



JUNIOR PANTHER NEWS 12th OCTOBER 2006

CENTRAL OVAL UPGRADE



Deputy Premier Hon. John Thwaites MLA today officially announced the Central Oval surface upgrade at a function at Panther Place in Wednesday 10 October 2005.

The \$700,000+ project is jointly funded by the State Government and the Nillumbik Shire Council. \$2.6m has been granted to cover 4 sports ground in the Nillumbik Shire.

“The four sports grounds to receive the funding will now have much better playing surfaces – providing a great boost for local sport, fitness and community participation,” Mr. Thwaites said. Mr. Thwaites added that drinking water use at four sports grounds in Eltham and Diamond Creek would be cut by almost 70 per cent, saving an estimated 12 million litres of water a year.

The State Member for Eltham, Steve Herbert, said the project would be a great win for our community. “These sports grounds have previously suffered from antiquated sprinkler systems, inadequate drainage and a lack of alternative water sources.”

“It’s a win for water saving as the project will provide a demonstration of best practice smart water management,” Mr. Herbert said.

“It’s also a win for our clubs, as better facilities will mean many people who are now turned away will be able to play sport on quality grounds.

“And it’s a win for our community, including all the people from sporting clubs in this area and the Council who have worked with Government over the last two years to get this project underway.”

The Nillumbik Shire Council has already advertised for tender (closed 6/10/06) for reconstruction of the oval including:

- Reshaping of the existing surface
- Widening of the existing oval
- Installation of sub surface drainage
- Installation of sub surface drip irrigation &
- Ancillary works



The club wishes to thanks local MP Steve Herbert for his tremendous support for the project, Nullumbik Shire Major Greg Johnson, councilors, CEO Bill Forest and the staff from the Leisure Services Unit and Yarra Valley Water for their efforts to get this project off the ground.

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR THE JUNIOR CLUB?

The project is a fantastic result for the Eltham Football & Cricket Club’s. Whilst we will have a year of pain in 2007, we will return to a top class surface which will be of great assistance to our players. Eltham Junior Football Club will be the club to play junior football with. The DVFL Junior Division 1 Grand Finals should return to Eltham.

Work on the ground will commence within the next 3 weeks. Football at Panther Place will return for the 2008 Season. Susan Street whilst a good quality ground is not suitable for Under 17 or 15’s football due to its shape. 11 sides were fielded in 2006 (we are expecting to play 12 sides in 2007) and therefore the Club has been forced to look out for other grounds. The Club along with the Council is working to obtain additional venues for the 2007 season. Hopefully we will have some great news shortly.

The Junior Club is continuing to look at avenues to improve junior involvement at Panther Place. The Club will do everything we can to ensure that Panther Place is the best venue in the region and continues to be the home of the juniors. We are working along side the senior's to bond both halves of the club. The Under 19's (see story on page 5) will be another step forward.

Susan Street Oval

Our Susan Street Oval has had seed re-sown to the surface and the council has granted a water restriction exemption to the ground to allow the seed to take.

Sportsgrass (Jim Marchbank) continues to top-dress the surface. His company's support is very much appreciated.



The club's concerns about the metal chains in the car park have been address and they have been removed and more the posts put in. Other matters such as improved street lighting is before the council at present

Many thanks to the Nillumbik Shire Council, especially Darren Bennett and Amanda Allen for there assistance.

Eltham Junior Football Club's AGM

The Junior Club's Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 18th October 2006 at 7.30pm at the Eltham Bowling Club in Susan Street.



Please come along and support your club. Everyone is welcome. More info on the main junior page of our website www.elthamfc.com.au/juniors.asp

2007 COACHES POSITIONS

**COACHES
for 2007 Season**

If you have just finished playing and/or just have a great desire to coach junior footballers, the **Panthers are on the prowl** and are seeking applications for coaches for our Under 10-17 sides (2 teams 10-14).

Applications close 31 October 2006 and must be addressed to:

 Football Operations
Eltham
Junior Football Club
P.O. Box 823
Eltham 3095

More information can be obtained on our junior web page at www.elthamfc.com.au

**AGM 7.30pm Wed 18 Oct
at Eltham Bowling Club**

2007 coaches positions have been advertised in the DV Leader 9/10/06 issue

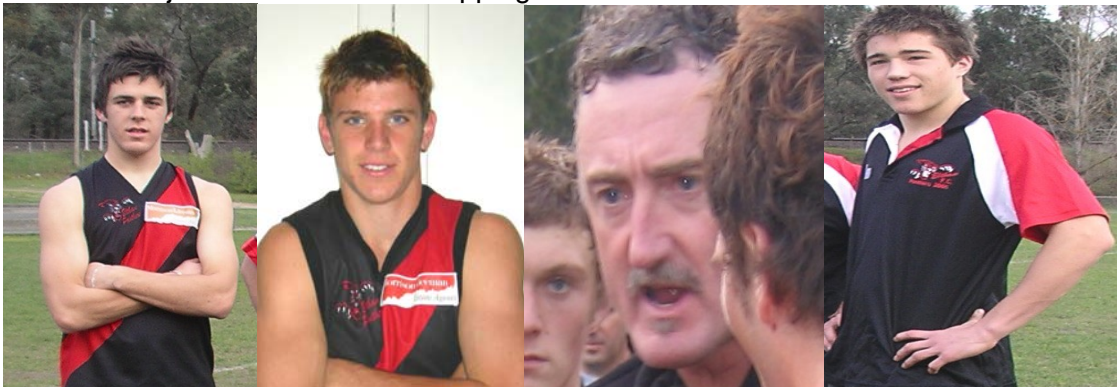
Any 2006 Eltham coach who wishes to continue must reapply for the 2007 season.

Applications close 31 October 2006

See the link on this web site for more information

UNDER 19'S

Under 19 football will return to the Eltham Football Club in 2007.
Our juniors now have a stepping stone to senior football with the club.



The Senior Club has announced that 2006 Eltham Junior FC Under 17 Coach Brett Weatherald has been appointed Coach of the Under 19's. A fantastic result for everyone concerned.

We are looking forward to seeing the boys in Eltham colours once again.

Brett joins Darren Stanton (coached the U/15's last season) who has been reappointed Reserves Coach.

Phil Maylin continues as Senior Coach. We wish Phil, Darren & Brett all the best for the 2007 season.

Daniel Currie at AFL Draft Camp



Click on the link below to read the DV Leader article on Eltham Junior Football Club's Daniel Currie's comments on the 2006 AFL Draft Camp he attended.

http://www.diamondvalleyleader.com.au/article/2006/10/11/5875_dvv_sports.html

Daniel was only player from the Northern Knights to be invited to the AFL Draft Camp in Canberra. One of only 11 Victorians. Daniel at 200cm was the 3rd tallest player at the camp. Best of luck from everyone at the club.



ANOTHER AFL DRAFT CANDIDATE

The club also wishes good luck to Chris Varsamakis. Anyone who has seen Chris play will testify to his ability to win the ball. Some rate Chris the best junior player to wear the Eltham colours. Maybe a big statement but does show the high regard Chris is held in.

His performances for the Northern Knights this year have been excellent. Let's hope an AFL Club sees the benefits of drafting him.

Go the Mighty Panthers

