Proctor	cameges	Andrew Roche
U14 Boys	Dan Percy	Callan Bailey	Sue Lister
U15 Girls	Craig Lockwood	Stephanie Moore	Kristi Scofield
U15 Boys	Sean McDonald	Matt Gaske	Michael Smith
U16 Boys	Glenn Parish		Kerry Weber
U18 Boys	Dennis Lund	Rubens Borges	Craig Tonkies
Youth Men	Nigel Fanning	Keren Thomas	Bjorn Jachmann
Open Women	Ken Bosense	Anthony Bigby	
Senior Men	Chris McLeod	Mick Turvey	Matt Erdis
GoalKeepers	Rocco Travierso		



SOUTH WEST QLD THUNDER

TECHNICAL DIRECTORS REPORT

It is a pleasure to be contributing to the year book in my first year as Technical Director for South West Thunder. I found it to be a very rewarding year.

What I have noticed the most is just how respectful and willing the Players, families and Club is to be the very best they can all be. The community support to share the workload and learn from everything is truly inspirational.

South West Queensland Thunder has improved in every single technical area; from the junior through to the

What I have found so incredible is how you are prepared to drive for hours to get to your training and to your games and then back home for ten months of the year.

Every single juniors team has shown a marked improvement and the ability to continue to grow at this level. Thunder continues to produce a number of players that are so talented that they have been chosen to represent the State Teams. What is important is that we continue to identify and develop players from all the region to be able to bring them in for further development and opportunities within the Thunder NPL programs. This is why Thunder started to open up the relationships with the cluster clubs in the region by delivering coaching courses to them. I personally found this a great experience delivering these because I found everyone so willing to learn, embrace and give advice. I also found that Thunder is welcome when we go there because we are valued for what we do and bring to the region. To continue to share our knowledge and experience will only strengthen this growing bond.

June and July holidays brought a wonderful and first off experience of the holiday camps with Thunder! We had 160 attend a camp that also brought the experienced coaches from Spain to add to our knowledge pool. The players learnt new techniques and got to see the level they could aspire to grow too. Thunder will continue to only grow these camps and clinic further. We want to have the community clubs attend and continue their learning pathways with us.

In conclusion with the juniors, I would like to; thank the players for their effort and their commitment. The coaches for their willingness to learn and grow and share the knowledge and the families for making the time and effort to support it all. The volunteers and team manager for the attention to communication and coordination needed to keep it all going.

About Thunder seniors!!! No matter how much I claim you can be successful and have believed you could be....you showed everyone by your results! Both men's and women's results were outstanding considering we have worked to a different methodology for only one season. You have all worked so hard, with so much commitment and so much

willingness that you created your own success. Everyone from now on will look at Thunder with seriousness and respect!!! for the change in the level of the ladder and the attitude of you all when you field. We have beat nearly every major club and took 6 points away from FNQ FC-only Thunder did this.

I obviously want to say a big thank you to Chris, Mick, Matt, Nigel and Keren who have worked so very hard from October 2015 to August 2016. It is a big season. It is a long season. It has been a successful one for you all. Obviously, my gratitude and appreciation for our super players from this year.. who so won the hearts of the community that we had hundreds turn up to watch at our home games..

Ken and Anthony have driven our women's team, and the girls have conquered all expectations and have finished in the top 5 on the table. Making this an outstanding season for them.

I would like to conclude with a massive congratulations to our Under 18's Boys who have taken out the Premiership. This is the first time it has happened in the history of the Club. You have made the region proud. To see SWQ Thunder FC on the top of the ladder with teams such as; Brisbane Roar, Strikers, Brisbane City etc etc. Thank you to Dennis, Rubens and all my country boys...

Finally, I would like to conclude that without the incredible and professional support of the Thunder Board, our chairman Jon and our administration/ operations manager super JANELLE...It is so important to have professional people onboard running the club voluntarily. We simply would not have had the structure needed and the maturity needed to take on new ideas, new ways and clear decisions. This support is what was the foundation for such a year to be built on.

So thank you (Grazie). I can say something great happened in my football life when I came to Toowoomba, the region and Thunder. To meet such great people, genuine people and sincere people. It is not just about the football but about this beautiful community. I am looking toward to great future we can build together.

Ciao Salvo

Regards

Salvatore Sottile Technical Director





UNDER 12 BOYS

Coach: Scott Teakle

Assistant Coach: Thomas Lund

Manager: Michael Smith

Yet again SWQ Thunder have welcomed a new crop of players into the club, and amongst these players I am sure that we have some future stars of the game in this region. The majority of these boys have made the progression from the clubs SAP into the NPL, whilst others have come from other local clubs, as well as Warwick and Blackbutt. Reaffirming that this club really is about identifying talent from everywhere within the region.

The team has had to make the progression from 9 aside football to the 11 aside game; a task that some boys came to grips with easier than others. Players had to learn the intricate details that would help them play their part in a team environment.

The team had a great start to the season with a first up win against Gold Coast City, however we then had a bit of a bumpy ride over the next six games, as I went about mixing and matching the team to get a gauge of what different things each boy could bring to the team in different situations/positions.

As the team settled into the way that I wanted/taught them to play, the boys started to play a more complete style of football (there is still better to come), and results started to come their way also. We went on an eight game run where we were not defeated, and we went from the team that was chasing others, to the team that everyone wanted to beat. If the team continues to improve at the current rate, this team will continually be the team others want to get a result against.

Whilst the team has had a good season collectively, we have also had four boys that have been identified and attended a training camp in Brisbane with other NPL players. With two of those boys also gaining selection in the Queensland Schoolboys team. Hopefully, this is just the beginning for these players, and maybe others from this team may join them in the coming years.

Definitely a pleasure to coach these boys, and look forward to seeing what they may become in the future.

A big thank you to Tom Lund (assistant coach) and Michael Smith (manager). With out these two gentlemen I would be forever chasing my own tail.

Scott Teakle

U12 Boys Coach 2016



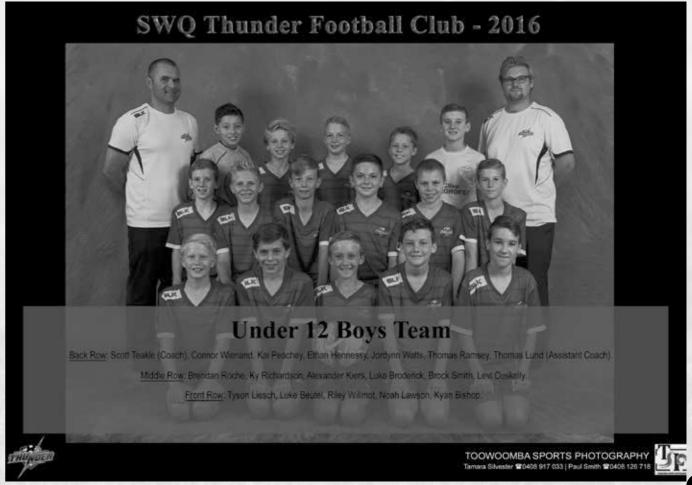














UNDER 13 BOYS

Coach: Matt Proctor **Manager:** Andrew Roche

October 2015 saw us get together and begin our journey which was the 2016 NPL season. The trials saw a crop of new players emerge with a core group from the 2015 season remaining. Though most teams tend to relax after trials and await the start of pre-season, this group continued to train over the remainder of 2015 and really formed a closeness as a new unit, as well as kept their skills and technique ticking over.

The 2016 NPL season has been an exciting time for this group of players as they have come to realise that they can compete against the metro clubs but only when they apply the principles that have been worked upon in training. I refer back to our game in the identification round in April 2016 when we played Brisbane Strikers away. I would have to say that it is the most exciting game of youth football that I have watched in a long time. The boys were competitive and matched the Brisbane Strikers, who had several state players in their team, in every department and with 9 minutes to play the score was level at 4-4. This against a team that no one else had scored 4 goals against in two seasons and with a bit more luck on the day, we could have/should have won the game.

That game against Brisbane Strikers has optimised the 2016 season for this group. They have been far more competitive and we have played some really good football against the so-called bigger clubs. However, games have gotten away from us and we have been defeated by the old goal on many occasions and this has normally occurred when players have gone off task and not followed instructions. But we have to remember that they are only 12/13 years of age and are going to make mistakes and it is more important to see if they have learned from making those mistakes and also if they can fix it themselves. The 2017 season will let us know if they have done that.

Matt Proctor U13 Boys Coach 2016



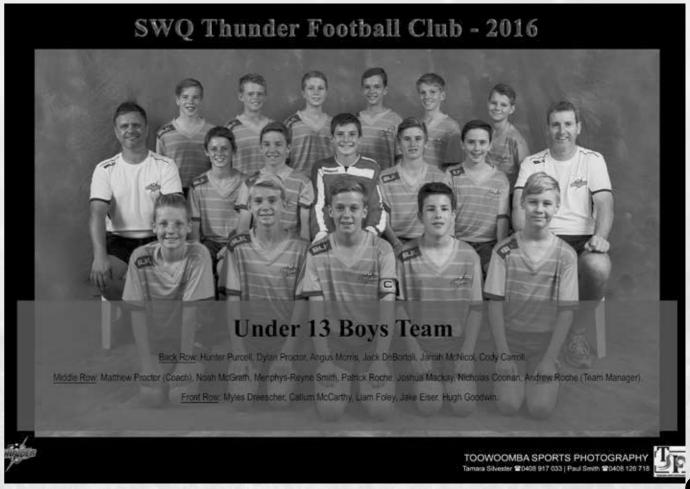














UNDER 13 GIRLS

Coach: Kris Hemmerling **Assistant Coach:** Tim Gallegos

Manager: Sue Gotz

Another rewarding season has come to a close. This group of young women can be extremely proud of themselves for the changes and progression they have over this years football. The U13 girls hit the ground running, winning their first 8 games including trials. The team made great inroads with two players Tori and Gidget selected in the Qld state team Tori the Capt , 7 girls making the Darling Downs schools team and Holly moving forward in the schools Qld state team. I am extremely proud of this bunch of girls earning 30 points on the table a first in thunder girls history and as with most team we gave away at least 10 points through development errors. But this is what it's all about. We were also the first Thunder team defeat any Gap team. Highlights were the way we played and the progression made with Goals to Tayla; Georgia; Bronti to name a few. Our keeper Caity's first year in goals was outstanding. The quick adaptation of positions like Outside back for Britney; Kellie, midfield from backs for Alix and the explosive speed of Elyse on the wing. The future looks bright with these young girls through Layla, you're not really 11 Proctor, Maddy Teakle in the Midfield and Holly in the backs. Jacinta ,Casey ,Tori, Gidget will help carry the flame forward towards the U15s for next season and beyond. And the team song lead by Alix each win... Wow we really have some talented girls coming through.

We would like to thank Kim and Tim for their assistance this year which has been outstanding and extremely enjoyable for me as a coach to work with. Sue the greatest manager "ever" don't how I would have got through the season without all of the help. And most of all the players parents. Sometimes very loud but as a team we truly know you guys had our backs.

Kris HemmerlingU13 Girls Coach 2016



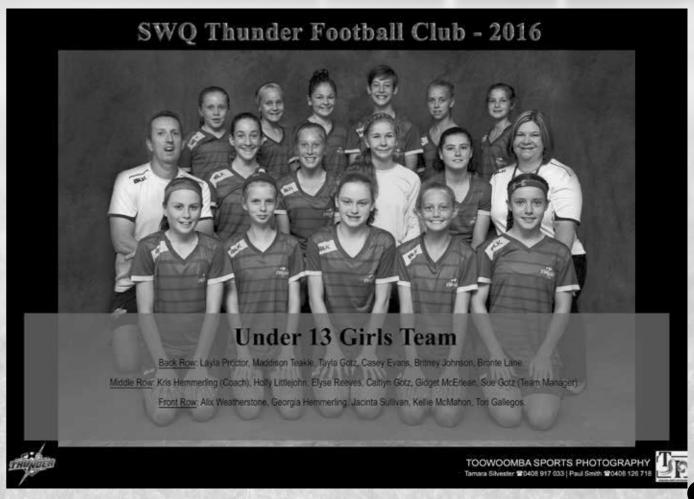














UNDER 14 BOYS

Coach: Dan Percy

Assistant Coach: Cal Bailey

Manager: Sue Lister

Our 2016 NPL season began with the team working on playing out from the back, one of the back four into the middle third, combination midfield play finding the nine, wingers and wide backs working together to tuck-in defensively wide in attack and overlapping.

I was very impressed with all of the boys ability to learn and implement their new playing style on the field. As a team we played some solid technical football, passing out from the back with many short passing combinations in tight area's, creating 2 v 1's, working our way up the field, which was impressive to watch.

The boys should be proud of the commitment and enthusiasm that was displayed by all throughout a very long season. It has been a pleasure to coach such a talented group of footballers, my thanks to each of you for a great year.

Many thanks are extended to Cal, an experienced and knowledgeable assistant coach, who has ably assisted and stepped in to guide the team during the year. Cal has a great rapport with all of the team and I have enjoyed our season of analysing and strategising all things football.

Sue has been, as always, an excellent manager who has kept the team, the parents, myself and Cal well informed and well organised. Cal, the boys and myself appreciate all the time and work that Sue does on our behalf.

Dan Percy U14 Boys Coach 2016



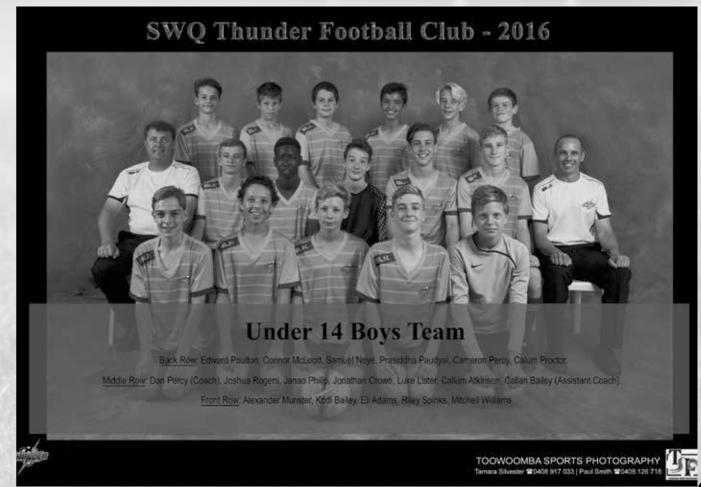














UNDER 15 GIRLS

Coach: Craig Lockwood

Assistant Coach: Stephanie Moore

Assistant Coach / Manager: Kristi Scofield

The 2016 season has been a fantastic journey for these young ladies. We had selected a squad of 16 after trials and had been looking forward to a strong season. Unfortunately we had a number of girls withdraw due to various reasons a few weeks out from our State Identification rounds which left us searching for girls. We found these girls and despite being slightly behind the eight ball in terms of preparation, we performed well through the ID rounds.

We set ourselves the goal of finishing top, while continuing to focus on our technical development and improving tactically week after week. The competition was extremely tight this season and we were in every game with the exception of a couple that got away from us late in the game. The girls put their heart and soul into every game and never ever backed down or gave up even when the game looked gone, which is a credit to the girls and by mid-season we were sitting equal 6th.

Unfortunately we were hit hard by injuries and sickness which led to us having to call in some shadow players who stepped up remarkably well and we thank them for their effort this season. Despite all the setbacks the girls always put their best foot forward and frustrated quite a few teams with our physical, no nonsense defence and our good ball movement in attack, but the story of the season seemed to be our inability to put the ball in the back of the net. Our lead up play was good and I would say we probably hit the crossbar or posts more than any team in the comp.

There is no doubt this team is stacked with talent and on our day we are a top team. I am privileged to have coached these amazing young ladies and to the girls thank you for a wonderful season.

A big thank you to Steph and Kristi for your support and assistance this year and to the parents for their commitment, support and sacrifices you make to allow these girls to play the game they love. Thank you.

Craig Lockwood U15 Girls Coach 2016

















UNDER 15 BOYS

Coach: Sean McDonald **Assistant Coach:** Matt Gaske **Managers:** Michael Smith

With a new TD, new coaching staff, and a few new faces in the 2016 Under 15 squad, I was excited to see what these young men could do in this years' NPL season. From the trials in October and the preseason over the Christmas period, the intensity looked good, the commitment looked good, and the boys' touches were looking good. What I didn't predict was the rollercoaster of results that would follow and the mixed emotions from the players, parents and coaching staff.

To say that I was disappointed with the season would not be an accurate statement. I was extremely impressed with some of the football that these young men played, I was impressed with the physical fitness this group had reached and maintained for the season, and as the season progressed and the results didn't fall our way, I was humbled by the commitment they had to the style of football I was asking them to play. We just needed that mental toughness on game day that is sometimes missing in young men.

As the season draws to a close, I'm looking forward to similar performances to finish 2016. I'm still not concerned with results, but performance, commitment and quality of football played by these young men. And hopefully next season the results will come too.

Sean McDonald U15 Boys Coach 2016



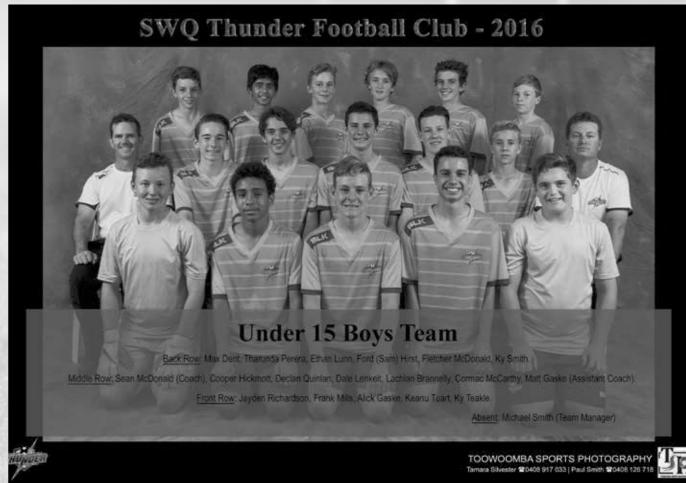














UNDER 16 BOYS

Coach: Glenn Parish **Manager:** Kerry Weber

When I read through last year's Thunder Magazine, I like the way Chris Wilkes started his with a quote.... "The only place success comes before work is in the dictionary" – Vince LombardiWork ethic, this squad of men definitely has it. They did everything we asked of them without complaint, this to me was the making of the team's success.

My goal for the team this year was to plan an attractive attacking style of football which was easy on the eye and I believe we have achieved this by being more than competitive in all but 3 games this season so far.

At the time of writing, we were the second best attacking side in the age group with 57 goals. The other pleasing factor is ALL of our players have scored goals (exciting to watch).

The other gratifying factors about these men are:

- They are disciplined (most of the time)
- They play for each other (all of the time)
- They sacrifice for each other (all of the time)

We the coaching staff couldn't be more proud of the team for displaying these traits. Well done men!

If you would ask anyone within the squad, I'm sure they would all answer the same, that our lowest point in the season was when Justin did a season ending knee injury early on in our campaign. Although not playing, Justin has been an important part of us all the way through and we all wish him a speedy recovery so he can persue his pathway next year (best wishes mate).

As for any team we were hit hard at times with injury/illness/fatigue from school representation. This is where our three shades played pivotal roles for us:

- Alex Matiazzi in the midfield (from Stanthorpe)
- Dylan Politch at No.7 (from Stanthorpe)
- Alex Price in a utility role (from Toowoomba)

The team and I cannot thank you enough (thanks Gents)

Our U16 team has beaten every team in the pool at least once and we have set a new standard for these teams playing the Thunder now. We are no easy beats, instead now they grow an extra leg when they face us. Well done team!

This is the first year we have picked two goal keepers in the squad of 16. Reilly Mason and Zac Erlandson – you both are outstanding gloveman, our team is blessed to have you, some of the saves you have pulled off are nothing short of brilliant.

Our back line – Mustafa Banza, Justin McCall, Riley Lobwein, Brady Mason, Asbjorn Gaskell – all quality defenders in their own rights. Gel them together and you have speed, stamina, strength, anticipation, aerial presence (awesome)

Our midfielders – George Owen, Jordy Howard, Tim Zuyderwyk, Mannyx Smith – our engine room, complimenting each other beautifully, communication, strength, vision, finishing ability (unsung heroes)

Our attackers – Brandon Dixon, Ritchie Hayden, Fred Pfieffer, Dan Weber, Joe Scott – vision, speed, creativity, finesse – when this group of players have the ball you are always on the edge of your seat, something always happens (excitement machines)

To our Captain Dan, and Vice Captain Joe, you are both quality leaders in your right. Thanks for taking more responsibility on board with the team and putting up with me. Huge thank you!

On a personal note, I would like to thank Kerry and Clint – our Managers. The communication through our network you provide is second to none. The time and energy you both have put in over the years is remarkable. You would have to go a long way to find someone as dedicated to the cause as your family is. Our team and I cannot thank you enough (thanks for putting up with me)

To our Physio Trevor (our team's Energiser Bunny) – I have no doubt a huge part of the team's success is due to you. Your input has been invaluable, the professional atmosphere you have created for the team's preparation into senior football is outstanding. Thanks Trev!

The U16 Thunder Squad would also like to thank Salvo, Jon, Janelle and the Supporters Group for all your efforts for the year. Thank you.

To all the U16 parents, thanks for your understanding and help during the year. We are all in this with a common

goal, thanks for being supportive.

Last but not least – gentleman you are a classy outfit, each of you were picked to do a job within the team. When all of you do your job well, you play an attractive style of attacking football who any spectator would love to watch.

It's been an honour and privilege to have been associated with your blokes over the past year and I wish you every success with whichever pathway you choose for yourself in the future.

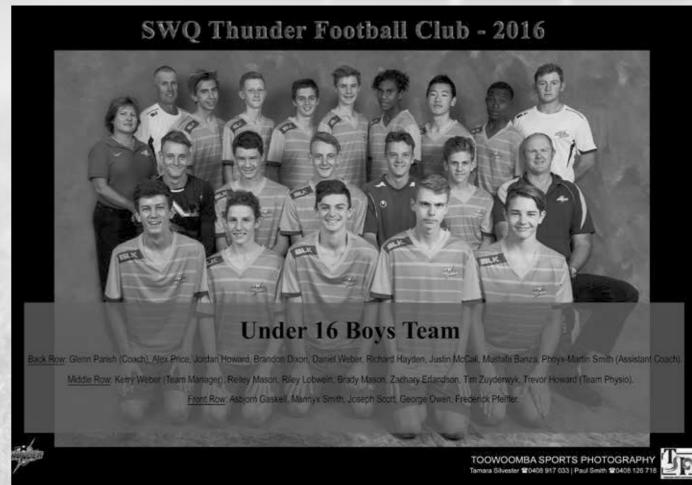
Glenn Parish

U16 Boys Coach 2016











UNDER 18 BOYS

Coach: Dennis Lund

Assistant Coach: Rubens Borges

Manager: Craig Tonkies

For the Under 18's, pre-season began in early January with the players training twice a week using the session format introduced by Head Coach Mr Chris McLeod and being unilaterally implemented across all men grades. Three friendly matches including a 7-0 win against Ipswich Knights Under 19's side helped prepare the lads for the opening match against Olympic FC which resulted in a 7-1 demolition in front a healthy home crowd at Berghofer Stadium. This was followed by another big 5-1 win against Brisbane City at home before the boys stunned the League favourites Brisbane Roar 4-0 away at the Cleveland Showgrounds. A further two wins against Redlands United and Brisbane Strikers meant that the Under 18's had taken maximum points from the first 5 matches – one of a number of goals they had set themselves as a playing group.

As the second youngest aged team in the competition, with most boys aged under 17, one of the team aims discussed was how the group should now take a more player oriented approach and responsibility to the decision making process rather than a purely top-down coaching oriented approach. Certainly, this helped in both the week leading up to the match against the Roar as well as later, when losing the next two matches after winning the first five, the group determined to concentrate not on what other teams were doing but to stay in first place and focus purely on the next match. Working hard, and with a necessity to regularly rotate players due to their other school sport commitments, the group rose to the challenge and went undefeated for the next 10 matches – winning nine and drawing one which resulted in the team pulling away from the rest of the competition to take a handy 10 point lead into the final five rounds. Unfortunately a mid–week narrow 2-1 loss to Brisbane City with a number of key personnel missing either injured or suspended meant that any chance of securing the championship at home and giving the team Captain Kyle Parish the perfect send-off were dashed. However, the lads completed the job the following week against Sunshine Coast FC, with two games to spare.

I commend the team on a fantastic season – in particular their commitment to each other as well as the goals they set– to the team's credit they did not take a top 4 mentality, but set themselves the target of finishing first. It is a tribute to them that they stayed true to their goals, and when challenged to keep going and not falter, gave everything they had with all the spirit they could muster. Without doubt – in the second half of the season the 1-0 victory against the Roar in dreadful conditions of pouring monsoonal-like rain, against Gold Coast United where the boys came from 1-0 down with 20 minutes to go in a dour encounter to win 2-1, and the 3-0 arm wrestle against the Strikers where two free kicks resulting in goals, including a 52 metre special that changed the course of the match was evidence of their never say die attitude.

I also wish to thank those players including Joshua Fanning, Nykodah Smith and Ben Makepeace who made limited appearances due to other commitments throughout the season when player numbers or regular players themselves were fatigued; your contribution was crucial in keeping the momentum going.

Finally a thankyou to the coaching and management staff of firstly the Under 18's Rubens Borges and Craig Tonkies; your help in preparing the lads and making match day smooth as well as contribution to training sessions was invaluable. To the coaches and assistants of the Under 20's and Mens, in particular Chris McLeod, Mick Turvey, Nigel Fanning and Keren Thomas (Teaks) – the boys would not have been able to achieve this result if it wasn't for your help, support, but mostly belief in them as a playing group. This achievement is not solely owned by the under 18's but is shared by the whole club because of its vision and courage to stay the course and nurture the lads to the finish line.

Jason Hall U18 Boys Coach 2016

CLUB SUPPORTERS



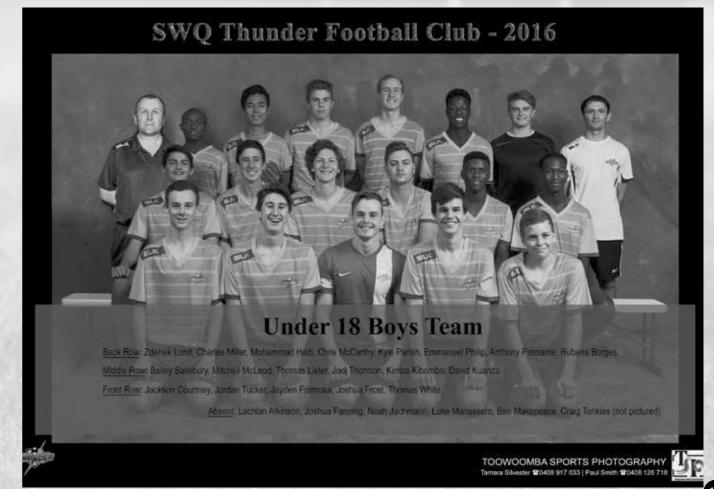














OPEN WOMEN

Coach: Ken Bosense

Assistant Coach: Anthony Bigby

What can I say? What a "TEAM"!

I came to this Team as the new Coach, not knowing what to expect and what the players would expect of me. I wanted to put my stamp as a Coach who brought new ideas, direction, fun and most of all, a FAMILY feel. I want to say a big thank you to this wonderful team for taking the time and the journey for 2016. Even though my time was just over half a season long, I was still very much involved right up to their last game, working from afar.

We started the season with the trials in which we chose 20 players.

In our preseason we had some difficult challenges where we had sickness and injuries. In some games we played with just 11 players or fewer, and this was with the help of some our younger family, the under 15s. We didn't win a game, but it was all part of getting the team in shape for the season ahead.

One of my most memorable games I coached was the first game against Easts: a remarkable effort where we played so well structured that we had Easts at two-all with 10 minutes to go. This showed me, despite issues with injuries and getting the team in a much shorter time frame than I would have liked, the true character shone through of what this team could become for the rest of the season. The Easts coach went on to state that their team was so frustrated at half time; that "This is not the team we had played against in the past. They are so much more structured and blocking our channels"

On the first bye weekend we had a full-day team bonding session at the Army barracks, where the team went through their paces for endurance and mental toughness. It was a huge help to see them through to the end of the season.

Of course, the report wouldn't be complete without mentioning the game against The Gap. Undefeated, and already crowned Premiers for the second year running, The Gap came to Toowoomba and got the fright of their season. Both teams were missing a few regular players, but in what was the most enjoyable and memorable games all season, we nearly stole the show. It took a late goal in time added on for them to steal the win, and even their own officials know we didn't deserve to lose that one.

This year we achieved 9 different players getting into the team of the week and this was achieved on 16 occasions out of 21 rounds. This bunch of great players showed energy and fight to the end, attitude that is so hard to come by in a lot of teams. This team has it and I feel the journey has just begun for us as a group. Over the next few years we will build on it and will be a force to be reckoned with. We have the perfect playing group, Captain and of course the younger Thunder family members that come up through the ranks.

Ken Bosense

Youth Women Coach 2016





CLUB SUPPORTERS

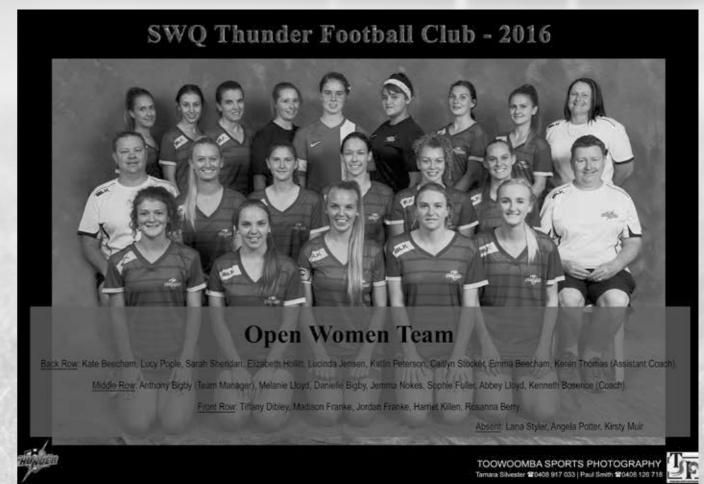




Richard Adams
HOMES that last a lifetime









YOUTH MEN

Coach: Nigel Fanning

Assistant Coach: Keren Thomas **Manager:** Bjorn Jachmann

Once pre-season was finalised the two senior teams began with reasonably settled squads. This year the U20s were coached by Nigel Fanning and Keren Thomas and supported by Bjorn Jachmann in the role of Manager.

The U20s had been largely overhauled since 2015 and included a significant number of graduating U18s and 1st team players from previous years. In addition, a healthy number of new arrivals brought a mix of youth and experience to the group. This year saw a number of player age restrictions imposed upon the team meaning only 5 of the 14 players were able to be over 20 years of age and 9 players had to be under 20. This selection policy caused the team to initially have to rotate overage players on a weekly basis often leaving 3 / 4 players without a game for the whole weekend.

Whilst the senior men got off to a good start, the U20s found the early fixtures a high standard and and an even harder slog. Brisbane teams took full advantage of their midweek fixtures to play some very strong teams against the Thunder U20s and it took some time to get the boys up to the necessary level of fitness and competitiveness. A first victory in Round 7 was met with relief and some celebrations.

A draw in the first fixture against a polished Gold Coast City gave false hope for the season ahead and the toil we would endure to be competitive. Victories over Olympic, Redlands and Brisbane City showed that on any day, with the right squad and against a matched opposition, that we could

compete with the best in the league. All too often however we were 2nd best to the ball and lacked the quality to close out the really tight matches.

From a development perspective, the league proved to be every bit as competitive as we needed it to be, as it is here that the squad players must prove themselves before they can hope to challenge for a first team start or bench spot. Young players found the experience extremely rewarding and gave them a real insight as to where they sit in the pecking order of the club as they fight for a 1st team shirt. Notable contributions were made across the season and it was extremely rewarding to see many young players stepping up from the U20s into the 1st team on merit and ability.

Whilst the league table and report card will tell their own story, it does not tell the whole story of a group who have stuck to the task and regardless of the results, have returned week in, week out with a smile and a willingness to go again.

Nigel, Keren and Bjorn.



CLUB MEDIA SUPPORT

The Chronicle











SENIOR MEN

Coach: Chris McLeod

Assistant Coach: Mick Turvey

Manager: Matt Erdis

In what has been a breakthrough year for the Thunder, it is important to firstly to recognise the coaches and players who have been the foundation members of the club in their first 2 years of history. The season started in earnest on November 1 with 32 men who were introduced to Mr Mark Gordon and the wonderful sponsor in World Gym, it was no secret that our lads needed to be fitter, faster and stronger than our rivals before we even looked at a ball. This regime complimented by community engagement events formed the basis of our pre-Christmas schedule. This included visits to the Blood Bank, Children's Hospital, Cerebral Palsy unit, Downs syndrome and the Army new arrivals families as parts of the boy's involvement outside of football. Our motto was that once you respected those around you then you would certainly appreciate and respect yourself for what we have the luxury of having every day.

A pre-season campaign that saw all of our boys given a chance to impress before the first game of the season against the NQ Fury at home in front of a bumper crowd. The end result was history making as we clung on late for a 2-1 victory and the club's first ever official win in the PS4 National Premier Leagues. The following 10 games in round 1 saw some emphatic results with wins against last year's Premiers Moreton Bay (2-0), Redlands United (2-1) and league leaders at the end of round 1 FNQ Heat (2-0). Throw in a couple of draws against the Brisbane Roar and 3 very narrow losses against Brisbane City, Olympic FC and the Sunshine Coast Fire and we had a squad that was achieving beyond all expectations......except those of our own. In fact, it is always a good teams' intention to win every game, sometimes to achieve a point away from home against quality opposition (which is every team in this league!). Then there were some lessons in mental preparation and stepping up when the chips were down – namely Gold Coast City and Western Pride.

The second part of the season began as the first part with another history making event in winning the first away game ever with a gutsy win over NQ Fury in Townsville. With the team trailing 1-0 and 15 minutes on the clock, the team stood up and scored 3 goals to claim an incredible result against the odds. The remainder of the season has also been packed with moments of inspiration and learning experiences. After trailing 0-2 with 20 to play at Moreton and a man down, the side showed tremendous character to draw 2-2 in a spirited performance away from home. Further history in the biggest winning margin for the club with an away win 4-0 over the Sunshine Coast.

Depth is what every great club needs and ours was certainly tested after we lost Rowan Salomon, Nykodah Smith, Majok Piok, Kevin Doyle and a host of others for the season or 3-4 games in the second part of the season. The clash of the Youth and Senior Men's games meant we were hampered by who we could call upon and it is again a sign of maturity in what was achieved with a bench that was predominantly 16-18 years of age on many occasions.

Whilst there is much to do on and off the field the 2016 season has been an enormous success. It is here that I would like to acknowledge the small band of workers and Board members who have actively been involved with the behind the scenes running of a club that is at the second highest tier of football in the country along with Salvatore's work as the new Technical Director of Football to the club.

To the playing group, to a man you have been magnificent, in fact of the playing roster of 51 players, 50 fulfilled their commitments to their word in every respect which is the hallmark of great young men. The senior leadership group of Keagan, Ben, Kevin and Luke......the lads are very fortunate to have such a special band of men who have steered the ship in good times and bad and taken the level of professionalism to another level. To our ladies and juniors who we have tried to incorporate into the club sessions and fun nights, you are our future and we are very fortunate to have the support of such a great crew. Finally, but most importantly for me is the coaching staff. Without a doubt you look for commitment, honesty, integrity and loyalty in people you work with. In the 2016 staff, I have had that and more, in fact it has never been an onerous chore, we have loved each other's company and are very fortunate to have been involved with such a special playing group. Thanks to Nigel, K.T., Bjorn, Dennis, Rubens, Craig and my right hand men Matty and Magic Mick......you are all truly special people and the journey has been all the more special for having you on deck. Bring on 2017 and the new challenges that await all involved with this young but great club.

Chris McLeod

Senior Men Coach 2016













TOOWOOMBA SPORTS PHOTOGRAPHY Tamara Silvester 20408 917 033 | Paul Smith 20408 126 718



SAP REPORTS BOYS

The 2015 season has again been rewarding for our coaches and more importantly our players. On behalf of all of the coaching staff we wish a special farewell to our U/11 cohort who have been an amazing group of young lads to work with over the past 2 years. Our hope is that you will continue to play and love the game you have embraced so wonderfully with us.

Departing Seniors!

U/11 SWQ SAP SQUAD

Kyan BISHOP – Kyan has improved remarkably with his first stint in the programme, a young man who is diligent, respectful and willing to apply the lessons learnt in training on to the field of play. Further involvements in programmes and a belief in his abilities will see a great end product.

Luke BRODERICK - Has shown wares with mesmerizing dribbling and an eye for goal. Luke has a chieved Queensland representation this year for the U/12 Schoolboys. With further hard work and his continued willingness to listen and learn he will be a wonderful player in the future.

Noah COCHRAN – Noah is another of our newcomers and has backed up his selection with intelligent displays as the season has progressed. Once he had adjusted to the pace and physical aspects of the SAP competitions he was able to use his touch and vision to great advantage.

Sam FRASER – Sam is a resilient and tough competitor who has begun to build some finesse in to his gameplay. With further work on vision and first touch he will develop into a great player due to his combative streak that already is inside of him.

Ethan HENNESSY – Ethan is the quiet achiever of the squad who turns up and does the job with minimal fuss and total application. He is a diligent and productive player that has the ability to bring players into the game with his deft touches and interplays.

Noah LAWSON - Our Wally Lewis of the football paddock, Noah sees plays before anyone else and can play possession and killer passes as good as anyone in the league. This intellect, with a desire to do well make him a player who can perform anywhere on the football field.

Tyson LIESCH – Tyson is an enigma in that when he is hot, there is a left footed player who can tear defences apart, however like many young players he needs to work on consistency of his performances and efforts to unveil the talent that lies within. Capable of good things if he wants

Alex KIERS - Alex has to be one of the hardest working players in the squad, a desire to be the best and bring everything to the table means that he never ever leaves his team-mates short on the field. He has developed great skills and the ability to understand the game a little more

Jaisal NARSEY – Jaisal is a player who has also come to grips with the speed of SAP training from a humble beginning to start to show what a clever and strong runner of the ball he is. A very loyal and responsible young man who continues to impress as the season wore on.

Kai PEACHEY – Kai is a very versatile player who can fill the role of goalkeeper to striker with aplomb. Kai possesses very quick feet and with further training on his decision making off the ball and work in defence he can become a very complete player.

Ky RICHARDSON - Ky is definitely one who has worked tirelessly away from the training ground to produce some outstanding performances on the field week in and week out. He was rewarded with DD selection after this diligence and love of the game showing fantastic skill sets.

Brendan ROCHE – Brendan is a wonderful little athlete who possesses tremendous balance and poise on the ball. He has a wide passing range and a great dribble and with further work on his decision making processes he will be one superb player.

Brock SMITH - Mr Smith has developed from the cool and calm rock at the back to a holding midfielder that can dictate play and organise those around him for the benefit of the team. He has flourished with the role changes to bring another dimension to his game. A DD representative

Riley WILLMOT - Riley is the true competitor in all regards. With the ball he possesses speed and a dynamic change of angle in attack. Riley without the ball is impassable and the British bulldog desire of none shall pass. He was also a DD selection in the higher grades and continues to blossom.



U/10 SWQ SAP SQUAD

The U/10 men had a very steep learning curve at their inaugural carnival against the SEQ competition that has trained and played together for many years. However in true SWQ spirit and the character of the young men that earned the call up to the SWQ SAP squad in 2015, the boys have applied themselves superbly and by years end have bridged a massive gap with their counterparts as the carnival performances show. It is never where you start but where you finish and it is important to remember that the boys still have a long way to go to reach the heights of where the current U/11 boys are at. If we are to look closely at the 4 elements that the boys have worked on this year, there have been gains and yet we have much still to do. These elements, 1 v 1, striking a ball, first touch and running with the ball were all tested in the boys gameplay and some test components towards the end of the season. There was no one that hit the VG and GOOD standards which I have earmarked against the best 6 players in the SAP set up. This is great as it gives our boys a yardstick to work from and will see who works away from the training paddock. Who can do 100 juggles (dead ball rules), who can do 6+ figure 8's in 30 seconds?

So boys whilst we commend your efforts to date, it is important you keep working hard and enjoying your football to master the ball.

Well done to Ben Anderson, Ethan Bigby, Jordan Bigby, Thomas Dwyer, Sam Hinton, Jake McGuire, Zachary Meara, Matthew Moore, Luke Parish, Tyler Spinks, Sam Sullivan, Zane Tosh and Andrew Uprichard-Green.

Finally, a massive thanks to the mums and dads who have been supportive of their children and driven them to not only the given SAP carnivals but to invitational events that the boys have been invited to due to their performances over the past year. It is impossible for your kids to dream of football without the support of those closest to them. We are very fortunate to have the calibre of coaches we have in the programme with Andrew Tolputt, Thomas Lund, Dave Nugent, Matt Proctor with the boys. Scott Teakle and Craig Lockwood who also do a wonderful job with the girls. In fact, Scott deserves special mention for the autonomy and initiative that he shows with the girls side of the programme. I look forward to seeing all of you at the trials in Term 4.



SAP REPORTS GIRLS

an improved program throughout South East Queensland. Where we only had two girls' teams last year to begin with, started training at the end of February and will continue until mid September, during this time will have attended 3 SAP carnivals and been invited to play at a Football Toowoomba carnival. The girls this year, have come from a variety of clubs (West Wanderers, St Albans, Sth Tmba Hawks, Withcott and Warwick). And during the second part of the season have had guest players come from Highfields, Gatton and Rockville also.

The girls this year have improved immensely, and this is shown with our outings at carnivals, whilst results aren't what we are looking for our girls are more than competitive with the other clubs. In fact I believe we have narrowed the gap from last year to now.

The second season of skills acquisition for girls has seen As per usual we have a number of girls who will be moving on next season. To Maddy Teakle, Zara Moon, Tayla Gotz, , Kellie McMahon(thanks to the four of you for two great seasons) there are now 6 fully functional girls programs. Our girls and Layla Proctor, Molly Lockwood, Holly Littlejohn, and Maddy Kane - I hope to see you all in the future continuing to improve and put into practice what we have done (preferably in a Thunder jersey).

> And to my little ones (Macey Eiser, Halle Nielsen, Zara Haynes and Zara Kruger.), I can't wait for next season to continue to build what we have started.

Scott Teakle

Girls SAP Coach - SWQ Thunder









GOALKEEPERS

GK COACH: Rocco Travierso

Goalkeepers!

Arguably the most important position on the field, yet so often the most misunderstood and forgotten player in the team.

There are numerous reasons for this. The most common is that team coaches through no fault of their own do not know what to do with their keepers at training. Because of this young keepers usually miss out on dedicated goalkeeper related coaching with emphasis on correct progressive structured coaching emphasising correct technique.

At Thunder we are blessed with having Salvo as TD, Salvo an ex professional keeper himself with extraordinary energy and vision identified this problem within the first few weeks of taking up the position, after numerous meetings and emails Salvo persuaded me to head "Up the Mountain" to take on the position of Goalkeeper coach and entrusting me with the responsibility of mentoring all of Thunder's keepers as well as developing young keepers in the regions SAP program.

I quickly identified a need for my experience, knowledge and understanding of the Goal keeper position within SWQ Thunder. I noticed the look in each and every one of their eyes, they were there because they wanted to learn, they wanted to play in this position and hung on every word I said. I thought to myself. Yes this is a group or kids I can work with. My sessions then focused on technique, body shape and positioning and all key skills needed by a keeper.

I will never promise to turn any Goalkeeper into a champion, what I do promise however is to help each and every keeper to be the absolute best that they can be.

I have enjoyed my first of what I hope to be many years with Thunder, I will be with you next year and am currently drafting up a full year's program for all keepers from SAP to seniors.

Rocco Traviers























SOUTH WEST QLD THUNDER



2016 AWARDS

	Most Valuable Player	Player's Player	Coaches Award
U 12 Boys	Luke Beutel	Riley Willmot	Ethan Hennessy
U 13 Boys	Jack DeBortoli	Jake Eiser	Noah McGrath
U 13 Girls	Tori Gallegos	Casey Evans	Holly Littlejohn
U 14 Boys	Luke Lister	Prasiddha Paudyal	Janao Philip
U 15 Boys	Cooper Hickmott	Keanu Tuart	Ethan Lunn
U 15 Girls	Mackenzie Robinson	Madison Lockwood	Rosie Peek
U 16 Boys	Dan Weber	Riley Lobwein	Joe Scott
U 18 Boys			
Youth Men	Keegan Dixon	Wade Hall	Silde Cande
Senior Women	Jordie Franke	Tiffany Dibley	Melanie Lloyd
Senior Men	Jackson Haussler Mustafa Jafari	Keagan Sheridan	RISING STAR - Lachlan Atkinson

Golden Boot Junior

Golden Boot Senior

Abbey Lloyd

Safe Hands Award Junior

Safe Hands Award Senior

Coach Award

Scott Teakle

The Allan Sothmann Perpetual "Club Spirit Award" Anthony Bigby

THANK YOU

With thanks to the following for their help & support throughout the 2016 Season

Dept of National Parks, Sport & Racing – Toowoomba Sports Ground (Clive Berghofer Stadium)

Rockville Rovers – Captain Cook Ovals

USQ Football Club – Toara Park; Oval 6 & Oval 1

Gatton Soccer Club

Willowburn Football Club – Commonwealth Oval

Kingaroy Junior Football Club

Withcott Soccer Club

Toowoomba Regional Council- Kearney Springs & Highfields

Toowoomba Grammar School

Football South West Queensland
Paul Smith – Photography
DSL - Photography
Wiltshire Health Physiotherapy & Psychology
Antonys Bakery and Patisserie
McDonald Printing Group
The Chronicle
WIN TV
7News
Snap Toowoomba

REPRESENTATIVE PLAYERS



Eli Adams U14 Qld Country State Team



Gidget McErlean U13 Girls Qld State Team



Jack DeBortoli U13 Qld Country State Team



Tori Gallegos U13 Girls Qld State Team









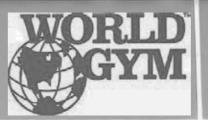


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