

Swoop!

The newsletter of the Gumeracha Football Club



Magpies win thriller at Macclesfield!

Gumeracha wins 17th premiership in centenary year.

The Gumeracha Football Club crowned a momentous 2022 season with a nail biting win against a courageous Meadows team in the Hills Football League (Country Division) A Grade Grand Final. Played at Macclesfield on Saturday, 10 September before a large and vocal crowd, the Magpies overcame a tough and determined Bulldogs outfit to win 6.11 (47) to 6.8 (44).

Amazingly, 100 years ago in the 1922 grand final Gumeracha defeated Tweedvale (Lobethal) 6.11 to 6.7! Eeery!

It was a fine, sunny day but, after overnight rain, the Macclesfield Oval was a bit soft. While this appeared to suit Meadows, tough pressure foot-

ball saw us with a handy lead at three-quarter time before the Bulldogs made their charge with ex-Norwood ruckman Brady Dawe leading the



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Left: Club President, Tony Hannaford, Coach, Brett Randell and Captain, Ben Hanna accept the premiership pennant, shield and trophy after the victory. Below: The 2022 A Grade premiership team.



Swoop! Edition 4

28 September 2022

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Torrens Valley Orchards

“ The only person you should try to be better than is the person you were yesterday.”

Adam Goodes

Dual AFL Brownlow medallist

way. The young Gumeracha team were tenacious throughout the match but had to fight very hard to hold off Meadows. To say it was tense at Maccy was a gross understatement!

There was huge relief when the final siren sounded. Emotions from players, supporters and family members flowed freely as the oval became a mass of black and white. James Taylor led the back six brilliantly which resulted in him receiving the best player medal presented by Trevor McDonald.

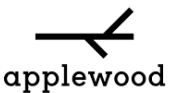
Tony Hannaford, Brett Randell and Ben Hanna accepted the spoils of victory and complimented the Meadows team on their valiant effort.

Much revelry ensued back at the Gumeracha clubrooms and for a few days afterwards!

See our website (gumerachafc.com.au) or Facebook for a complete pictorial of the day (and night!).



Thanks to our sponsors



From the President – Tony Hannaford

What a season we have just experienced! In the centenary year of our first premiership we won our seventeenth flag.

We had high hopes for on-field success at the start of the season. Despite a large number of injuries to key players and the effects of COVID-19, we found a way with coach Brett Randell to play some exhilarating football and position ourselves for finals success. On the way we also won the Maczkowiack Cup under the new lighting and held a number of social events for past players,

sponsors and supporters.

Thank you to everybody who has contributed to our success this season. In particular I recognise our departing coach, Brett Randell. We wish he and Steph well for the future. Our hard working committee is there before every training night and match getting the canteen and bar ready, sourcing merchandise, organising social events and ensuring our players and supporters have all they need. We have the best

supporters who probably give us a three goal advantage each week. Lastly, without our sponsors, we would not have a football club. Their support in season 2022 has been critical to our on-field success.

Gumeracha Football Club

We evolve from our **Heritage.**

We work as a **Team.**

We proudly represent our **Community.**



Coach's Corner – Brett Randell



It is with great sadness that I am leaving my role as coach of the Gumeracha Football Club. I will always be part of the black and white army having started my junior football at Gum in 1991. Apart from a handful of years at Kersbrook, Gum has always been my club. However, as you all understand it has been a very difficult year and, right now, I need to focus on my family. The support Steph, Robbie and I have received this year has been fantastic. Thank you to everybody.

That we have been able to deliv-

Left : Brett Randell pondering his next move at Kangarilla during the season.

er a premiership to the Gumeracha community makes me happier than you can imagine.

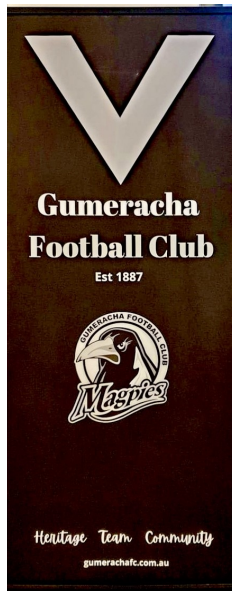
Over the last two years I have been blessed with some excellent players and dedicated support staff and trainers.

We are all part of a great sporting club. Don't take it for granted. Keep working hard to make it even better.

I look forward to joining many of you next year to watch the Magpies. I might even join the Sideline Mafia!

All the best for 2023.

Thanks to our sponsors



Mail Medal – Hanna brothers dominate HFL count



Congratulations to Sam Hanna who won the 2022 Hills Football League (Country Division) A Grade Mail Medal.

The count was held at the Hahndorf Mill restaurant on Wednesday, 31 August with a contingent from each club joining league officials for the count.

In an amazing performance, Sam polled in 14 of the 16 minor round matches scoring

Above: Awards Night MC Mark Soderstrom speaks to Sam Hanna after his runaway win in the HFL Country Division Mail Medal count. Right: The brothers in action during the season.

nine 'best on grounds' for a total of 32 votes. For those of us who have watched Sam during the season, his winning of a second consecutive medal reflected his skill, tenacity and dedication to his craft and his team. He is a very deserving winner.

Brother Ben also did exceptionally well polling in 12 out of 16 matches with three 'best on grounds' coming in the back half of the season. Ben was the runner up to his younger brother who remarked in his gracious acceptance speech about the special bond the two players have on and off the ground.

We saw that 'in spades' during season 2022. We are all very proud of both players (although maybe not as much as their parents 'Scruff' and Tania) for the way they lead our club. Their commitment never waivers and they set the example in every aspect of their game.

Great work Sam and Digger!



On Neil Kerley: "He always, always led from the front."

Graham Cornes

Former Adelaide Crows coach and SANFL champion

New Coach Appointed for 2023!

After Brett Randell advised that he would not be seeking reappointment as Head Coach in 2023 the committee moved quickly to secure a successor who could build on the achievements of 2022.

After reviewing several applicants, Mark Weaver was appointed last week. Mark has significant experience coaching in the amateur ranks (now the Adelaide Footy League) with Virginia, Tea Tree Gully, and Golden Grove. Welcome Mark! We hope you enjoy your time at the Gumeracha Football Club and look forward to working with you.



Left: Co-captains Ben Hanna and Jack Parker welcomed Mark Weaver to the Magpies. He looks good in black and white!

Player Milestone - Cam Redden (150 games)



Playing your 150th senior game in a grand final is not something many players get to do. Cam Redden has become a linchpin of the Magpies' backline – the best backline in Country Division.

Cam played much of his junior football at Gumeracha and has come up through the ranks. Cam is a true clubman. However, Cam will be remembered for one thing in the 2022 grand final win – that game-saving mark in the last minute of the match! Following on from Sydney Swans defender Leo Barry in the 2005 AFL Grand Final, we will always remember the cry 'Cam Redden, you star!'

Left: Cam Redden with a framed photograph of 'that mark' presented by Michael Parker.



HFL News

While the head injury trial that the club participated in during 2022 has now concluded, the subject of head injuries and concussion is growing. There is massive media coverage of this hot topic. As with all media, sorting fact from fiction will be important and we will seek out the best avenues to gain knowledge which will benefit our players and return to play decision makers. To this end, we will have representatives at the HFL head injuries seminar on Friday, 14 October at which Tim Hanna will speak of our experiences using the NeuroFlex virtual reality technology.

Shane Collins has resigned his position on the HFL board. Shane brought considerable experience and common sense to the role. We wish him well in the future.

Country Division Team of the Year

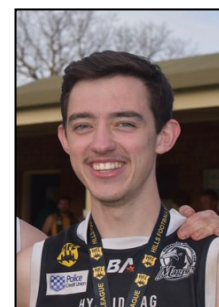
Well done to Sam and Ben Hanna and Dan Trepka who all made the 2022 Country Division Team of the Year.

Coach Brett Randell summarised these players' efforts during the season as follows:

Sam: He is really in a class of his own ... getting better each year.

Ben: Year in and year out he just keeps coming.

Dan: It's against the best opposition that he really steps up.



Right: Dan Trepka.

Road to the finals

With all the euphoria surrounding our 2022 A Grade premiership, it is easy to forget that it takes a lot of hard work to 'win the big one'.

That work started almost immediately after the 2021 season ended. The committee worked to ensure things were in place – a fixture list, sponsorship, staff to run the gate and bar and, for 2022, decisions on a new heritage guernsey!

New players were recruited and pre-season training got under way.

We switched on new lights which had taken two years to get in place and played a trial match using them.

We participated in a concussion trial.

It was now up to the coach and players to make things happen.

Ladies Day followed by our first night match against the Brookers kicked things off.

A couple of road bumps on the journey to success caused us to pause and re-think.

We played good hard football and celebrated equally so. Our supporters backed us even in the depths of winter.

Our canteen continued to operate the best show in the Hills.

Past players and sponsors backed us with their attendance and wise words.

We found our mojo and had some blistering wins.

The finals loomed.

Two cracking wins in the qualifying finals got us to the big one.

Then there was Maccy!



Above: 2022 recruit Michael Walters flies high in a qualifying final versus Meadows. Centre: Hybrid-Ag were our major sponsor this year. Judah Rowe joined us on grand final day. Bottom: The Sideline Mafia set up their corner in the clubrooms.



Regardless of how we were going during the season. Brett 'Gunga' Nicholls was always backing our players. His booming voice and positive presence was a highlight for us all in 2022!

Thanks to our sponsors



Season 2022 – Road to the finals!

As you train, so shall you play!



**Great leadership
Tenacity
Commitment
Focus
Will to win**



New Sponsor – Catapult Wealth

We welcome Catapult Wealth as a new sponsor of the club. One of Catapult's first steps was to contribute to the payment of the premiership T-shirts which will be proudly worn for a few years to come. Thank you for kicking things off in such a tangible way.

Don't mind the alcohol, dirt grass and other stains which now adorn the T-shirts. It's a sign of camaraderie!

No doubt we will see Dale Martens and his team up and around Gumeracha in 2023. We look forward to showing the Catapult Wealth team some country hospitality.

CatapultWealth
Are your finances on track?

If you would like guidance on your financial future, Dale Martens can build a tailored financial solution to get you on track to reach your goals.

Dale Martens
0409 692 207
dale@catapultwealth.com.au

www.catapultwealth.com.au



Above: Cooper Neindorf at post-match celebrations in his premiership T-shirt. Right: 'Hot Pies' celebrating our premiership win late on Grand Final night at Gum.



B Grade Review of 2022

It has been a challenging season. Most clubs felt the effects of COVID-19 and we were not immune. We also suffered a lot of injuries in the A Grade which cascaded down to the 'Bs'.

Despite the weekly challenge of finding enough players, our B Grade team finished a very creditable fifth in 2022 in what could only be described as a roller-coaster season.

Being asked to continually provide players to cover gaps in the A Grade was very destabilising.

Thank you to all who put their hand up to play in the 'Bs' this



season. Your participation ensured we put a team 'on the park' every week and were competitive in most matches.

Plucky to the end, the Bs bowed out of the finals race in the Elimination Final at Meadows. Thanks boys!



Past Players News



There was an excellent roll up of past players and their partners at the grand final. Given the age of some it was rather unfair to put them through so much stress in that last quarter but smiles erupted all round when the final siren sounded. They might not have sprinted out onto the ground to join the players but there was plenty of excitement and pleasure at seeing the Magpies win the 2022 flag.

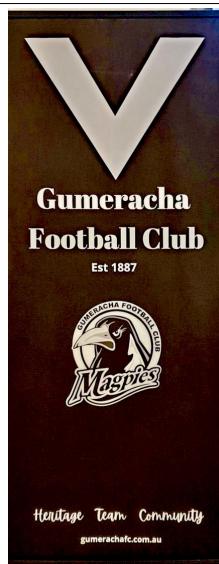
Left to Right clockwise: B Teakle, D Hanna, D Bleeze, J Page, S Kavanagh, M Armstrong, T Hannaford, R Leith .



Thanks to our sponsors



If you have old team lists, scores, photos or stories that can be shared on the Past Players Facebook page then please email them to gfcppa@gmail.com.



Social Events – Annual Dinner and Awards Night

With spirits high just a week after our A Grade Grand Final success, just over 100 players, staff, supporters and their partners attended the Annual Dinner and Awards Night at Sfera’s in Modbury on Friday, 16 September.

A complete list of player awards is below. In addition, Tony Hannaford and Dale McDiarmid were awarded life membership for their considerable and lengthy contributions to the club.

Thanks to event organisers, Julie Weinert, Michael Parker, Louise McDiarmid and MC, Tim Hanna for their hard work in making the night a success.



Above: Members of the ‘young set’ including B Grade B&F winner, Michael Henke and A Grade Best Team Man, Jack Hanna, enjoying the night. Left: Two blokes comparing beards! Below: Life membership recipients, Tony Hannaford and Dale McDiarmid accompanying Ian Carpenter Best Clubman award winner, Louise McDiarmid.

A Grade Awards

Best and Fairest	Sam Hanna
Runner up Best and Fairest	Ben Hanna
Most Consistent	Charlie Graeber
Best Team Man	Jack Hanna
Player of the Finals #1	Ethan Lynch
Player of the Finals #2	Daniel Trepka
Leading Goal Kicker	Dillon Harding (33)



Below: Jordan Meintje is pleased with his efforts!

B Grade Awards

Best and Fairest	Michael Henke
Runner up Best and Fairest	Dylan Gilbert
Most Consistent	Cooper Weinert
Best Team Man	Kane Hodgson
Best First Year Player	Jordan Meintje
Leading Goal Kicker	Andrew Pertini (40)



Left: Sam and Digger Hanna and Charlie Graeber discussing how to stop trouser shrinkage. Above: Brett Randell and partner Step relaxing.

