

SOUTH-EAST SUBURBAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE 1963 -1991

SOUTHERN FOOTBALL LEAGUE 1992

The South-East Suburban F.L. was formed on Monday 29th.October 1963. The meeting was held in the Murrumbeena F.C. rooms and was attended by representatives of the clubs listed below. The Auburn club was also represented and nominated two teams for the coming season however were forced to withdraw prior to the season commencing. The Age newspaper article of Friday November 2nd. reports of the merger of the Caulfield-Oakleigh District F.L. and the Eastern Suburban F.L. with Mr.W.Jeffreys elected as President and Mr.W.J.Wilde as Secretary of the new League.

A number of changes were made to the format of the competition prior to the start of the season and the following clubs and grades commenced on the 20th. April 1963:

A Grade:

Ashburton, Glen Iris, Balwyn, Burwood, Canterbury, North Kew, Tooronga, Burnley, East Brighton, Mt.Waverley, Murrumbeena, Noble Park-Harrisfield, Oakleigh District and Sandown.

Open Age Reserve Grade:

Caulfield Amateurs, South Murrumbeena, Glen Iris District, Carnegie, R.A.A.F. Cadets, Dingley, Bennettswood, Chadstone, Hawthorn Amateurs.

B Grade Reserves:

Ashburton, Balwyn, Burwood, Canterbury, East Brighton, Glen Iris, Mt.Waverley, Murrumbeena, Glen Iris District 'B', Noble Park-Harrisfield, Oakleigh District, Sandown, Tooronga and Beaumaris. North Kew did not field a Reserve team.

C Grade Under 17, Division One:

Canterbury, Burwood, East Brighton, Glen Iris, Mt.Waverley, Murrumbeena, Sandown, Noble Park-Harrisfield, Oakleigh District and Ashburton.

C Grade, Under 17 Division Two:

East Sandringham, Highett West Youth Club, Dingley, Oakleigh 4ths., Mordialloc Y.C., Murrumbeena District, Beaumaris and Caulfield Amateurs.

D Grade Under 15:

Beaumaris, Oakleigh District, East Brighton, Mt.Waverley, Mordialloc Y.C., East Sandringham, Noble Park-Harrisfield, Murrumbeena District, Highett West Y.C. and Oakleigh 5ths.

E Grade Under 13:

Oakleigh District, East Brighton, East Sandringham, Oakleigh 6ths., Murrumbeena District, Noble Park-Harrisfield, Mordialloc Y.C. and Beaumaris.

Murrumbeena was a merger of the Murrumbeena Rovers, Murrumbeena Juniors and Murrumbeena from the V.A.F.A. and were Premiers in the inaugural season defeating Oakleigh District by one point at the Oakleigh (V.F.A.) ground, 7.9.51 to 6.14.50.

The 'B' Grade was won by Noble Park-Harrisfield defeating Oakleigh District 10.18.78 to 6.7.43, whilst the Reserve Open saw Caulfield Amateurs 8.8.56 defeat Hawthorn Amateurs 6.6.36.

Although Burnley were accepted into the 'A' Grade of the 'new competition' the club had previously been in 'trouble' consistently in the Eastern Suburban League. This time against Balwyn in round three as many as seven Burnley and one Balwyn player were reported following an all in brawl.

The League tribunal handed out severe penalties to all the players and both clubs were advised that this sort of behaviour would not be tolerated in the 'new competition'. At which time the President of the Burnley club let forth with a tirade of abuse and threats against not only the tribunal members but all or any other League official that was within sight. An 'on the spot' meeting of the League executive was very quickly convened which saw the Burnley club including all its registered players suspended for the remainder the season.

It was also rumoured the previous season that at the end of a practice game at East Brighton, the home Captain Coach and the Team Manager entered the Burnley rooms with the intention of inviting them in to their rooms for a little refreshment. The Team Manager could not help but notice a very large revolver in a Gladstone bag. The player who owned the bag gave the official a deadly glare, upon receiving which the official made a very hasty retreat.

The S.E.S.F.L. were advised unofficially of the incident which only added to the Burnley clubs demise.

The newly formed Beaumaris club was originally placed in the Reserve Open Grade however prior to the start of the season Burnley withdrew its Reserve team and to avoid a bye Beaumaris were invited and elevated into the 'B' Grade. When Burnley were expelled from the 'A' Grade Beaumaris were offered their spot to negate the bye created on the basis of a no points result for the remaining games. They preferred to remain in 'B' Grade.

To field a team in the 'C' Grade under 17's Division One the senior team was required to be in 'A' Grade. This did not apply to the Under 15 or 13 grades. At the time the S.E.S.F.L. was by far the largest Melbourne suburban competition catering for both senior and junior grades.

1964

Much to the surprise of many clubs Burnley was readmitted for the 1964 season with only one Senior A grade team as their reserves were again withdrawn prior to the start of the season.

Tooronga were cleared to the Amateurs, Noble Park-Harrisfield and Oakleigh District went into the Federal League whilst Caulfield Amateurs were promoted after winning the Reserve Open premiership leaving the 'A' Grade with 12 teams all of who had 'B' Grade reserves with Burnley the exception.

Mount Waverley won their first Senior premiership by defeating East Brighton by 18 points, 10.6.66 to 6.12.48.

The 'B' Grade was won by East Brighton defeating Murrumbeena 9.9.63 to 5.12.42.

Beaumaris who had returned to the Reserve Open section lost the Grand Final to Hawthorn Amateurs by 38 points, 12.12.85 to 7.5.47.

Others in the R.O. were Carnegie, Bennettswood, South Murrumbeena Glen Iris District, Dingley and St.Kilda City who had joined from the Metropolitan F.L. As Hawthorn Amateurs did not have a Reserves Grade team they were not promoted for the 1965 season.

1965

Nobody was surprised moreso relieved when the Burnley club folded. A club called Jolimont entered the Reserve Open section playing at the same ground as Burnley had but were actually the Adult Deaf Jolimont F.C. Sandown were struggling to field two senior teams and opted to drop to the Reserve Open grade leaving a ten team 'A' Grade. The reserves had a full compliment except for Caulfield Amateurs which created a bye in that grade. Into the Reserve Open came East Malvern Amateurs from the V.A.F.A.

Glen Iris dominated the 1965 season losing only two games during the season and comfortably accounted for Murrumbeena by 32 points in the Grand Final, 11.13.79 to 7.5.47

Beaumaris demolished Carnegie in the Reserve Open section, 18.10.118 to 4.6.30 and were promoted to A Grade for the 1966 season with Caulfield Amateurs being relegated.

The 'B' Grade provided a surprise when Mt.Waverley who had not been defeated all season lost the Grand Final to Canterbury 10.12.72 to 9.14.68.

1966

It was to be East Brightons year in 1966 as they were premiers in four out of the five grades with only the under 13's missing out. Both the Seniors and Reserves defeated Murrumbeena in their respective Grand Finals by 14 and 17 points.

In its first season in 'A' Grade Beaumaris finished two wins short of the four due mainly to a mid season slump on the heavy grounds of Mt.Waverley, Murrumbeena and Glen Iris. The Reserves finished in fourth place after losing their First semi.

Kooyong Amateurs (V.A.F.A.) and St.Bedes Mentone Old Collegians had joined the Reserve Open section with Kooyong defeating Carnegie, 12.19.91 to 5.4.34 winning the flag in its first season and were duly promoted for 1967 .

It had been decided that the 'A' Grade would increase to 12 teams for 1967 . As Carnegie could not guarantee a Reserves side they were not offered promotion. Although Hawthorn Amateurs finished in third place they guaranteed to field a reserves team the folowing season and were duly promoted for the 1967 year.

As a precedent had been set some years earlier by both the Caulfield Amateur and North Kew clubs in not having a reserves team and remaining in A Grade, Carnegie felt somewhat aggrieved at not being offered promotion to the higher grade after being Runners-up two years in succession.

1967

Following its promotion Kooyong made it back-to-back flags by defeating East Brighton by one point at Mordialloc in what was described by many as 'one of the best games of football most had ever watched'.

By three quarter time the scores were Kooyong 8.10.58 to East 8.9.57, the lead having changed six times during the game with the biggest margin 3 points!

In what was an amazing final quarter both sides managed only two points each. With seconds remaining the ball was forced into Easts forward line. Kooyong Captain/Coach Max McColl and East forward Denis Jones were chasing and closing in on the bouncing ball at the edge of the ten yard square then as luck would have it the ball bounced favorably for Max who was able to punch it clear and over the boundary adjacent to the point post. As the ball was being thrown in the final siren sounded with Kooyong 8.12.60 defeating East Brighton 8.11.59.

In the Reserve Open Carnegie, for the third year in succession were runners-up this time to Sandown 11.9.75 to 9.9.63. The disappointment was washed away as both Sandown and Carnegie were promoted to an expanded A Grade for 1968.

In the 'B' Grade Mt.Waverley defeated Murrumbeena 7.17.59 to 8.8.56.

1968

With 'Divisional Football' in mind it was decided that the 'A' Grade would now have fourteen teams and the draw was shuffled to allow for the bottom four teams, two from 1967 and the two promoted teams to only play the top four teams from 1967 once. The top four from 1967 were Kooyong Amateurs, East Brighton, Burwood and Murrumbeena. The bottom two being Ashburton and Hawthorn Amateurs.

The Reserve Open now had eight clubs remaining with two being promoted and Glen Iris District folding. Those clubs being Chadstone, St.Bedes Old Collegians, Dingley, Caulfield Amateurs, East Malvern Amateurs, St.Kilda City, R.A.A.F.-D.C.S. and Jolimont.

East Brighton finished runners-up for the second year in a row this time to Burwood who stormed home in the final quarter kicking five goals to one, 13.9.87 to 8.7.55.

Mt.Waverley won their second Reserves flag in succession by thrashing Balwyn 23.10.148 to 10.6.66. Although within the rules at the time Mt.Waverley had again 'stacked' their Reserves when it became obvious that the Senior team was not going to feature in the Final series.

St.Bedes Old Collegians won the Reserve Open defeating Dingley, 8.25.73 to 8.8.56.

1969

St.Bedes did not wish to be elevated into A Grade, instead Dingley as runners-up accepted promotion at Ashburtons expense and with Kooyong folding Chadstone having finished in third place were also promoted. The Jolimont club also folded which left the Reserve Open with just 6 clubs.

Hawthorn Amateurs had been in some trouble during the 1968 season with a number of players becoming regular attendees at Tribunal hearings. A clean out of certain types of players

was promised and a change of name to Hawthorn Districts following a merger with Kooyong would see a 'new' club emerge for 1969.

The drive for a place in the Finals this year was the most competitive since the start of the League in 1963. Burwood finished with 60 premiership points, Canterbury 56, Hawthorn District and Glen Iris both on 52, making up the Final four. Then came Mt.Waverley, East Brighton and Murrumbeena all on 48 followed by Balwyn and North Kew on 44 points.

The senior grade was won by Canterbury beating Burwood 13.13.91 to 7.13.55.

Mt.Waverley made it three in a row in the Reserves by beating Murrumbeena 11.13.79 to 8.8.56.

East Malvern Amateurs won their first Premiership in the Reserve Open by defeating St.Kilda City, 15.13.103 to 11.6.72. It was the first time that either club had participated in a Finals series.

The S.E.S.F.L. along with most member clubs had been keen for a number of seasons to create a first and second division incorporating seniors, reserves and the three junior grades with a promotion and relegation system.

By increasing the number of clubs over the years in A Grade from ten to twelve then fourteen, all clubs were given a reasonable chance to prepare themselves for the 1970 season when the new scheme was scheduled to commence.

All clubs were agreeable to this new 'Divisional Football' and were advised that the scheme should be implemented as soon as possible, that is the League put the clubs on notice that all clubs would need to become 'consolidated' within three to four years.

What it meant was that to compete in the top grade all clubs would initially be required to field as a minimum seniors, reserves and under 17s. This minimum applied directly to A Grade clubs as there had been some rumblings that the clubs that fielded teams in the five grades, A,B,C,D and E were at a financial disadvantage compared to those that only fielded two open age sides.

The 1969 season saw many clubs 'buy' players to ensure that they would stay in the 'First' Division when implemented. It was the League's plan to have all clubs equal with teams in all grades. Further, the League was also keen to have those clubs which only fielded juniors grade sides field two senior teams as well. Most clubs agreed with this on principle and a time frame of three to four years was also mooted.

The long term effect of this was that a number of the junior grade clubs that did not have senior teams found it difficult to instigate or maintain five levels and were not aware that they would not be permitted to stay in the competition if they were not 'consolidated'.

Clubs and gradings at the end of 1969:

'A' Grade:

Hawthorn District, Carnegie, Mt.Waverley, Glen Iris, Murrumbeena, Beaumaris, East Brighton, North Kew, Canterbury, Dingley, Burwood, Sandown, Balwyn and Chadstone.

'B' Grade:

Same as 'A' Grade.

Open Age Reserve Grade:

East Malvern Amateurs, St.Kilda City, Ashburton, St.Bedes Old Collegians, R.A.A.F-D.C.S., and Caulfield Amateurs.

'C' Grade Under 17 Division One:

East Sandringham, Hawthorn District, Ormond Amateurs, East Brighton, Richmond 4ths., Canterbury, Oakleigh 4ths., Mordialloc Y.C., Mt.Waverley and Balwyn.

'C' Grade Under 17 Division Two:

St.Kilda City, Carnegie, Chadstone, Highett West Y.C., Murrumbeena District, Bennettswood, North Kew and Balwyn.

'D' Grade Under 15:

Murrumbeena, Sandown, St.Kilda City, Chadstone, Mt.Waverley, Beaumaris, North Kew, Balwyn, East Sandringham, Bennettswood, East Brighton, Ormond Amateurs, Oakleigh 5ths. and Glen Iris.

'E' Grade Under 13:

Oakleigh 6ths., Mt.Waverley Colts, East Sandringham, Murrumbeena District, North Kew, Bennettswood, St.Kilda City, Chadstone, Beaumaris, Mt.Waverley, East Brighton and Ormond Amateurs.

1970

From 1970 to 1977 the A B C D E system was used to identify each grade. It was not until 1978 that First Division, Second Division and so on was brought in. For example, the system that was used was A1, First Division Seniors, A2, Second Division Seniors, B 1 First Division Reserves, B 2 Second Division Reserves and this continued down through the C, D and E grades.

To keep this simple I have used First, Second and Third division from 1970. Checking the scores in the newspapers can be all over the place with A1, C2, E1, B2 etc. allowing for the chance of many errors.

The bottom four 'A' grade clubs from 1969 were relegated to Second Division.

The following clubs made up the first year of divisional football, in Premiership order:

First Division Seniors & Reserves:

Burwood, Balwyn, Mt.Waverley, Canterbury.....East Brighton, Chadstone, North Kew, Murrumbeena, Glen Iris, Hawthorn Districts

Second Division Seniors:

Beaumaris, Dingley, Ashburton (no resvs.) St.Kilda City.....Sandown, Carnegie, East Malvern Amateurs (no resvs.), Caulfield Amateurs(no resvs.),

Second Division Reserves:

Carnegie, Beaumaris, Essex Heights, Dingley,.....St.Kilda City, Sandown

Essex Heights had originally entered the Under 17 Grade in 1969 as Richmond 4ths. then under League rules changed to Essex Heights and fielded a Second Division Reserve Grade side.

The Under 17s. was split into two divisions with only first division clubs in the top grade except for Burwood who were replaced by Bennettswood. The under 15s. had fifteen teams and the under 13s. sixteen.

Mt.Waverley finished on top of the ladder in First Division only to be bundled out in straight sets losing the Second semi to Balwyn by 62 points then the Preliminary final to Burwood by 36 points. Burwood and Balwyn 'fought out' the Grand final with Burwood ahead at the bell 14.7.97 to 11.14.80.

Mt.Waverley also went down in the Reserves losing to Hawthorn District 9.13.67 to 10.6.66.

In Second Division Dingley, undefeated all season went into the Grand Final against Beaumaris only to fall at the last hurdle losing 9.8.62 to 7.17.59.

The Reserve Grade was won from fourth place by Carnegie over Beaumaris.

1971

Chadstone had finished on the bottom of the 1970 First Division ladder and were relegated to Second division to be replaced by Beaumaris for the coming year.

Caulfield Amateurs had been struggling to survive for a number of years and folded at the end of 1970. The gap being filled by Essex Heights who now fielded senior and reserve teams.

The 1971 First Division season turned out to be a very competitive year with many 'upsets' coming from the lower rated teams. East Brighton and Mt.Waverley who finished in 3rd. And 4th. had beaten the top two Burwood and Hawthorn District during the season as well. East Brighton were quiet favourites to cause an upset but were overrun by Mt.Waverley in the First semi.

Burwood accounted for Hawthorn in the Second semi then Hawthorn easily beat Mt.Waverley in the Preliminary, setting up a Hawthorn District, Burwood Grand final.

In a highly entertaining game at the Oakleigh Ground the scores were all but level at three quarter time. Hawthorn's Captain Coach Max McColl, the former Kooyong Amateurs Premiership coach made according to him five positional changes, one in particular ruckmen Jack Gavin into the forward line 'to do as he pleased'. All the moves paid off with Hawthorn District winning its first Premiership 17.15.117 to 13.7.85.

In the Reserves Burwood took some consolation by defeating Mt.Waverley. The game had to be played a week after all the other grades had finished due to a drawn Second semi final. Mt.Waverley reserves had now appeared in 6 out of the last seven Grand Finals.

The Second Division Seniors was also an interesting year despite only having seven teams. St.Kilda City and Chadstone were clearly ahead of the pack with the other five sides causing many upsets. Dingley scraped into the four just one win ahead of Carnegie and defeated Ashburton in the First semi 15.13.103 to 12.19.91. The Saints easily beat Chadstone in the Second semi then to everyones surprise Dingley beat Chadstone by 6 goals in the Preliminary final. A

very young and enthusiastic St.Kilda City were hot favourites to win their first flag and at the end of a tight and very physical game held out Dingley to win 10.12.72 to 8.8.56.

Ashburton were the top side in the Reserves all season and defeated Carnegie 11.13.79 to 7.15.57 in the Grand Final.

1972

Beaumaris had struggled at times, although often competitive in First Division in 1971 but finished bottom of the ladder and were replaced by St.Kilda City for 1972 .

East Malvern Amateurs dropped the 'Amateur' from its name in 1972 following a rather stern request from the V.A.F.A. and were able to field a Reserve grade team for the first time.

Canterbury finished on top of the First division ladder ten points clear of the newly promoted St.Kilda City. In a highly entertaining Grand final the Burys won by 28 points, 22.11.143 to 17.13.115.

In the Reserve grade, East Brighton with a side full players that had come through from the Under age sections stormed through the finals winning the First semi by 37 points, the Preliminary by 59 points then the Grand final defeating Balwyn 45 points, 17.11.113 to 9.14.68.

Sandown won the Second division flag by defeating Ashburton however neither club was allowed promotion as they were not 'consolidated' and neither Dingley or Beaumaris were interested in promotion.

As the promotion and relegation system was developing a small problem arose in that whatever club was involved it was not only the seniors and reserves who went up or down, their under age side(s) were treated the same. This tended at times to make these grades lopsided in strength.

1973

East Brighton, with fourteen out of its twenty players that took the field in the Grand Final having graduated from its junior ranks defeated Canterbury to win the 1973 Premiership 12.14.86 to 9.13.67. The game was played at the Beach Oval Sandringham which tended to suit the younger and faster East Brighton side more than the older experienced Canterbury. Although having been victorious on three other occasions during the year the 'Tonners' really had it over the 'Burys'.

In the Reserve grade Burwood and Balwyn finished in equal top position at the end of the home & away games and fought out a high standard Grand final with Balwyn edging home by 7 points, 11.18.84 to 11.11.77.

Tooronga, from the Eastern Suburban had played for just the one season in 1963, then went to the Amateurs for 1964 combining with Malvern Amateurs to form the 'Combine' Tooronga-Malvern. Having had its tenure with the Amateurs terminated the 'Combine' returned in 1973 to Second Division finishing runners-up to Ashburton, 14.15.99 to 11.17.83.

Beaumaris took out the Reserves Grand final 15.9.99 to Chadstone 8.13.61. Whilst in Second division Beaumaris Reserves played in the Grand final each year from 1972 to 1977 losing only one to East Hawthorn in 1975.

Two of the strongest junior clubs Murrumbeena Districts and East Sandringham as well as Highett West Y.C. were put on notice that if they were to continue in the S.E.S.F.L. they would be required to field senior and reserve grade teams. A number of clubs that had been fielding only junior teams had already been forced to leave amongst them Oakleigh(V.F.A.), Ormond Amateurs, Mordialloc Y.C., Mordialloc(V.F.A.), and Bennettswood who had already gone to the E.D.F.L.

When the decision was made back in 1970 to introduce divisional football and have only 'consolidated' clubs in the League all clubs were generally in support of the scheme. The Leagues by-laws however were not clear cut. There seemed to be a number of anomalies and clubs were creating 'clever' ways to get around the rules. Hawthorn Districts under 17s was actually part of Hawthorn F.C., Essex Heights, Richmond 4ths. plus other clubs were entering junior teams, particularly in the under 17 section then withdrawing them early in the season. Promises were also made in regard to fielding Senior teams only to rescind those commitments just prior to the start of the season.

The League tightened its rules and made it very clear that by the end of 1974 all clubs needed to abide by the 'consolidation' rules or they would not be permitted to stay in the competition. Taking it one step further some clubs would be required to place a surety deposit which would be forfeited should any nominated teams be withdrawn.

There were other associated problems. With not all clubs having a full compliment of teams the draw for each Grade became difficult to organise and its implementation caused further problems for clubs when it came to transport and manpower. It must be remembered that at this stage all clubs that played a home senior game were preceded by the under 17's and prior to that the under 13's. The Reserves played on the opposite ground preceded by the under 15's. It was not until the late 1980's that the Reserves became the 'Curtain raiser' game. This system was brought about in the main by clubs having to use their home ground each week or they could be faced with having to share the facility with the numerous Church based teams playing at the time in the E.S.P.C.F.A., the C.Y.M.S. or the Y.C.W. competitions.

1974

South Melbourne District entered Division two transferring from the struggling Metropolitan F.L. Two of the Junior clubs entered Senior teams into the lower division, East Sandringham and Highett West which was an amalgamation of the Highett Y.C.W. and Highett West Youth Club. Murrumbeena District under teams merged with Murrumbeena. That meant that there were no stand alone 'junior' grade clubs remaining.

Having won the 1973 Second Division Premiership Ashburton were promoted and Glen Iris relegated.

There were now ten teams in first division, twelve in second, fifteen under 17, eighteen under 15 and 18 in the under 13s. The Under age grades were not split into divisions which continued to cause many problems mentioned previously.

In First Division Murrumbeena, who had recruited heavily from the local area finished on top of the ladder with 56 points then came Canterbury 48, Hawthorn District 44, Balwyn 44, North Kew 44, Burwood 36, Mt.Waverley 32, East Brighton 24, Ashburton 16 and St.Kilda City 8. All the finals were highly contested with over 200 points scored in each game which eventually saw Murrumbeena account for Balwyn 16.12.108 to 14.15.99.

North Kew won its first Premiership in the South-East by defeating Mt.Waverley in the Reserves 8.7.55 to 6.15.51.

Carnegie came from fourth place in Second division to beat an injury depleted Glen Iris 12.15.87 to 11.6.72. Both clubs were promoted to the top grade as that grade was increased to twelve teams. Beaumaris once again won the Reserves defeating Chadstone.

Carnegie had won its first premiership in the C.O.D.F.L. in 1939 then again in 1948. They were then runners-up in 1950,1951,1952 and 1953 in A Grade, then in 1965, 1966 and 1967 in the second division S.E.S.F.L.

Canterbury had run into financial problems during the season and were permitted to go into the lower grade for 1975 with Chadstone being elevated in their place.

1975

The Second division now also consisted of twelve clubs with the entry of Port Melbourne Colts and East Hawthorn from the defunct Metropolitan Football League. East Sandringham could no longer field two Senior teams however its Junior Grade teams were permitted to remain in the competition for the season provided that the Senior teams would return for 1976. That did not eventuate and sadly one of the most successful of clubs was lost to the League.

Hawthorn District changed its name to Hawthorn Citizens. The club advised that its association with the Hawthorn F.C. had ceased and in the interest promoting junior football in the area had formed an alliance with the Hawthorn Citizens Youth Club. The number of players reported each week from the 'new' club remained the same.

All three Junior grades were again split into Divisions one and two matching as close as possible with the Senior grades draw. There were now only a handful of clubs that did not have the full quota of teams, five to be 'consolidated'.

Murrumbeena again finished on top of the Premiership ladder but were totally outclassed in the finals leaving the promoted Carnegie to make it back to back flags by defeating Mt.Waverley by three points 10.23.83 to 12.8.80.

Carnegie had initially entered junior teams in the three grades for 1975, it turned out however that they would withdraw their under 17 team before the start of the season due to a lack of numbers losing their deposit Bond. The League administration had seen this before and were very keen to put a halt to this practice. As the season progressed a strong rumour was being circulated that no matter how the season panned out Carnegie was going to be relegated. The rumour gained strength as Carnegie were becoming hot favourite to be premiers. All clubs were keen to see just how the League would react especially after they did in fact win the premiership.

As I understand it a League official advised Carnegie almost immediately after their Premiership victory that in accordance with its rules many of the other League executive members wanted to see the club relegated for the 1976 season. This of course became common knowledge. No formal advice or notification had been given to the club prior to the competition Presentation Night. Upon accepting the Premiers trophy and Flag the clubs representative proceeded to give the Leagues executive one almighty 'spray' in regard to them being relegated. His timing was probably poor as the matter had not been formally discussed by the League or at any Club delegates meeting. To make matters worse a later similar outburst from the victorious Coach at the same function really got under the skin of some of the executive. No matter what the club did, said or wrote in an effort to stay in Division one they were dead in the water. Within weeks of the function Carnegie was relegated to Division two. I have no doubt that Carnegie were used as a warning to other clubs not to mess with the Leagues rules or its administration. It was the general feeling from all the clubs (except Murrumbeena) that all things considered Carnegie were hard done by as they had been on a number of occasions before.

Murrumbeena took some consolation by winning the Reserves flag beating Hawthorn Citizens 9.9.63 to 6.11.47.

Port Colts belted East Hawthorn in Division two seniors 16.14.110 to 13.11.89 whilst East Hawthorn interrupted Beaumaris' run of flags in the Reserves winning 12.8.80 to 11.12.78.

1976

The junior grades now continued with divisions as close as possible to the Senior draw however a lot of effort was put into the gradings to make each Division not only competitive but geographically reasonable for all clubs.

Carnegies place was taken by Port Colts and East Hawthorn replaced Glen Iris who had been relegated.

The season turned out to be one of the closest for many seasons. Hawthorn Citizens finished on top with 56 points followed by East Brighton and Mt.Waverley on 52 then came Port Colts and Ashburton with 44 and Murrumbeena and North Kew on 40. Port took fourth place with a 6% advantage. The First semi was a draw between Port and Mount with Mount winning the replay the following week by 29 points. Hawthorn defeated East Brighton in the Second semi by 35 points giving them a three to nil scoreline at that time. In the Preliminary final East Brighton easily accounted for Mt.Waverley by 33 points setting up a Grand final clash between the top two teams.

The headlines in the local paper read 'UPSET TWO POINT WIN TO EASTS'.

'East Brighton, starting as the underdog, caused the seasons biggest upset by defeating Hawthorn Citizens in last Sunday's South-East Suburban Football League Grand Final at Sandringham'.

The article describes the game as a 'great grand final' played with tremendous spirit. The scores remained close all day with Hawthorn's poor kicking for goal a deciding factor. At the start of the time on period in the last quarter Hawthorn came to within one point of East who rallied scoring a point then a goal to take the margin out to eight points. With time ticking away Hawthorn scored another goal bringing the difference back to two points. With nineteen seconds to go the ball came back for the centre bounce where a mad scramble took place to hold possession only to see a second ball up as the siren sounded.

The game was reminiscent of the 1967 Grand final which saw Kooyong Amateurs defeat East Brighton by one point with Max McColl as Captain Coach of Kooyong. Now some ten years later Max as Coach of Hawthorn saw the result reversed in a similar vain.

The Reserves was also won by East Brighton who stormed home to defeat Chadstone 17.7.109 to 15.17.107.

South Melbourne District earned promotion (in place of Chadstone) by defeating Carnegie in the Second Division Grand Final by 15 points. Beaumaris continued its run of Premierships in the Reserves by thrashing Tooronga-Malvern 24.21.165 to 6.9.45.

1977

Prior to the start of the season Dingley transferred to the S.W.G.F.L. , Sandown moved to the E.D.F.L. and Carnegie went into recession with a number of its players going to Chadstone which left Kooyong park vacant and was quickly snapped up by St.Kevins, Ormond.

Ashburton took all before them remaining undefeated for the season with 17 wins from eighteen rounds. Round 12 was to be played on July 2nd. but due to an enourmous amount of rain in the preceeding two weeks a number of Council's would not permit some clubs usage of its grounds and the whole round was cancelled. As it turned out that missing round had a huge effect on the seasons ladder outcome.

The ladder: **Ashburton 68, Murrumbeena 56, Balwyn 44 %118.2, MtWaverley 40 % 121.6**, East Brighton 40 % 121.5, Hawthorn Citizens 40 % 121.2, Port Colts and South Melb.Dist 28, North Kew 24, Burwood, St.Kilda City and East Hawthorn all on 12 points.

The draw for the cancelled round 12:

Murumbeena v Hawthorn Citizens
Port Colts v St.Kilda City
South Melb.Dist v Burwood
North Kew v East Hawthorn
Ashburton v Balwyn
Mt.Waverley v East Brighton

Had the round twelve fixture been played the final ladder would have been quite different at both ends whichever way you want to interperate the likely results. As the season progressed a number of clubs wanted to have round 12 replayed in an extended season or on a Sunday. An extended season was out of the question so the matter was put to club delegates to decide. A number of clubs disected the remaining draw and for selfish reasons voted against the round being replayed. The vote was 6 against, 5 for with one club abstaining, Murrumbeena. Under the League Constitution the League President could have voted for or against the motion. A vote 'for' would have made the for and against a tie and a revote would have been called for. He decided to abstain putting the matter to an end. At the end of the meeting the East Hawthorn delegate suggested that the clubs 'put in a few dollars' to repair the Presidents fence as by now it must be in need some maintenance because he had been sitting on it for so long!

The Final series was the best seen for many years with all games of a high standard, clean, entertaining and high scoring. Balwyn defeated Mt.Waverley in the first semi 18.13.121 to

12.14.86, Ashburton beat Murrubeeena 22.21.153 to 19.21.135 in the second then Balwyn won the Preliminary 21.16.142 to Murrumbeena 17.14.116.

As Murrumbeenas 'Mad Monday' was taking shape the news that it had been discovered that Balwyn had played an unqualified player in the Prelim .final and that the result had been reversed came as quite a shock. Once the barrell was finished the 'Beena' boys got back into training.

In a close fought game Ashburton completed its winning run by defeating Murrumbeena 19.11.125 to 16.18.114.

The Reserves was also won by Ashburton downing Mt.Waverley 18.13.123 to 14.13.97.

In Second Division Beaumaris took the double in winning both the Seniors 17.18.120 to Chadstone 17.10.112 and Reserves 21.20.146 to Chadstone 12.12.84.

1978

It was decided that the 1978 competition was divided into two ten team divisions. St.Kilda City, Port Colts and East Hawthorn were all relegated with Beaumaris being elevated having won the division two flag in 1977. Although the promotion and relegation system was working as far as the senior grades were concerned the junior grades by now virtually had their own system which did not necessarily follow the higher grades which at times caused fixturing problems. For many years the home club would play under 13s then under 17s then the senior grade. The under 15s would play before the reserves at their opponents home ground. With there being a system within a system for promotion and relegation some clubs from time to time would only have one senior game being it either home or away.

Ashburton again went through the season undefeated giving them 35 wins in a row. Burwood surprisingly won the second semi final by 37 points, Ashy then beat Murrumbeena in the Prelim. final by 7 points in a nail biting finish. The Grand final played at the Beach Oval Sandringham was a thrilling game with Ashburton taking the lead by one point in the time one period for the first time in the game, then with only seconds to go kicked another goal to defeat Burwood 11.18.84 to 10.13.73.

Mt.Waverley beat Ashburton by a solitary goal in the Reserves 17.17.119 to 17.11.113.

Toorong-Malvern also went through the season undefeated and easily accounted for Port Colts in second division winning 19.19.133 to 12.10.82. Chadstone only lost two rounds for the year, both to the 'Combine' were 'knocked out' by the Colts in the Preliminary final but had some success in winning the Reserves against Canterbury 19.11.125 to 8.9.57.

Over in the Federal League their member clubs had been reduced from 13 in 1976 to 9 by the end of 1978. Clubs that had folded were in that short period were McKinnon, Doveton (to S.W.G.F.L.), Glenhuntly and East Caulfield (formerly Caulfield) which followed East Malvern end of 1973 and Black Rock end of 1972. Most if not all Federal Clubs were struggling financially but also had great difficulty in fielding the required Seniors, Reserves, Under 18 and Under 16 teams as that competition had also brought in the 'consolidation rule' and enforced it. East Malvern and Glenhuntly, two of its strongest members could not field the under age teams required, were broke and were given no choice but to fold.

Would the remaining clubs merge with the South-East or would the Federal attempt to lure clubs to its competition? The rumours were flying thick and fast.

1979

Taking the place of South Melbourne District the promoted Tooronga-Malvern finished top of the ladder with 60 points followed by Ashburton 56, Burwood 48 and Beaumaris 40. Burwood defeated Beaumaris by 64 points and the 'Combine' beat Ashburton by 19 points in the semis. Burwood then accounted for Ashburton in the Preliminary by 14 points.

Tooronga-Malvern were hot favourites to take their initial First Division flag but Burwood produced their best football for the year winning easily 22.8.140 to 11.8.74

Mt.Waverley were favourites again to win the Reserves only to fall over in the Finals series which ended with Murrumbeena 12.10.82 defeating Balwyn 10.15.75.

Glen Iris, St.Kilda City, Chadstone and South Melbourne District made up the final four in Second Division. The luckless Chadstone made it into another Grand Final only to go down again to Glen Iris 12.17.89 to 10.9.69. Port Colts thrashed South Melb. 19.19.133 to 8.19.67 in the Reserve grade.

Back in 1977 the St.Kilda F.C. sponsored a new junior competition open to all clubs in its area called the St.Kilda F.C.Junior F.L. commencing with under 11s. St.Kilda pulled out in 1985 and the name changed to the Chelsea District Junior F.L. with most clubs transferring. In 1989 the Moorabbin Saints Junior F.L. was formed and as before most clubs transferred. These junior competitions developed rapidly and consisted of age groups from under 9 to under 17 years. The major concern was that slowly at first thenmost if not all all games being played on Sundays and all clubs and the S.E.S.F.L. were faced with losing teams and grades to that Junior League.

1980

Following its Premiership success Burwood was forced into recession for financial reasons. Their place was taken by Glen Iris. Hawthorn Citizens were relegated allowing the third placed South Melbourne District to return to division one. As runners-up to Glen Iris, Chadstone were offered promotion initially but declined the offer. The decision caused a major rift within the club as some members wanted to be promoted and others not. As a result the Carnegie club came out of recess and re-formed as Carnegie-Chadstone playing at the East Caulfield Reserve. The Chadstone club continued as before.

Ashburton and Beaumaris were the stand out teams for the year. Beaumaris surprised many by beating Ashburton in the Second semi to go into their first Grand Final in the top grade. Ashy beat the 'Combine' in the Prelim. Final and continued their improved form by downing Beaumaris 15.15.105 to 10.12.72 in the last game which gave its third flag in four years.

The St.Kilda City vs. Port Colts grand final in second division turned into an embarrassing debacle for both clubs and the League as well. The first quarter took fifty seven minutes to complete as both sides brawled continually. City eventually won the game by eight points 19.12.126 to 17.16.118. There were numerous reports and as a result severe suspensions were handed out to players from both sides. St.Kilda City were fined heavily and placed on a bond. Port Colts were also heavily fined which they refused to honour and were then subsequently

suspended from the League. Losing a subsequent appeal to the V.M.F.L. they sought and were granted a clearance to the Western Suburbs F.L.

St.Kilda City and Port Colts also appeared in the Reserves Grand final with the Saints victorious 18.17.125 to 11.8.74.

1981

As 1981 came around the rumours were abounding in regarding the future of the remaining nine club Federal League. Noble Park, Springvale and Moorabbin (formed out of a Bentleigh-McKinnon merger) all were keen to join to the V.F.A., Mentone, Parkdale, Highett and Cheltenham were financially strapped, Oakleigh Districts and Clayton were going along well enough but all must have been concerned with their own future as well as that of the F.D.L.

The South-East clubs were also anxious about the possibility of some if not all of the Federal clubs transferring as these clubs were much larger, most had far better Licensed Club facilities and probably importantly most had their grounds enclosed which enabled them to charge admission to games. The then Secretary and also the President of the South-East were assuring clubs that as far as they were concerned any club, Federal or otherwise who came to the South-East League would pass through the divisions as required under the Leagues rules.

They very outspoken on this point as they were keen to protect the South-East's existing clubs from any possibility of a takeover by the Federal, which had also been rumoured. Further should the rules be ignored or changed they would both resign from the League under protest. Assurances were freely given by a number of the South-East executive also that its member clubs had nothing to concern themselves with. Off season a subtle change was made to the junior grades. The Under 17, 15 and 13 grades became Under 18, 16, 14 and an added Under 12 grade. The Federal League had under 18 and 16.

St.Kilda City were promoted in place of Glen Iris and Carnegie-Chadstone reverted to the original Carnegie.

Most if not all clubs recruited heavily in anticipation of the Federal League clubs joining. Ashburton and Tooronga-Malvern in particular outlayed player payments to a level not seen before. The Combine in losing only one home and away game for the season finished on top with Ashburton close behind. In a close and high standard Grand Final Ashburton once again lifted when it counted winning 15.14.104 to 14.12.96.

Mt.Waverley took out their 6th. Premiership in the Reserves Downing Beaumaris 10.17.77 to 10.16.76.

East Hawthorn won its first Premiership in the South-East beating Canterbury 11.10.76 to 10.13.73. Burwood in its first year back from recession won the Reserve grade 10.21.81 to East Hawthorn 7.15.57.

S.E.S.F.L.clubs for 1981 were:

First Division, Seniors and Reserves:

Ashburton, Tooronga-Malvern, Beaumaris, Balwyn,..... Mt.Waverley, East Brighton, North Kew, Murrumbeena, St.Kilda City, South Melbourne District

Second Division, Seniors and Reserves:

East Hawthorn, Canterbury.....Carnegie, Glen Iris, Burwood, Highett West, East Malvern, Essex Heights, Chadstone, Hawthorn Citizens.

The under age grades were:

Under 18 two divisions, under 16 two divisions, under 14 two divisions and one division in the under 12s. Most clubs were fully 'consolidated'. It came as no surprise that at the end on 1981 the Federal League was forced into recession. Not disband as many people thought. To this day the competition remains in recess.

1982

The fact that the entry of the Federal clubs plus a couple of former clubs was going to improve the standard of the League was accepted. What annoyed all the existing S.E.S.F.L. clubs was that despite all of the promises that had been made six of the eight clubs transferring were going straight into division one. Parkdale and Mentone opted for second division and Springvale had been accepted into the V.F.A. To make matters worse it was not announced until early in 1982 that first division would consist of sixteen teams and that at the end of the season the bottom six would be relegated to division two making a ten team competition. Similarly division two would consist of twelve clubs with the bottom eight relegated leaving ten teams also. A new third division would be started with the eight relegated clubs plus two new ones who had already applied for entry into the League. Trying to recruit players in January or February is very difficult which made it almost impossible for clubs to further strengthen their senior team to avoid relegation. The promotion and relegation for 1981 was not used. St.Kilda City who finished last remained in division one and East Hawthorn remained in division two.

Clubs for 1982 were:

First Division, Seniors and Reserves;

Beaumaris, East Brighton, Cheltenham, Ashburton, South Melbourne District, Clayton, Noble Park, Oakleigh Districts, North Kew, Tooronga-Malvern, Highett, Moorabbin, Mt.Waverley, St.Kilda City, Balwyn, Murrumbeena.

Second Division, Seniors and Reserves;

Carnegie, East Hawthorn, Burwood, Highett West, East Malvern, Essex Heights, Glen Iris, Chadstone, Parkdale, Hawthorn Citizens, Canterbury, Mentone.

The under age grades consisted of : Under 18 two divisions, under 16 two divisions and under 14 one division. The warning signs were clear that the St.Kilda junior league was making serious inroads into the South-East juniors.

First division for 1982 was won by Clayton defeating Asburton in the seniors and Oakleigh Districts beat Murrumbeena in the reserves. East Hawthorn again won in the second division seniors with Hawthorn Citizens taking the reserves flag. East Hawthorn were not promoted as they were not fully 'consolidated' and for 'behavioral' reasons found themselves in third division for 1983. At the end of the season the following six clubs were relegated to second division: East Brighton, Balwyn, North Kew, South Melbourne District, Mt.Waverley and St.Kilda City. Tooronga-Malvern were in financial trouble, requested and were permitted to go into third division for 1983. When Moorabbin transferred to the V.F.A. the League, instead of asking or

simply elevating two out of the lowest six to be relegated the League opted for an eight team division one for 1983.

All these changes occurred after the resignation of the Leagues Secretary and the President.

The old S.E.S.F.L. clubs were very upset at what appeared to be a take over by the five Federal clubs in division one. What was causing further problems was privately most of the Federal clubs wanted to re-form the Federal League and clandestine overtures were being made to a selection of South-East Clubs to join them in reforming the League.

Attendance at delegates meetings during the season was highly entertaining to say the least. The issue of paying entry fees into some of the enclosed grounds was taken care of by the clubs that did not have their own enclosed. The players, staff and supporters refused to pay and very politely told the gate people to go peel an apple, or something like that.

Over a short period of time the leadership of the League had transformed from democratic to authoritarian with the new administration taking a very autocratic stance in regard to all matters. The Executive of the League in particular tended to treat the clubs in a patronising manner.

It was the opinion of many clubs that the League was far more interested in its own standing with the then V.M.F.L. and the V.F.L. The clubs were told initially that the reorganisation of the League was good for every club in the long term. Many found that statement to be false.

1983

Clubs for 1983 were:

First Division, Seniors and Reserves;

Oakleigh Districts, Highett, Ashburton, Clayton, Cheltenham, Murrumbeena, Beaumaris, Noble Park

Second Division Seniors and Reserves;

Balwyn, East Brighton, Highett West, St.Kilda City, Mt.Waverley, Glen Iris, South Melbourne District, Parkdale, Carnegie, North Kew.

Third Division Seniors and Reserves;

Canterbury, Hawthorn Citizens, Middle Park, Caulfield, Mentone, Tooronga-Malvern, Chadstone, East Hawthorn, Burwood, East Malvern.

The under age grades lost fifteen teams from the previous year bringing the number down from sixty four to forty nine.

Noble Park defeated Clayton in the 1983 Division one Grand Final whilst in the reserves Clayton beat Oakleigh Districts. In division two South Melbourne District accounted for North Kew by four points. Hawthorn Citizens defeated East Hawthorn in division three in a entertaining 'slug fest'.

1984

The first division in 1984 was increased to ten teams with Murrumbeena who were in serious financial trouble opting to go to third division to recover. In came South Melbourne District,

Mt.Waverley and Balwyn. North Kew were not promoted as they did not have an under 18 team. Clayton won the seniors in their fifth Grand Final appearance in as many years giving them four out of five flags and their reserves were also premiers. In division two Tooronga-Malvern kicked 7.27.69 to Parkdales 12.11.83 in the seniors. In the reserves the 'Combine' 17.16.118 outlasted Parkdale 18.16.114. Other clubs that year in division two were: Canterbury, Mentone, Hawthorn Citizens plus the 'Combine' all up from division three 1983, Carnegie, Highett West, North Kew, East Brighton, St.Kilda City. Division three was won by East Hawthorn over Murrumbeena in the seniors and Burwood won the reserve grade. Other clubs that year were: Chadstone, Middle Park, Burwood, Caulfield , East Malvern, Dandenong West, Glen Iris.

The junior grades were being devastated with the loss of another twelve teams bringing the total number now to thirty seven.

As an example East Brighton fielded seniors, reserves, under 18,16 and 14 teams in the S.E.S.F.L., the under 12 and under 10 grades in the St.Kilda F.C.J.F.L. and an under 11 Sunday team in the C.D.J.F.L.

There were many clubs that were similar with teams in the South-East, Hawthorn J.F.L. and the Waverley J.F.L. with the junior Leagues playing more Sunday games than on Saturdays.

1985

Prior to the commencement of the 1985 season the S.E.S.F.L. became an incorporated body with a new set of rules and by-laws. The clubs delegates agreed with the incorporation, as it was put to them. It took a little time but people soon realised that the new Committee of Management had far more powers than the previous Executive committee and the club delegates powers were virtually void. Delegates meetings were still held but instead of discussing and/or voting on any particular issue they were usually told simply what decisions had been made, full stop.

Flushed with success, Clayton were cleared to the E.D.F.L. and Parkdale were promoted. Noble Park were premiers over Mt.Waverley and Noble Park reserves commenced its amazing run of premierships. Division two was won by Tooronga-Malvern over St.Kilda City.

The third division was scrapped making a fifteen team second division. All clubs were put on notice that division two would consist of ten teams in 1986. Those finishing below tenth in 1985 would be relegated into a reformed third division. The S.E.S.F.L. advised that there could be as many as five new teams that would make a ten team grade in line with the two higher divisions.

Clubs that did not appear in 1985 were: Middle Park, Caulfield, East Malvern and Burwood became Ashwood. Highett and Ashburton were relegated for 1986, Tooronga-Malvern and St.Kilda City taking their places.

The S.E.S.F.L. moved the goal posts again when they announced pre season that division two would now have eight teams and division three seven and no new clubs were entering except Black Rock.

Two of the oldest and strongest clubs as far as junior strength was concerned, East Brighton and Murrumbeena were relegated to third division as they had finished in ninth and tenth positions respectively which meant that if the second division had remained at a ten team section as advised they would remain in that division. The inclusion of Black Rock into second division

in its first year was met with fierce opposition from East Brighton in particular as without the new clubs inclusion it would have every right to remain in the higher division.

It was almost impossible to plead your case to the Committee of Management. Both clubs were going to third division and no amount of correspondence was going to alter that decision. Noble Park were again premiers defeating Beaumaris and second division was won by Highett West. In third division Murrumbeena over-ran East Brighton in the seniors as did Ashwood in the reserves.

1986

The three divisions in 1986 were:

First Division; Oakleigh Districts, St.Kilda City, Mt.Waverley, Balwyn, Beaumaris, Cheltenham, Noble Park, South Melbourne District, Tooronga-Malvern, Parkdale.

Second Division; Hawthorn Citizens, Black Rock, Highett West, Highett, East Hawthorn, Mentone, North Kew, Ashburton.

Third Division; Dandenong West, Carnegie, Ashwood, Canterbury, Glen Iris, Murrumbeena, East Brighton.

1987

In 1987 the third division was incorporated into an expanded second division of fifteen teams with a final five. Lyndale took Dandenong Wests place. Ashburton won both the seniors and reserves defeating St.Kilda City in both division two grades. Highett West took St.Kilda Citys place in first division. Division one was dominated by Noble Park winning both seniors and reserves. The junior grades were almost gone with only a limited number of teams in the under 18 and 16s. To keep these two grades going a handfull of teams from the E.S.C.F.A. joined as that competition was facing the same problems.

The League Executive had been negotiating with some of the Junior Leagues to run their competition in conjunction with the South-East but were running into a brick wall at every turn.

1988

Second division in 1988 was reduced to thirteen teams with the loss of two of the oldest clubs East Hawthorn and Glen Iris who were both forced to disband due to a lack of numbers and finances. Parkdale went down from first division with Asburton being promoted as the newly formed Caulfield-Ashburton, Caulfield having lost its place in the V.F.A. The 'new' club played in the Ashburton colours of green jumper with gold monogram and piping. Mordialloc was forced to leave the V.F.A. four rounds into the season and were invited into the South-Easts second division to negate the bye but to play for no points or percentage. All clubs who played them would receive for points including those who had already had a bye. Caulfield-Asburton easily won first division and East Brighton won both the seniors with one loss and reserves going through the season undefeated in second division.

The 1988 clubs were:

First Division; Cheltenham, Mt.Waverley, Caulfield-Ashburton, Balwyn, Oakleigh Districts, Tooronga-Malvern, South Melbourne District, Highett West, Noble Park, Beaumaris

Second Division: Hawthorn Citizens, Murrumbeenas, Parkdale, Lyndale, Highett, Ashwood, St.Kilda City, Carnegie, Black Rock, Mentone, East Brighton, Canterbury, North Kew and Mordialloc.

1989

The Caulfield-Ashburton alliance was to last only one season. The committee and in particular the President of the new club were at loggerheads with the League Executives, mostly the secretary on a number of issues. At seasons end the Caulfield-Asburton President constructed a letter on his company letterhead which was to say the least highly critical and abusive towards the League and actually singled out the secretary emphasising the term 'blatant incompetence'. The club was given notice to appear before the League Executive to discuss the contents of the letter. They declined to do so. They were then asked and given the opportunity to disassociate themselves from their Presidents personal letter. They again declined to do so. Two full delegates meetings were held to discuss the Clubs future in the League. A motion was put forward at the first meeting to expell the club as it would not detach itself from their Presidents letter and therefore supported same. Some of the clubs at the meeting stated that they had not seen or read the contents of the letter, even though the League had mailed it out to everyone to read. After lengthy discussions it was decided to defer the matter for two weeks to enable clubs to decide where they stood on the matter with their respective committees. Despite a good deal of lobbying by the club at the next meeting Ashburton-Caulfield were expelled from the League by two votes twenty three to twenty five with two clubs abstaining. A subsequent appeal was lodged by the club to both the League and the V.M.F.L. but as there was no rule to allow for appeals of this type the club was finished. Many clubs were happy to see them go, others were not so sure that the League executive had been embarrassed by the letter which was after all not written on the clubs letterhead so in the clubs opinion they had no case to answer. The fact that the President was injecting large sums of money into the club left them in a difficult situation. By the time this had sorted itself out East Brighton had been promoted for 1989 with Tooronga-Malvern requesting to go down to second division to regroup financially. Highett West and Highett amalgamated to form Highett District allowing the club to remain in first division. Second division now had twelve teams with Lyndale transferring to the E.S.C.F.A. Balwyn defeated Oakleigh Districts in the first division with Parkdale winning the lower division.

Clubs for 1989:

First Division; Noble Park, South Melbourne District, East Brighton, Oakleigh Districts, Balwyn, Highett District, Beaumaris, Mt.Waverley, Cheltenham

Second Division; Mentone, Black Rock, Mordialloc, Murrumbeena, North Kew, Hawthorn Citizens, Canterbury, Carnegie, St.Kilda City, Parkdale, Ashwood, Tooronga-Malvern.

1990

Parkdale were promoted for the 1990 season replacing the bye. Two more of the oldest clubs disbanded in Carnegie and Hawthorn Citizens leaving a nine team competition in second

division. Noble Park defeated Oakleigh Districts in both the seniors and reserves, likewise Tooronga-Malvern defeated North Kew in second Division.

East Brighton had won first division premierships in 1966,1973 and 1976 but found themselves in third division in 1986. Slowly but surely they were able to win their way back into first division in 1989. By enticing a number of former players, mostly juniors back to the club they were able to defeat Noble Park in the 1991 Grand Final. Tooronga-Malvern who had been promoted finished fourth and Canterbury defeated Highett District in Second Division giving them their first senior premiership since 1972.

1991

Clubs for 1991:

First Division; Balwyn, South Melbourne District, Noble Park, Beaumaris, Cheltenham, Parkdale, Mt.Waverley, Tooronga-Malvern, East Brighton, Oakleigh Districts.

Second Division; Ashwood, Mordialloc, Black Rock, Canterbury, North Kew, Mentone, Highett District, Murrumbeena, St.Kilda City.

At the end of 1991 there were a number of changes to the Leagues administration out of which came amongst other things a change of name to the Southern Football League. A copy herein of the Editorial Comment which appeared in the first S.F.L. 'Record' explains why the name was changed.

1992

For the 1992 season Cheltenham were placed in second division with Canterbury being elevated. Noble Park won their sixth flag since since 1982 downing South Melbourne Districts. The reserves once again was won by Noble Park giving them seven since 1982. Cheltenham were victorious in second division giving the club its first senior flag since 1925.

The 1992 clubs were:

First Division; Noble Park, South Melbourne District, East Brighton, Oakleigh Districts, Balwyn, Tooronga-Malvern, Beaumaris, Mt.Waverley, Canterbury, Parkdale

Second Division; Mentone, Black Rock, Mordialloc, Murrumbeena, North Kew, Ashwood, Cheltenham, Highett District, St.Kilda City, Caulfield Kontias

The Southern Football League and the Eastern Suburban Churches Football Association merged at the end of the 1992 season to form the 'new' Southern Football League.

The 'new' Leagues format was as follows:

Premier Division; Noble Park, Mt.Waverley, South Melbourne District, East Brighton, St.Pauls Bentleigh, Parkdale, Bentleigh, Oakleigh Districts, Hampton United, Mordialloc

First Division; Cheltenham, Collingwood Districts, Tooronga-Malvern, Caulfield, Balwyn, Ashwood, Springvale District, Highett District, Burwood United, Beaumaris

Second Division; Murrumbeena, Chelsea Heights, St.Kilda City, North Kew, Lower Plenty, East Camberwell, Fairfield, Canterbury, Box Hill Pioneers

Third Division; Heatherton, South Yarra, Syndal-Tally Ho, Cheltenham Assumption, Carnegie, Dandenong West, Black Roch, Ashburton-Chadstone

Fourth Division; Moorabbin West, East Bentleigh, Lyndale, Mt.Waverley Catholics, Box Hill North, Box Hill Adelphians, North Blackburn, Eley Park (no reserves)

Senior Grade clubs from 1963 to 1992 were:

Sandown was formed in 1962 and played one season in the C.O.D.F.L. B Grade Reserves then joined the South-East from 1963 to 1976. They wore blue and white stripes and played at the Edinburgh Reserve, North Springvale.

South Murrumbeena was formed in 1958 using Packer Park, Carnegie. In the C.O.D.F.L. they competed in the B Grade Reserves and Reserve Open then transferred to the South-East in the Reserve Open from 1963 to 1965. They wore red and gold striped jumpers. Murrumbeena Districts who played in the junior grades only were an off-shoot of South Murrumbeena.

Caulfield Amateurs joined the new League in 1963 and stayed until 1971.

Glen Iris District joined the Caulfield-Oakleigh in 1959, transferred in 1963 playing in the B Grade Reserves and the Reserves Open until 1967. Club colours were navy, blue and white. Home ground was T.H.King Oval, Glen Iris which it appears they shared with East Malvern Amateurs who transferred from the Amateurs in 1965. They disbanded in 1984 having won one second division premiership in 1969 but were never promoted. The club was formed in 1929 when they joined the Amateurs staying until 1964. Along the way they won two flags, 1929 C grade and 1950 D grade. Club colours were blue and white. The two clubs may have joined forces at some stage.

In 1963 the R.A.A.F. Cadets entered a team formally called D.C.S, R.A.A.F. They played for only one season at Fawkner Park then played in the Amateurs 1964 and 65. They returned in 1966 using Fawkner Park for two seasons before moving to Highfield Park, Camberwell where they played until 1969 before disbanding. Club colours were light blue with dark blue trim.

Highett West Youth Club played for a few seasons in the Caulfield-Oakleigh in the junior grades and the Reserve Open and fielded a senior team in the South-East from 1963 to 1965 before reverting back to junior sides only. They played at the Highett West Reserve and wore a black jumper with a red sash. The Highett West Football Club was formed by a merger of the Highett West Y.C. and the Highett Y.C.W. club. The new club wearing blue and white hoops joined the South-East in 1975 playing at the Peterson St. or Highett West Reserve. In 1989 a merger with the Highett Football Club was engineered to keep both clubs going all be it as one identity the Highett Districts Football club. With far better facilities the clubs agreed to use the Turner st. Reserve in Highett and as a trade off the Highett West jumper was retained through to 1992. In 1997 the club dropped the 'District' from their name reverting back to Highett Football Club using the original clours of red, white and blue plus a Bulldog image. Highett had transferred from the Federal when they went into recess in 1982. (refer Federal notes).

Dingley came over from the Caulfield-Oakleigh in 1963 staying until 1976 when they joined the S.W.G.F.L. Coming from the E.S.F.L.

Bennettswood fielded a senior team from 1963 to 1965 then for many years had junior teams only.

Burnley transferred from the Eastern League in 1963 and were duly suspended then expelled or not re-admitted after 1964. In 1965 the Jolimont Football Club joined the competition with one senior team in the Reserve Open. Its home ground was the Carter Oval, Burnley. A club of the same name played for many years in the Sub-Districts and Sunday Leagues. Club colours were blue with a white V. Their last year was 1968.

After crossing in 1963 Tooronga moved to the Amateurs in 1964 at which time they merged with Malvern Amateurs to form Tooronga-Malvern. Returning in 1973 playing through to 1992.

Chadstone joined from the Caulfield-Oakleigh in 1963 having commenced in the Reserve Open grade in 1959 and 1960 then into A grade 1961 and 1962. Playing at what is now Percy Treyvaud Memorial Park they continued through to 1977 then moved to the vacant East Caulfield Reserve for 1978 and 1979. In 1980 part of the club merged with a reformed Carnegie to form Carnegie-Chadstone playing for one season at East Caulfield. Another section of the club returned to their original ground as Chadstone continuing until 1985 before disbanding. The club did re-appear as Ashburton-Chadstone for 1993 and 1994.

Moorabbin had one season 1982 (refer Fed. notes).

Middle Park played only for two seasons 1983 and 1984 at Oval 10 Albert Park. Club colours were Gold guernsey, black motif, collar and cuffs.

Caulfield also played for two years 1983 and 1984 in Caulfield Park wearing Royal blue and white vertical stripes and as far as I know were not related to the Caulfield V.F.A. club. Kontias played for two seasons in the Amateurs 1989 and 1991 then joined the Southern F.L. for one season in 1992 as Caulfield Kontias.

Ashburton played from 1963 to 1987 having previously played in both the Caulfield-Oakleigh and Eastern Leagues. (refer to League notes). Caulfield-Ashburton one season 1988. The Caulfield part of the alliance was in essence to reform in 1993.

Black Rock joined in 1986. (refer Federal notes).

Essex Heights joined in 1970 as a junior club sponsored by the Richmond F.C. as their fourths. A senior team was fielded in the B Grade Reserves for the first two seasons then into second division with both seniors and reserves by 1972. The under seventeens won Premierships in 1973, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978 and 1979. The senior section of the club disbanded at the end of 1982.

Burwood came from the Eastern in 1963. Club colours were black and white and the home ground was the extremely small Burwood Reserve. They easily defeated Tooronga-Malvern for the 1979 premiership then went into recession for 1980 for financial reasons. Restarting in 1981 they eventually merged with the Essex Heights club to form Ashwood in 1985. They also moved to the Essex Heights Reserve. The old Burwood jumper was used for the first two seasons then in 1987 changed to black, gold and white panels to incorporate the yellow from the Essex Heights jumper. The club remains in the S.F.L. today.

Kooyong Amateurs played in the Amateurs from 1963 to 1965 using a red jumper with royal blue collar, cuffs and V. Their application for the 1966 season was rejected as their home ground Righetti Oval, Kooyong was deemed unsuitable plus their reserves played separately at the H.A. Smith Reserve, Hawthorn. Entering the South-East in 1966 they won the Reserve Open premiership defeating Carnegie and were promoted the next season and won the A Grade flag by one point over East Brighton. A mass exodus of players at the end of 1968, many of whom chose to follow their Coach to Hawthorn Amateurs created a merger and the start of Hawthorn District in 1969 wearing a brown and gold vertical stripe jumper.

Hawthorn Amateurs joined the South-East in 1963 from the Eastern. (refer Eastern notes). From 1969 to 1975 they played as Hawthorn District, then from 1976 played as Hawthorn Citizens at the Victoria Road Reserve before folding in 1989.

Mordialloc joined in 1988 and continue to today in the S.F.L.

Lyndale had three seasons 1987, 1988 and 1989. Wearing a maroon jumper with gold top they played at the Barry Powell Reserve, Noble Park North. A move to the Churches in 1990 saw them return in 1993 when that League was part of the 'new' S.F.L. and continue today.

Dandenong West had three seasons 1984, 1985 and 1986 playing at the Dandenong Showgrounds or Greaves Reserve.

Port Colts entered in 1975 from the Metropolitan F.L. where it had played from 1969 to 1974. Expelled at the end of 1980 they moved to the Western Suburban League then into the Footscray District F.L. Their home ground was the Murphy Reserve, Port Melbourne and club colours red jumper with blue V.

Carnegie played in the South-East from 1963 to 1989 except for three seasons 1977,78 and 79 when they were in recession. Playing for one season as Chadstone-Carnegie in 1980 they then reverted back to Carnegie eventually folding in 1989. The club's original home was Koornang Park until 1976 then moving to the East Caulfield Reserve in 1980. (refer also to other League notes).

St. Bedes Mentone Old Collegians played at Beda Park, Mordialloc from 1966 to 1969 in the reserve Open section. Club colours were a royal blue jumper with a red V.

The South Melbourne District F.C. was founded way back in 1912. Playing continuously in Leagues such as the V.J.F.A., League and Association Sub-Districts and the Metropolitan F.L. Transferring from the latter in 1974 in the main because nearly all the M.F.L. clubs were north of the City they continued through to 1992. Playing in a white jumper with a red V at the Number one oval, Albert Park Reserve.

East Hawthorn joined in 1975 also from the M.F.L. staying until 1987 when readmission for 1988 was unlikely the club disbanded. (refer Eastern notes).

St. Kilda City was originally founded as Inkerman Rovers in 1946 playing in Alma Park, West St. Kilda. A change of name to Balaclava in 1951 saw the club enter into the V.F.A. Sub-District competition, move to the 'Peanut Farm' in 1952 then transfer to the M.F.L. for 1954 and 1955. In 1956 they moved into the Metropolitan Sunday Amateur F.A. where they remained until 1968 when that Association folded. They wore a dark navy or black jumper with a white V. St. Kilda

City was an offshoot of Balaclava, entering the M.F.L. in 1958 with a new jumper of red, white and black panels and also played at the 'Peanut Farm'. In 1964 they joined the South-East in the Reserve Open grade eventually making their way into A Grade and played through to 1992.

Noble Park-Harrisfield and Oakleigh Districts both played for one season, 1963 then transferred to the Federal returning in 1982 by which time the Harrisfield had been dropped.

Cheltenham, Clayton (to E.D.F.L. 1985) , Parkdale and Mentone all came from the Federal 1982.

North Kew came from the E.S.F.L. in 1963 playing through to 1992. Originally the seniors played at Victoria Park, Kew and the Reserves at Stradbroke Park, East Kew. Around 1979 both senior and reserves moved to Stradbroke Park. In 1982 whilst that oval was being resurfaced the club played at the McCutcheon Oval Yarra Bend Park for one season. Club colours were brown jumper with gold sash.

Beaumaris was formed in 1962 joining the South-East in 1963 and playing through to 1992. Their home ground was the Banksia Reserve, Beaumaris and club colours royal blue with gold sash.

Mt.Waverley played in both the Federal and Caulfield-Oakleigh Leagues before joining the South-East in 1963 going through to 1992.

Following the merger of the three Murrumbeena clubs that shared Murrumbeena Park the current club entered the South-East in 1963 and continue today in the new S.F.L.

East Brighton continued on from the Caulfield-Oakleigh in 1963 and remain in the new S.F.L. today. Since formation in 1948 the club has appeared in the finals series on twenty six occasions for ten Premierships, eight runners-up, four thirds, three fourths and one fifth.

Balwyn and Burwood were both foundation members of the South-East having transferred from the E.S.F.L. A small problem arose in that both clubs wore a black jumper with a yellow sash. A simple coin toss solved the problem. As the loser Burwood agreed to change their jumper.

Canterbury and Glen Iris were also foundation members of the new League in 1963. The latter disbanding in 1987 and the other playing through to 1992.

GRAND FINAL RESULTS:

A GRADE:

1963 Murrumbeena 7.9.51 d. Oakleigh District 6.14.50
1964 Mt.Waverley 10.6.66 d. East Brighton 6.12.48
1965 Glen Iris 11.13.79 d. Murrumbeena 7.5.47
1966 East Brighton 13.7.85 d. Murrumbeena 11.15.81
1967 Kooyong Amateurs 8.12.69 d. East Brighton 8.11.59
1968 Burwood 13.9.87 d. East Brighton 8.7.55
1969 Canterbury 13.13.91 d. Burwood 7.13.55
1970 Burwood 14.7.91 d. Balwyn 11.15.81
1971 Hawthorn Dist. 17.15.117 d. Burwood 13.7.85
1972 Canterbury 22.11.143 d. St.Kilda City 17.13.115
1973 East Brighton 12.14.86 d. Canterbury 9.13.67
1974 Murrumbeena 16.12.108 d. Balwyn 14.15.99
1975 Carnegie 10.23.83 d. Mt.Waverley 12.8.80
1976 East Brighton 14.11.95 d. Hawthorn Citz. 12.21.93
1977 Ashburton 19.11.125 d. M'beena 16.18.114
1978 Ashburton 11.18.84 d. Burwood 10.13.73
1979 Burwood 22.18.140 d. Tooronga-Malvern 11.8.74
1980 Ashburton 15.15.105 d. Beaumaris 10.12.72
1981 Ashburton 15.14.104 d. Tooronga-Malvern 14.12.96
1982 Clayton 15.12.102 d. Ashburton 13.19.97
1983 Noble Park 7.14.56 d. Clayton 5.13.43

1984 Clayton 14.14.98 d. Noble Park 8.11.59
1985 Noble Park 21.10.136 d. Mt.Waverley 12.8.80
1986 Noble Park 13.8.86 d. Beaumaris 8.22.70
1987 Noble Park 15.14.104 d. Tooronga-Malvern 13.13.91
1988 Caulfield-Ashburton 18.12.120 d. Toor-Malv 10.14.74
1989 Balwyn 9.17.71 d. Oakleigh District 6.12.48
1990 Noble Park 19.14.128 d. Oakleigh District 15.17.107
1991 East Brighton 21.17.143 d. Noble Park 16.19.115
1992 Noble Park 10.16.76 d. Sth. Melbourne Dist. 4.5.29

A GRADE RESERVES:

1963 Noble Park-H'field 10.13.73 d. Oakleigh Dist. 6.7.43
1964 East Brighton 9.9.63 d. Murrumbeena 5.12.42
1965 Canterbury 10.12.72 d. Mt.Waverley 9.14.68
1966 East Brighton 6.15.51 d. Murrumbeena 4.10.34
1967 Mt.Waverley 7.17.59 d. Murrumbeena 8.8.56
1968 Mt.Waverley 23.10.148 d. Balwyn 10.6.66
1969 Mt.Waverley 11.13.79 d. Murrumbeena 8.8.56
1970 Hawthorn Dist. 9.13.67 d. Mt.Waverley 10.6.66
1971 Burwood d. Mt.Waverley
1972 East Brighton 17.11.113 d. Balwyn 9.14.68
1973 Balwyn 11.18.84 d. Burwood 11.11.77
1974 North Kew 8.7.55 d. Mt.Waverley 6.15.51
1975 Murrumbeena 9.9.63 d. Hawthorn Citizens 6.11.47
1976 East Brighton 17.7.109 d. Chadstone 15.17.107
1977 Ashburton 18.13.123 d. Mt.Waverley 14.13.97
1978 Mt.Waverley 17.17.119 d. Ashburton 17.11.113
1979 Murrumbeena 12.10.82 d. Balwyn 10.15.75
1980 Mt.Waverley 15.11.101 d. Ashburton 12.15.87
1981 Mt.Waverley 10.17.77 d. Beaumaris 10.16.76
1982 Oakleigh District 18.17.125 d. Murrumbeena 7.8.50
1983 Clayton 10.8.68 d. Oakleigh District 6.13.49
1984 Clayton 15.17.107 d. South Melbourne Dist. 15.7.97
1985 Beaumaris d. Noble Park
1986 Noble Park 16.15.111 d. Mt.Waverley 9.6.60
1987 Noble Park 21.16.142 d. Oakleigh District 6.6.42
1988 Noble Park 8.13.61 d. Oakleigh District 7.8.50
1989 Noble Park 10.15.75 d. Balwyn 11.7.73
1990 Noble Park 23.19.157 d. Oakleigh District 11.10.76
1991 Noble Park 12.17.89 d. Tooronga-Malvern 10.14.74
1992 Noble Park 14.12.96 d. Tooronga-Malvern 3.4.22

SECOND DIVISION SENIORS (INCLUDES 'RESERVE OPEN'):

1963 Caulfield Amateurs 8.8.46 d. Hawthorn Amateurs 6.6.36
1964 Hawthorn Amats. 12.13.85 d. Beaumaris 7.5.47
1965 Beaumaris 18.10.118 d. Carnegie 4.6.30
1966 Kooyong Amateurs 12.19.91 d. Carnegie 5.4.34
1967 Sandown 11.9.75 d. Carnegie 9.9.63
1968 St.Bedes Old Collegians 8.25.73 d. Dingley 8.8.56
1969 East Malvern Amateurs 15.13.103 d. St.Kilda City 11.6.72
1970 Beaumaris 9.8.62 d. Dingley 7.17.59
1971 St.Kilda City 10.12.72 d. Dingley 8.8.56
1972 Sandown 20.13.133 d. Ashburton 11.19.85
1973 Ashburton 14.15.99 d. Tooronga-Malvern 11.17.83
1974 Carnegie 12.15.87 d. Glen Iris 11.6.72
1975 Port Colts 16.14.110 d. East Hawthorn 13.11.89
1976 South Melbourne District 14.13.97 d. Carnegie 13.4.82
1977 Beaumaris 17.18.120 d. Chadstone 17.10.112
1978 Tooronga-Malvern 19.19.133 d. Port Colts 12.10.82
1979 Glen iris 12.17.89 d. Chadstone 10.9.69
1980 St.Kilda City 19.12.126 d. Port Colts 17.16.118
1981 East Hawthorn 11.10.76 d. Canterbury 10.13.73
1982 East Hawthorn 24.20.164 d. Glen Iris 12.14.86
1983 South Melboutne Dist 20.21.141 d. North Kew 20.17.137
1984 Parkdale 12.11.83 d. Tooronga-Malvern 7.27.69
1985 Tooronga-Malvern 17.11.113 d. St.Kilda City 12.16.88
1986 Highett West 20.20.140 d. North Kew 12.14.86
1987 Ashburton 19.13.127 d. St.Kilda City 12.8.80
1988 East Brighton 11.11.77 d. Parkdale 6.13.49
1989 Parkdale 17.17.119 d. Murrumbeena 12.5.77
1990 Tooronga-Malvern 14.14.98 d. Canterbury 8.19.67
1991 Canterbury 14.20.104 d. Highett District 10.9.69
1992 Cheltenham 6.8.44 d. Highett District 4.7.31

SECOND DIVISION RESERVES:

1970 Carnegie d. Beaumaris
1971 Ashburton 11.13.79 d. Carnegie 7.15.57
1972 Beaumaris 18.18.126 d. Ashburton 10.4.64
1973 Beaumaris 15.9.99 d. Chadstone 8.13.61
1974 Beaumaris 13.15.93 d. Chadstone 7.13.55
1975 East Hawthorn 12.8.80 d. Beaumaris 11.12.78
1976 Beaumaris 24.13.165 d. Tooronga-Malvern 6.9.45
1977 Beaumaris 21.20.146 d. Chadstone 12.12.84
1978 Chadstone 19.11.125 d. Canterbury 8.9.57
1979 Port Colts 19.19.133 d. South Melbourne Dist. 8.19.67
1980 St.Kilda City 18.17.125 d. Port Colts 11.8.74
1981 Burwood 10.21.81 d. East Hawthorn 7.15.57

1982 Hawthorn Citizens 12.15.87 d. East Hawthorn 10.11.71
1983 Parkdale 16.7.103 d. Mt.Waverley 12.16.88
1984 Tooronga-Malvern 17.16.118 d. Parkdale 18.6.114
1985 North Kew 17.11.113 d. Highett West 15.9.99
1986 Mentone 14.22.106 d.Highett West 12.12.84
1987 Ashburton 19.16.130 d. St.Kilda City 15.9.99
1988 East Brighton 13.18.96 d. Murrumbeena 6.10.46
1989 Mentone 15.13.103 d. Ashwood 13.9.87
1990 Tooronga-Malvern 11.13.79 d. North Kew 6.15.51
1991 Mordialloc 17.20.122 d. Ashwood 12.12.84
1992 Ashwood 3.14.32 d. Highett District 2.7.19

THIRD DIVISION SENIORS:

1983 Hawthorn Citizens 12.16.88 d. East Hawthorn 12.10.82
1984 East Hawthorn 17.15.117 d. Murrumbeena 8.17.65
1985 N/A
1986 Murrumbeena 15.15.105 d. East Brighton 15.8.98

THIRD DIVISION RESERVES:

1983 Mentone 18.10.118 d. East Hawthorn 10.6.66
1984 Burwood 21.5.131 d. East Hawthorn 15.16.106
1985 N/A
1986 Ashwood 19.18.132 d. East Brighton 10.10.70

UNDER 17 FIRST DIVISION:

1963 East Brighton 17.15.117 d. Noble Park-H'field 1.0.6
1964 East Brighton 16.13.109 d. Murrumbeena 1.2.8
1965 Oak. 4ths 18.13.121 d. East Sandringham 11.14.90
1966 East Brighton 16.10.106 d. Oak. 4ths 10.8.68
1967 East Sandringham 13.10.88 d. East Brighton 9.7.61
1968 East Brighton 17.16.118 d. Ormond Amateurs 10.3.63
1969 East Brighton 19.12.126 d. East Sandringham 10.8.68
1970 Hawthorn District 17.14.116 d. East Brighton 9.11.65
1971 East Sandringham 17.16.118 d. Oakleigh 4ths 10.4.64
1972 Hawthorn District 20.21.141 d. St.Kilda City 6.8.44
1973 Essex Heights 14.17.101 d. Hawthorn District 12.5.77
1974 East Brighton 25.9.159 d. Mt.Waverley 3.14.32
1975 Essex Heights 17.17.119 d. St.K. City 7.14.56
1976 Essex Heights 14.11.95 d. South Melbourne Dist 12.16.88
1977 Essex Heights 18.22.130 d. East Brighton 10.19.79
1978 Essex Heights 17.15.117 d. Mt.Waverley 11.19.85

1979 Essex Heights(1) 17.14.116 d. South Melb. Dist. 9.8.62
1980 South Mel. Dist. 19.16.130 d. Mt. Waverley 11.17.83

UNDER 18 FIRST DIVISION:

1981 Mt. Waverley 29.21.195 d. Ashburton 10.13.73
1982 Noble Park 17.18.120 d. Mt. Waverley 16.14.110
1983 Noble Park 9.11.65 d. Mt. Waverley 7.9.51
1984 Noble Park 22.12.144 d. Mt. Waverley 14.10.94
1985 Oakleigh District 9.11.65 d. Mt. Waverley 6.18.54
1986 Mt. Waverley 13.14.92 d. Noble Park 13.13.91
1987 Mt. Waverley d. Noble Park
1988 Syndal Tally-Ho 12.10.82 d. Ashwood 7.10.52
1989
1990 Noble Park 27.23.165 d. North Dandenong 7.9.51
1991 Noble Park 18.8.116 d. Richmond Amats. 16.18.114

UNDER 17 SECOND DIVISION:

1963 East S'ham 15.8.98 d. Mordialloc Youth Club 9.12.66
1964 East S'ham 10.7.67 d. Murrumbeena Dist. 10.6.66
1965 to 1968 N/A
1969 Murrumbeena District d. Murrumbeena
1970 East Sandringham d. Essex Heights
1971 St. K. City 16.6.102 d. Essex Heights 13.17.95
1972 Beaumaris 15.14.104 d. Ormond Amateurs 9.21.75
1973 N/A
1974 N/A
1975 Burwood 12.10.82 d. Chadstone 6.8.44
1976 Dingley 22.11.143 d. Ashburton 18.11.119
1977 Chadstone 18.9.117 d. East Hawthorn 15.13.103
1978 East Malvern 19.15.129 d. H'ett West 16.16.112
1979 North Kew 20.16.136 d. Port Colts 12.11.83
1980 Ashburton 14.22.106 d. Hawthorn Citizens 7.6.48
1990 !!!!!!!! 15.18.108 d. Springvale Districts 6.6.42

UNDER 18 SECOND DIVISION:

1981 Essex Heights 23.18.156 d. Canterbury 13.19.97
1982 Essex Heights 17.18.110 d. Parkdale 12.12.84
1983 Canterbury 19.12.126 d. Highett 13.9.87
1984 Hawthorn Citiz. 24.19.163 d. East Hawthorn 14.9.93

1985 St.Kilda City 14.11.95 d. Mentone 10.11.71
1986 Parkdale 13.17.95 d. Highett 10.14.74
1987 N/A
1988 Bentleigh Uniting 11.13.79 d. St.K. City 4.6.30

FIRST DIVISION UNDER 17:

1988 Parkmore A d. Burwood United

UNDER 15 FIRST DIVISION:

1963 East Sandringham 10.11.71 d. Oakleigh 5ths.4.7.31
1964 East Sandringham d. Oakleigh 5ths.
1965 East Sandringham 13.12.90 d. East Brighton 8.6.54
1966 East Brighton 9.9.63 d. East Sandringham 8.7.55
1967 Beaumaris 9.9.63 d. East Brighton 7.12.54
1968 East Sandringham 16.14.110 d. Mt.Waverley 4.10.34
1969 East Sandringham 15.17.107 d. Mt.Waverley 8.7.55
1970 East Sandringham 12.12.84 d. Mt.Waverley 8.7.55
1971 East Sandringham 11.12.78 d. Mt.Waverley 9.8.62
1972 Mt.Waverley 18.17.125 d. East Sandringham 9.6.60
1973 Beaumaris 18.9.117 d. Mt.Waverley 9.5.59
1974 St.Kilda City 18.9.117 d. East Brighton 8.10.58
1975 South Melbourne Dist. 11.23.89 d. East Brighton 5.3.33
1976 Essex Heights 17.22.124 d. Mt.Wav. 13.7.85
1977 Essex Heights 19.12.126 d. St.Kilda City 11.10.76
1978 Mt.Waverley 20.12.132 d. South Melbourne Dist. 9.9.63
1979 St.Kilda City 15.7.97 d. Port Colts 9.11.65
1980 Mt.Waverley 8.12.60 d. St.Kilda City 4.8.32

UNDER 16 FIRST DIVISION:

1981 St.Kilda City 12.13.85 d. Mt.Waverley 11.7.73
1982 Noble Park 19.16.130 d. St.Kilda City 7.10.52
1983 Noble Park 12.15.87 d. Mt.Waverley 10.8.68
1984 Mt.Waverley 16.14.110 d. Noble Park 14.14.98
1985 South Melbourne District d. East Brighton
1986 N/A
1987 N/A
1988 K.P.R.d. Endeavour Hills

UNDER 15 SECOND DIVISION:

1975 Chadstone 9.3.57 d. Port Colts 2.2.14
1976 Balwyn 14.15.99 d. Hawthorn Citizens 10.11.71

1977 North Kew 9.7.61 d. Murrumbeena 6.5.41
1978 East Brighton 14.12.96 d. East Malvern 11.9.75
1979 Glen Iris 16.11.107 d. Burwood 10.12.72
1980 Highett West 17.16.118 d. Hawthorn Citizens 6.8.44

UNDER 16 SECOND DIVISION:

1981 East Malvern 16.12.108 d. Essex Heights 10.12.72
1982 Parkdale 22.14.144 d. Highett West 6.6.42
1983 Mentone 12.17.89 d. Highett 12.9.81
1984 East Brighton 19.11.125 d. St.K. City 18.11.119
1985 N/A
1986 N/A
1987 N/A
1988 South Melbourne District d. Doveton Juniors

UNDER 13 FIRST DIVISION:

1963 East S'ham 8.0.48 d. Mordialloc Youth Club 4.6.30
1964 Oakleigh 6ths. d. Murrumbeena District
1965 East Sandringham 9.6.60 d. Oakleigh 6ths 9.4.58
1966 East Sandringham d. Mt.Waverley
1967 East Sandringham 20.17.137 d. Mt.Waverley 8.5.53
1968 Mt.Waverley 10.11.71 d. East Brighton 8.5.53
1969 Beaumaris 12.6.78 d. St.Kilda City 3.4.22
1970 Mt.Waverley 9.15.69 d. East Sandringham 4.12.36
1971 Mt.Waverley 13.8.86 d. Beaumaris 10.8.68
1972 Oakleigh 6ths. 8.12.60 d. St.Kilda City 5.13.43
1973 East Sandringham 9.7.61 d. East Brighton 6.7.43
1974 Beaumaris 11.5.71 d. East Brighton 8.4.52
1975 East Sandringham 7.5.47 d. Mt.Waverley 5.9.39
1976 Mt.Waverley 10.12.72 d. South Melb. Dist.10.5.65
1977 Beaumaris 18.7.105 d. St.Kilda City 9.9.63
1978 St.Kilda City 13.9.87 d. Port Colts 5.8.38
1979 Mt.Waverley 24.10.154 d. Port Colts 8.6.54
1980 East Brighton 11.8.74 d. Mt.Waverley 6.11.47

UNDER 14 FIRST DIVISION:

1981 East Brighton 11.20.86 d. St.Kilda City 9.10.64
1982 Beaumaris 15.10.100 d. Mt.Waverley 11.13.79
1983 St.Kilda City 19.24.148 d. East Brighton 5.4.34
1984 Mt.Wav. 22.16.148 d. East Brighton 11.9.75

UNDER 13 SECOND DIVISION:

1972 Beaumaris 9.5.59 d. Murrumbeena District 8.6.54
1973 N/A
1974 N/A
1975 Essex Heights 15.8.98 d. North Kew 1.0.6
1976 East Malvern 14.11.95 d. Murrumbeena 9.3.57
1977 Port Colts 21.10.136 d. Highett West 3.4.22
1978 Burwood 24.19.163 d. Tooronga-Malvern 8.5.53
1979 South Melbourne Dist. 13.14.92 d. Hawthorn Citz. 5.3.33
1980 North Kew 11.13.79 d. Essex Heights 9.14.68

UNDER 14 SECOND DIVISION:

1981 Essex Heights 22.14.146 d. Highett West 8.4.52

UNDER 12:

1981 East Brighton 9.5.59 d. St.Kilda City 5.5.35

NOTE: South-East Suburban F.L., Eastern Suburbs Churches F.A. and the Dandenong District J.F.L. played in a combined competition. 1987 Combined U/18 First Division. 1988 Combined U/18 First & Second Divisions. 1988 Combined U/17 First Division. 1988 Combined U/16 First & Second Divisions.

BEST & FAIREST.

A GRADE:

- 1963 R.Andrew, Murrumbeena
- 1964 B.Dillon, Murrumbeena
- 1965 N.Watson, Glen Iris
- 1966 R.W.Browne, East Brighton
- 1967 N.Watson, Glen Iris
- 1968 B.Larsen, Hawthorn Amateurs
- 1969 P.Young, Chadstone
- 1970 T.Reid, Mt.Waverley
- 1971 H.Brenner, East Brighton
- 1972 A.Sheehan, St.Kilda City
- 1973 J.Clarke, Glen Iris
- 1974 T.Garland, Murrumbeena
- 1975 J.Clarke, Glen Iris
- 1976 W.Bennett, North Kew
- 1977 J.Wilkinson, Ashburton
- 1978 R.Wilson, Ashburton
- 1979 G.Dubois, Burwood
- 1980 K.Robinson, Beaumaris
- 1981 R.Wilson, Ashburton
- 1982 N.Esler, Noble Park
- 1983 M.Plant, Noble Park
- 1984 J.Hunt, Balwyn
- 1985 R.Newton, Mt.Waverley
- 1986 M.Goodchild, Cheltenham
- 1987 T.Hagenmuller, Balwyn
- 1988 D.Reeves, Tooronga-Malvern
- 1989 B.Adams, East Brighton,C.Gwynne, Oakleigh District, R.Blainey, Cheltenham,B.McConnell, Cheltenham
- 1990 I.Todd, Beaumaris
- 1991 M.Diver, Mt. Waverley
- 1992 C.Langkau, Oakleigh Districts

A GRADE RESERVES:

- 1963 G.Veldt, Glen Iris
- 1964 W.Meitzke, Murrumbeena
- 1965 R.Nelson, Mt. Waverley
- 1966 J.Whitehead, Burwood
- 1967 J.Whitehead, Burwood
- 1968 M.Gilbert, Canterbury
- 1969 N.Thornhill, Murrumbeena

1970 N.Thornhill, Murrumbeena
 1971 P.Reed, Mt.Waverley
 1972
 1973 A.Louca, St. Kilda City
 1974 P.Black, Murrumbeena
 1975 R.Dowell, East Brighton
 1976 R.Taylor, Chadstone
 1977 J.Raskas, Ashburton
 1978 D.Mountjoy, Murrumbeena
 1979 T.Ellis, Mt.Waverley
 1980 K.Daley, Ashburton
 1981 G.Stevens, Ashburton
 1982 D.Power, Highett
 1983 G.Stevens, Ashburton
 1984 K.Eastwood, C'ham, K.Waller, Oak. Districts
 1985
 1986 D.Skewes, Noble Park
 1987 S.Clement, Noble Pk, R.Glascott, Noble Pk
 1988 R.Norton, Noble Park
 1989 J.Kolokossian, Noble Park
 1990 J.Sustar, Noble Park
 1991 T.Allison, Tooronga-Malvern
 1992 C.Rye, East Brighton

SECOND DIVISION SENIORS (INCLUDES RESERVE OPEN):

1963 F.Clark, Glen Iris District
 1964 J.Erklund, South Murrumbeena
 1965 J.Merrick, Carnegie
 1966 A.Clark, Caulfield Amateurs
 1967 R.DeVisser, R.A.A.F.,D.C.S.
 1968 D.McKenzie, Chadstone
 1969 B.Hill, East Malvern Amateurs
 1970 M.Corrigan, Dingley
 1971 D.Lockwood, Chadstone
 1972 J.Deer, Dingley
 1973 B.Forsyth, East Malvern
 1974 P.Young, Chadstone
 1975 P.Rose, East Malvern
 1976 J.Clarke, Glen Iris
 1977 J.McLeod, Beaumaris
 1978 D.McGlashan, St.Kilda City, G.Gordon, Tooronga-Malvern, R.Maunders, Canterbury
 1979 B.Laffan, St.Kilda City
 1980 G.Taylor, Hawthorn Citizens
 1981 S.Bates, Essex Heights

1982 W.Hawthorne, Glen Iris
1983 P.Graham, Balwyn
1984 R.Parlanti, Highett West
1985 B.Marchant, Mentone
1986 M.Faulkner, Highett West
1987 M.Roberts, North Kew
1988 M.Roberts, North Kew
1989 P.Owen, St.Kilda City
1990 C.Herz, Canterbury
1991 E. Ryder, C'ham, D.O'Sullivan, Canterbury.
1992 M.Jones, Mentone

SECOND DIVISION RESERVES:

1970 G.Tempany, Essex Heights
1971 R.Pearson, Essex Heights
1972
1973 M.Harris, Beaumaris
1974 R.Bruce, Highett West
1975 W.Jackson, East Sandringham
1976 A.Callaway, Canterbury
1977 B.Conquest, Tooronga-Malvern
1978 J.Clapp, Port Colts
1979 L.Minas, Port Colts
1980 R.Taylor, Hawthorn Citizens
1981 W.Hoskins, Burwood
1982 I.Leith, East Hawthorn
1983 D.Oldfield, Mt. Waverley
1984 N.Daly, East Brighton
1985 N.Daly, East Brighton
1986 P.Siede, Highett West
1987 P.Reilly, Ashwood
1988 P.Reilly, Ashwood
1989 P.Reilly, Ashwood
1990 C.Ho, St.Kilda City
1991 C.Ho, St. Kilda City
1992

THIRD DIVISION SENIORS:

1983 B.Marchant, Mentone
1984 K.Greenway, Middle Park
1985 N/A
1986 H.Proos, East Brighton

THIRD DIVISION RESERVES:

1983 P.Reilly,Burwood, M.Carroll, Canterbury
1984 J.Patterson, Dandenong West
1985 N/A
1986 P.Lilley, East Brighton

UNDER 17 FIRST DIVISION:

1963 C.Smith, Noble Park-Harrisfield
1964 M.Holland, Ashburton
1965 A.Davis, East Sandringham
1966 R.Tully, Oakleigh 4ths.
1967 R.McHenry, Oakleigh 4ths.
1968 G.English, Ormond Amateurs
1969 R.Jenkins, Ormond Amateurs
1970 W.Jack, Chadstone
1971 P.Howell, Oakleigh 4ths.
1972
1973 G. Anderson, Essex Heights
1974 C.Jamieson, Mt. Waverley
1975 S.Howell, East Sandringham
1976 S.Williams, Essex Heights
1977 A.Mathieson, East Brighton
1978 R.Laidlaw, Mt.Waverley
1979 M.Simpson, South Melbourne District
1980 R.Trayling, St.Kilda City

UNDER 18 FIRST DIVISION:

1981 M.Clearihan, Mt.Waverley
1982 N.Vella, South Melbourne District
1983 A.Peterson, Clayton
1984 M.Laffey, Mt.Waverley
1985
1986 B.Bowey, St.Kilda City
1987
1988

1989

1990

1991 J.Che Chang Sing, Springvale Districts

UNDER 17 SECOND DIVISION:

1963 N/A

1964 N/A

1965 N/A

1966 N/A

1967 N/A

1968 N/A

1969 R.McDonald, Murrumbeena District

1970 R.Hodges, Oakleigh 4ths.

1971 B.Becroft, Ormond Amateurs

1972

1973 N/A

1974 N/A

1975 R.Black, Burwood

1976 H.Simpson, Ashburton

1977 B.McCormick, Highett West

1978 M.Stromoslanin, Murrumbeena

1979 M.Bourke, Essex Heights (2)

1980 J.Duursma, Hawthorn Citizens

UNDER 18 SECOND DIVISION:

1981 D.Caldecott, Glen Iris

1982 C.Mills, Carnegie

1983 W.Poulter, Canterbury

1984 R.Vitacca, Hawthorn Citizens

1985

1986 M.Hansen, North Kew

1987

1988

UNDER 17 FIRST DIVISION:

1988

UNDER 15 FIRST DIVISION:

1963 R.Petheridge, East Sandringham

1964 B.Champion, Beaumaris

1965 S.Angelo, Beaumaris

1966 T.Reid, Mt.Waverley
1967 S.Rae, East Sandringham
1968 R.McDonald, Murrumbeena District
1969 D.Tolson, Mt.Waverley
1970 G.Jones, East Sandringham
1971 L.Clements, Murrumbeena District
1972
1973 R.Motea, Balwyn
1974 M.Bromberg, East Brighton
1975 D. Vernon, Essex Heights
1976 P.Summers, St.Kilda City
1977 J.D'Ambrosio, Chadstone
1978 R.Stratton, Essex Heights
1979 S.McBroom, Port Colts
1980 B.Harkins, Port Colts

UNDER 16 FIRST DIVISION:

1981 R.DeRozario, Balwyn
1982 P.Rallis, St.Kilda City
1983 A.Nagel, Parkdale
1984 P.Smart, Clayton
1985
1986 N/A
1987 N/A
1988

UNDER 15 SECOND DIVISION:

1975 J.Spiers, Dingley
1976 P.Paxinos, East Hawthorn
1977 J.Taylor, Burwood
1978 R.Williams, East Malvern
1979 J.Dennis, Burwood
1980 R.DeRozario, Balwyn

UNDER 16 SECOND DIVISION:

1981 D.Welsh, Essex Heights
1982 M.Bezzene, Chadstone
1983 S.Hanrahan, Mentone
1984 R.Hayes, East Brighton
1985 N/A
1986 N/A
1987 N/A

1988

UNDER 13 FIRST DIVISION:

- 1963 B.Fry, Noble Park-Harrisfield
- 1964 D McVey, Murrumbeena District
- 1965 G.Hocking, Oakleigh Districts-Chadstone
- 1966 P.Dempsey, St. Martins Beaumaris
- 1967 W.Beckwith, Chadstone
- 1968 R.Lamb, Mt.Waverley
- 1969 R.Gill, Mt.Waverley
- 1970 G.Evans, East Sandringham
- 1971 D.Mills, St. Kilda City
- 1972
- 1973 R.Roberg, Burwood
- 1974 C.Gorozidis, East Brighton
- 1975 S.Baxter, St. Kilda City
- 1976 M.Simson, South Melbourne District
- 1977 P.Stylianou, Chadstone
- 1978 G.Berry, Chadstone
- 1979 R.Cahill, Mt. Waverley
- 1980 A.Gillon, East Brighton

UNDER 14 FIRST DIVISION:

- 1981 P.O'Connor, St.Kilda City
- 1982 M.Clarke, Mt.Waverley
- 1983 W.Urrutia, Ashburton
- 1984 S.Bourke, Mt.Wavrley

UNDER 13 SECOND DIVISION:

- 1972
- 1973 N/A
- 1974 N/A
- 1975 G.Millman, Highett West
- 1976 M.Todman, Murrumbeena
- 1977 A.Caldecott, Glen Iris
- 1978 A.Caldecott, Glen Iris
- 1979 A.Aitchison, Chadstone
- 1980 V.Nim, Ashburton

UNDER 14 SECOND DIVISION:

- 1981 D.Edmonds, Essex Heights

UNDER 12:

1981 P.Wilson, Ashburton

LEADING GOALKICKERS:

A GRADE:

1963

1964 G.McWaters, Burnley 71

1965

1966 K.Clarke, East Brighton

1967 I.Banks, Murrumbeena 100

1968 A.Piper, Hawthorn Districts

1969 A.Piper, Hawthorn Districts

1970 A.Piper, Hawthorn Districts, P.Drummy, Murrumbeena 64 each

1971 R.Maguire, Burwood 74

1972 R.Ferguson, Glen Iris 63

1973 K.Williams, St.Kilda City 96

1974 J.Spring, Mt.Waverley 63

1975 G.Spark, Chadstone 75

1976 J.O'Brien, East Brighton 61

1977 G.Thompson, Ashburton 104

1978 S.Ramshaw, Hawthorn Citizens 96

1979 B.Neal, Tooronga-Malvern 82

1980 W.Higgins, Ashburton 102

1981 D.McNamara, South Melbourne District 89

1982 W.Bevan, Tooronga-Malvern 104

1983 B.McConnell, Cheltenham 61

1984 N.Rae, Balwyn 115

1985 R.Goode, Oakleigh District 93

1986 N.Rae, Balwyn 82

1987 C.Horlock, Mt.Waverley 79

1988 G.Wilson, Highett West 53

1989 R.Blainey, Cheltenham 64

1990 S.Cameron, Noble Park 81

1991 J.Bennett, East Brighton 91

1992 J.Bennett, East Brighton 118

SECOND DIVISION including RESERVE OPEN:

1963

1964

1965 G.Skinner, Beaumaris (RO) 112

1966

- 1967
1968
1969
1970 K.Graves, Beaumaris 76
1971 M.Corrigan, Dingley 62
1972 A.White, Beaumaris 57
1973 A.White, Beaumaris 73
1974 B.Mitchell, South Melbourne District 77
1975 N.Gordon, Canterbury 82
1976 M.Warne, Highett West 56
1977 P.Shannon, Chadstone 68
1978 B.Neal, Tooronga-Malvern 133
1979 P.Shannon, Chadstone 96
1980 L.Quarrell, East Hawthorn 83
1981 I.Henderson, Canterbury 81
1982 M.Scott, Hawthorn Citizens 73
1983 N.Rae, Balwyn 102
1984 D.Stanley, Parkdale 113
1985 S Ramshaw, Hawthorn Citizens 85
1986 N.Roberts, North Kew 130
1987 M.Niddrie, Ashburton 86
1988 S.Miller, Parkdale 99
1989 M.Moir, Murrumbeena 88
1990 K.McDonald, St.Kilda City 75
1991 D.O'Sullivan, Canterbury, G.Cusak, Murrumbeena 63 each.
1992 K.McDonald, St.Kilda City 110

THIRD DIVISION:

- 1983 D.Craig, Tooronga-Malvern 115
1984 P.Stewart, Burwood 64
1985 N/A
1986 B.Latimer, Canterbury 59