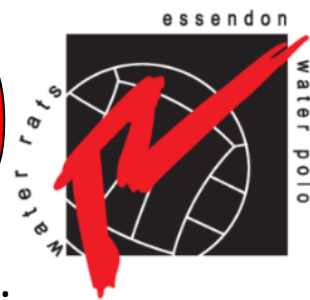




The Weekly Wrap



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The informal Newsletter of the Essendon Water Polo Club Inc.



Winter Competition - Round 8 Match Reports



AlexS

With our SL1 team making the famous Baby Bombers look veritably middle aged we took on the old nemesis MC. With every field player who took to the water on Tuesday night still eligible to play in under age rep teams, one could be forgiven for thinking this was a team for the future but on Tuesday night's effort, their time is now. Essendon played with poise and precision for much of the night. Our ball movement was crisp and on most occasions our decision making left MC floundering to keep up. The only factor keeping MC in the game early was our faulty radar when shooting but once that was recalibrated the score reflected our dominance in the pool. It was particularly satisfying to see the smile on Darren's face when our teamwork resulted in a clear shot on goal. With only the top two teams fighting out the finals, the competition is very tight, but if this performance can act as a benchmark then we may well have some exciting times ahead.

WSL1

Report by Brett Pullyblank

Essendon defeated Monash University : 11 – 5 Goals : Madeleine 4, AlexS 2, AlexC 2, Millie 2, Emily 1



Cathy

With everyone dropping like flies it was anyone's guess whether we could field a team. However we were hopeful that girls would magically appear... and appear they did!! Well sort of... Upon discussion with the SL3s it was discovered that they too only had 5 players. So it became a combined effort of SL2 & SL3 girls to field the SL2 team. The girls fought hard in the first half with 2 goals to Amelia and 1 to Clare. Vanessa and Eliza proved their determination by defending hard and fast. Unfortunately we did not score in the second half, while St Cath's put on another 4. Many thanks to the SL3 girls who agreed to forfeit their game in order to play SL2.

WSL2

Report by Cathy Steere

Essendon were defeated by St Catherine's : 3 – 7 Goals : Amelia 2, ClareP 1



LisaAs

The WSL3 struggled for numbers this week once more, with Brittany and Sandra away. Without a YthG game being scheduled, it was always going to be hard to get some additional players. This proved the case, with just 5 girls getting to MSAC, despite numerous calls and texts searching for extra bodies. The night was not in vain as we hopped into the pool and played with the SL2 girls – who also numbered just 5 – and enjoyed a solid game against old rivals St Cath's. It was a step up in pace and strength, but the girls really enjoyed the challenge and were made to feel part of the team by the SL2 girls, so thank you ladies! Unfortunately, we had to forfeit our game against Melb Uni – the one team in our grade we most likely could have beaten! We'll get them next time girls!

WSL3

Report by Lisa Murray-Segal

Essendon were defeated by Melbourne University : 0 – 8 (forfeit)

The YthG did not play again this week, and now have quite a break til their next game. They have played only 6 games to date, but will play on Tues, and then have another 2 games on Sunday to complete their 9 rounds. Please consult the fixture for times and venues.

YthG

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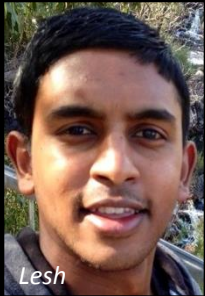
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Winter Competition - Round 8 Match Reports



Lesh

With the finals fast approaching the boys knew that this was a must win game coming up against a pretty good La Trobe side. With the first goal going our way we were off to a good start however La Trobe stepped up and were in front through the first and second quarters. With a lift in defence in the second half and a few more shots on target the scores we 6-5 in our favour at the end of the third. A big last quarter saw the end result 9-6 a good team effort all round. Sitting on top with one game to go, Bring on the last game of the season and finals!

MSL4

Report by Nick Sims

Essendon defeated La Trobe University : 9 – 6 Goals : Lesh 3, Kyle 3, Bevan 1, Tyrone 1, Joe 1



MattL

Well, it must be said that a very big game awaited the Essendon lads this week as it was a 2nd versus 3rd on the ladder thriller. With the winner to take 2nd spot and earning a good chance for a crack at finals, you could feel the tension in the air. The steam rising from the pool in the cool of the night was the back drop. The toned fit gents the players, expressions hard set on the task at hand. There was a job to be done and each of the Essendon skilled knew what that was. Press hard, play hard and leave no second chances. The goals tonight did not matter, nor the fancy shots or passes. It only mattered that we were in front at the final siren. And so in the dark of the night and the oasis that is MSAC outdoor pool No.2 the boys began the first quarter in a style played out for most if the season. In front and tails up. The MU boys were strong and fought hard but were no match for the likes of Matt in centre forward. The next two quarters were low scoring and a tight battle that saw a continuous pressure from both sides and many missed or saved shots from MU. Coming into the final quarter the battle wearied players found an extra reserve of energy on both sides as the tempo lifted in the pool. Both teams were eager to score, tempers even flared as Gilbo and Dean cracked and let off a little steam at the refs. It was a close quarter. Finally the whistle blew and all in all it was a pretty good game with an solid 5 goal win (MUs only goal coming from a 5m penalty after our GK swam out to thump someone) Happy days all round with a finals berth in sight as long as the Essendon lads win next week!

MSL5

Report by Dean Durrant

Essendon defeated Melbourne University : 6 – 1 Goals : TBC

2014 WINTER COMPETITION – Ladders after R8

WSL1		WSL2		WSL3		YthG		MSL4		MSL5 -Div2*	
Footscray	22	Melb Uni	21	NYP Dragons	22	Essendon	14	Essendon	20	Melb Coll	19
Essendon	21	Richmond	20	LaTrobe Uni	20	Ovens & Murray	12	DVE Aquatic	20	Melb Uni	17
NYP Dragon	20	NYP Dragons	19	DVE Aquatic	17	Richmond	11	Melb Uni Black	17	Essendon	17
Monash Uni	14	St Cath's	19	Melb Uni Blue	16	MC Marlines	7	Old Melburnians	16	NYP Dragons	16
Melb Coll	11	Essendon	15	Monash Uni	14			La Trobe Uni	14	Monash Uni	16
		Footscray	13	Essendon	10			Melb Uni Blue	7	MelbSurge	10
		NYPDragons 18s	12							Ajax	10
		Monash Uni	8								

The top 2 teams will play a Grand Final

* Ladder results after R7 (R8 not posted as yet)



2004 STATE CHAMPIONS

The last time our men's 'A' team won a premiership, was in the 2004 State Championships. It was our sole men's team at the time, and they defeated Monash by 2 goals. Can the current SL4 team get to the grand final, and add to the club's premiership tally?