



Williamstown Lacrosse Club

Est 1898

2017 DIVISION THREE COACHES REPORT

Notwithstanding fielding 96 players throughout the Club's 4 Senior teams – a tremendous effort in itself - 2017 was a frustrating year for selection with anywhere between 20-30 senior players unavailable for extended periods of the Home & Away season. At an individual level most would be unaware of the impact of their absences, but collectively it places a great deal of strain on the club more broadly including the Senior Coaches who were forced to play the weekly game of Snakes & Ladders each Thursday (and in many instances on into Friday and as late as Saturday afternoon!).

As always, with finals time upon us all was forgiven and forgotten when miraculously all ailments were cured, excuses evaporated, and the depth and calibre of the WLC playing group, both Juniors and Seniors alike, rose to the occasion ultimately delivering a very successful season with State League, Division 1 and Division 2 all winning premierships, and our young Under 17 team finishing Runners-Up! Congratulations to all.

Being the committed clubmen we are [and on occasion needing a break to soothe the old bones], Division 3 took on the role of "Fall Guys" giving 4 walkovers, yet still finishing a respectable 3rd for the third successive year ultimately going down to Footscray 10-7 in a tough fought Preliminary final.

Throughout the year 45 players represented Division 3 with a number of new and old faces (and bodies) strutting their stuff. We were fortunate to have a number of players from our hugely talented Under 15 and Under 17 teams play their first season of senior lacrosse in 2017 alternating between Division 2 and 3 (with the odd cameo in Division 1) including first season player Chinaka Roa-Egbor, Shae Moate, Harry Gibson, Ed Pyke, Tane Roordink, Ronan Redshaw, Rron Gvori, and Xavier Suares-Jury.

Additionally, Jayden Smith, Evan Fortsecue, Lachlan Warren, Will Olver, and Alex Brown all excelled in their second year of seniors, with a special call out to Jayden who dominated face-off, scored frequently and ended up taking out D3 Best & Fairest (in addition to his Under 17 B&F gong) – great effort.

Junior dad Tim Hayward played his first season with Williamstown returning to the game after a 20 year break taking out our MVP award after dominating in defence ably supported by Jake Rooney and Jordy O'Driscoll who both had great seasons in defence and goals respectively – well done.

As usual the older brigade were typically dependable with the likes of Henderson, Rooney, Otter, Russell, Radford, Brown, Orr, and Garnsworthy gritting their teeth and pushing aside their hamstring, calf, achilles, ribs and shoulder twinges on occasion providing slow motion flashbacks from their heyday. Sophmores Jury and Fortescue were keen and dependable as ever.

Thanks again to Wayne Butson, Nick Brown, Rob Flaherty, and Marcus Civelle for helping out on the sidelines. To Mark Butler, thank you for stepping in to coach our Preliminary Final and for showing our young guns what finals time and for WLC are all about.

2017 Results

Regular Season

- Won 10, Lost 1 (plus 4 Walkovers given....)
- Goals For 160, Goals Against 75

Finals

- Semi Final – Williamstown 16 d Malvern 1
- Preliminary Final – Footscray 10 d Williamstown 7

Awards

- Best & Fairest – Jayden Smith
- Most Valuable Player – Tim Hayward

- Best First Year Player – Tane Roordink
- Best Team Man – Jake Rooney

To all the members and broader WLC family, best wishes for Xmas and the New Year and look forward to seeing you all in 2018.

Simon Brown
Division 3 Coach