

<b>Team: Wests Juniors U9 White</b>	<b>Opponents: Kenmore Bears</b>
<b>Date: 14/07/07</b>	<b>Venue: Kenmore</b>
<p>Hello from steamy Hanoi where Aussie Rules is now taking off.....yes, we did take a footy on tour and inducted the locals into our game! A very cool morning at Kenmore and first game back after school holidays. Morgan Gillet was Captain for the day and the lads were very keen to get the game underway. Both teams had a full contingent with the Bears amassing an army of kids! An extra warm-up was the go given the very chilly conditions.</p> <p>We lost the toss and this seemed to set the tone for the first quarter. Kenmore is always a good opponent and they jumped out of the blocks and caught the doggies having a nap – holiday hangover perhaps. The Bears slammed the first two goals in as many minutes and the lads looked rattled. The bigger Bears lads were getting out of the middle and our defence led by Jack and Scott battled hard to keep them at bay. James and Ethan exchanged some nice passes in the middle and solid running gave Brad a shot on goal that he finished with class. Angus and Lachie ran hard at the ball. Wests failed to ‘man up’ and Kenmore scored a goal to finish the quarter.</p> <p>Quarter time, and the coaching staff checked to see if the doggies had woken and all seemed more focused for an improved effort. Into the second quarter and the resilience of the Wests boys began to surface. Scott used his muscle in the centre and the hard pack work by Max and Harrison meant the ball was constantly in Wests’ forward area. Ethan snapped a lovely goal as the ball dribbled over the goal line. James dominated the forward tussles to break through and kick a clever goal on the run. Aidan chased and ran tirelessly and Morgan Gillet whipped off some smart handballs. Good teamwork from Brad, Morgan Vile and Angus had the ball back in the forward line with Lachie finishing with a fine goal. The Bears managed a goal just before the siren but the doggies were firing on all cylinders.</p> <p>The lads were now pumped and there was a real buzz in the huddle. Smash down some snakes and oranges and back to the fray for a frenetic third quarter. A very tight and even session by both sides with the crowd well and truly in the game. Isaac displayed some fine balls skills to rebound the ball numerous times and while Brad and Ethan battled against a strong Bears centre outfit. Lachie was tenacious and Jack fought bravely in partnership with Scott to enable him to boot a goal – a controversial six-pointer to keep us in the game. Both Morgan V and Morgan G chased relentlessly and Max and Harrison battered their opponents in the scramble for the ball. The siren sounded and both teams sprinted to their huddles.</p> <p>The final term and both sides threw everything into the battle. Isaac had some important touches and James and Jack used their muscle and bustle in the middle. Goals were hard to come by and Kenmore scored the only major for the quarter. Angus and Brad got very close to the big sticks with sensational team efforts. The backline was under the pump as Scott, Aidan, Ethan and Lachie gave their all – chasing and harassing bigger opponents and applying some tackles – not in the rule book but very effective! Morgan Gillett finished the game with solid ground work – well done Captain.</p> <p>A very, very close finish and perhaps not a win for the lads. After a slow start, Wests again came back cleverly with some fine team work, passing and commitment – well done boys! We’ll work on our sleepy first quarters at training. Thanks to Karen Sivijs for organising all the support duties and Rohan Teasdale as assistant coach for management of rotations and also Dave Blight who quietly helps each and every week and was coach in my absence – ta muchly Dave. Also a HUGE thanks to the parents for their vocal support and willing the doggies to an almost memorable victory. Let’s rev it up again next game. Speaking of which, <b>next game is at Sherwood (Oxley Rd) commencing at 10.00am, Saturday 21 July.</b> Get on board.....</p> <p>As always, go doggies!!  <b>Quote: ‘When you lose a couple of times, it makes you realize how difficult it is to win’.</b>  <b>Steffi Graf, former world no 1.Women’s Tennis Player</b></p>	
Coach: Andrew Sivijs	Manager: Karen Sivijs