



*The latest news, results and updates from Doncaster East FC*



## **PRESIDENTS NOTE**

**Peter Sowersby**

Saturday was a huge day for the footy club having the Seniors play their 1st game in Premier Division, we had a luncheon called Welcome to Premier Division, we had packed rooms full of past players ,supporters, sponsors, councillors, local member Ryan Smith the Mayor of Manningham, Graham the EFNL President & Blackburn's President Casey and Darren their Treasurer.

We also had 9 of our previous captains come to the luncheon (photo below).

Our u/19s had a very difficult shot after the siren to win the game, unfortunately we just fell short after coming back from 5 goals down.

Our Development team had a day to forget, but my hat goes off to the guys who represented us, we had 19 players across the Seniors unavailable, so that really hurt us, we should be getting 10-12 back this week and expect to be very competitive.

The Seniors had a crack and were probably stiff in the end not to get the points, but they did the club proud losing by 1 point. Well done to everyone who represented the club in our first ever Premier Division game.

I want to thank all of the volunteers who helped out in the off season/pre-season the club wouldn't be were it is without this commitment. That being said we are always on the lookout for more help, if you are interested please contact me.

This week we play Doncaster at Zerbes let's get another huge crowd down & let's all get in our club colours and be proud to be apart of the Doncaster East FC.

Pat Vaiano is our apparel man if you did want to make a purchase +61 419 893 283 we have caps, beanies, polos, T-shirts, puffer jackets, hoodies.

Look forward to seeing everyone Saturday.

Go Lions!!!





Our past Captains: Daryl Browning, Peter Monohan, Eric Macko, John Harding, Peter Dwyer, Dallas Van Unen, Ash O'Neil, Leigh Murphy

## Coaches corner

### Steve Buckle

FINALLY!!! WE ARE BACK!!!

After what seems a lifetime ago, yes local footy is back & we're back on the park for season 2021...!

For the first time in our clubs history, we are in Premier Division of the EFNL & welcomed Blackburn to our home deck of Zerbes Reserve last Saturday, which is also the first time we have ever played them.

We couldn't have asked for better conditions to welcome the season in & it provided the stage for an epic encounter with both teams going hammer & tong at each other for 120 mins or so.

After what had been, what could be best described as an interesting round of practice matches in the lead up to this round 1 encounter, you could be forgiven if you didn't know what to expect from our boys if you were looking on from the outside. We hadn't blown the house down in the lead up but all that was about to change & the exhibition of football, commitment to the contest & pressure from our boys was about to be on full display for everyone to admire.

We jumped out of the blocks in the first quarter & piled on a tackling & pressure display that we hadn't shown for quite some time... obviously. It was quite the tussle early as both teams were up for a good contest with no one really gaining any scoring opportunities. It would be us (via a Jimmy Aps set shot) that would provide the first goal of season 2021 which was great reward from the immense tackling pressure we provided. Not long after we kicked our second & then third in reasonably quick succession to leave Blackburn a little shocked.

## Need to know

We have a huge social calendar this year...with the year off we are looking forward to welcoming everyone back...look out on our Socials for more info!

**May 22 - Mr DEFC**

**June 13 - Reverse raffle**

**July 3 - Past players lunch**

**July 31 - Cocktail party**

**Aug 21 - Life members lunch**

**TBC - Ladies luncheon**



As quality teams do though, they responded later in the quarter with a couple of their own goals to tighten the match up again.

Just a lapse in concentration allowed them to score but we still had more winners on the ground at this stage. One of them being Papa who put his hand up to take one of the best fwd's in the division, Jake Hammond, & was doing a stella job on him. Jimmy Aps through the middle was giving us plenty of drive, as was Zac Clarke in the ruck. Rowey up fwd was providing a great contest & kicked a goal as well (his first for the club) & Phez was providing polish around the footy. It was a great first quarter by the boys & we went in to quarter time with an 8 point lead.

Both the second & third quarters would provide plenty of the same, with the game being a constant arm wrestle. No team being able to break away by a substantial margin. We'd extend the lead to two & a half goals & then Blackburn would respond. They did hit the front just after half time & asked plenty of questions of our boys, which we responded in great fashion by kicking a couple of our own to recapture the lead before three quarter time. We would go into the last quarter with a 6 point buffer.

The last quarter provided plenty of highlights from both teams. We started the quarter well kicking a couple of goals to hold a couple of goal lead but then Blackburn responded again with two great goals from the clubroom pocket/boundary side to take the lead with about 8 mins left. It was a manic last 8 mins where we gave ourselves plenty of opportunities to hit the front again late from a couple of set shots. Unfortunately we couldn't capitalise on those opportunities & instead of having a lead to defend, we were still 1 point down with about a minute left on the clock. Our boys scrapped as hard as they could & Blackburn defended for their lives which ultimately finished with them being the victor by that solitary point.

For what was such a big day for the club & a huge crowd at Zerbes, it was disappointing that we couldn't get the desired result. It was a game that I believe we let slip, having had 4 more scoring shots for the day but Blackburn are a quality team & teams like that find a way to win.

While we're all disappointed with the end result, I am very proud of the boys & how they applied themselves against one of the benchmarks of Premier Division. They represented themselves, their club, their families & the whole Doncaster East community with absolute aplomb. We will learn a lot of valuable lessons from this game & it will hold us in good stead for the rest of the season as we find our way in this division.

This week, we welcome our local rivals, Doncaster to Zerbes Reserve in another home game. Please get down to support the boys & the club as the boys really need the support & do lift for their fans.

Look forward to seeing you all at the game.

Cheers,  
Bucks

GO LIONS!!!



# Coaches corner

## Vas Niksic

It was a picture perfect day to kick off our first under 19 home game on what was a historic day for the club.

Our boys jumped out of the blocks in the first quarter playing some really attacking footy to hold a 7 point lead at Qtr time. Donny East 15 Knox 7.

Second quarter and our opponents lifted their intensity and attack on the ball. After struggling with this early our boys responded late in the quarter to tie things up at half time. Donny East 22 Knox 22

After a little half time rev up the boys seemingly left all their intensity in the rooms with Knox controlling the game and our boys just not able to match our opponents all over the ground.

Our work rate dropped away and we couldn't get back to playing the footy we wanted. Donny East 30 Knox 51

We made a few changes in the last and asked for a response from the boys which we got. The boys got back to playing the brand of footy we train so hard on and more importantly got the scoreboard back ticking in our favour. We had total control of the game and held a well deserved narrow lead late in the quarter. Unfortunately some poor discipline cost us possession in the middle of the ground and that turn over resulted in our opponents kicking the winning goal. The boys to their credit tried to fight it out till the final siren with Makinley having a shot after the siren but the distance and angle was too great.

### **Final scores:**

DEFC 8-8-56 Knox 8-12-58

**Goals:** Makinley 4 Jacko 2 Stef 1 Warren 1

**Best:** Stef, Ryno, Mack, Warren, Keogh, Yianni.

Lets regroup this week and get the points out at Heathmont.

Also on a side note thanks to the boys that put their hand up to help out Brem and the Development squad on the weekend. Those efforts don't go un-noticed and it's those type of selfless acts that help make great footy clubs.

Vas

GO LIONS!!!



# RESULTS & TEAMS



## SENIORS

### Round 1

DEFC 11.12.78 lost to **Blackburn** 12.7.79

**Goal Kickers:** S. Rowe 3, J. Appleby 2, J. Sholakis 2, J. Whitling, D. Olley, J. Locke, T. Santoro

**Best Players:** Z. Clarke, J. Appleby, S. White, J. Green, J. Sholakis, S. Rowe

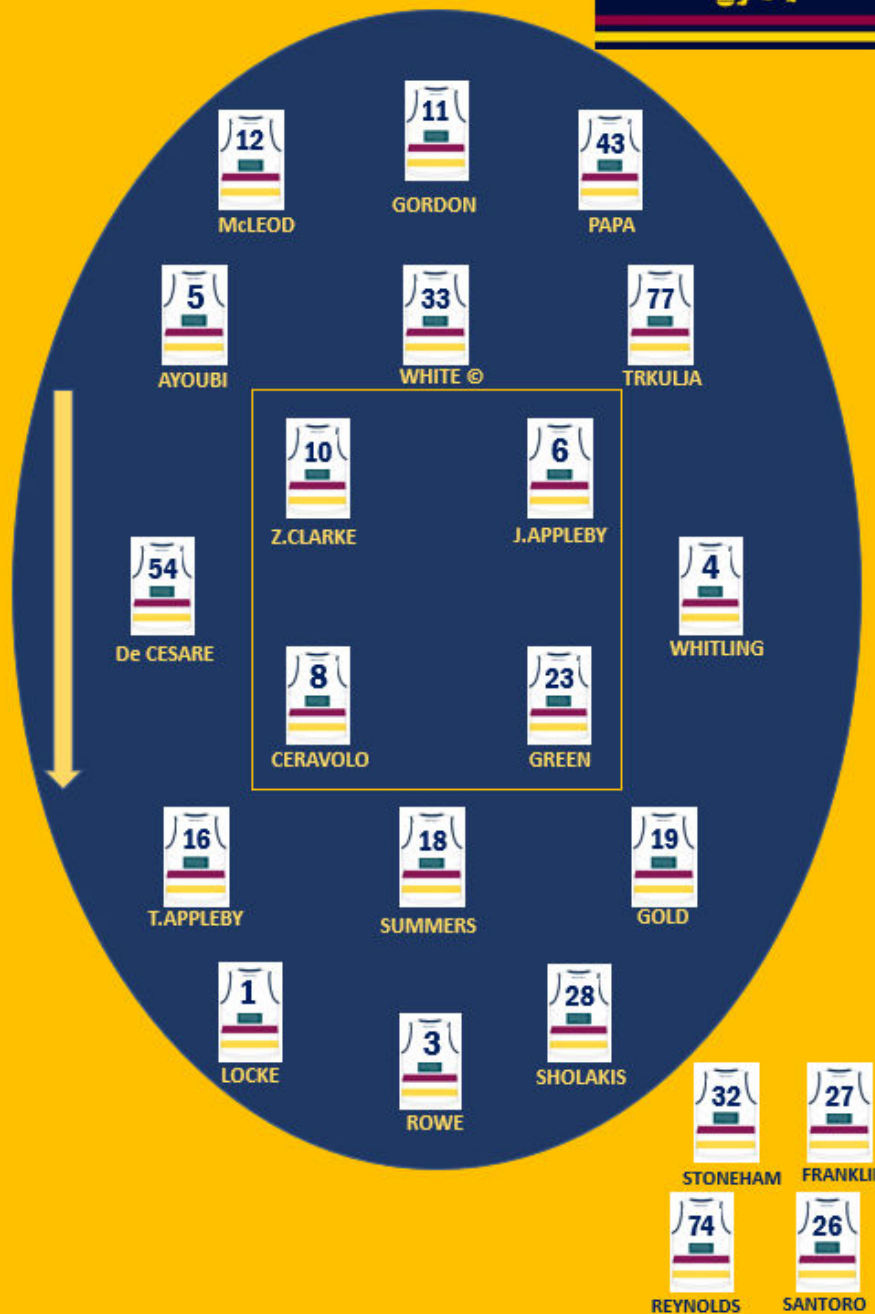
No.	Player	Kicks	Handballs	Disposals
6	J.Appleby	21	2	23
33	White	18	5	23
4	Whitling	17	4	21
1	Locke	17	3	20
10	Z.Clarke	11	8	19

## ROUND 2 TEAM

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HOME @  
ZERBES



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