Cygnet Football Club looks forward to a home game this week against the Claremont Football Club. The Southern Storm u19 have a bye this week so we will have the Women’s side playing alongside Reserves and Seniors on Saturday. It doesn’t stop there with The Live Wires Band playing at the clubrooms Saturday night. Come along for a great night and of course don’t forget to mark off the 27th July for Barry Hall playing in the Port Jumper at Cygnet Oval.

Seniors

A very important game for the Cygnet side, away against one of the inform teams in the competition, Dodges Ferry at Shark Park on Saturday. A couple of late changes to the Port side as Tom Slevin and Luke Paton were unable to recover from injuries sustained last week. We welcomed back in Adam Duggan (from injury) and young gun Josh Coad who has been dominant in the underages. Cygnet ruckman Reece Schuth started well, and his on-ball brigade won their share of the centre clearances in the opening quarter. A strong breeze to the Southern end of the ground as well as a good start from the Dodges side saw them hitting the score board regularly in this quarter. The experienced Sharks defenders had the better of our forwards within this quarter – cutting off our inside 50 entries and creating many opportunities on the rebound. As a result, the backline of the Cygnet side were very busy in this quarter but held up well under some serious pressure.  It was Coach Ben Cato, Nathan Duggan and Joe Direen that were up and about early for the Port. Goals in this quarter went to Jake Dance and Ben Cato.  Cygnet 2.0.12 Vs Dodges Ferry 4.4.28

Unfortunately Cygnet lost Adam Duggan to another hamstring very early in the second quarter. Despite this the second quarter belonged to the Port. With the wind at their backs –  Cygnet were able to add 4 goals to the scoreboard while the Sharks could only manage the 1. To start the second quarter - big Joe Direen was moved to the ruck and Reece Schuth moved to centre half forward. A move that immediately paid dividends. Joe started well in the ruck and Reece provided another dynamic up forward that had an instant impact. James Zeitzen was also proving a handful for the Sharks defenders. Ben Halton was on fire, beating two opponents at every contest and kicking all 4 goals. Down back Paddy O’Neill, Nathan Duggan and Kane Nielsen continued with their fine run of form.  Cygnet 6.4.40 Vs Dodges Ferry 5.8.38

With Cygnet up by 2 points at half time – the intense battle would continue into the second half. With the breeze at their backs the Sharks came out strong – dominating the centre clearances and the inside 50’s.  The defence of the Port held up well. The intensity and pressure continued into this quarter as the Port battled to contain the many forward thrusts. The Sharks were able to score 3 goals this quarter and the Port were able to manage 2 into the breeze. Goals in this quarter went to Toby Cowen and Braden Livingston.  We were all set for what was going to be an exciting final quarter. Cygnet 8.4.52 Vs Dodges Ferry 8.12.60

The first half of the last quarter was an even affair and a real arm wrestle. The pressure and intensity from both sides was still as evident as it was when the game started.  Cygnet managed an early but hard-fought goal through youngster James Zeitzen.  Unfortunately, the Sharks were able to come back with the next 3 goals putting the game out of the grasp of the Port. Once again, Cygnet showed that they can match it with the top teams – when they produce a full four quarter effort. One cannot help but feel that something special is just around the corner for the Cygnet boys.    Better players for the Port were big Joe Direen who had a great game in the ruck, Kane Nielsen was again solid in defence, James Zeitzen was dynamic in a new role up forward, Ben Halton was dominant up forward, Josh Coad provided plenty of spark off the wing and Nathan Duggan was responsible for shutting down one of the better players in the competition. Goals for the Port came from Ben Halton (4), Ben Cato, Toby Cowen, Jake Dance, Braden Livingston and James Zeitzen.

Cygnet 9.8.62 def by Dodges Ferry 11.17.83

Goal Kickers: B. Halton 4, T. Cowen, J. Dance, J. Zeitzen, B. Livingston, B. Cato  
Best Players: J. Direen, K. Nielsen, J. Zeitzen, B. Halton, J. Coad, N. Duggan

Port Women

This week saw the Port Women play on Sunday at their home ground in Cygnet. The women got off to a relatively slow start in wet, cold and slippery conditions. New Norfolk attacked the ball early in the first quarter,  which kept our backline and midfield busy for a short time.Coach Mark, switched up some positions this week, this saw Dana Van Andel in the ruck, Brooke Griggs in the backline , Stacey Fox up forward , Serena Hubert up forward and Emily Duggan in the mid-field. All these ladies played very well in their new positions. Port ended the quarter better than they started, kicking 1 goal ,7 points.

After quarter time break, and the women being urged to knock it up a gear and play the game on their terms the Port women were keen to add to the scoreboard. This quarter saw  the Port women go harder at the ball, with their talk increasing and the shepherd and tackling count rising. Our forwards put their kicking boots on this quarter, Hollie Hassell kicked her second goal, Stacey Fox also kicking 2 goals, and Amy Sharp and Ash Munnings kicking 1 a piece. By the end of the first half the Port had a handy 47 point lead.

The third quarter saw New Norfolk going  forward numerous times, only to be shut down by our strong backliners Jess O'Neill, Isabel Sharp, Taylah Dillion, Tameeka Coventry and Grace Lovell. Half way through the third quarter our mid-fielders rotating off the bench Jaimie Burgess, Tia Duggan ,Hannah Cowmeadow ,Sammy Kluga and Amy Sharp started to dominate and took control of the game. The Port women ended the third quarter with a further 2 goals thanks to Serena Hubert and Stacey Fox.

The fourth quarter saw New Norfolk women tiring ,while Port's mid-field continued to dominate. Our forwards had plenty of opportunity to score, this saw Mady Eaves kicking 4 goals, while Stacey Fox added another 3 goals to her impressive total. Ash Munnings also contributed with two goals, assisted by Taylah Dillion playing up forward. Hayley Kluga continues to impress with her tireless run on the wing. By the end of the fourth quarter and kicking an impressive 9 goals, Port had run out winners 17-17-119 to New Norfolk 0-0-0. Best players in a fantastic team game were Stacey Fox, Emily Duggan, Mady Eaves, Sammy Kluga, Ash Munnings and Isabel Sharp. Goal kickers were Stacey Fox 6, Mady Eaves 4, Ash Munnings 3, Hollie Hassell 2, Amy Sharp 1 and Serena Hubert also with 1 goal. Thank you to Jason Kluga, Cooper Eaves and Paddy O'Neill.

Next week we meet the in form Claremont at Cygnet on Saturday, followed by the Reserves and Seniors.

Reserves

After running ladder leaders Huonville to within a kick last week Cygnet were keen to see how they would match up against Dodges Ferry who were third on the ladder before the start of play. The trip to Dodges Ferry is one of the hardest away home on the calendar.  Dodges had the goal kicking end with a strong breeze and they used it to full advantage in the first. The Sharks jumped out of the blocks before Cygnet could get any structure going, quickly racing to a 39 point lead with Cygnet unable to score.  The second quarter saw the game even up with Cygnet having use of the wind, scoring six goals to Dodges four. The Cygnet players were full of run and had repeated entries into their forward half for the quarter. This brought back some much needed passion to the game with the game evenly poised at halftime.  The key to Cygnet was to apply enough pressure in the third so Dodges did not kick away from them again and to the boys credit this is what happened. The backline was solid all day with Fred Webster taking numerous intercept marks along with Brad Carver. Pat Verrell and Matt Coulson were hard and desperate in the centre and around the ground. Cygnet were able to keep Dodges to only a goal for the quarter and also score one themselves.  It was setup for a mighty final quarter with Dodges having a four goal lead. Although the Cygnet boys tried hard they were not able to bridge this gap with turnovers across the ground gifting goals to the Sharks. Cygnet scored one goal and Dodges scored three to take out a comfortable win of 42 points. Unfortunately Cygnet were not able to recover after giving dodges a 39 point lead at quarter time.

Cygnet 8.4.52 def by Dodges Ferry 14.10.94

Goal Kickers: C. Stockfeld 2, M. Coulson 2, J. Brett 2, J. Davey, L. Smith  
Best Players: J. Brett, P. Verrell, D. Webster, B. Carver, M. Coulson, D. Millhouse

Colts:

The Southern Storm Colts made the journey down to Shark Park to take on the up and coming team in Dodges Ferry. With the two Storm Captains, Will Polley (Knee) and Josh Coad (Playing his first Seniors game for 2019), watching on from the sideline, Noah Clifford was handed the wheel of the ship and was determined to get his team off to a good start. The ideal weather down at Shark Park saw the Storm get off to a strong start, getting the football cleanly out of the middle into the hands of Kayne Wouters, who proved to be extremely dangerous yet again kicking four goals straight for the quarter. Noah Clifford demonstrated his fancy footwork and kicking ability through the midfield to assist in transition to young gun Jonte Fahey who put away two for the quarter, as well as a single to Connor Soward, who was fresh off the plane from Scotland.  
The second term had the boys set out with the message from coaches Cameron Ashlin and Pup Lovell to ‘Make your man more accountable and to keep our feet around the footy’. The message was received and projected louder through the midfield, with Murray Bastick and Reece Scotland using their key football attributes of pack busting and leg speed respectively, to make their bigger bodied opponents more accountable and ensure the football was in the hands of the Storm forwards. Although the Storm were missing key forward Blake Sculthorpe, Jonte Fahey coming up from the under 16’s managed to fill his shoes kicking his third for the game. Kayne Wouters made the most of his time up forward, kicking two more goals to make it six straight goals for the game before going into the midfield for Noah Clifford who went down with a wrist injury after kicking his first for the game. Strong defence and ruck work from u16’s Ryan Clark proved to be a headache for the Sharks with several intercept marks and centre clearances to keep the Storm on the front foot leading into half time.  
Half time saw the Coaches pleased with the way the boys step up to what was asked of them, going into the third term with a 69 point lead over the Sharks. This was all to come to a bit of an upset amongst the Storm boys, with the Sharks keeping them to just four points in the third term, whilst being able to score two goals to get them within 60 points of the Storm. Reece Scotland really stood up for his team, with strong endurance, he continually made his defensive and offensive presence felt with numerous tackles and offensive runs to help soften the blow in the upset of the quarter. Harry Tolhurst too ensured that the two goals from the sharks were hard earnt with his copious amount of defensive marks and huge tackles felt by all.   
With a few minor adjustments and match up changes, the Storm used the fire in their belly to come back and maintain their 60 point lead. Another huge quarter from Reece Scotland saw the ball spend a lot of time in the Storm’s fifty and Kayne Wouters managed to kick his seventh for the day as well as singles to Murray Bastick and Connor Soward. With a hard worked eighteen man squad, the Storm were able to run away with a 66 point win.

Southern Storm 16.13.109  def Dodges Ferry 6.7.43  
Goal Kickers Include Kayne Wouters 7, Jonte Fahey 3, Connor Soward 3, Murray Bastick 2 and a single to Noah Clifford.   
The Storm Have a Bye next week but will take on New Norfolk the following week at Boyer at 10am as the sole team from the Cygnet FC.