The Bendigo Cup is up for grabs this weekend in the Battle Of the Huon with Cygnet hosting the Huonville Lions at Cygnet in a must win game for both teams.  After the game, stay and enjoy Australia’s Number 1 Comedy Ventriloquist, Darren Carr  who will be performing in the Clubrooms.  Get along for a great night of fun and frivolity.

Seniors

The Cygnet Seniors welcomed back Assistant Coach Andrew ‘Cheesey’ Palmer for his first game of the season and also back into this week’s side were Paddy O’Neill from injury and Luke Ashlin after some great form in the Underages. It was a very even first quarter with both Cygnet and New Norfolk midfields starting well, both applying plenty of pressure and the intensity around the contest. New Norfolk had the better of the forward line entries but were a little wayward in front of goal. The backline of Cygnet were under some severe pressure and the back six were holding up well. Better players in this quarter were Kane Nielsen and Paddy O’Neill who were doing a lot of the hard work down back and young guns James Zeitzen and Luke Paton provided plenty of spark around the ground.  Goals in this quarter went to Ben Halton and Braden Livingston.  Cygnet 2.2.14 Vs New Norfolk 3.5.23

At quarter time – Cygnet Coach Ben Cato demanded more accountability from his forwards as well as to be better in the contest.  This was realised immediately as the second quarter belonged to the Port as we closed the margin set by New Norfolk within the first quarter. Cygnet  had the better of the centre clearances and also dominated the inside 50’s in this quarter. Better players in this quarter were Reece Schuth and Rhys Jennings who were getting their hands on the ball first. Joe Direen and Ben Halton were busy focal points up forward and Paddy O’Neill and Nathan Duggan were solid in defence. Another goal to Ben Halton in this quarter and two goals to Joe Direen. Cygnet 5.7.37 Vs New Norfolk 5.9.39

The intensity was still great from both teams as the centre clearances and inside 50’s were very even in this quarter. Once again, with the game in the balance it was the back six of Cygnet that continued to stand strong despite multiple entries by New Norfolk.Up forward the small brigade of Clifford and Dance were exciting to watch. Plenty of pressure again from the Port forwards resulted in 5 goals to 4 in this quarter. Cygnet piled on 5 goals in the third quarter – these went to; Jake Dance (2), Ben Halton, Andrew Palmer and Noah Clifford. Cygnet 10.10.70 Vs New Norfolk 9.10.64

The final quarter continued as the first three had finished – with both teams locked in an intense struggle. Every time Cygnet would kick a goal the Eagles would follow up with one of their own. Big Ruckman Reece Schuth was moved to centre half forward in this quarter with an immediate impact. Three big heavily contested marks and a goal continued Reece’s great impact on the game.

The centre clearances within this quarter belonged to the Eagles. This also helped the Eagles have the better of the inside 50’s. A couple of late misses in front of goal from Cygnet and a 50m penalty against would prove costly as the Eagles were able to turn the ball over and score goals at the other end.  The only Cygnet goal in this quarter was scored by Toby Cowen. Whilst the Eagles were able to sneak home by the smallest of margins – the solid four quarter effort is something Cygnet can be proud of. Better players for the Port were big man Reece Schuth who was dominant all over the ground, Kane Nielsen and Nathan Duggan who were solid in defence all day, Ben Halton was a focal point up forward, Rhys Jennings was his usual self, doing all the hard work and Paddy O’Neill who did a great job on one of the premier, in-form forwards in the competition.

Cygnet 12.11.83

New Norfolk 12.12.84

Goal Kickers: B. Halton 3, J. Dance 2, J. Direen 2, T. Cowen, N. Clifford, B. Livingston, R. Schuth, A. Palmer  
Best Players: R. Schuth, K. Nielsen, N. Duggan, B. Halton, R. Jennings, P. O''Neill

Reserves

The Cygnet Reserves took to the ground keen to knock up their first win against New Norfolk who were only a couple of spots ahead of them on the ladder. New Norfolk jumped out of the blocks and never looked back, outscoring Cygnet in every quarter.  Although the Reserve players tried hard they could not match it with the Eagles speed and ball use, with skill errors and turnovers costing the Cygnet team.

To the Reserves credit they played the game out to the end and now take on undefeated Huonville next week in a very hard match. Lets hope we can bring some strong endeavour and passion to the game.

Cygnet 4.6.30

New Norfolk 15.8.98

Goal Kickers: C. Stockfeld 2, S. Clark, L. Smith

Best Players: J. Brett, G. Brereton, B. Smith, D. Millhouse, J. Direen, M. Coulson

Port women

The Port women were first up to play on Port's annual match at Snug Oval.

Conditions were good over head, but slippery under foot.

The Port women ran out onto the ground pumped, after 2 weeks off, in what should have been a close and winnable match.

Stacey Fox continued her excellent form in the ruck, winning almost all the centre taps, Emily Duggan had her first run in the mid-field giving us a strong driving force through the centre in the first quarter. Although Port remained scoreless for the first quarter their pressure, run and team work gave them several scoring opportunities which we didn't capitalise on. The second quarter saw Emily Duggan back to backline duties, where she saved many scoring shots on goals, Em was supported by our backliners, in particular Taylah Dillion and Tara Slater, both who had awesome games and continue to improve each week.Dana Van Andel kicked her very first goal and Ports only goal for the game with an assist from Hollie Hassell.

After half time, Captain Sammy Kluga came out firing showing the growing crowd lots of aggression and leading by example. Serena Hubert battled all day in the mid-field and had a solid game.By the end of the third quarter Kingborough had managed to add another goal to their tally.

At three quarter time coach Mark asked the women to stay positive and run the game out. Ash Munnings and Hayley Kluga both played admirable games, putting their bodies on the line despite playing different roles out of positions. Amy and Isabel Sharp both played well on the wing, their running and tackling efforts impressive.By the final siren Kingborough had run out winners by 21 points.Best players were Tara Slater, Serena Hubert, Stacey Fox, Sammy Kluga, Isabel Sharp and Taylah Dillion.

Snug Under Lights  
Colts:   
The Southern Storm Colts took on The New Norfolk Eagles for the first time this season under lights at Snug. Between the fading day light and thick fog settling in, the usual greasy conditions were expected. Again, due to a number of injuries and players unavailable, sixteen took the field, with four joining from the senior squad. Although only sixteen had a full tank to give, they were determined to show New Norfolk they were there to win, with Josh Coad leading his team from the front, providing excellent first use of the footy and showing incredible pack breaking speed off the classy ruck work of Kade Francis. The strong duo in the midfield allowed the likes of James Zeitzen, Kayne Wouters, Luke Paton and Murray Bastick first use of the football to allow the Storm to take a four-goal lead into quarter time.   
At quarter time, the general consensus around the group was the voice needed to lift and that it did, with Murray Bastick and Brayden Dowling, alongside the key midfield duo in Francis and Coad, were determined to lead from the front. Bastick, aka ‘The Bull’ was found all across the ground busting tackles and hitting pin point targets, whilst also running the length of the ground with his second and third efforts. Dowling could be heard a mile away running off the half back line taking around the ground marks and provided second and third efforts to aid in a smooth transition into the forward line. Key defender, Ethan Lovell, stood strong in the backline taking goal saving marks and provided his team mates with good football vision. Missed goal opportunities in both quarters unfortunately allowed the New Norfolk boys to come within 23 points with 3 goals apiece this quarter. The Storm Boys were to see the rest of the game out without key forward Blake Sculthorpe after a suspected hamstring Injury late in the first, despite repeated efforts throughout the second quarter to play the game out for his team mates.   
After a regathering at Half Time, Coad was determined to really make his mark, as he consistently busted out of the midfield with the football off the continual tidy ruck work of Francis, who proved he is a tough opponent to beat. After taking onboard what was said at half time, the small forwards in the Slater twins showed continual improvement in their game with strong tackles and pack breaking hand balls. Cameron Slater proved that he was too strong for his opponent, throwing him to the ground with a strong Dustin Martin like ‘Don’t Argue’ resulting in a massive team boosting goal. The formation of the midfield and backline ensure that the football stayed locked in the Storm’s forward line, to result in a 40-point lead at 3 quarter time.   
The Final term was full of action, the Storm boys had kept the New Norfolk boys goalless for the quarter, in true Storm fashion the boys stuck to their game plan, playing the ball first which resulted with the ball spending majority of its time in the Storm boys hands. Unfortunately, the game was called off close to the final siren, despite the ending the Storm came away with a 55 point win. 

Southern Storm 12.14.86

New Norfolk  5.1.31

Goal Kickers: K. Wouters 2, N. Clifford 2, L. Ashlin 2, M. Bastick, J. Zeitzen, C. Slater, L. Paton, K. Francis, J. Coad  
Best Players: J. Coad, K. Francis, M. Bastick, B. Dowling, E. Lovell, C. Slater

 Next weeks game sees the battle of the Huon at Cygnet Oval.  Storm to take on the Huonville boys at 10am.